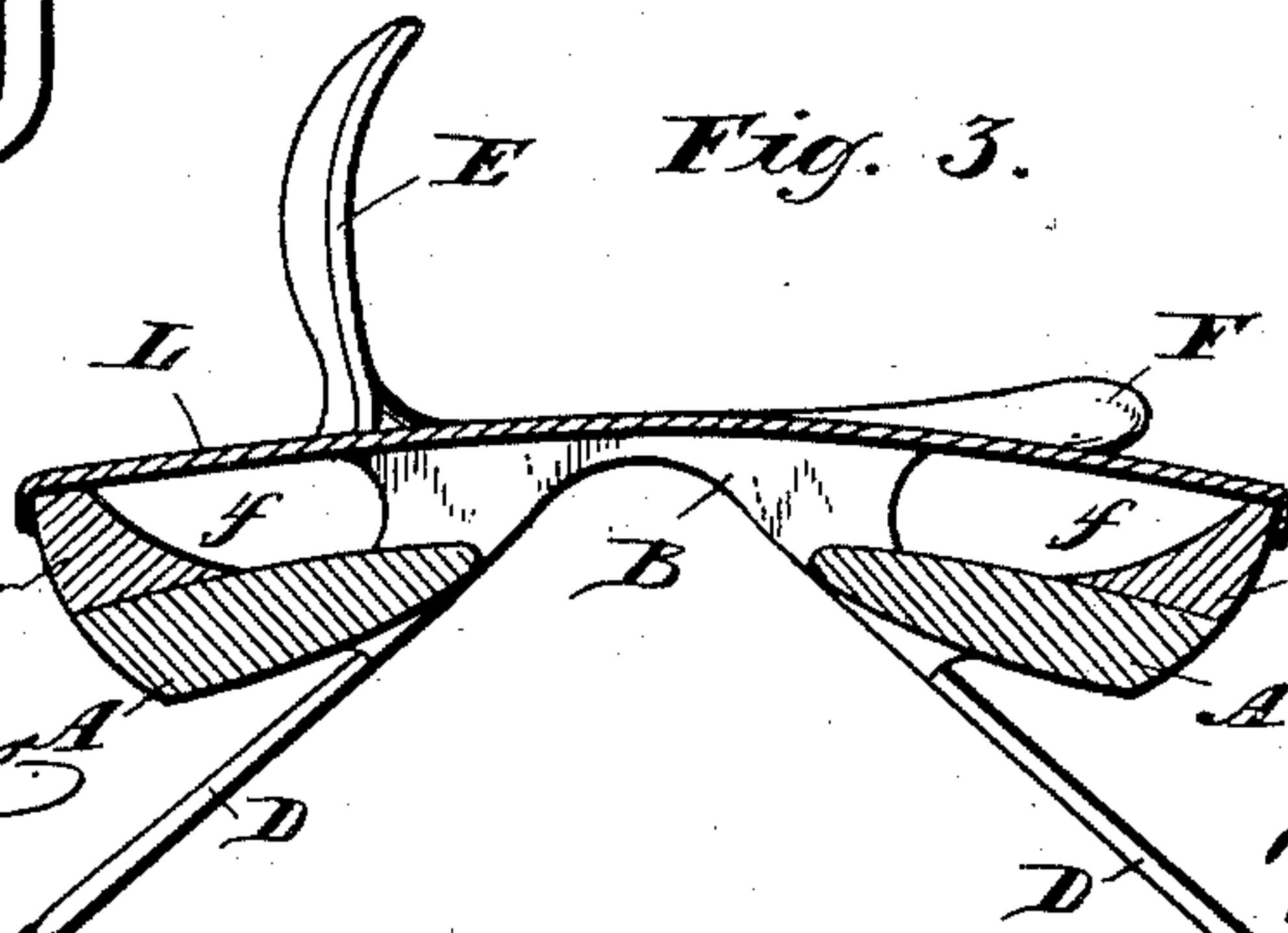


W. J. & M. J. MOHAN.  
RIDING SADDLE.

Patented June 14, 1892.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. MOHAN AND MICHAEL J. MOHAN, OF COVINGTON, KENTUCKY.

## RIDING-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 477,016, dated June 14, 1892.

Application filed August 28, 1891. Serial No. 403,956. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, WILLIAM J. MOHAN and MICHAEL J. MOHAN, citizens of the United States, residing in Covington, county of Kenton, in the State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Side-Saddles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part 10 of this specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in side-saddles in which the saddle-tree is made up of wood or other suitable material of the proper shape and form for a complete saddle, 15 so as to require no stuffing or padding preparatory to covering the same with leather; and the invention consists in certain details of construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter more particularly pointed out and 20 claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the side-saddle with a portion of the seat torn away at one side. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section taken on the lines 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a cross-section taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. 25

In the ordinary manufacture of side-saddles much more care is required and a greater degree of skill demanded than in the construction of saddles for men. The weight of 30 the rider, when the saddle is in use, is thrown more on one side than the other and the rider is constantly shifting her seat slightly, so that to obtain an easy-riding saddle has hitherto required quite a high degree of skill in the operative. Lightness combined with strength 35 is also an addition requisite of such saddles. In order to make the saddle easy for the rider and of sufficient spring to be comfortable, much padding and stuffing has hitherto been 40 necessary, which has consequently added much to the weight thereof and consequently increased the wear on the horse.

The object of our invention is to overcome 45 these difficulties and to construct a side-saddle which shall combine great lightness with the requisite strength, and so made that no extra padding is required, and the saddle can be completed without the employment of

skilled labor. In ordinary-formed saddles so 50 much skill is required in the forming and pounding into the proper shape the various pads employed that it takes an apprentice years to properly learn the art, and consequently these saddles must be expensive to 55 manufacture. With our saddle, however, this skilled labor is dispensed with, and the ordinary operative can readily do all that is required.

In the drawings, A A represent the side bars 60 of the saddle-tree, B the cross-head, and C the cantle. Extending downward from the cross-head are the front bars D D, preferably integral with the cross-head, to which cross-head the side bars are rigidly secured, which side 65 bars meet in the back to form the cantle. The upper part of the cross-head is extended upward and outward to form the near and off horns E and F, the horns, front bars, and rear of the side bars being braced and 70 strengthened by the metal strips *a b c* in the usual way.

On the off side of the saddle-tree, securely glued or otherwise secured thereto, is the side strip G. This strip is made of one or more 75 pieces to conform on its upper edge to the desired shape of the saddle in longitudinal section and so as to fit the side bar A. This strip G extends from the cross-head B to the rear 80 of the saddle-tree. On the opposite or near side of the tree, secured to the upper face of the near side bar, is another strip H, made of one or more pieces, whose upper edge is of such shape as to make both sides of the saddle-tree symmetrical. This second strip H 85 does, not, however, extend to the cross-head, as it would require considerable time and extra labor to make the strip of the proper shape, but stops at the point *d*, and a strip K, of leather or other suitable material is se- 90 cured from the point *d* to the top of the cross-head B. All of these parts, except the strip K, are made of wood and by the saddle-tree maker, and the saddle-tree being thus constructed with the proper outlines, no extra 95 labor of building up and padding with straw and hair or like filling material has to be employed, and nothing remains for the op-



erative to do except to secure the cover to the frame provided.

5 The cross-head B may be formed with a flat vertical front face on a line with the outer edge of the front bars D D and horn E, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and to the top of this cross-head the flap of the saddle is secured. By this formation of the cross-head without any front spring and attaching the flap to the  
10 top of the cross-head, instead of underneath the spring, as is usually done, the flap is raised higher from the back of the horse, and consequently his withers are not affected by the rubbing of the saddle.

15 The seat or top of the saddle is formed of leather or other like material, which cover L is securely stretched over and nailed to the saddle-tree, as shown in the various figures, being turned down over the edge of the skeleton frame. Beginning at the front or pommel,  
20 this cover is nailed to the cross-head, then turned down over the side piece G, nailed thereto, thence around the cantle and opposite side piece H, and thence is drawn down tightly over the leather strip K and nailed to  
25 the side bar. The side pieces G and H are cut away inwardly to form spaces *ff*, so that when the cover L is stretched over and se-

cured to the tree large air-spaces will be left. This renders the saddle light, while the tightly- 30 stretched cover gives an easy springing seat to the saddle, which could not be obtained by padding; and, further, the under part of the saddle is left entirely hollow, so that there is nothing to come in contact with the back of 35 the horse, and thus the saddle is very light and comfortable both for horse and rider.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 40

A side-saddle comprising the cross-head B and side bars A A, forming the tree, the strip G upon the off one of said bars, the short strip H upon the near one and having its rear end located at or near the cantle end of said bar, 45 the strip K, of suitable material, extending from the front end of strip H to the cross-head, the said strips constructed to support a cover or seat L, and the said cover, substantially as shown and described.

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