(No Model.)

J. GLEASON.

SOFT TREAD HORSESHOE.

No. 539,053. Patented May 14, 1895.

Fig - 1 -

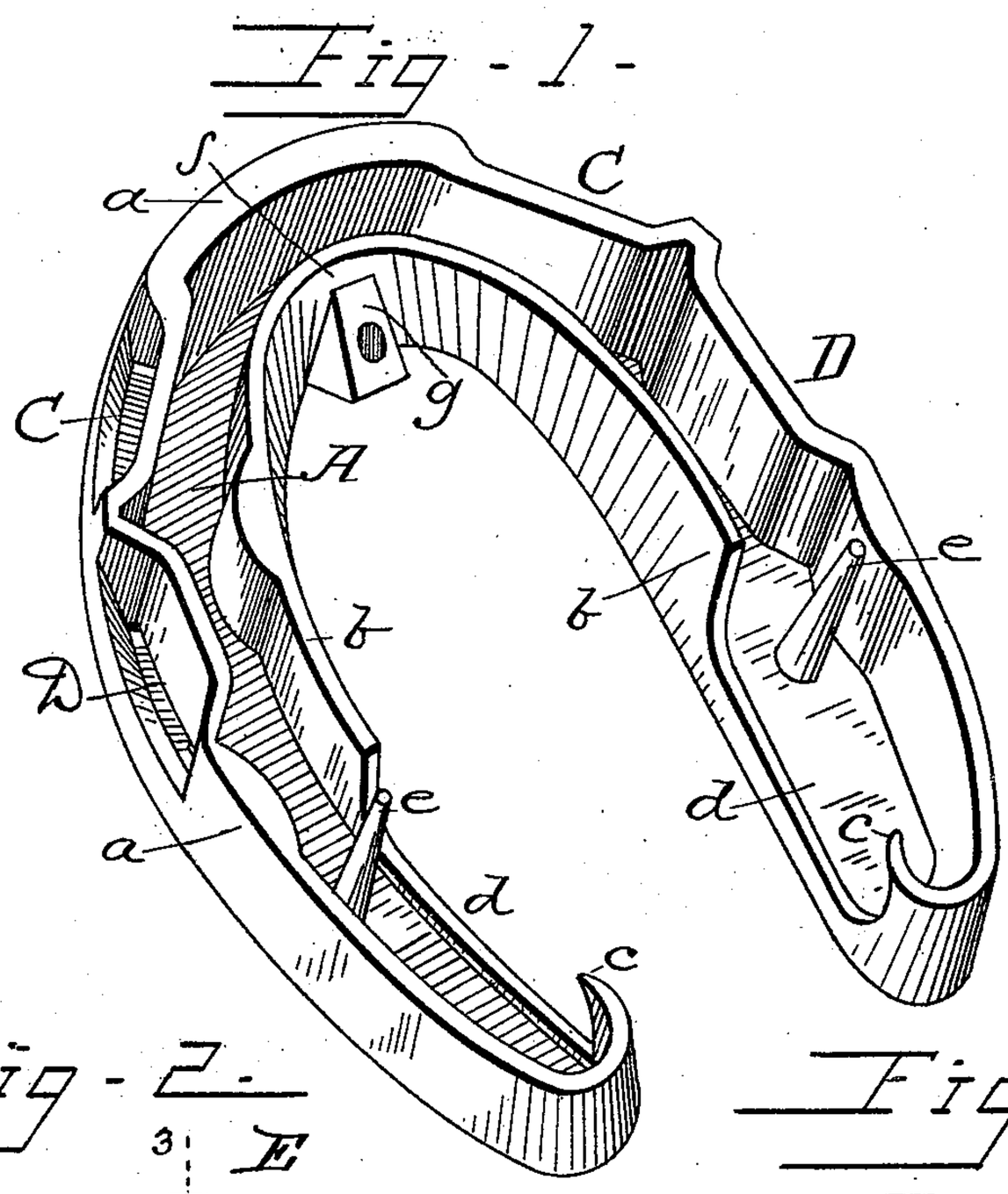


Fig - 2 -

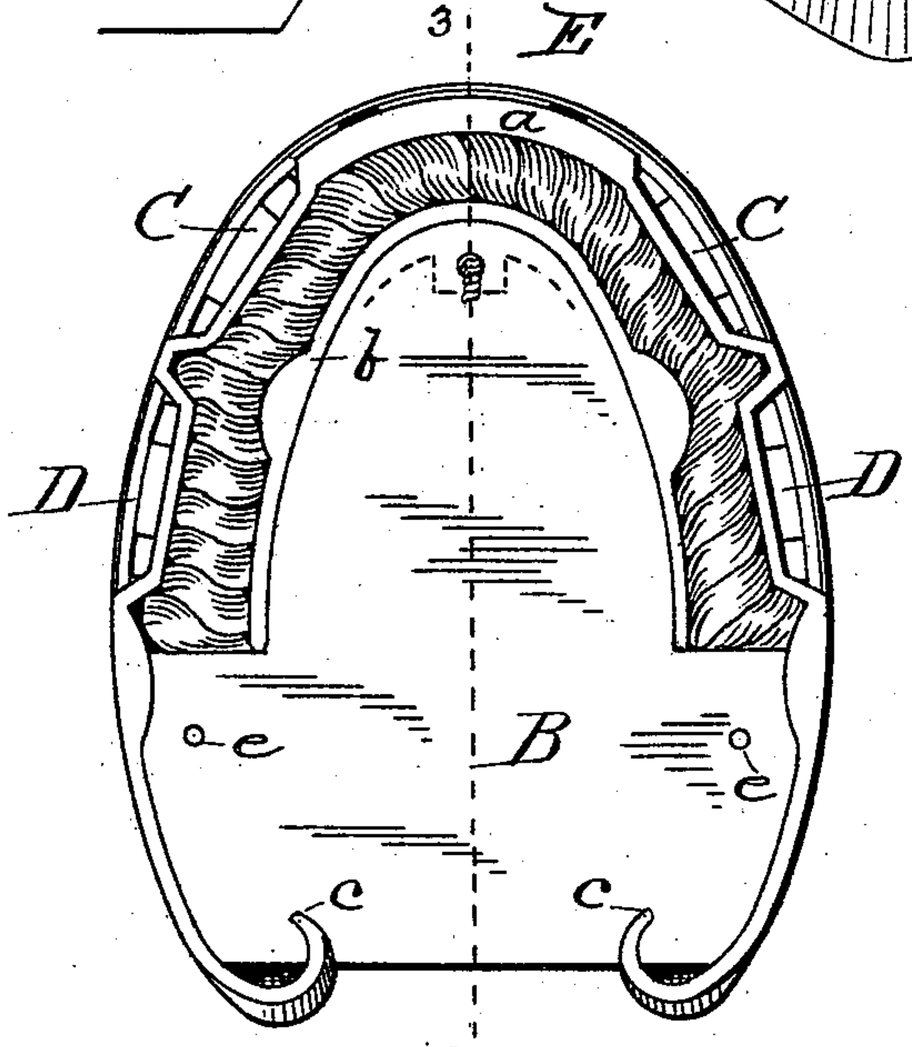
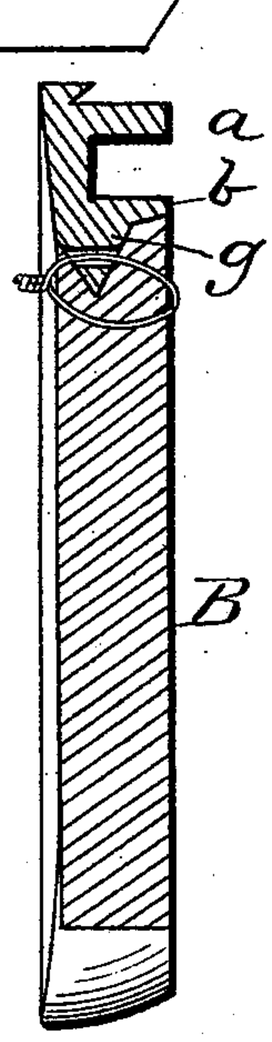


Fig - 3 -



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES GLEASON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SOFT-TREAD HORSESHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 539,053, dated May 14, 1895.

Application filed February 20, 1895. Serial No. 539,093. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES GLEASON, of Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horseshoes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to provide a horseshoe for lame or diseased horses, and it consists of a channeled shoe, in which tarred rope is packed, and is so constructed that toe nails can be used if necessary and so that it is easy to hammer home the nails, and to secure the pad in place, which it is usual to use in connection with these kinds of shoes; substantially as hereinafter fully described, and as illustrated in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention, looking at it from underneath. Fig. 2 is a plan view of its under side. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section taken on the dotted lines 3 3 of Fig. 2.

In the drawings A represents the top-plate of my improved horse shoe, which conforms to the usual shape of the common horse shoe, and is provided with an outer wall *a* depending down from its outer edge, and an inner wall *b* depending down from its inner edge.

The outer wall *a* continues around the ends of each arm or branch of the shoe, and terminates in spurs *c*, *c*, which, as shown, point forward. The inner wall *b* is cut away commencing from a point just to the rear of the centers of length of each branch of the shoe and extending to the base of the spurs *c*, so as to form recesses *d* through which the ends of a felt pad B, or pad of any other suitable material, may be passed, so as to enable their being secured to the top-plate A. This felt pad is secured in place by means of a pin *e* projecting down from the top-plate of each branch of the shoe, preferably just to the rear of the point where the recesses *d* commence, assisted by the spurs *c*. When the pad is secured to the shoe, its ends are forced down under the undercut shoulders of the spurs, and over the pins, which are pointed to permit this being done, and then the projecting points of the pins are upset or bent laterally, and the spurs are bent by the blows of a hammer or other tool so as to clinch the pad securely.

The pad B may be but a strip of thick felt of a length sufficient to extend from the outer wall of one to the outer wall of the other branch of the shoe, and is of a width corresponding to the length of recesses *d*. As thus constructed the pad would protect the rear of the frog of the hoof. When the frog of the hoof is sore or diseased, however, any upward pressure on any part of it, and especially at the forward angle thereof coming just to the rear of the toe of the shoe irritates and pains the animal. For this reason felt pads have been made so as to fill up the entire space between the branches of the shoe, from the heel to the toe thereof, substantially as shown in the drawings. The forward part of the pad B, back of the toe of the shoe has heretofore been left unsecured, and had more or less independent movement and could be pressed up against the hoof. I prevent this independent and upward movement of the pad in two ways. In the first place, I bevel the rear surface *f* of the inner wall *b* located back of the toe of the shoe, so that the pad finds a seat there when it is pressed upward, up beyond which it will not pass, and, in the second place, I provide said beveled surface with a rearwardly projecting lug *g*, the under surface of which is beveled and which has an eye made vertically through it. By running a piece of wire through the forward end of the pad and through this lug *g* I can by suitably twisting the ends of the wire together, or otherwise, securely fasten the pad.

In constructing a horse-shoe of the kind to which my invention relates, due regard must be had for nailing the same to the hoof. This is done by providing the outer wall of the shoe with insets where the nailholes occur. In my invention, in order to give plenty of room for the manipulation of the blacksmith's tools when shoeing a horse, I make these insets C, and D, at the side of the shoe, each long enough and deep enough to include two nailholes, and in order to afford the blacksmith a better opportunity for fastening the shoe on securely, especially when the sides of the hoof are sore or sensitive, I have provided part of the wall *a* depending from the

toe of the shoe with an inset E which likewise is long enough to include two nail-holes within its limits.

In order to complete the construction of my invention, the channel made by the walls *a* and *b*, is, after the pad B is secured in place, filled with tarred rope, substantially as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. This is usually done before the shoe is put on the hoof, and the tarred rope is packed in tightly so that there is small probability of its working loose and falling out.

What I claim as new is—

A horseshoe comprising a top-plate and an outer and an inner wall depending down from the outer and inner edges thereof, said outer wall having insets therein of such length as to inclose two nailholes, and continuing around the extremities of each branch of the shoe and terminating in spurs *c*, and said inner wall being provided with recesses *d*, and back of the toe of the shoe having its rear surfaces *f* beveled and provided with a lug *g* with an eye in it, and said top-plate being provided with pins *e*, which project downward from each branch thereof at points near the ends of recesses *d* farthest from said spurs, as set forth.

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