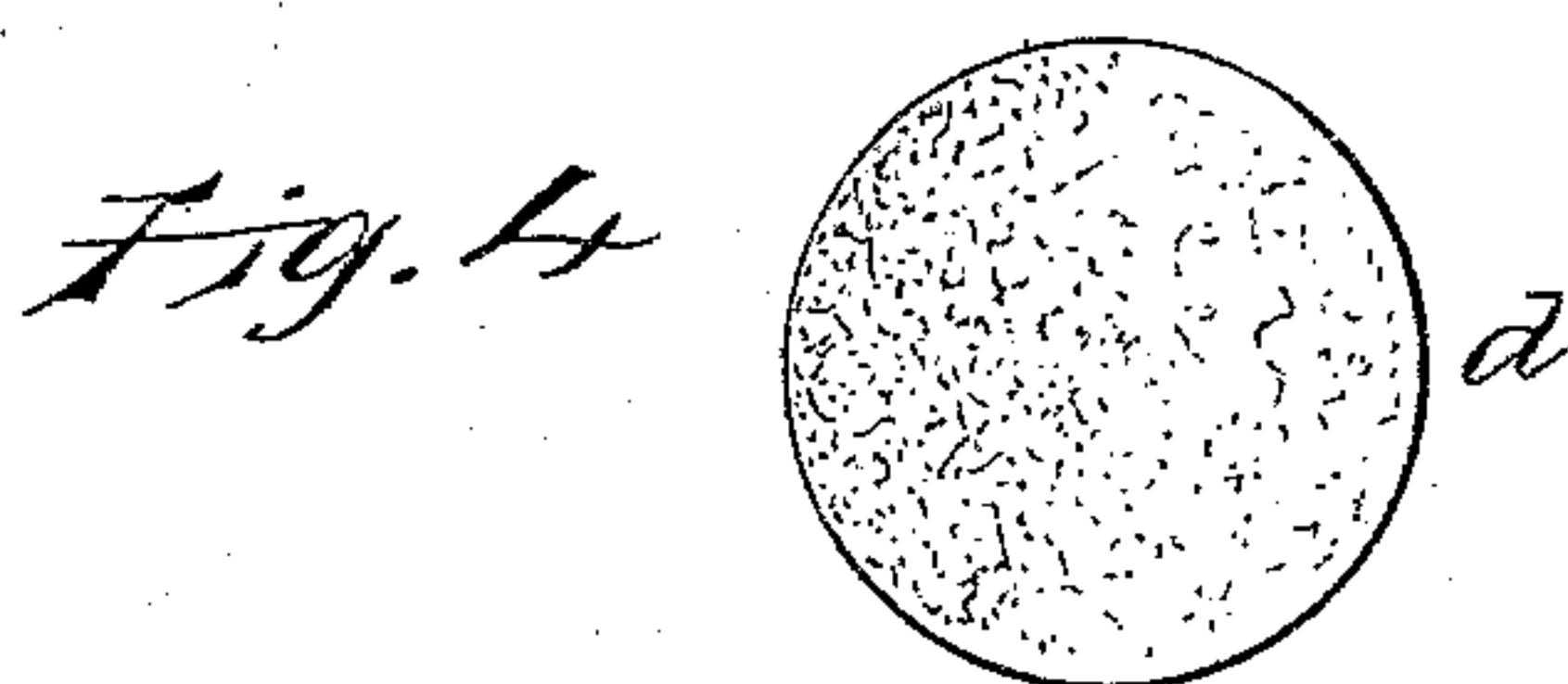
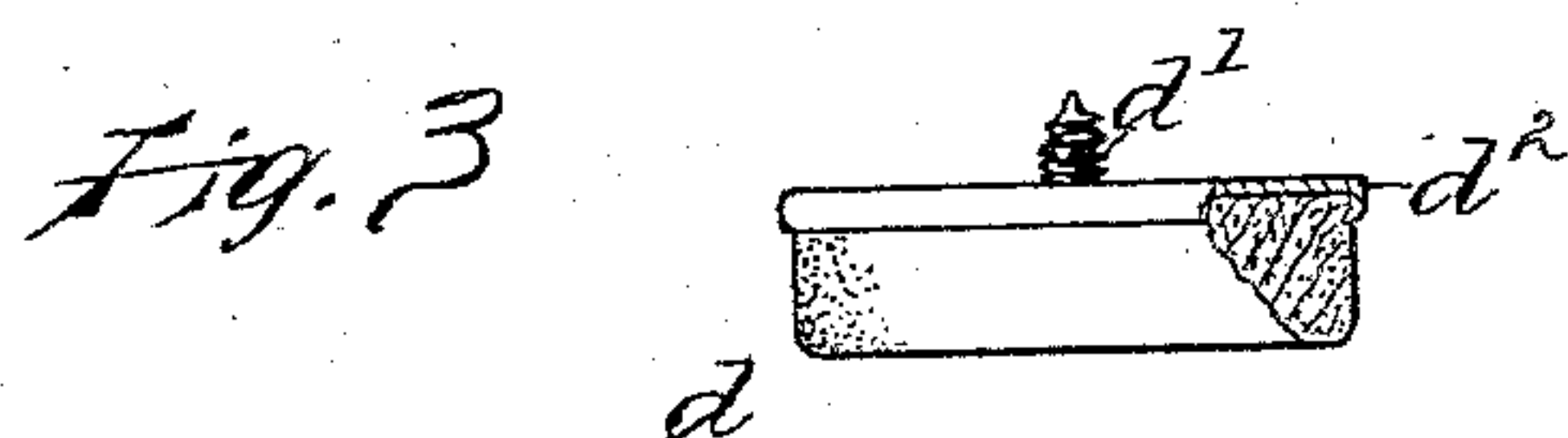
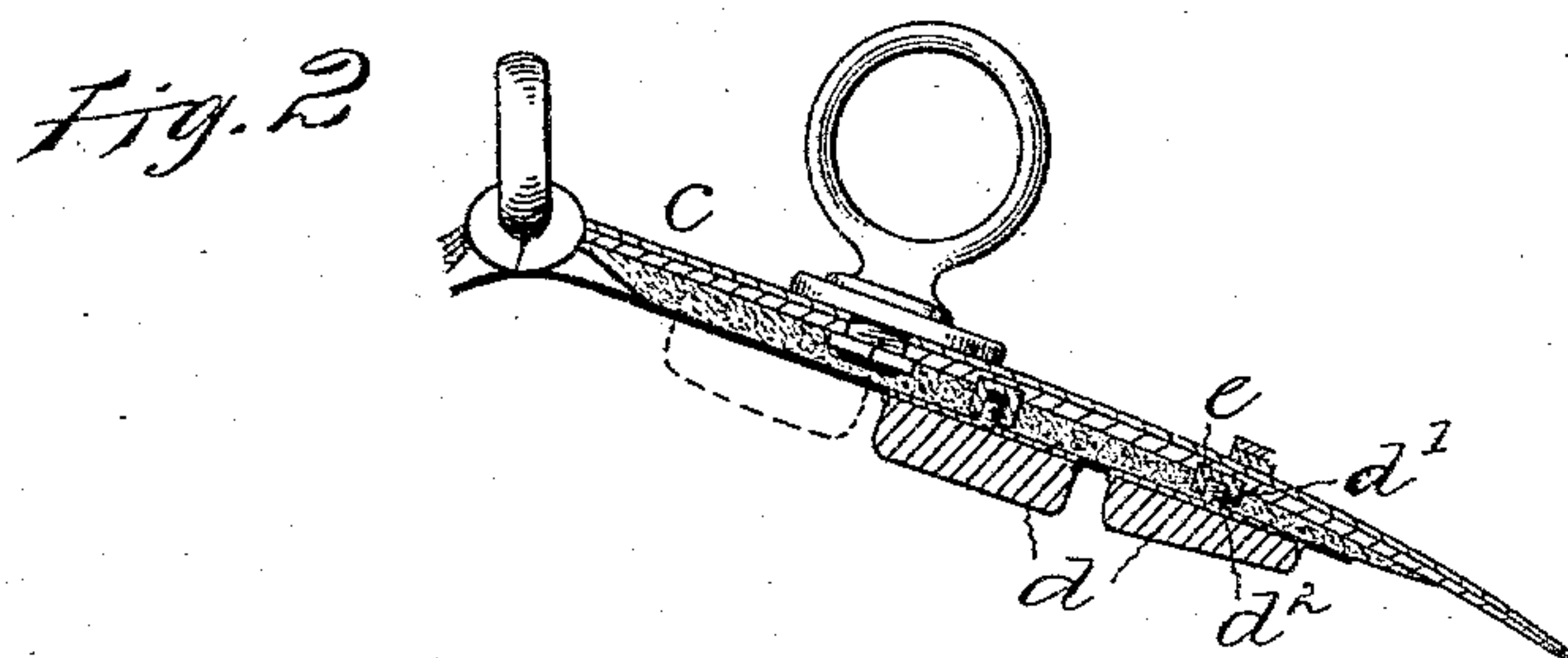
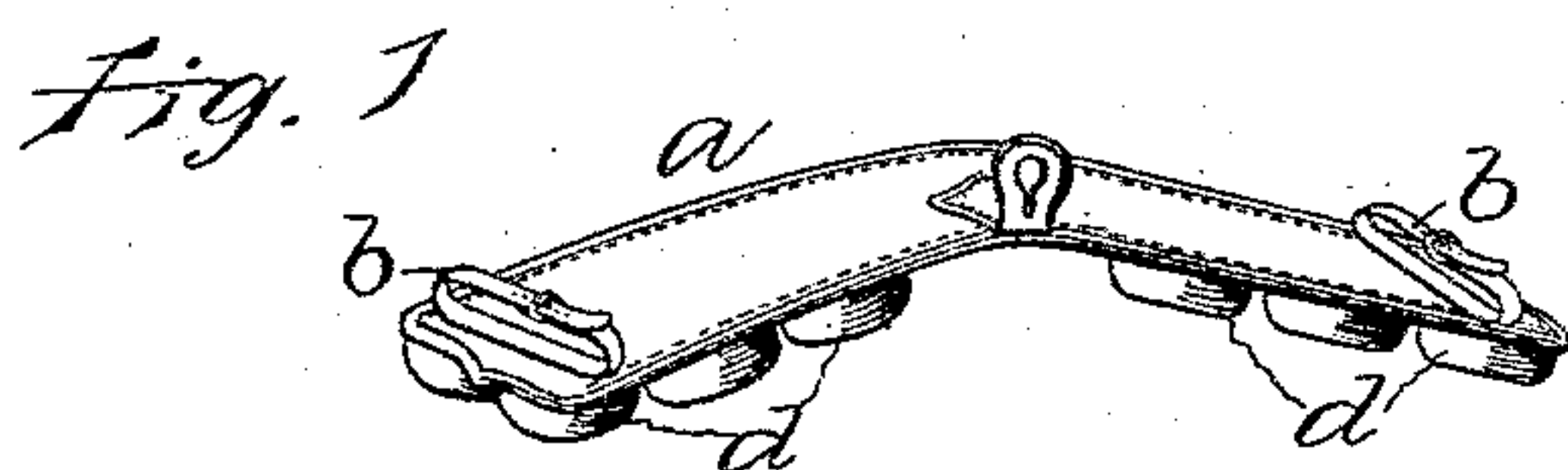


(No Model.)

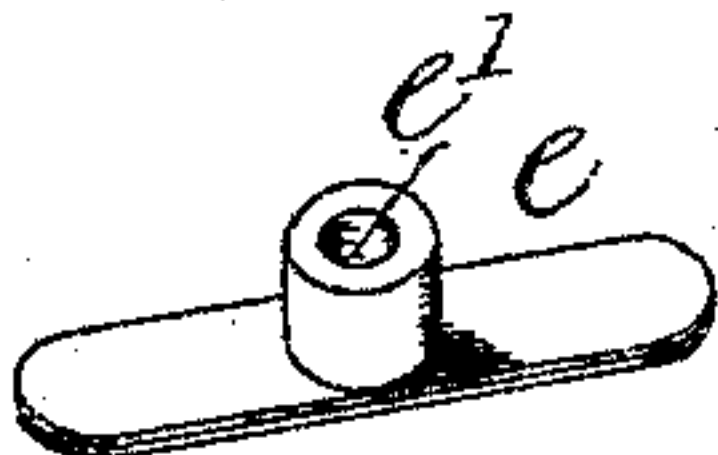
G. W. BROWN.
HARNESS PAD.

No. 556,915.

Patented Mar. 24, 1896.



Witnesses: *Fig. 5*
Arthur B. Jenkins,
C. E. Buckland.



Inventor:
George W. Brown.
by Chas. L. Burdett,
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. BROWN, OF WEST WINSTED, CONNECTICUT.

HARNESS-PAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 556,915, dated March 24, 1896.

Application filed August 26, 1895. Serial No. 560,466. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Winsted, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harness-Pads, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, whereby any one skilled in the art can make and use the same.

The object of my invention is to provide a device for use on harness parts, whereby a free circulation of air may be had under the pad, and also one that may be so changed at will as to prevent any part of the pad from resting in contact with any desired portion of the body of the animal on which the device is used; and a further object of the invention is to provide a device of this class that may be used to accurately fit a harness part to any animal by making it conform to the shape of the animal on which it is used.

To this end my invention consists in the removable disks, in the special construction of the pad, and in the details of the several parts making up the device as a whole, as more particularly hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved pad. Fig. 2 is a detail edge view of a portion of a saddle cut in section and showing the pad and method of attaching the removable disks. Fig. 3 is a detail edge view of one of the interchangeable disks. Fig. 4 is a detail bottom view of one of the felt bearing-pieces. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of a socket-piece.

In the accompanying drawings my improvement is illustrated in connection with a harness-pad attached to or forming part of a saddle, although the device is equally applicable to all harness parts in which a pad may be used to relieve the pressure or wearing action of a harness part, whether it be a saddle, breast-strap, breeching, collar, or the like.

In the accompanying drawings the letter *a* denotes the body part of the pad that is made of any comparatively soft material, as leather, having sufficient substance to keep its general shape, as in the ordinary form of pad, and this body part is provided with straps *b* or like means of attaching it to a saddle *c* or other harness part.

In those pads of this general class in the prior art in which the lining is made of a single piece, either of leather, or felt, or like material, and also in those devices where the inner surface of the pad has been divided into sections with spaces between, a difficulty has been experienced in preventing galling and no proper means has been provided for relieving any one particular spot from the direct pressure of the pad or its lining, except by the removal of a complete section of the width of the pad.

In my improved form of pad as illustrated herein the under surface is provided with a series of disks, preferably circular in form and made of an absorbent felt, these disks *d* being removably secured to the body part of the pad. In case a separate pad is not used the same disks may be removably secured to the under surface of a saddle or other harness part, which is provided with suitable socket-pieces and attaching means.

The preferred form of attaching means consists of a socket-piece *e* firmly united, as by riveting, to the body part and having a threaded socket *e'*, into which the threaded end of a stem *d'* on a rigid base-piece *d''* of the disk extends, and by means of which the disk is removably secured in place. Each disk, as illustrated, is made up mainly of a soft and pliable bearing-surface secured, as by means of cement, to the rigid base-piece *d''*, preferably of metal, or it may be connected to the soft bearing-surface of the disk by spinning the edge of the metal upward and inward so as to grasp the edge of the bearing-surface and hold it securely in place.

In its preferred form the top of the pad is made of enameled leather to which the attaching-straps are secured, and the under surface or lining of the pad is made of smooth leather, preferably alum-tanned, there being held between these two layers just described a piece of firm and flexible material making up the foundation, to which are secured the socket-pieces receiving the threaded stem borne on the disks.

The disks are arranged at regular or irregular intervals along the under surface of the pad, but in each case are so arranged as to leave between them air-spaces, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, through which the air

circulates when the pad is in use and serves to keep the skin cool and avoid sweating and scalding. The arrangement of the socket-pieces is such that the disks can be so placed
5 as to support the full weight and pressure of the saddle or other harness part and at the same time leave out any disk located in such a position as to press upon a sore spot. By this construction interchangeable disks are pro-
10 vided by means of which the harness part may be made to fit the back of any animal by the use of disks of different thicknesses and thus prevent any mechanical irritation.

By the use of my improved harness-pad pro-
15 vided with a number of interchangeable disks a harness can be accurately fitted to the back of any animal, and the harness can be used on an animal with comfort even though there be sore spots on the surface, since by remov-
20 ing one or more of the disks all pressure and irritation are removed from the inflamed and ulcerated surface.

The removable disks, as will be seen by Fig. 1 of the drawings, are less in diameter than
25 the harness-pad in width, and this enables them to be arranged in a great diversity of positions to accommodate any particular spot on the horse that it is desirable to avoid and at the same time to afford some support for
30 the harness part close enough to the place to quite evenly distribute the weight. In prior pads having removable sections or disks they

extend clear across the width of the pad, and this fault is remedied by my improvement. The disk can be of any desirable circular or
35 polygonal form.

I claim as my invention—

1. In combination in a harness-pad, a base-piece or foundation, socket-pieces secured to the pad, removable disks less in diameter
40 than the pad is in width, each disk having attaching means fitting said socket and a soft bearing-face, all substantially as described.

2. In combination in a harness-pad, a base-piece, socket-pieces secured to the under sur-
45 face of the base-piece, removable disks with attaching means fitting said sockets, each disk being made of felt secured to a thin metal base and the said base having its edges bent over and into the substance of the disk, all
50 substantially as described.

3. In combination in a harness-pad, a base-piece, socket-pieces secured to the under sur-
face of the base-piece and each having a threaded socket, removable disks each less in
55 diameter than the pad is in width and having a threaded stem fitting the socket in each socket-piece, and a soft bearing-surface, all substantially as described.

GEORGE W. BROWN.

Witnesses:

DENNIS L. GLYNN,

GEORGE M. CARRINGTON.