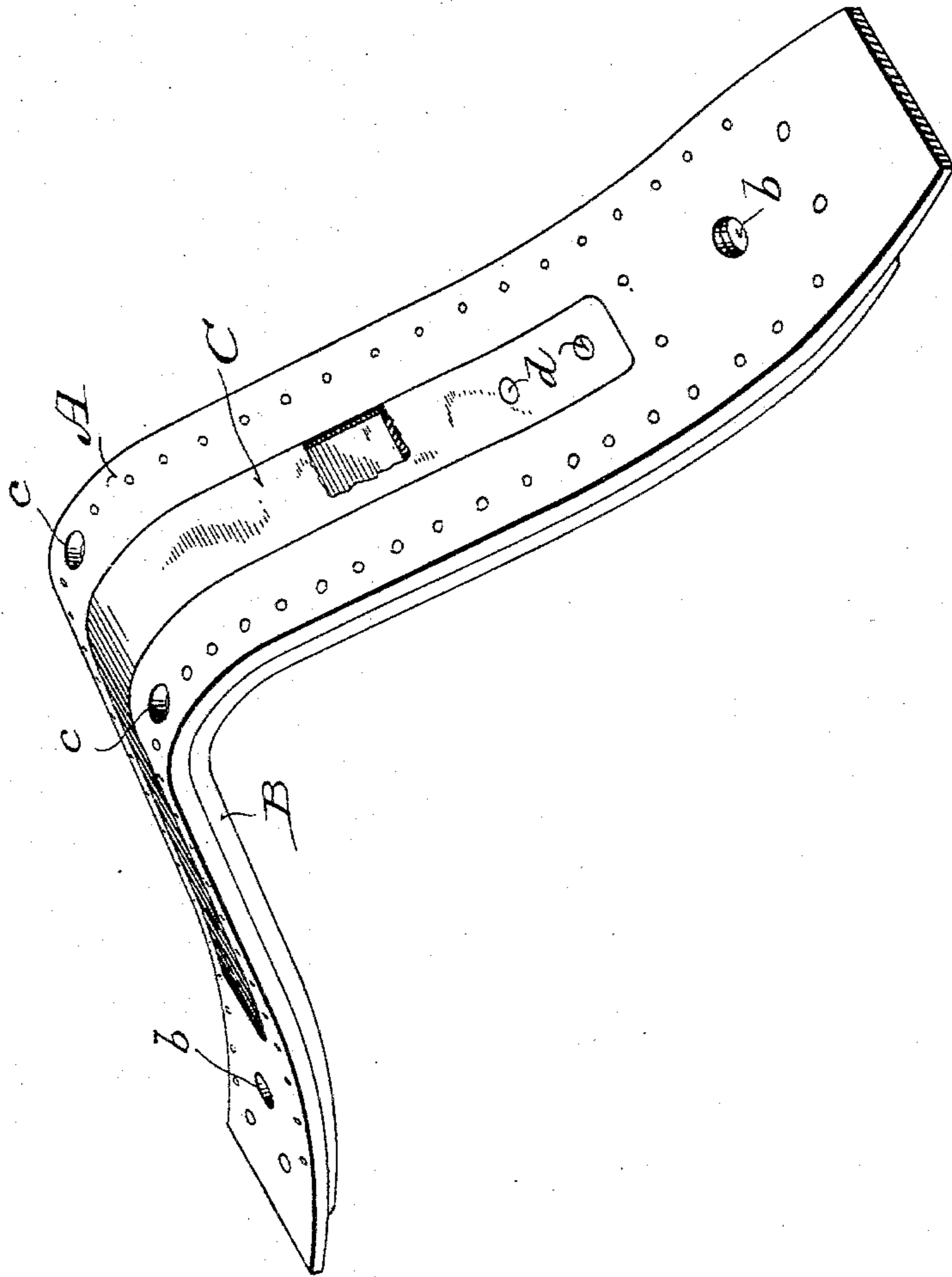


(No Model.)

A. S. DERSCH.  
HARNESS SADDLETREE.

No. 564,976.

Patented Aug. 4, 1896.



Witnesses:  
Geo. W. Louny,  
N. E. Oliphant.

Inventor:  
Anthony S. Dersch  
By H. G. Underwood  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTHONY S. DERSCH, OF NORTH GREENFIELD, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR, BY  
DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN A. GERIN-  
SCHEID AND JOHN T. GERINSCHIED, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## HARNESS-SADDLE TREE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,976, dated August 4, 1896.

Application filed November 25, 1895. Serial No. 569,966. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANTHONY S. DERSCH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of North Greenfield, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harness-Saddles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention has for its main object to prevent sore back on a driving-horse, as well as to lighten harness and improve fit of same, said invention consisting in the material and structural peculiarities of the back-fitting harness-saddle hereinafter particularly set forth, with reference to the accompanying drawing, and subsequently claimed.

The drawing represents a perspective view of a harness-saddle embodying all the features of my invention.

Referring by letter to the drawing, A B represent arch-shaped sole-leather plies of such proportions as may be found most desirable in practice. The plies are shaped while moist, and being permanently set, by drying, they are centered one upon the other and fastened together by stitching, riveting, or other suitable means to form my improved harness-saddle. While a plurality of the plies is necessary, there may be more than the two herein shown, but ordinarily two will be sufficient.

As herein shown, the inner ply is the shorter and the ends of the outer ply extend an equal distance beyond said inner ply. It is also to be understood that if more than two plies be utilized they will be successively of increasing length in an outward direction, and the ends of all the plies are reduced in thickness, by skiving, to provide for close yielding fit upon the back of a horse. The stiff central or highest portion of the saddle is always out of contact with the back of a horse, and therefore said saddle depends on its yielding ends for support.

The bearing ends of the harness-saddle are sufficiently pliable as to automatically adjust themselves to the back of any horse, and they

also yield to motion of the animal, thereby preventing the animal from becoming sore.

The saddle is shown provided with openings *b* for terret-shanks, and other openings *c* for the engagement of rivets employed to hold a check-hook in place.

In some instances it may be found desirable to further stiffen that portion of the saddle that does not contact with the back of a horse, and therefore a longitudinal stiffener-strip *C* of steel or other suitable material is shown rigidly secured in a corresponding recess formed in the outer ply of said saddle and extending in opposite directions from the center of same for a limited distance.

Because of its light weight and the automatic horse-conforming extremities of the saddle the latter, additionally stiffened or otherwise, is especially well adapted for use in connection with racing-harness.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A harness-saddle made from a plurality of arch-shaped and skived-end sole-leather plies having successively-increasing length in outward progression centered and fastened together, whereby said saddle has pliable automatic horse-conforming extremities but is otherwise sufficiently stiff to stand clear of the animal.

2. A harness-saddle made from a plurality of arch-shaped and skived-end sole-leather plies having successively-increasing length in outward progression centered and fastened together, and a strip of steel or other suitable material seated in a corresponding recess in the outermost ply extending in opposite directions from the center of the same for a limited distance.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

ANTHONY S. DERSCH.

Witnesses:

N. E. OLIPHANT,  
B. C. ROLOFF.

It is hereby certified that the names of the assignees in Letters Patent No. 564,976, granted August 4, 1896, upon the application of Anthony S. Dersch, of North Greenfield, Wisconsin, for an improvement in "Harness-Saddletrees," were erroneously written and printed "John A. Gerinscheid and John T. Gerinscheid," whereas said names should have been written and printed *John A. Girmscheid and John T. Girmscheid*; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 18th day of August, A. D. 1896.

[SEAL.]

JNO. M. REYNOLDS,  
*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

Countersigned:

S. T. FISHER,  
*Acting Commissioner of Patents.*