

No. 607,282.

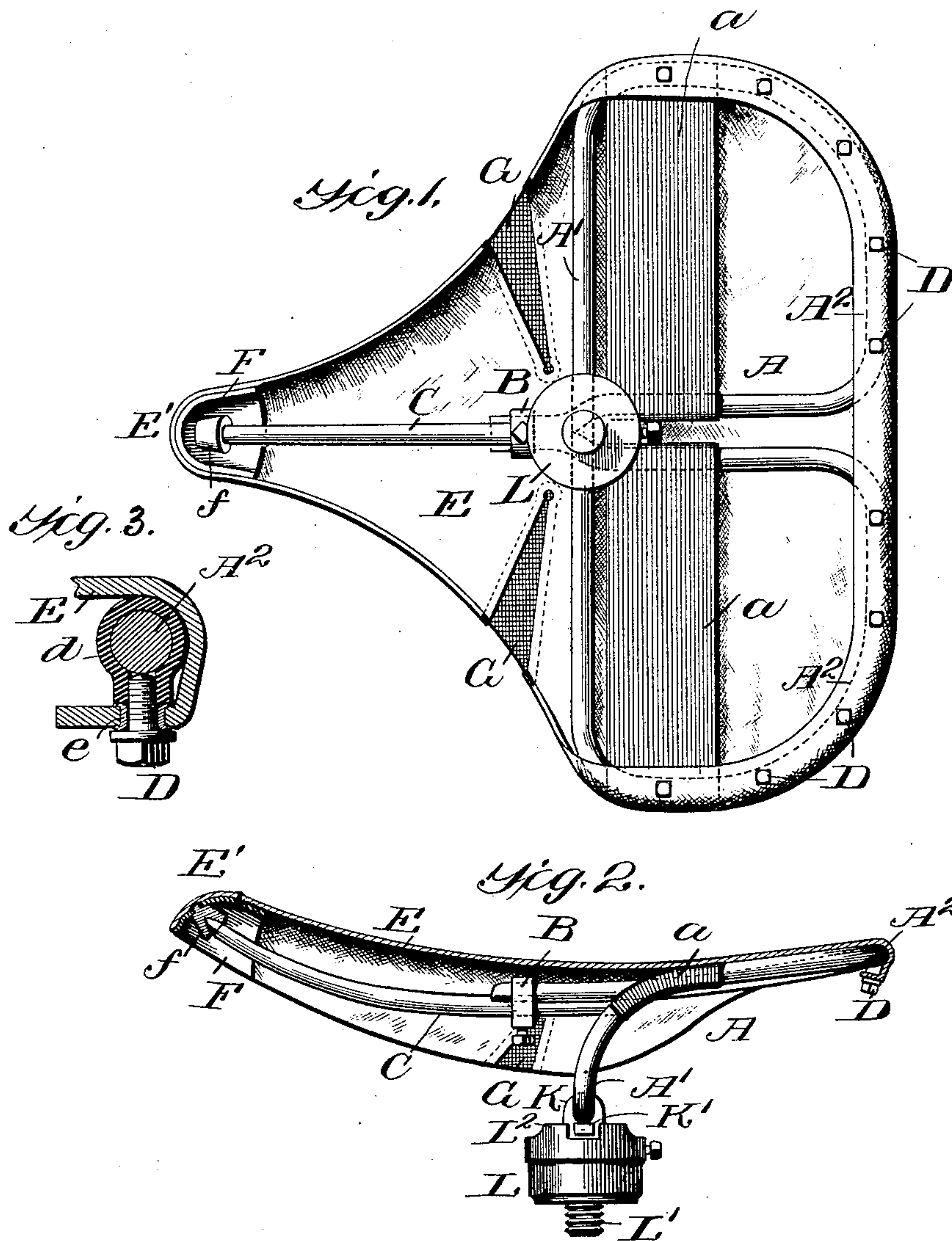
Patented July 12, 1898.

H. L. SCHAFFNER.

BICYCLE SADDLE.

(Application filed May 11, 1896.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY LOUIS SCHAFFNER, OF FLORENCE, ITALY.

BICYCLE-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 607,282, dated July 12, 1898.

Application filed May 11, 1896. Serial No. 591,102. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY LOUIS SCHAFFNER, of the city of Florence, Tuscany, Italy, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bicycle-Saddles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

This invention is an improvement in saddles for bicycles; and its object is to produce a comfortable, easy-riding, and hygienic saddle which will accommodate itself to the natural motions of the body and legs of the rider and will be free from the injurious effects upon the body, which is the chief objection to the ordinary rigid saddles.

The saddle is mounted so as to be capable of a lateral oscillation or vibration, and the cover is made yielding, so that in use while the weight of the body is properly supported upon the tubes the pelvis is able to follow the motions of the legs, and thus all the muscles are brought into play and contribute to the propulsion of the vehicle.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a bottom view of the complete saddle. Fig. 2 is a side view through the same with the cover in section. Fig. 3 is a detail section of one of the cover-fastenings.

The frame of the bicycle-saddle is formed principally of a spring-rod A, which has a horizontal portion A' attached to the supporting-pivot, and at each side of the pivot the rod is bent upward and rearward and then curved horizontally in substantially semi-circular form into loops A², the two extremities of the wire meeting near the center of the saddle and extending forward to or slightly beyond and above the part A' and the pivot. The form of the spring-frame is clearly shown in the drawings. In plan the frame appears bent like the letter B, both sides of loop A² being alike.

The extremities of rod A may be connected in any suitable manner to a clamp B, which depends therefrom, and in this clamp is secured a forwardly-projecting adjustable rod

C, which supports the beak end of the saddle-cover E. This cover is made, preferably, of leather or other suitable material and is of substantially ordinary form, the extremity of its beak portion E' being fastened to a metallic shell F, having a recessed block f on its under side fitted onto the end of rod C, and thus making a pivoted connection between the beak of cover and the rod. In the rear edge of the cover E are a series of eye-lets e, through which are slipped tap-bolts D, engaging threaded recesses in annuli d, attached to the rear portions of the loops A² of the seat-frame. This makes a simple, secure, easily-adjustable, and readily-detachable fastening for the cover to the frame. The tap-bolts not only fasten the cover to the annuli, but secure the latter to the frame, so that the saddle can be easily tightened by turning the annuli on rod A. Cover E, moreover, at the point of junction of the beak portion with the seat portion is gored or slit, as shown, for the insertion of gores G of elastic webbing or resilient cloth, which gores allow the cover to take the best shape of seat which suits the rider and to vary its shape according to the movement of the legs, as would be most comfortable and natural to the rider.

Across each loop A² and strung between and attached to the inner and outer sides thereof are strong resilient reinforcing-bands a a, which give resiliency to the portion of the saddle-cover thereover. If desired, the cover can be upholstered or padded to render it more comfortable.

The self-adjustment of the cover to the rider and motion of the legs and muscles in riding is facilitated by the pivotal connection between the beak and rod C and by the horizontal oscillation of the saddle, which is preferably pivoted upon the main frame of the machine so as to be capable of lateral oscillation in any suitable manner. I have shown a very useful and generally preferable form of pivot, which is constructed as follows:

The part A' of frame A is secured to a post K by means of a wedge K', which gives support to or stiffens the part A'.

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

In a bicycle-saddle the combination of a

frame having a continuous horizontal portion
A' attached to the seat-post and its opposite
extremities bent upwardly and rearwardly,
inwardly and forwardly to form side loops
5 A²; lying in rear of and above part A'; and
a beak-rod attached to the ends of the ad-
joining ends of the rod above part A', sub-
stantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own I affix my signature in presence of 10
two witnesses.

HENRY LOUIS SCHAFFNER.

Witnesses:

SPIRITO BERNARDIN,
HERMANN MAYER.