

No. 721,486.

PATENTED FEB. 24, 1903.

J. A. WHELAN.
SAFETY STIRRUP.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 21, 1901.

NO MODEL.

FIG. 2.

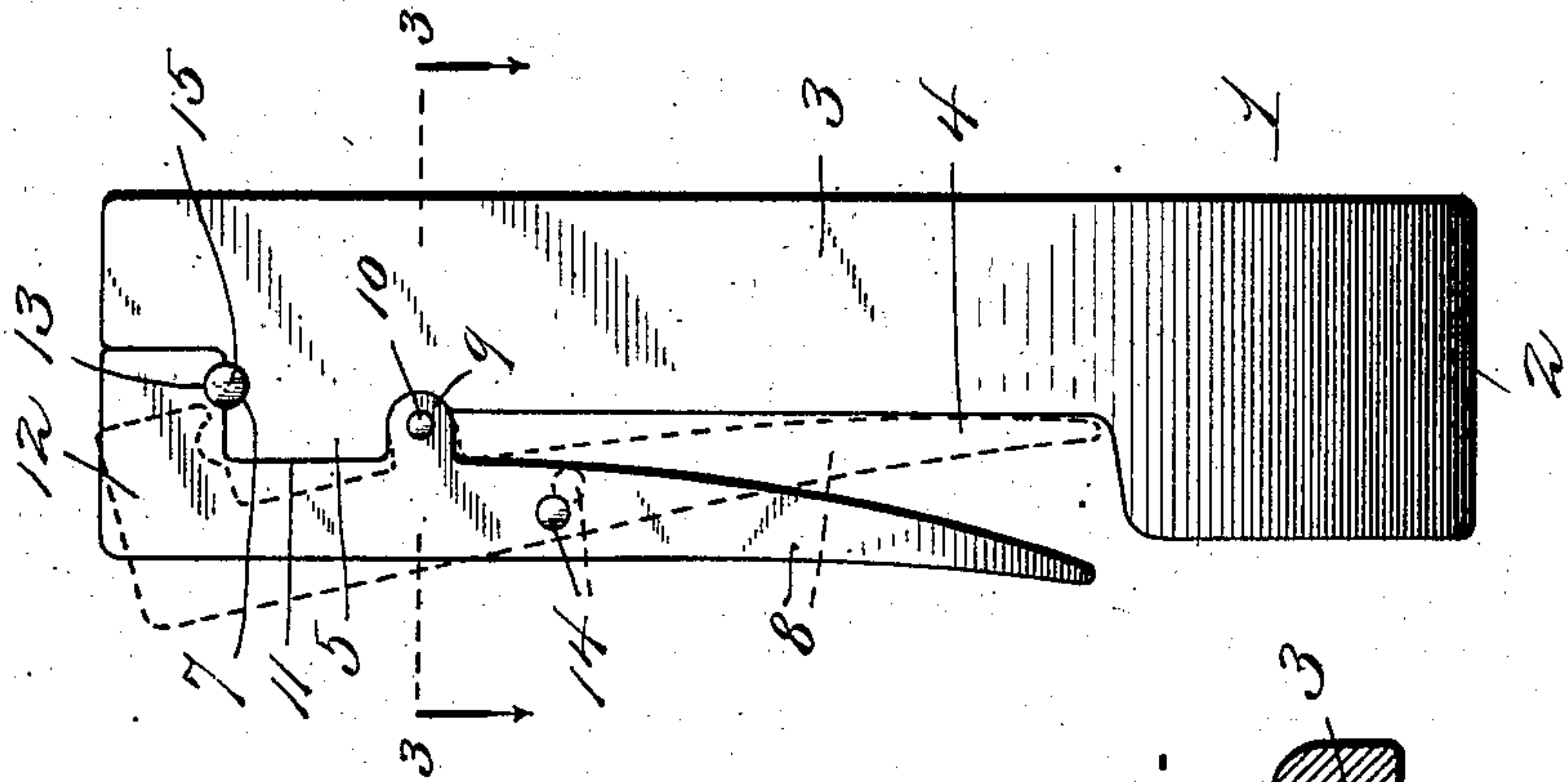


FIG. 3.

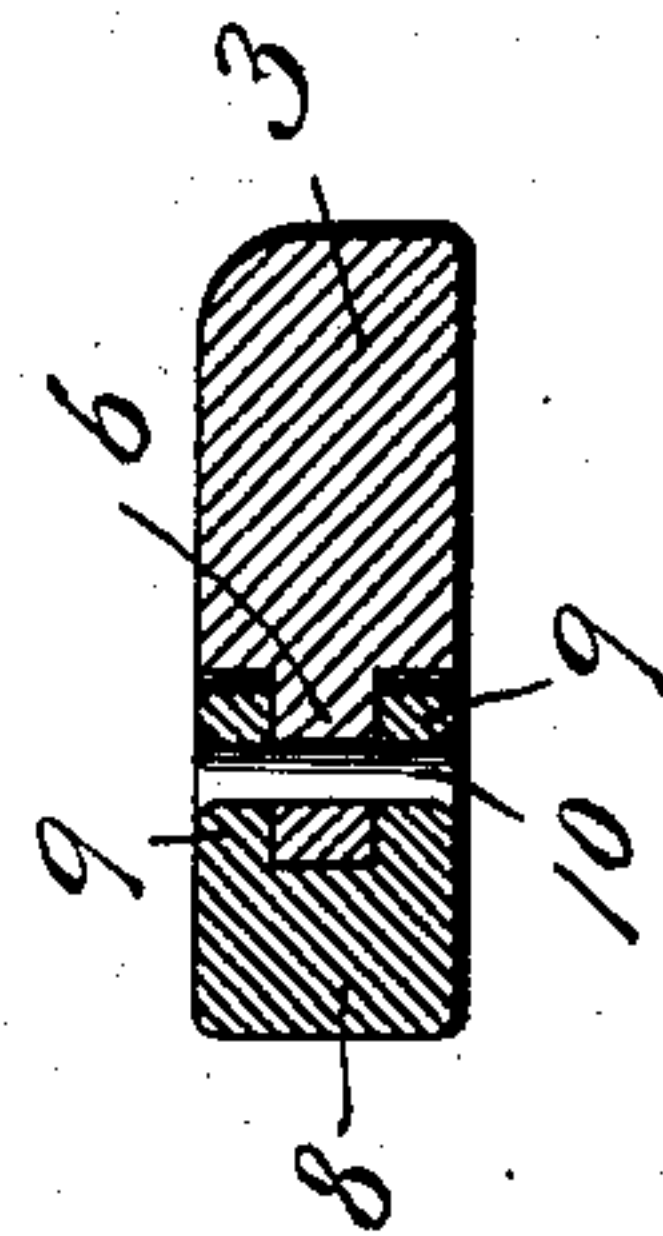
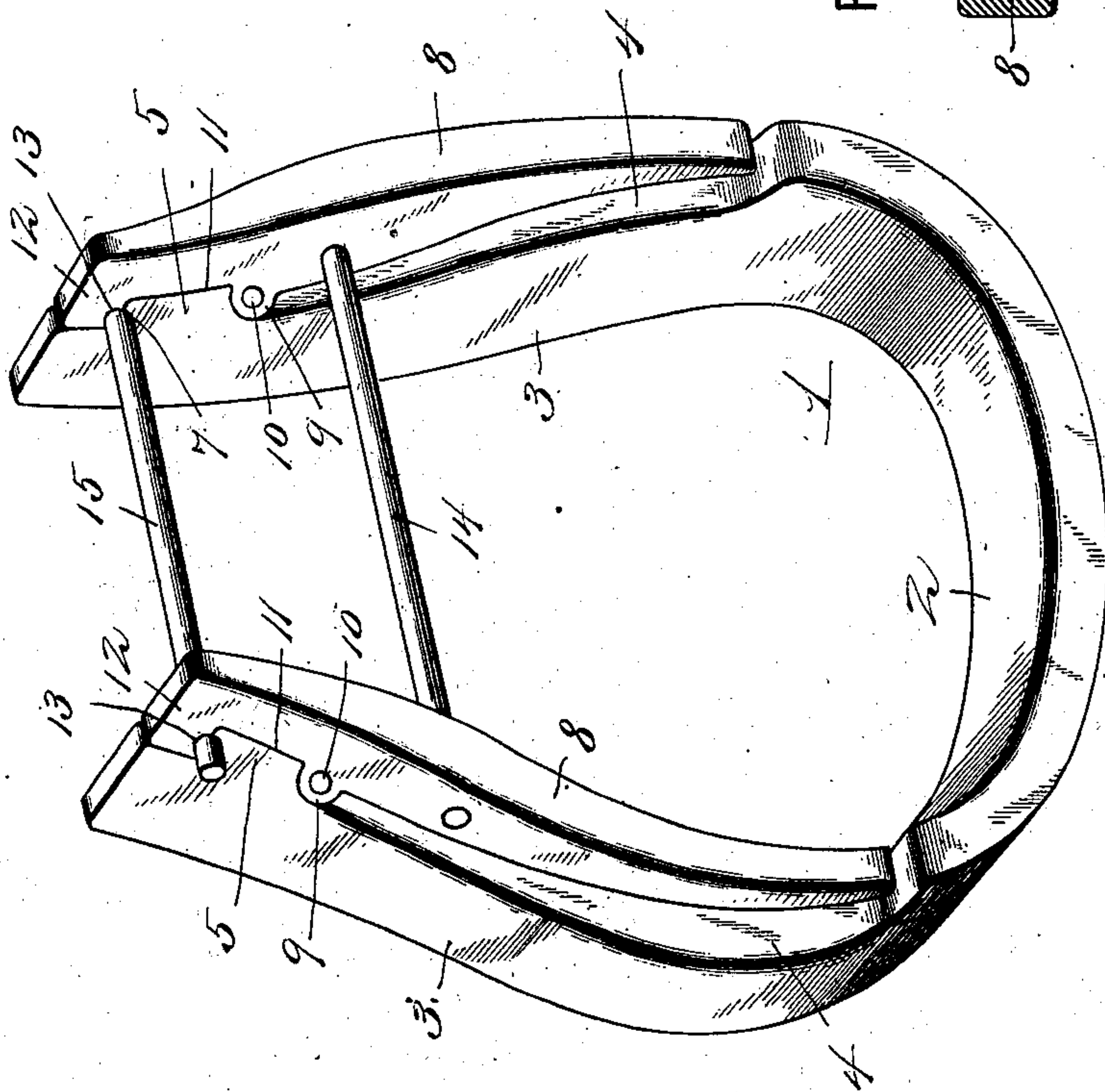


FIG. 1.



Witnesses

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SAFETY-STIRRUP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,486, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed December 21, 1901. Serial No. 86,822. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH A. WHELAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rock Springs, in the county of Sweetwater and State of Wyoming, have invented new and useful Improvements in Safety-Stirrups, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a safety-stirrup; and the object of the same is to provide a simple and effective device of this character having means for detaching the stirrup from a suspending or hanger strap to avert injury or accident to riders in the event of runaways or permit either foot to be disengaged or a stirrup detached when an animal falls.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a stirrup embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, showing the detaching means in locked position in full lines and in open position in dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3 3, Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates a stirrup-body, which is of the usual shape and comprises a foot-pressure bow 2 and opposite upwardly-extending and inwardly-converging sides 3, the body 1 being constructed of suitable material and adapted to be equipped with any of the well-known stirrup attachments, such as pads or buffers and extended foot-rests. The front edges of the sides 3 are formed with recesses 4, and projecting forwardly from the upper extremities of the sides reduced by the said extremities are lugs or bosses 5, one lug or boss being formed with each side and having a knuckle or eye 6 at its lower terminal and a semicircular seat 7 in the upper end thereof.

In connection with the improved stirrup releasing-arms 8 are employed and are provided with separated or spaced knuckles or eyes 9 at the upper portions of the inner edges thereof to embrace the knuckles or eyes 6 and to which they are connected by pivot-pins 10 to

form a hinge or pivot connection for the said arms. The arms 8 are shaped to conform to the contour of the sides 3 and do not project outwardly beyond the outer surface of said sides, and above the knuckles or eyes 9 the said arms have recesses 11 in their inner edges to closely fit over the lugs or bosses 5 and to produce upper locking-heads 12, having semicircular recesses 13 therein to cooperate with the similar recesses 7 in the upper ends of the lugs or bosses 5. The arms 8 depend into the recesses 4 and are converged toward their lower extremities, so as to permit them to be freely moved rearwardly to throw the heads 12 forwardly to clear the recesses 7, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2. The arms 8 are connected for simultaneous operation by a rod 14 at such an elevation as not to interfere with the insertion of the foot into or withdrawal thereof from the stirrup, the connection of the said arms causing both to be operated to release the stirrup from its suspending device when the foot is brought into contact with either one of said arms and a rearward pressure exerted on the latter. The fulcrum or pivotal connection of the arms 8 in relation to the sides of the stirrup is at such distance from the heads 12 as to cause the latter to normally stand in closed or locking position, and the hanger or suspending strap (not shown) engages or is attached to a suspending-rod 15, which is terminally seated in the recesses 7 and 13 when the stirrup is in operative relation to the saddle, the locking-heads 12 holding the said suspending-rod 15 in connection with the stirrup. When it is desired to release the stirrup in the event of accident, the rider presses his foot against either one of the arms and throws the locking-heads 12 forwardly, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 2. Such forward movement of the locking-heads releases the suspending-rod 15, and the stirrup will fall away or become detached from the hanger or suspending strap, and thereby leave the limbs of the rider free, with obvious advantages.

It will be observed that the improved stirrup may be applied to either the right or left side of a saddle, as the releasing attachments or arms are applied to the opposite sides 3 and are similar in construction. Also changes in the form, proportions, dimensions, and minor

details may be resorted to without in the least departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

5 1. A safety-stirrup having recesses in the front portions of the opposite sides thereof, releasing-arms fulcrumed at their upper portions and depending through the recesses, the said arms having upper locking-heads, and
10 a suspending-rod detachably held by the said heads.

2. A safety-stirrup having recesses in the front portions of the opposite sides thereof,

releasing-arms pivotally connected to the upper front portions of the sides and depending 15 into the recesses, the said arms being converged toward their lower extremities to permit them to be moved backwardly into the recesses, and a suspending-rod detachably held by the upper extremities of the arms. 20

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH A. WHELAN.

Witnesses:

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