

No. 743,969.

PATENTED NOV. 10, 1903.

A. F. WOOD.

STIRRUP.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 4, 1903.

NO. MODEL.

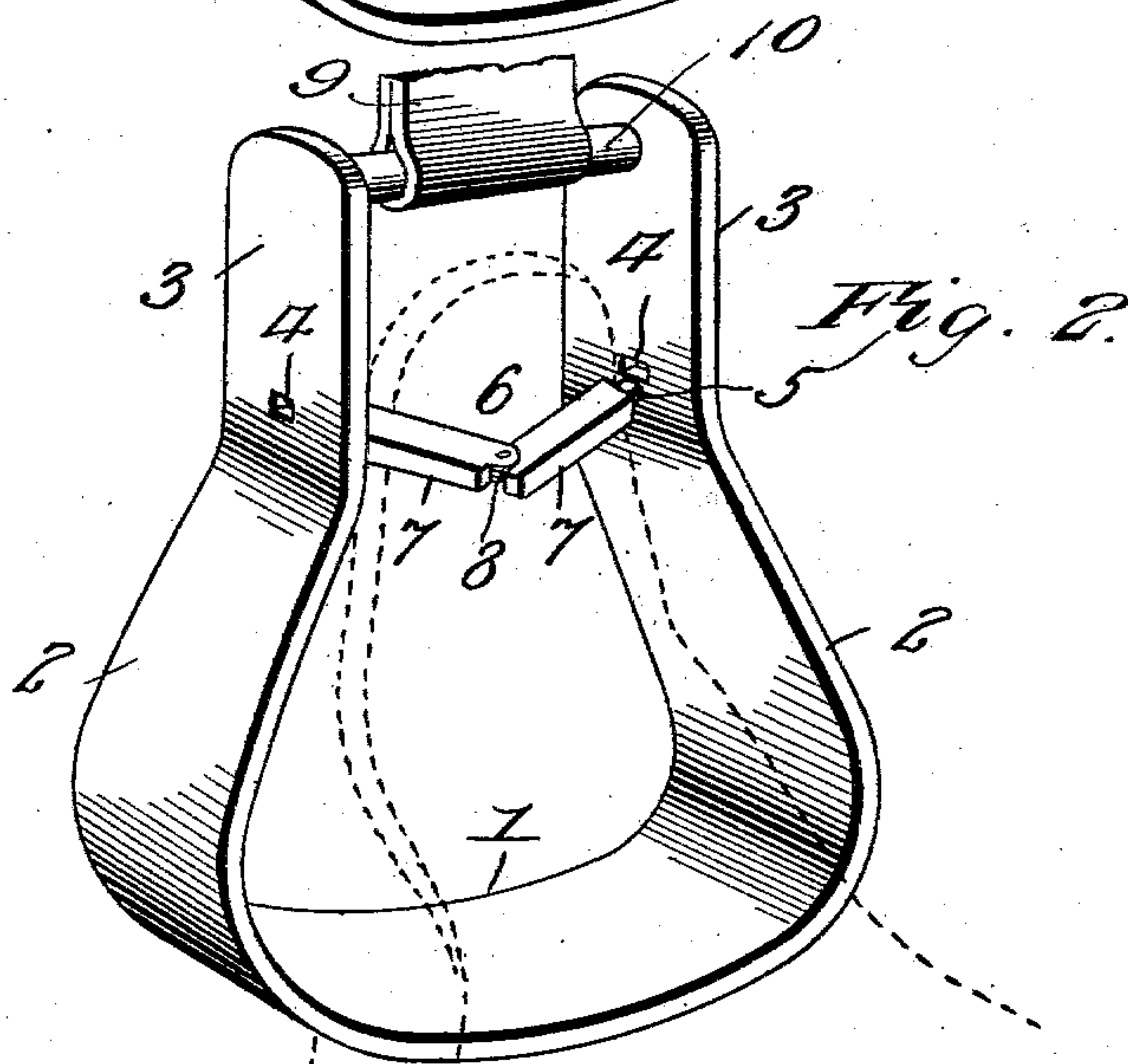
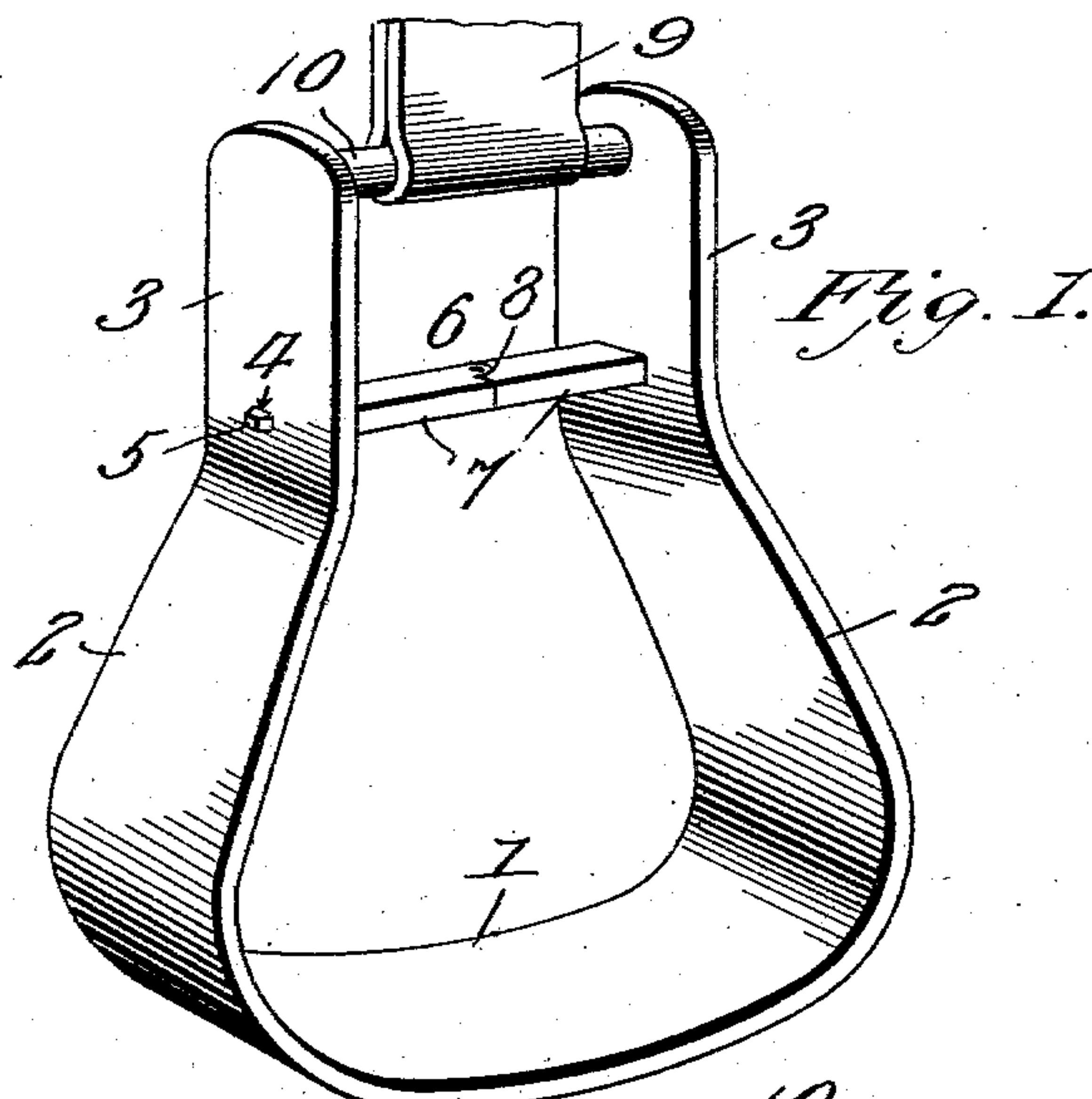
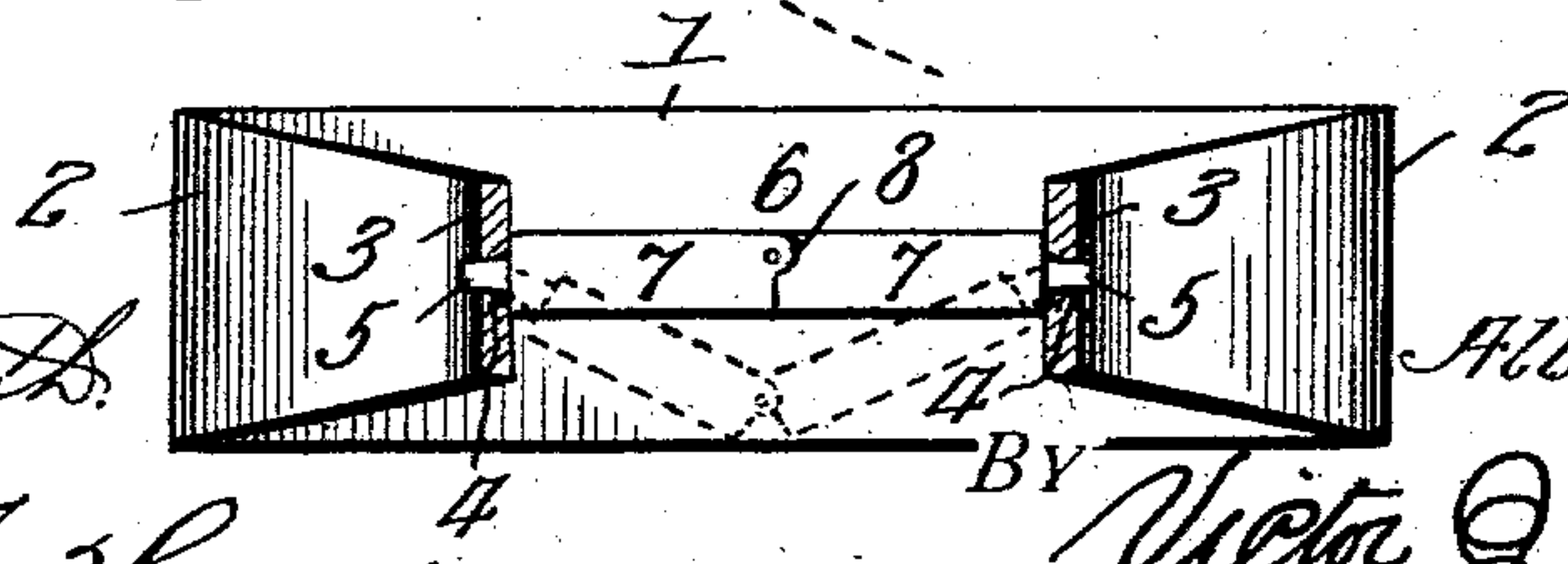


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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STIRRUP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 743,969, dated November 10, 1903.

Application filed March 4, 1903. Serial No. 146,189. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT F. WOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Snoma, in the county of Butte and State of South Dakota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stirrups, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to safety-stirrups; and the primary object of the same is to prevent accidents to riders by having means in connection with the stirrup which will automatically operate to disengage the same from the stirrup-strap and prevent dragging a rider over the ground in the event of runaways, the parts of the improved stirrup being so constructed that a release will ensue no matter what position the foot of the rider may be in as long as a rearward or backward action is exerted on the bar by the foot of the rider.

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 transverse vertical section through the upper extremity of the stirrup, showing the releasing device in two positions in full and dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section through the upper portion of the stirrup.

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

The numeral 1 designates a stirrup of usual form having a foot-rest 1 and upwardly-extending inwardly-converging sides 2, with vertical upper terminals 3, each of the latter having an angular opening 4 therein. The openings 4 are in transverse alinement, and therein are removably fitted the opposite angular terminals 5 of a releasing-bar 6, the openings 4 and terminals 5 slightly converging toward their outer terminals to permit the latter to be readily withdrawn inwardly from the openings. The bar 6 is made up of two sections 7, connected at their inner terminals by a hinge-joint 8, which resists forward opening movement, but permits said bar to readily break in a rearward direction, as clearly in-

dicated by Fig. 2. The stirrup or strap 9 embraces an upper connecting-bar 10 to continuously suspend the stirrup from a saddle.

In operation the stirrup under normal conditions will remain as shown by Fig. 1; but in the event of a rider being thrown and having his foot caught in the stirrup backward pressure on the bar 6 by the foot of the rider will break the joint between the sections 7, and simultaneously the terminals 5 of the said sections will be withdrawn inwardly from the upper terminals 3 of the sides of the stirrup, and thereby prevent the foot of the rider being jammed or caught in the stirrup and avoid accident or injury to the rider under abnormal conditions, or in the event that the foot of the rider becomes caught in a stirrup when thrown from the back of a horse.

When the bar 6 is in its normal position, it reinforces and strengthens the upper part of the stirrup and prevents any tendency toward misshaping the upper terminals 3 of the sides 2 below the connecting-bar 10 by the weight and pressure of the foot of the rider on the foot-rest 1, and the stirrup can be made of thinner material and considerably lighter, and inward movement of the upper terminals 3 thereof will be prevented by the said bar. The elongation of the upper part of the stirrup will permit the toe of the boot or shoe of the rider to clear the bar 10.

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

1. A stirrup having a lower foot-rest and sides rigidly extending upwardly therefrom, a hanger-bar connecting the upper ends of the sides, and a foot-releasing bar hinged at an intermediate point and movable in a horizontal plane to release the ends thereof from the sides of the stirrup.

2. A stirrup having rigid sides, and a foot-releasing bar having its ends removably engaging the said sides and provided with an intermediate hinged joint.

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

ALBERT F. WOOD.

Witnesses:

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