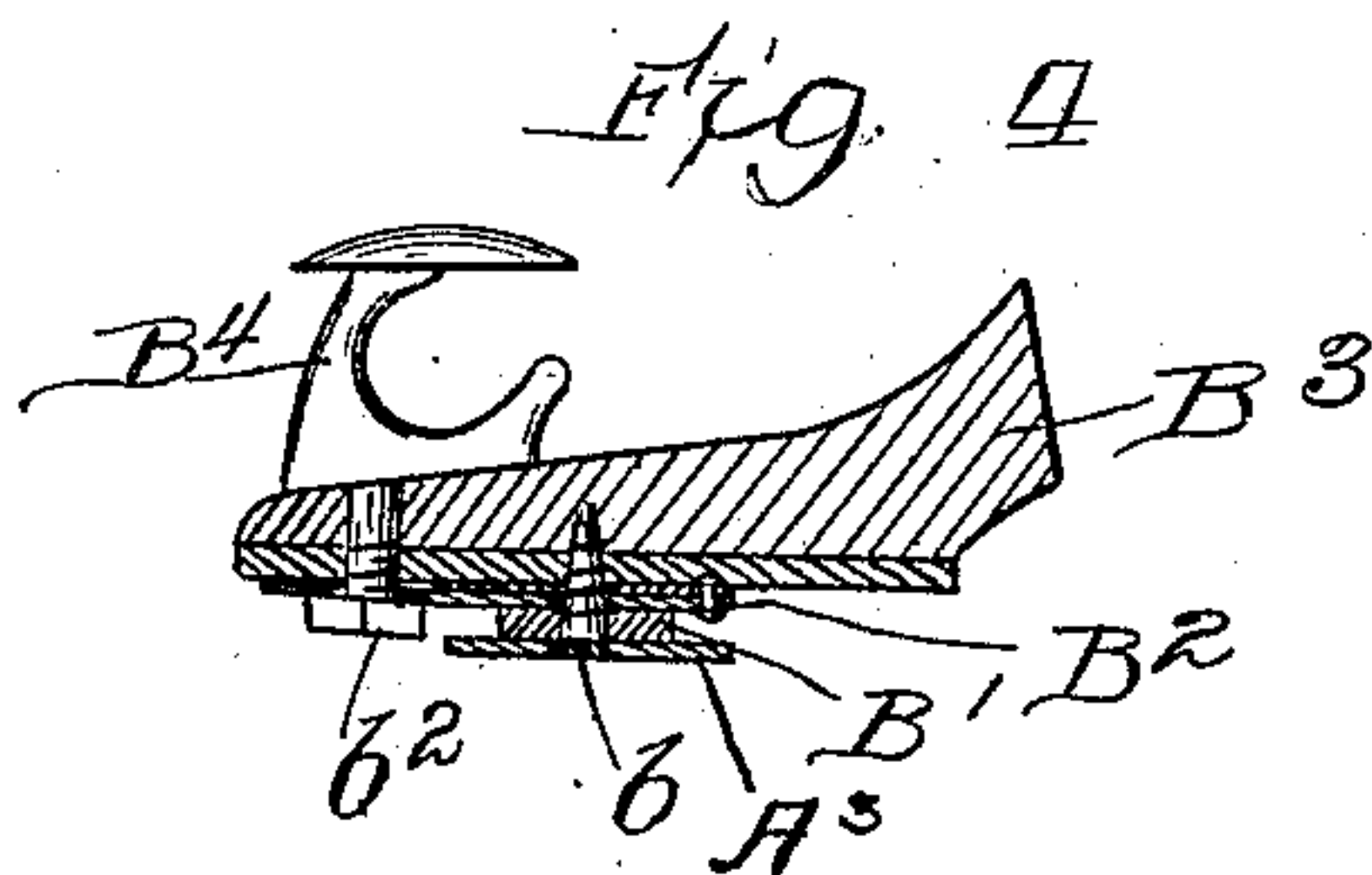
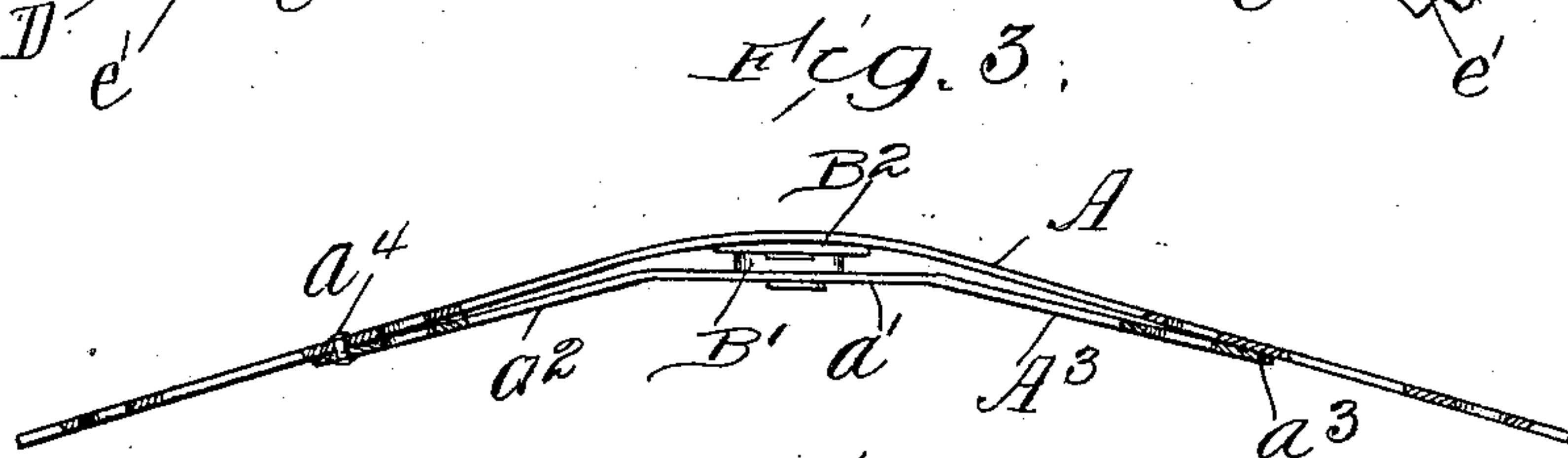
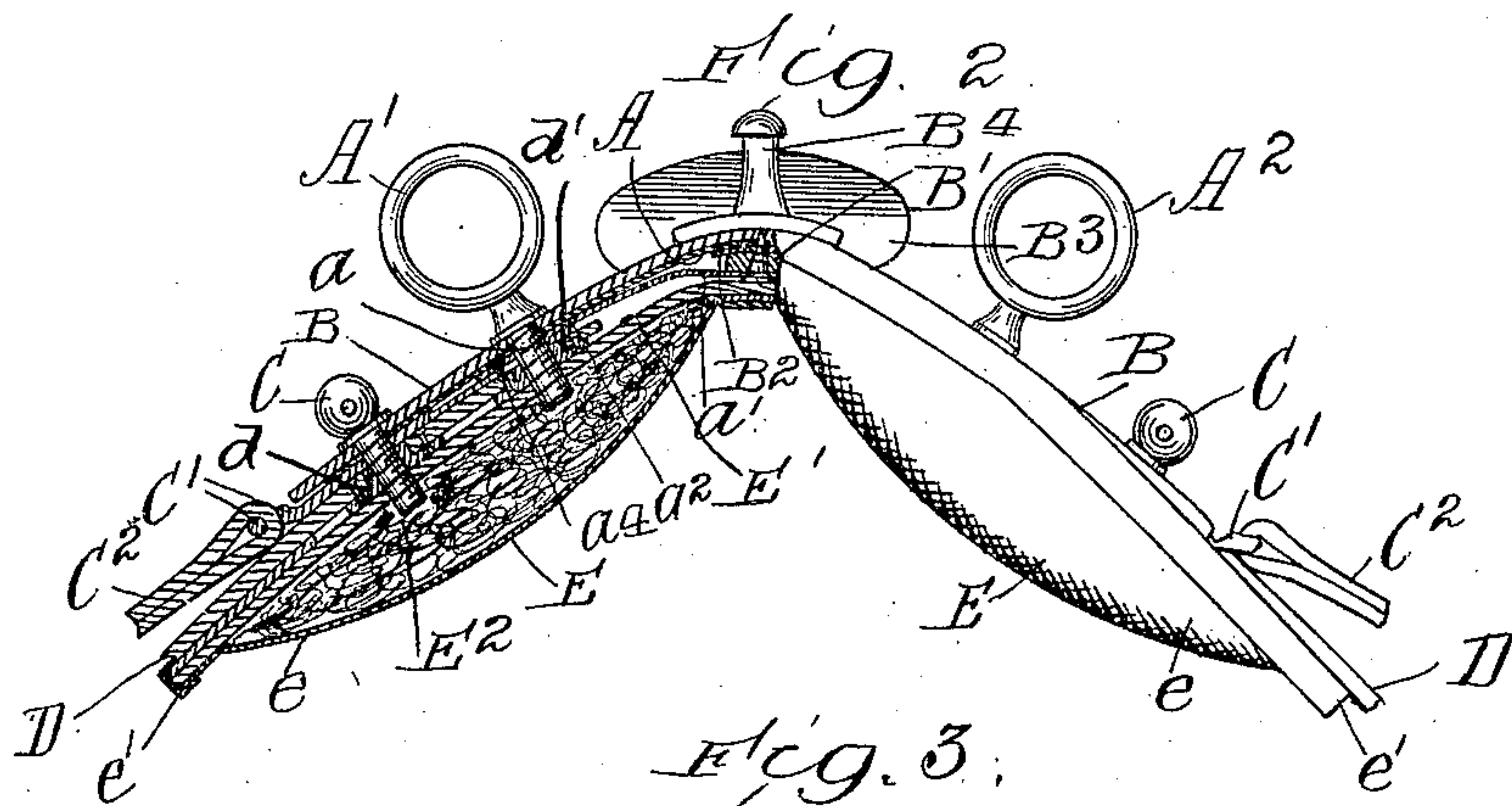
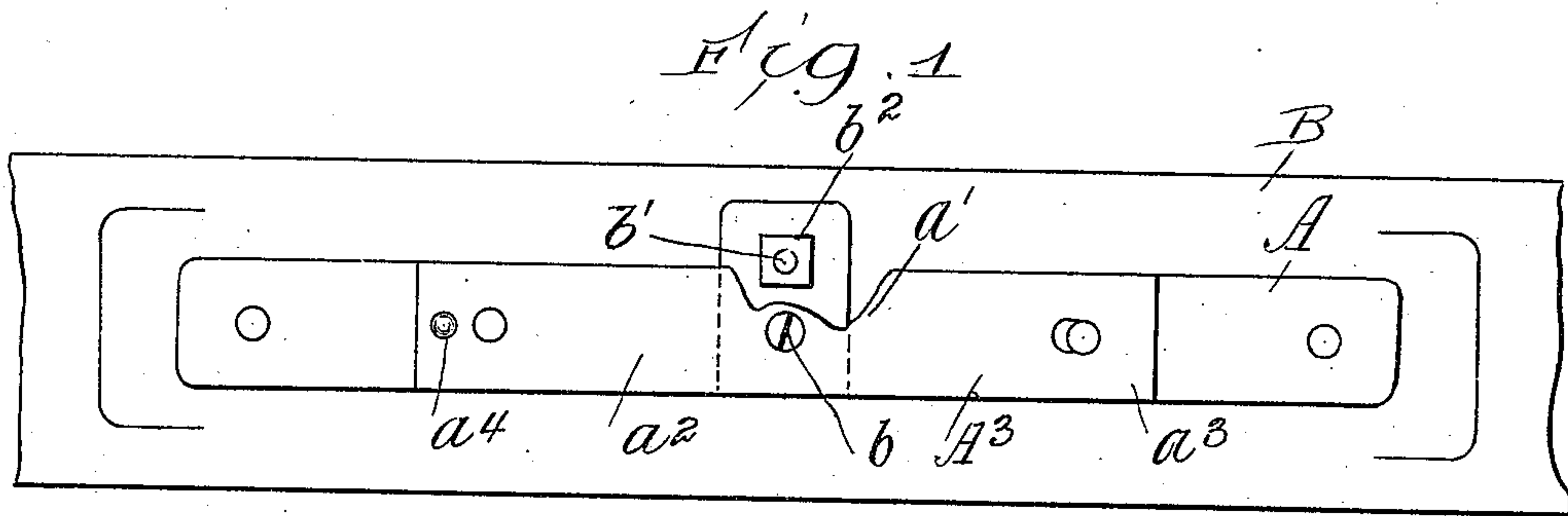


No. 819,446.

PATENTED MAY 1, 1906.

J. MOSHER.
HARNESS SADDLE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1905.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HARNESS-SADDLE.

No. 819,446.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH MOSHER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Grossdale, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, 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 of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in harness-saddles, and, as shown, is embodied in a saddle for a single harness, though obviously it is equally adaptable for use in a double harness. Heretofore devices of this kind have usually been provided with a tree comprising a rigid casting to keep the saddle in form and which holds the back-pads in unvarying position with respect to each other, and in case the shape of the saddle does not conform to the contour of the animal's back it either rides directly upon the backbone of the animal or at points on either side thereof, oftentimes causing an abrasion of the skin and otherwise adding to the discomfort of the animal.

The object of this invention is to provide a harness-saddle of light weight, yet of strong, cheap, and durable construction and which, owing to its resiliency, is adapted to yield to the stress of the girth sufficiently to be truly fitted upon the animal's back.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter described, and more fully pointed out and defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a fragmentary bottom plan view with parts removed of a saddle embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the saddle, partly in section. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary rear elevation of the stay-plates. Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary section illustrating a detail of construction.

As shown in said drawings, A represents a stay-plate of any preferred material, but as shown comprises a strip of sheet-steel bent centrally, causing the ends thereof to diverge downwardly, and is apertured intermediate said bend and the ends to receive the screw-threaded studs a of the turret-rings A' and A^2 , which, as shown, project through and beyond the facing B and said stay. Said facing B may be of any desired material, but as shown is constructed of enameled leather and

is of greater length and width than said stay forming the top finish for the saddle. Beneath said stay-plate A is an auxiliary stay or brace A^3 , which, as shown, also comprises a strip of sheet-steel having a straight central portion a' and downwardly-diverging ends a^2 a^3 , of which the end a^2 is rigidly engaged upon the stay-plate A by means of the rivet a^4 or in any other preferred manner and is provided with an aperture in register with the aperture through said plate A for the stud of the turret-ring A^2 . The end a^3 of said auxiliary stay A^3 is provided, as shown more clearly in Fig. 3, with an aperture for the stud of the turret-ring A' , which when said stays are in their normal position is out of register with the aperture through the plate A for said stud, but which when the ends of said stays are sprung downwardly or inwardly is brought into register therewith to receive the stud. Engaged between said plate A and auxiliary stay A^3 by means, as shown, of a screw b is the fibrous washer B' , of leather or any preferred material, adapted to yieldingly hold said stays apart centrally when sprung into their adjusted position. Intermediate said washer B' and the plate A and projecting forwardly therefrom is the base-plate B^2 , which, as shown, is riveted at its rear end to the stay-plate A and to which is secured the casting B^3 for the check-hook B^4 of any preferred construction by means of the bolt b' , which extends downwardly through said casting and facing B and said base-plate and is provided with a nut b^2 on the lower end thereof.

Passing through the facing B and through the ends of the plate A are the screw-threaded studs C C, on which and on the studs a of the turret-rings, as shown in Fig. 2, are engaged the supporting members C' , which, as shown, are castings provided with apertures or loops in their outer ends, in which are engaged the thill-tugs C^2 C^2 , though obviously when the saddle is embodied in a double harness said castings and thill-tugs are dispensed with. Beneath the castings C' is the girth D, to which and passing therethrough are riveted or otherwise rigidly secured outwardly-flanged nuts d d' , which engage said studs C and a , respectively, and by means of said flanges act to rigidly bind the girth, facing, and intermediate parts together.

On the structure thus formed and rigidly engaged thereto by the binding e' , of leather or other preferred material, are the back-pads E E, which, as shown, comprise a back strip

E', of leather or other preferred material, adapted to be rigidly engaged on the studs C and *a* and upon the inner face of which is provided a cushion E², of hair or other resilient material, incased by the inner facing of leather *e*, rigidly engaged at its margins to said backing E', by means of stitching or in any preferred manner, and over the edges of which and the edges of said backing E' and the facing B is secured said binding *e'*, which forms a lateral finish for the saddle.

The operation is as follows: The stay A and the auxiliary stay A³ being assembled as shown in Fig. 3, with the fibrous washer intermediate their central portions, it is obvious that when said stays are sprung downwardly or in the direction of their curvature the apertures for the stud of the turret-ring A' will be brought into register, and when said stud is inserted said stays will be unable to spring back to their normal position, thus holding them to the desired curvature for the saddle and providing a resilient frame therefor. When the facing B and the back pads E E are secured thereto by means of the studs and the binding *e'*, a very neat and light saddle is formed which is readily sprung to fit the animal's back when the girth is tightened.

While I have shown my invention as embodied in a saddle for a single harness, I do not wish to be limited thereto, as obviously it is adaptable for use in double harnesses, and many details of construction may be varied without departing from the principles of my invention.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a device of the class described the combination with a resilient stay-plate of an auxiliary plate rigidly engaged thereon at its ends and adapted to hold the same inwardly under tension, means spacing said plate centrally, back-pads carried on said stay-plate and means affording a finish for the structure thus formed.

2. In a harness-saddle, a stay-plate having its ends sprung downwardly, an auxiliary stay rigidly engaged thereto, at its end and out of contact therewith centrally and adapted to hold the ends of said plate from spring-

ing outwardly, resilient spacing means engaged centrally between said plates and stays and a girth and back-pad engaged on the structure thus formed.

3. In a harness-saddle, a curved, resilient stay-plate, an auxiliary stay of different curvature than said stay-plate, means engaging the ends of said stays together under tension, means separating said stays centrally, a check-support thereon, a girth engaged to said stays and a pair of back-pads rigidly engaged thereto.

4. In a harness-saddle the combination with a resilient stay-plate having its ends sprung downwardly of an auxiliary stay adapted to engage the ends of said plate and hold the same under tension, a facing above said plate, a girth beneath the same, a pair of cushions beneath said girth and means for engaging said parts together.

5. In a harness-saddle the combination with the back-pads of a tree comprising a resilient plate bent centrally and provided with apertures intermediate the bend and the ends, a centrally-bent plate of less curvature than aforesaid plate rigidly engaged at one end thereto and provided with apertures adapted to be brought into register with the aforesaid apertures when the plates are sprung downwardly and a resilient washer intermediate the central portions of said plates.

6. A tree of the class described comprising a centrally-bent plate provided with apertures therethrough, a plate beneath the same bent at a different angle thereto and provided with apertures therethrough normally out of register with the aforesaid apertures, a resilient washer between said plates and means adapted to engage the plates together under tension when the apertures are brought into register.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH MOSHER.

Witnesses:

HJALMAR S. RUDD,
W. W. WITHEBURY.