J. W. GARRETT, Jr. & B. B. HUGGIN.

HARNESS SADDLE.

No. 422,762. Patented Mar. 4, 1890.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN W. GARRETT, Jr., and BENJAMIN B. HUGGIN, citizens of the United States, residing at Spartanburg, in the county of Spartan and of the State of South Carolina, have invented new and useful Improvements in Harness-Saddles, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to harness-saddles adapted to be adjusted in such a manner as to avoid rubbing or chafing sore or tender spots on the horse's back and to meet the varying requirements of use with different kinds of vehicles.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts in a harness-saddle, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the annexed drawings, illustrating the invention, Figure 1 is a partly-sectional end view of our improved pad-plates, bearing-strap, and shaft-bearers separated from each other and detached from the saddle. Figure 4 illustrates a modification in the hinged connection of the saddle and saddle-tree.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, the numeral 1 designates a suitably-covered metal saddle-tree having rein-terrets 2 and a check-rein-hock 3, as usual. The saddle-pads 4 each have a metal plate 5 secured thereto beneath the pad-cover 6, and hinged to the saddle-tree 1, as shown in Fig. 1. This plate 5, as shown in Fig. 3, is provided with holes 7 for passage of bolts or screws 8, Fig. 1, by which it is secured to the saddle-pad. The outer side of the plate 5 is provided with two parallel lugs 9, between which the ends of the metal saddle-tree 1 are received. The lugs 9 extend nearly the entire length of the plate 5, and each lug is provided with a series of perforations 10 for passage of a hinge-pin 11, by which they are adjustably connected to the saddle-tree.

By withdrawing the hinge-pins 11 the metal plates 5 and attached saddle-pads 4 can be raised or lowered to correspond to the size of the animal and to avoid rubbing or chafing tender spots, while the hinged connection of these parts also enables the saddle to be readily adapted to differences in the shape and the size of a horse's back. The lugs 9 of the plates 5 project through the pad-cover 6, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, for convenience in connecting them to the saddle-tree.

The lower central portion of the pad-cover 6 is cut away to expose the lower end of the metal plate 5, which is provided with a transverse slot 12 for engaging the bearing-strap 13, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The bearing-strap 13 is preferably composed of metal; it may be made of leather. When made of metal, its upper end is provided with a hook 14 to engage the slot 12 in the metal pad-plate.

The lower portion of the bearing-strap 13 is provided with a series of slots or oblong openings 15 for attachment of a metal shaft-bearer 16, the form of which is clearly shown in Fig. 3, in which the pad-plate, bearing-strap, and shaft-bearer are separately shown.

The shaft-bearers 16 consist of metal loops adapted to receive and support the shafts. On the edge of each bearer is a lug 17, shaped to correspond to one of the slots 15, so as to fit therein and be secured by a screw-bolt 18, a cross-head 19 on the upper end of the bearer 16 having been previously passed through and engaged in a slot 15 above that in which the lug 17 is to be engaged.

By this construction the shaft-bearers can be vertically adjusted on the bearing-strap according to the height of the horse or the distance of the shafts from the ground. Each shaft-bearer 85 may be provided with a pivoted loop 20 for attachment of straps to hold the shafts down.

As shown in Fig. 4, the plate 5 may be provided with only one lug 9, and the end of the saddle-tree 1 may be bifurcated to receive said lug, to which it is adjustably attached by means of a hinge-pin 11, as before described.

This harness-saddle can be readily adjusted to the back of a horse so as to avoid rubbing or chafing any tender spots and to accommodate the saddle to variations in size and shape of the animal's back.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. In a harness-saddle, the combination of the saddle-tree 1, the adjustable pads 4, the elongated plates 5, secured to the pads and
having lugs 9, that extend nearly the entire length of said plates and project through the pad-covers, said lugs each provided with a series of holes 10, the hinge-pins 11, adjustably pivoting the plates to the ends of the tree for raising and lowering the pads, and the bearing straps 13, suspended from said plates and provided with adjustable shaft-bearers 16, substantially as described.

2. In a harness-saddle, the combination of the saddle-tree 1, the pads 4, the plates 5, each provided with a transverse slot 12 and with parallel lugs 9, extending nearly the entire length of said plates and projecting through the pad-covers, said lugs each having a series of holes 10, the bolts 8, for securing said plates to the pads, the hinge-pins 11, and the bearing straps 13, engaged in the slots 12 and provided with adjustable shaft-bearers 16, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. GARRETT, JR.

BENJAMIN B. HUGGIN.

Witnesses:

JOHN SEVIER,

H. B. MITCHELL.