W. T. GIBSON.

Running-Gear for Wagons.

No. 219,457. Patented Sept. 9, 1879.

Fig. 1.

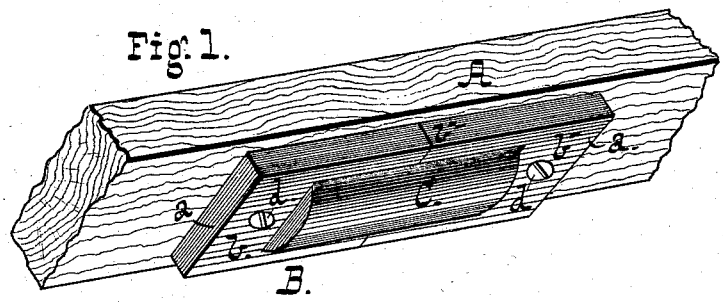
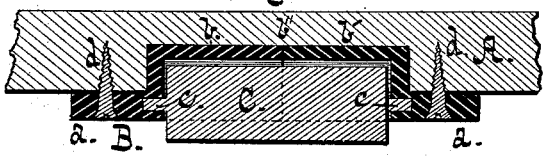


Fig. 2.



Witnesses,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM T. GIBSON, OF BIRDSDALE, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN RUNNING-GEARS FOR WAGONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,457**, dated September 9, 1879; application filed July 8, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. GIBSON, of Birdsdale, Bell county, State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Coupling-Poles of Wagons; and I hereby declare the same to be fully, clearly, and exactly described as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 a vertical longitudinal sectional view, of the device as applied to a coupling-pole.

My invention relates to that class of wagons in which the tongue is supported by a cross-bar connecting the hounds behind the front axle and passing beneath the coupling-pole. The part of the pole against which the cross-bar rests, as well as the bar itself, are subjected to constant wear, as the cross-bar is continually sawing back and forth through a greater or less distance, according to the condition of the road, while the wagon is in motion.

It has been customary to face the cross-bar and the under side of the coupling-pole at the point of contact with iron and keep this quasi fifth-wheel well lubricated; but this expedient does not obviate or materially lessen wear, as the lubricant becomes full of sand and grit, and the iron facing is soon cut out. Now, I substitute for this sliding friction rolling friction, and so locate the journals of the rolling part as to practically exclude dirt and grit.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a section of the coupling-pole, in the under side of which, at the point of contact with the cross-bar, I insert the box B, having a roller, C. The box, preferably of cast-iron, is made in two parts, *b b'*, meeting at *b''*, as shown, and having end flanges, *a a*, perforated for the insertion of the attaching-screws *d d*. Each part of the box B is provided with a hole for the journals *c* of the roller C.

To insert the box a mortise is made on the under side of the coupling-pole, at the proper place, deep enough to be exactly filled by the box when its end flanges are in contact with the face of the pole. The roller being then inserted in the box, the halves *b b'* are brought together, and the box is laid in the mortise and attached by screws *d d*. The roller exactly fills the box, so as to prevent the entrance of sand or grit.

I have not thought it necessary to illustrate in the accompanying drawings the hounds or cross-bars, as their relation to the device which forms the subject of my invention is obvious.

When the journals of the roller finally wear out, a new one may be readily inserted upon removing the box. For this reason, as well as to admit of the device being formed wholly by casting, I construct the box in two pieces.

The device may be constructed at trifling cost, is readily attached to the pole, and completely obviates what has heretofore been a fruitful source of annoyance.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The device herein described, consisting of the box B, adapted for insertion in a mortise in the coupling-pole and made in two parts, each having a perforated flange, and the roller C, journaled in the box, substantially as described.

WILLIAM T. GIBSON.

Witnesses:
J. W. PLUMMER,
A. M. LOPER.