

(No Model.)

J. W. ANDERSON.

TONGUE SUPPORT.

No. 264,429.

Patented Sept. 19, 1882.

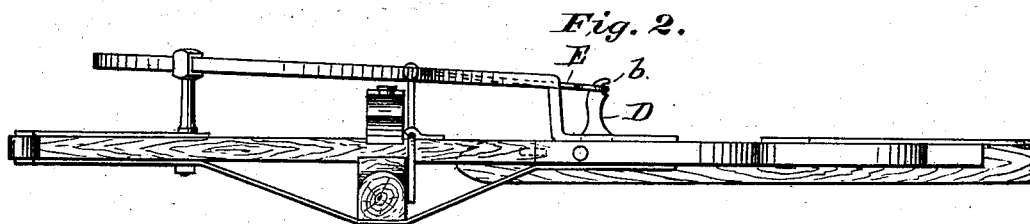
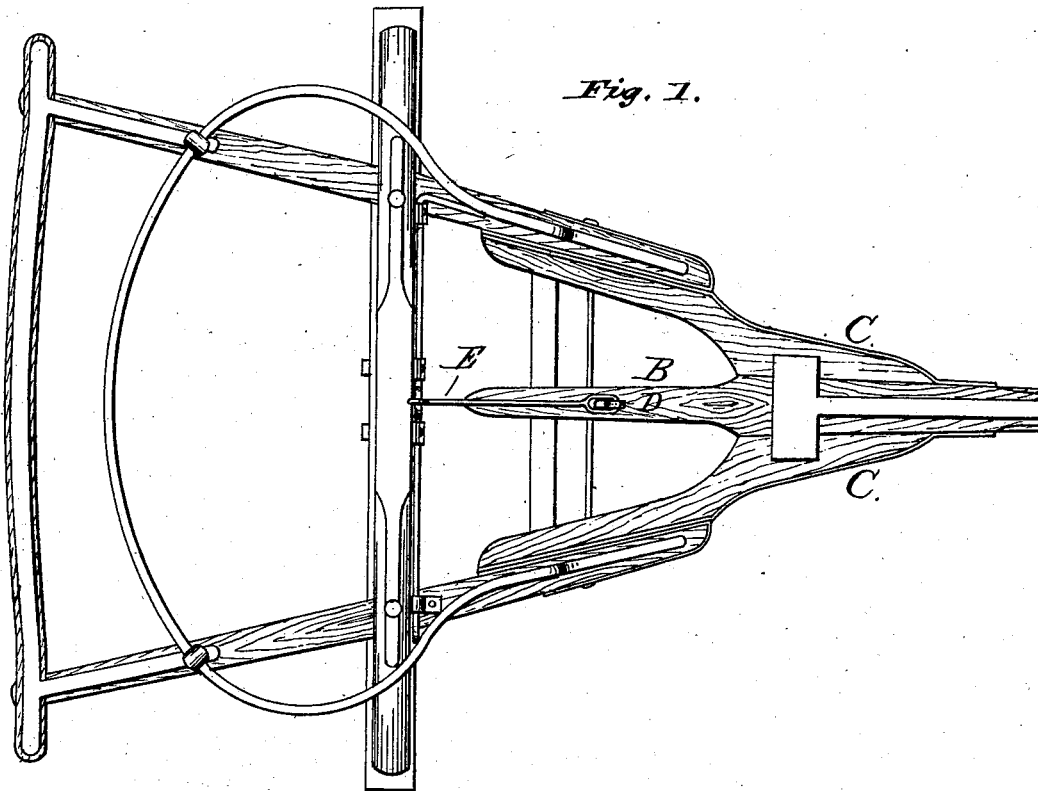


Fig. 3.

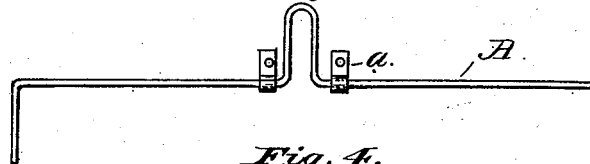
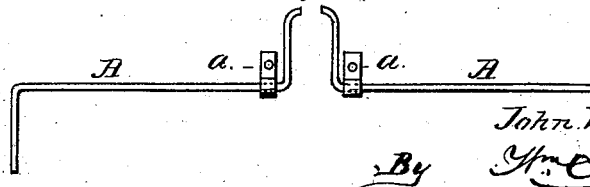


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES
T. C. Brecht
F. L. Brown

INVENTOR
John W. Anderson.
By *Wm. C. W. Lintine*
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. ANDERSON, OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA.

TONGUE-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming ^{part} of Letters Patent No. 264,429, dated September 19, 1882.

Application filed July 1, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. ANDERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Bend, St. Joseph county, Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Tongue-Supports for Wagons, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in means for supporting the tongues of wagons.

It has for its object economy and simplicity of construction and giving to the tongue an easy and elastic movement to avoid the vertical jerking of the tongue upon the collars of the draft-animals; and with these ends in view my invention consists of a spring bar or rod of peculiar construction applied to the sand-board of the wagon, a vertical notched or hook post on the rear end of the tongue, forward of its pivotal connection with the hounds, and an intermediate connecting rod or link, as will be hereinafter explained.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may know how to make and use the improved device, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring by letters to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of so much of a wagon as is necessary to illustrate my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same; Fig. 3, a detail view of one form of spring-bar, and Fig. 4 a modification of the bar shown at Fig. 3.

Similar letters indicate like parts in the several figures.

A represents a horizontal bar, made preferably of steel, secured to the sand-board, near the center, by staples or eyes *a*, so that it is capable of slight rotary movement therein. The bar A is extended upward at its center, as shown at Fig. 3, and the ends are bent at right angles to each other, so that one shall bear against the front of the axle and the other against the top of one of the hounds to produce a torsional spring of the bar A. The outer ends of the bar A may both be bent downward to rest against the front of the axle, if desired; or they may be flattened and se-

cured in place by bolts, or square or rounded and passed through studs. I do not wish to confine myself in this particular so long as the ends are properly secured.

The tongue B is pivoted in the usual manner between the front ends of the hounds C, and is provided at a point forward of such pivoted connection with a short post or vertical arm, D, having a notch or recess, *b*, in its upper end adapted to receive an eye at the forward end of a connecting rod or link, E, the opposite end of which is connected to the upwardly-projecting or U-shaped portion of the bar A. The length of the rod or link E should be such that the tongue will be held in about a horizontal position, as shown, though of course it may, if desired, permit the tongue to occupy a position above or below that line.

From this construction it will be seen that while the tongue is held normally in the position to which it may be adjusted by the length of the link or bar E, still it is capable of moving downward when under strain, in which event the U-shaped upward extension of the spring-bar A is pulled forward, and when the cause for such movement is removed said portion is forced back to its normal vertical position by the spring action of the outer ends of the bar bearing against the axle or axle and hound, as the case may be. From this construction and arrangement it will be seen that all movements of the tongue are easy and elastic, and the short, sharp jerking thereof is avoided.

While I have shown the bar A preferably made of a single piece extending to opposite sides of the center and with both ends bent to form bearings to produce the spring action, I do not wish to be confined to such construction, as I may form the bar in two parts, as shown at Fig. 4; or I may employ only one-half of the form shown at said figure without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Instead of using a connecting-rod such as shown at E, I may of course employ an ordinary chain, in which case the position of the tongue is more readily adjustable.

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

A tongue-support composed of a horizontal bar, A, having its outer end or ends secured to or against the wagon in any suitable manner and its center or inner end bent upward
5 and held by a staple or eye near the base, in combination with the post D on the tongue and the bar or chain E, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN W. ANDERSON.

Witnesses:

E. T. MAUZY,
J. L. TAYLOR.