

(No Model.)

J. C. CLAY.  
CAR COUPLING.

No. 343,434.

Patented June 8, 1886.

Fig. 1.

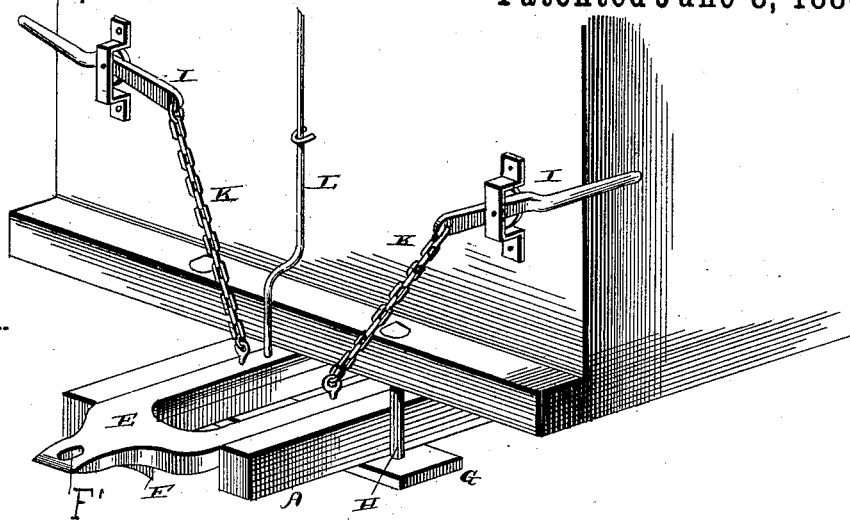


Fig. 2.

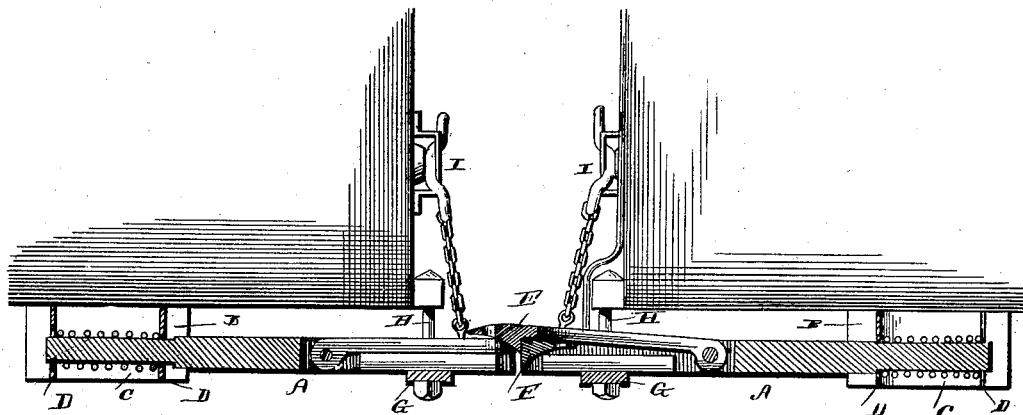
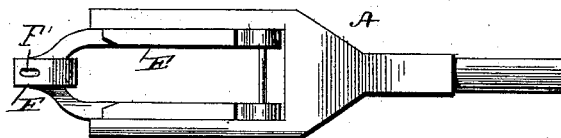


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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J. COLBY CLAY, OF WELLS, NEVADA.

## CAR-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 343,434, dated June 8, 1886.

Application filed October 26, 1885. Serial No. 180,906. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, J. COLBY CLAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wells, in the county of Elko, State of Nevada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Car-Couplings, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain improvements in car-couplers; and it has for its object to provide a coupler which will automatically connect when the cars come together, and which may be uncoupled from either side or the top of the car, and thus render it unnecessary to pass between the cars for the purpose of coupling and uncoupling, thus avoiding the danger attendant thereupon. These objects I attain by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of one end of a car, showing my improved coupler applied thereto. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal vertical sectional view of two cars, showing my improved couplers connected; and Fig. 3 represents a detached view of the coupler.

The letter A indicates a draw-bar, which is secured between the blocks or supports B, attached to the under side of the car, near one end, the rear end of said bar passing through opening in the plate D, which are located in recesses in the blocks B, the forward plate bearing against a shoulder on the draw-bar, and being pressed normally forward by a spring, C, holding the draw-bar with it. The forward end of the draw-bar is bifurcated, and has pivoted between its ends a frame, E, which at its forward end is provided with a hook, F, which is turned downward. This hook is on the under side of frame E, and is the means, in connection with a similar frame and hook on the car to be attached, whereby the cars may be coupled. The hook is wedge-shaped—that is to say, it tapers from the point back to the shoulder, the shoulder constituting the hook proper. The ends of the hooks being pointed or wedge-shaped, it follows that when two cars are brought into contact one hook will

slip over the other and automatically engage with its shoulder, the link or frame E thus coupling the two cars. The outer end of the hook is provided with an opening, F', which is to be employed in connection with an ordinary coupling-pin, whereby my coupling may be united to a car provided with an ordinary pin-and-link draw-head. The forward end of the draw-bar passes over a cross-bar, G, which is secured to the hangers H, depending from the car, the said cross-bar forming a support for the draw-bar and its pivoted frame, preventing the latter from dropping too low, and holding the hooks in proper position for engagement.

To either side of the end of the car is pivoted a lever, I, to the inner end of which is secured one end of a chain, K, the other end of which is secured to the pivoted frame E, whereby the frame may be elevated to uncouple the cars without passing between them.

The letter L indicates a rod connected to said frame and extending to the top of the car for a similar purpose.

The operation of my invention will be readily perceived. When the cars come together, the beveled ends of the hooks ride past each other and the hooks automatically connect, coupling the cars. To uncouple the cars, it is only necessary to elevate the upper frame, E, by means of the levers or vertical rod.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A car-coupler consisting of the bifurcated draw-head A, the U-shaped frame pivoted therein, said frame being provided on its outer under end with a wedge-shaped block with inner shoulder constituting a hook, said block or hook being provided with an opening, F', substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.

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

J. COLBY CLAY.

Witnesses:

ISAAC S. WEYAND,  
JOS. L. HONEYMAN.