

(No Model.)

M. H. HOLCOMB.
WHIFFLETREE HOOK.

No. 423,321.

Patented Mar. 11, 1890.

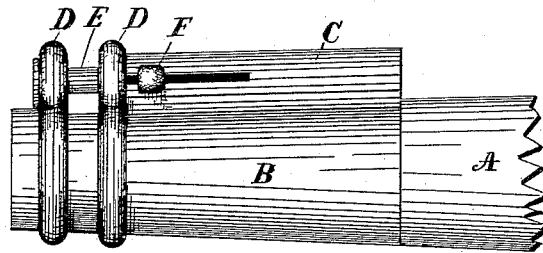


FIG. 1.

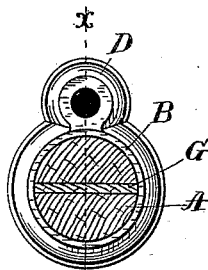


FIG. 2.

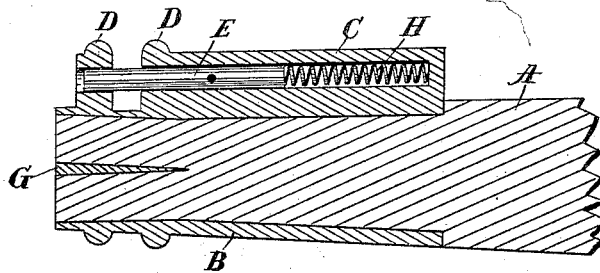


FIG. 3.

Witnesses.

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MILO H. HOLCOMB, OF PIERSON, MICHIGAN.

WHIFFLETREE-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 423,321, dated March 11, 1890.

Application filed November 30, 1888. Serial No. 292,350. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILO H. HOLCOMB, a citizen of the United States, residing at the village of Pierson, in the county of Montcalm and State of Michigan, have invented a certain new and useful Whiffletree-Hook, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of whiffletree-hooks in which a sliding bolt operated by a spring can be withdrawn by pressure, so as to disconnect the tug; and the objects of my invention are, first, to facilitate the work of disconnecting the tug from the whiffletree, and, second, to attach the tug to the whiffletree in such a manner as not to weaken the wood of the whiffletree in any way. These objects I accomplish by means of the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my new and improved whiffletree-hook attached to the whiffletree. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view on line *x x* of Fig. 2.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In Fig. 1, B represents the ferrule or larger cylinder, which surrounds the outer end of the whiffletree. C represents the smaller cylinder, which supports the longitudinally-sliding bolt and operating-spring. The cylinders B and C are preferably of cast metal and made in one piece.

D D are two rings cast with the cylinders and surrounding them in the manner shown, for the purpose of adding strength thereto, and also for the purpose of supporting the sliding bolt which attaches the cockeye of the tug or trace.

E represents the movable bolt, provided with a pin or stud projecting through a slot and having an enlargement on the outer end, as shown in Fig. 1 by F.

A represents the whiffletree. I prefer to make the outer end of the ferrule B slightly bell-shaped, as shown in Fig. 3, in order to attach the ferrule B securely to the whiffletree by means of a wedge G. The bolt E rests against the coiled spring H, which coiled spring is held between the bolt E and the end of the cylindrical part C in such a way that it continually has a tendency to press the

bolt E outwardly into the position shown in Fig. 3.

In order to attach the tug or trace to the whiffletree, the user places his thumb upon the end of the pin F, pressing the bolt backward, thereby opening the space between D and D, places the cockeye of the trace in this space between D and D, and allows the spring H to bring the bolt back to the position shown in Fig. 3.

In connecting the hook the ferrule or cylinder B fits its entire length upon the end of the whiffletree, so that the whiffletree is in no way weakened by the ferrule, and the draft is brought to bear upon the widest part of the whiffletree.

I am aware that various spring devices in connection with whiffletree-hooks have been used, and I do not broadly claim the use of a spring in connection with a whiffletree-hook; but

What I do claim to have invented, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, the herein-described whiffletree-hook, comprising the following parts: a cylinder B, slightly bell-shaped at its outer end, the smaller cylinder C, having its inner end closed and a longitudinal slot on its upper side, the rings D D, having perforations aligning with the tube of the smaller cylinder, the inner ring D being integral with both cylinders and the outer ring integral with the larger cylinder, said cylinders and rings being one piece of cast-iron, the sliding bolt E, provided with a pin projecting through the slot of the smaller cylinder and having the enlargement F, said enlargement F being adapted to strike the inner ring D and limit the outward motion of the sliding bolt, and the coiled spring H, all constructed and combined as described and adapted to be applied to the end of the whiffletree, as shown.

2. The combination, in a whiffletree, of the bar A, cylinder B, slightly bell-shaped at its outer end and adapted to fit the end of the bar A, as shown, smaller cylinder C in front of said cylinder B and having its inner end closed and its upper side provided with a longitudinal slot, rings D D, said cylinders and rings being cast in one piece, sliding bolt E, having a pin projecting through the slot of

the smaller cylinder, with a thumb-piece F,
coiled spring H, having its inner end bearing
against the closed end of the smaller cylinder
and its outer end against the sliding bolt,
5 and a wedge G, all arranged specifically as
shown, and combined to co-operate in the
manner set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand and seal in the presence of two wit-
nesses.

MILO H. HOLCOMB. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

A. McNAUGHTON,
S. B. NEWCOMB.