(No Model.)

W. H. BURKE.

THILL COUPLING.

No. 455,163. Patented June 30, 1891.

Fig. 1.

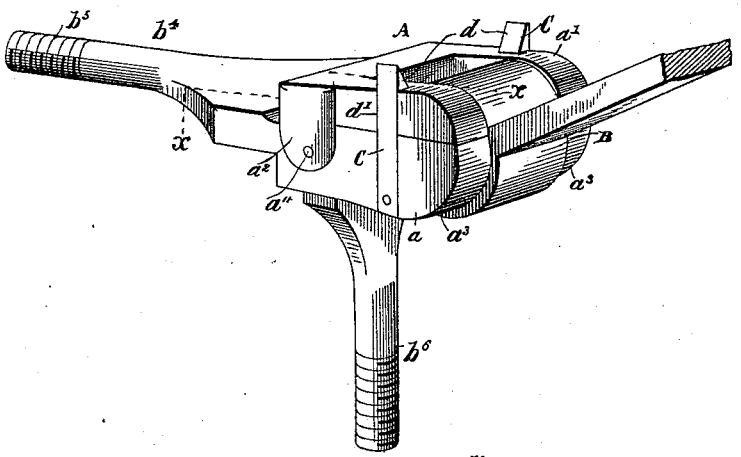


Fig. 2.

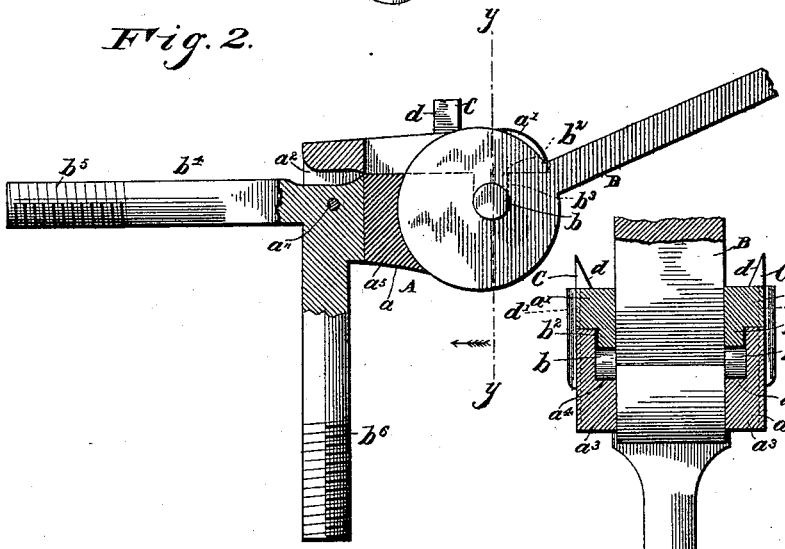
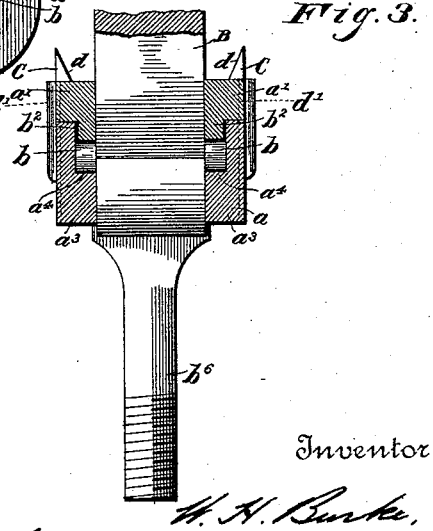


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. BURKE, OF SCOTLAND, INDIANA.

THILL-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 455,163, dated June 30, 1891.

Application filed February 10, 1891. Serial No. 380,914. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. BURKE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Scotland, in the county of Greene and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thill-Couplings, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention pertains to certain new and useful improvements in thill-couplings, having for its object the production of a device of this class which shall be simple in construction, inexpensive, and durable, and which will permit the thill to be readily and easily detached, as well as securely held in position.

The invention comprises a clip having grooves or sockets for short studs on the thill-iron, an upper movable or pivoted part or member secured to the rear end of said clip having short lugs designed to project down into said grooves or sockets and bear on said ears, and two vertically-disposed spring-arms having upper hooked ends, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of my improved thill-coupling. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof on the line x x, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view on the line y y, Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the thill-coupling composed of a lower stationary part or member a and an upper pivoted or movable part or member a', provided with downwardly-projecting ears a^2, secured by a pivot-pin a'' to the part or member a. This latter stationary part or member a is provided in the opposite faces of the parallel arms a^3 with grooves or sockets a^4 for reception of short studs b b on the inner rounded end of thill-iron B.

To the inner wall of the part or member a is secured a rubber block a^5, which serves as an anti-rattler, the thill-iron being designed to bear thereagainst.

The pivoted part or member a' is provided on its under side with short lugs b^2, having curved recesses b^3 in their lower ends and designed to extend down into grooves or sockets a^4 and bear on studs b of the thill-iron. From the rear end of the lower part or member a extends a horizontally-disposed arm b^4, having a screw-threaded end b^5, whereon a nut is designed to be placed to hold the coupling to an axle, and from the under side projects a second similar arm b^6 for the same purpose.

C C designate spring-arms rigidly secured at their lower ends to the stationary part or member a and having upper hooked ends d, designed to engage and hold the upper part or member a' when the latter is closed down into position to secure the thill-iron in place. When in this position, the spring-arms rest in grooves or recesses d', formed in the outer side faces of the upper part or member. Thus it will be seen that by forcing the upper ends of the spring-arms outward the upper part or member can be raised and a thill-iron placed in position, whereupon the upper part or member is lowered, and its lugs entering the grooves or sockets will hold the thill-iron firmly in position, the spring-arms retaining or locking the upper part or member closed.

I claim as my invention—

1. The herein-described improved thill-coupling, comprising the lower stationary part or member having opposite grooves or sockets, an upper movable or pivoted part or member secured at its rear end to said stationary part or member and having short depending lugs designed to project into said grooves or sockets and bear on studs of the thill-iron, and the opposite vertically-arranged spring-arms secured at their lower ends to said stationary part or member and having upper hooked ends for engaging and holding said movable part or member, as set forth.

2. The herein-described improved thill-coupling, comprising the lower stationary part or member having inner opposite grooves or sockets, the upper part or member having parallel ears pivotally secured to said sta-

tionary part or member and short downwardly-projecting lugs, the thill-iron having short studs designed to rest in said grooves or sockets, and the spring-arms rigidly secured at their lower ends to said lower part or member and having upper hooked ends, substantially as set forth.

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

WILLIAM H. BURKE.

Witnesses:
DIONE SLINKARD,
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