(No Model.)

W. DEWEY.

WHIFFLETREE HOOK.

No. 524,314. Patented Aug. 14, 1894.

Fig. 1.

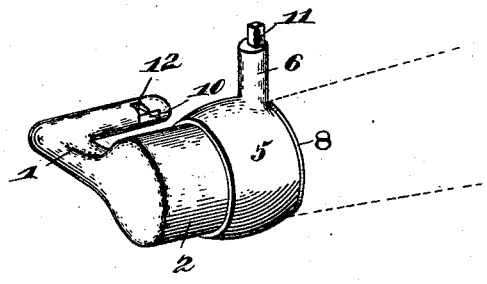


Fig. 2.

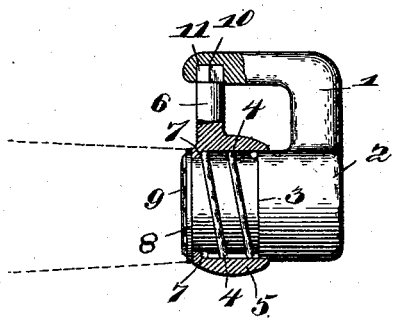
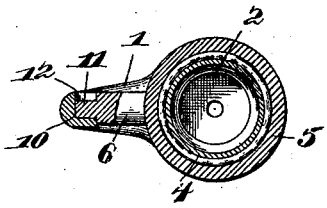


Fig. 3.



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Witnesses
Wm. T. Doyle.
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By *his* Attorneys.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM DEWEY, OF THORP, WISCONSIN.

WHIFFLETREE-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 524,314, dated August 14, 1894.

Application filed April 7, 1894. Serial No. 506,739. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DEWEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Thorp, in the county of Clark and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Whiffletree-Hook, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in whiffletree hooks.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of whiffletree hooks, and to provide a simple and inexpensive one which will be positive and reliable in its operation, and which will securely hold a trace when locked and will enable the same to be quickly detached when desired.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a whiffletree hook constructed in accordance with this invention, the parts being unlocked. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view, the parts being locked. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

1 designates a rigid hook, adapted to receive the eye of a trace, and provided with an integral ferrule or sleeve 2, adapted to be placed on an end of a whiffletree, and provided adjacent to the arm 1 with an annular shoulder 3, forming a bearing for a spring 4, that engages a sleeve 5, having an arm 6, which cooperates with the arm 1. The sleeve 5 is rotatably mounted on the ferrule 2; it covers and conceals the spiral spring 4, and is provided with an inner annular shoulder 7, forming a bearing for the other end of the said spiral spring 4, whereby the shoulder and the sleeve 5 are forced inward with relation to the whiffletree. The sleeve 5 is retained on the ferrule 2 by an annular flange 8, fitted on the end of the ferrule 2 and consisting, preferably, of a collar, and secured on the said ferrule by swaging the end 9 thereof, or by any other suitable means. The arm 1, which is L-shaped, has its branch, which is arranged parallel with the whiffletree and which receives the trace, provided with a recess 10, to receive the outer end 11 of the arm 6 of the sleeve; the outer end 11 of the arm 6 is reduced and is introduced into the recess 10 through a narrow slot or entrance-opening 12, and it is forced away from the entrance-slot or opening by the spiral spring, and is firmly retained in engagement with the arm 1 at the outer end of the recess 10.

When it is desired to detach the trace, the sleeve 5 is moved inward on the ferrule against the action of the spiral spring until the reduced end 11 of the arm 6 is opposite the entrance slot or opening 12, and the sleeve 5 is then rotated, partially, to carry the reduced end 11 outward through the entrance slot or opening 12 to separate the arms 6 and 1. The trace may then be removed from or placed on the arm 1, as will readily be seen.

It will be apparent that the arm 1, which is L-shaped, is rigid and forms a firm and secure support for the trace, which is not connected or attached by any movable part that is liable to work loose or become detached by the vibrations of the trace. It will also be seen that the whiffletree hook is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction, that it is adapted to be readily applied to any ordinary singletree, and that it is capable of securely holding a trace, and of enabling the latter to be quickly detached when desired.

Changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What I claim is—

1. In a whiffletree hook, the combination of a hook-arm provided with a sleeve or ferrule adapted to be placed on the end of a whiffletree, a rotary sleeve mounted on the ferrule and provided with an arm interlocking with that of the ferrule, said rotary sleeve having a sliding movement longitudinally of the sleeve or ferrule to disengage it from the arm thereof and a spring arranged beneath the rotary sleeve and concealed by the same and adapted to hold said arms in engagement, substantially as described.

2. A whiffletree hook comprising a hook-arm provided with a ferrule having an annular shoulder, a rotary sleeve mounted on the

ferrule and having on its interior an annular shoulder and provided with an outward projecting arm arranged to interlock with that of the ferrule, and a spiral spring disposed on the ferrule and engaging said shoulders, whereby the arms are held interlocked, substantially as described.

3. A whiffletree hook comprising a ferrule adapted to be placed on a whiffletree, a hooked arm rigid with the ferrule and provided at its outer terminus with a recess and having an entrance-slot communicating with the recess, a rotary sleeve mounted on the ferrule and provided with an outward-extending arm having its outer extremity of a size to enter the said entrance-slot to engage the recess, and a spiral spring disposed on the ferrule and engaging the rotary sleeve, whereby the arm of the sleeve is held in engagement with the recess, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM DEWEY.

Witnesses:
H. E. HOWARD,
L. O. GARRISON.