

No. 646,879.

C. C. SHULTS.
SINGLE TREE HOOK.

Patented Apr. 3, 1900.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Dec. 22, 1899.)

Fig. 1

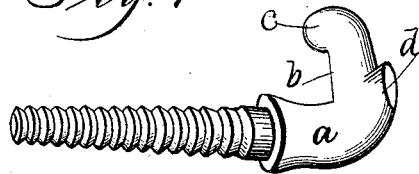


Fig. 2

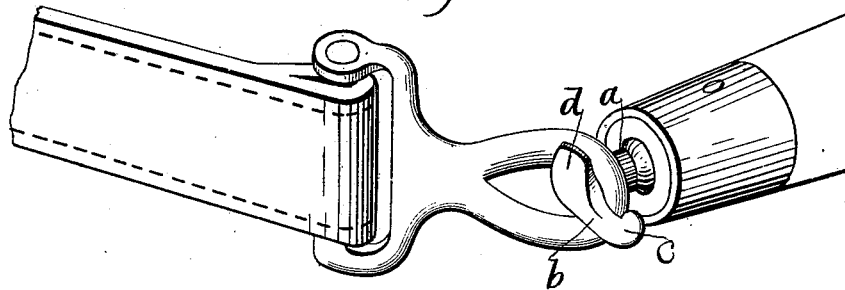


Fig. 3

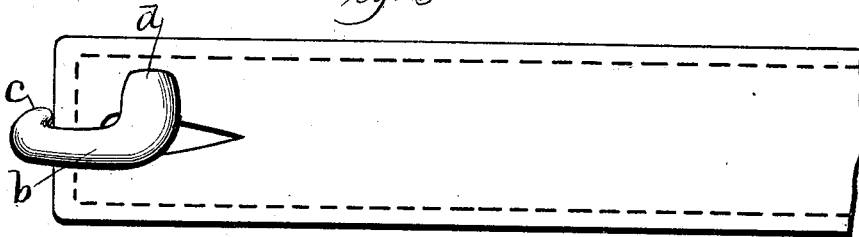
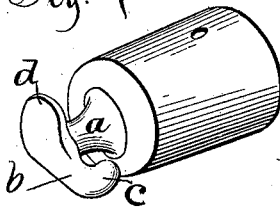


Fig. 4



Witnesses:
Ira C. Burkholder
L. C. Jones

Inventor:
Charney C. Shults

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHANCY C. SHULTS, OF WINTERSSET, IOWA.

SINGLETREE-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 646,879, dated April 3, 1900.

Application filed December 22, 1899. Serial No. 741,245. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHANCY C. SHULTS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Winterset, in the county of Madison and State of Iowa, have invented a Singletree-Hook, of which the following is a specification.

My object is to prevent the accidents and losses of life and property incident to traces becoming detached from singletrees and run-aways occurring while persons are in vehicles to which horses are hitched by detachably connecting the harness-traces with the ends of singletrees.

Heretofore hooks and trace-fastening attachments of various forms have been fixed to singletrees to accomplish the purposes contemplated by my invention; but in no instance has a hook of such a peculiar form and so well adapted for readily and securely connecting a trace with a singletree been produced as is shown by my invention herein-after set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the hook on the end of a screw-threaded shank adapted to be fixed in the end of a wooden singletree. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the hook fixed to the end of a singletree and the end of a trace detachably connected with the hook and singletree by means of a cockeye fixed to the end of the trace, as required in practical use. Fig. 3 shows the end of a leather trace connected with the hook, as required in practical use. Fig. 4 shows the hook integral with a ferrule adapted to be fixed on the end of a singletree and the end of a leather trace detachably connected direct with the hook.

The letter *a* designates the body portion of my hook and is designed to project outward from the end of a singletree, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, to support the end of a trace. A projection *b* extends at right angles from the free end of the part *a* and terminates in an enlargement *c*, that aids in retaining a cockeye or end of a trace on the hook. A second projection *d* extends at right angles from the outer end of the part *a* and also from the base or inner end of the projection *b* to serve as a guard to aid in preventing a cockeye or trace from becoming detached from the part *a* when connected therewith.

In the practical use of my invention when applied to a singletree, as shown, a trace having a cockeye on its end can be readily connected with the hook by first placing the cockeye in a horizontal position over the enlargement *c* and the guard *d* to allow those parts to enter the eye before the trace and cockeye are jointly turned into a vertical position, as required to allow the cockeye to engage the stem and main portion *a*. The projections *b* and *c* will then be effectual hindrances against the cockeye and trace being disconnected from the hook while in use.

To detach the trace and cockeye from the hook, they must again be brought into horizontal positions and the cockeye slipped over the projections *b* and *c* by reverse motions from the movements required for placing the cockeye on the hook.

It is obvious that a leather trace having an elongated opening, as shown in Fig. 3, must be manipulated in the same manner as a cockeye in connecting and disconnecting it direct with one of my singletree-hooks.

Having thus described the construction, application, and manner of using my invention, its utility will be obvious to persons familiar with the art to which it pertains, and

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

1. A singletree-hook consisting of a body portion adapted to be fixed to the end of a singletree and having an integral rearward extension at the outer end terminating in an enlargement and an integral upward extension at the inner end of said rearward extension in the manner set forth for the purposes stated.

2. A singletree-hook adapted to be fixed to the end of a singletree consisting of the body portion *a* the integral extension *b* projected rearward at right angles from the outer end of the part *a* and terminating in an enlargement *c* and a guard *d* projecting upward at right angles from the end of the part *a* at the junction of the parts *a* and *b* as shown and described for the purposes stated.

CHANCY C. SHULTS.

Witnesses:

FRANK C. NELSON,
JOHN F. WELCH.