

H. O. SCHULTZ.
WHIFFLETREE.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 8, 1908.

940,368.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Fig. 1.

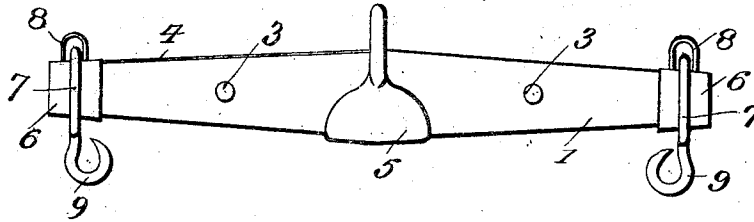


Fig. 2.

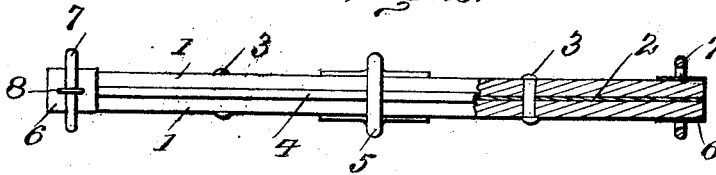


Fig. 4.

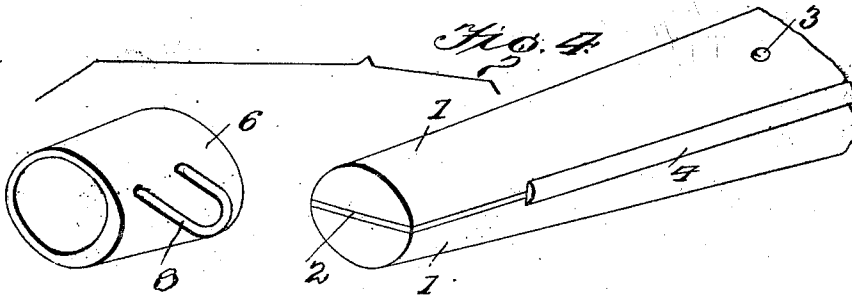
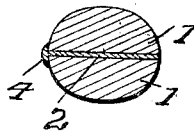


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WHIFFLETREE.

940,368.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY O. SCHULTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whiffletrees, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends certain new and useful improvements in draft appliances, relating more particularly to an improved whiffletree construction, and the object of the invention is an improved device of this character which embodies to a marked degree, the elements of simplicity, durability and rigidity, and which is thus particularly adapted to withstand excessive strain without becoming misshapen or otherwise injured, the whiffletree possessing certain other advantages that will become at once apparent as the invention is hereinafter disclosed, over the ordinary whiffletree in general use.

With these and other objects in view that will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain constructions, arrangements and combinations of the parts that I shall hereinafter fully describe and then point out the novel features thereof in the appended claim.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a whiffletree constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is an edge view thereof, partly in section; Fig. 3 is a transverse section, and Fig. 4 is a detail view in perspective, showing the ferrule and the end of the whiffletree in juxtaposition.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

A whiffletree constructed in accordance with my invention comprises two complementary members or sections 1 which are preferably formed of wood or similar material and are arranged longitudinally of each other, as shown, with their ends terminating at corresponding points to constitute a suitable bar of a length according to the desired whiffletree. Interposed between these sections 1 is a centrally disposed reinforcing bar 2 which is designed to hold the whiffletree

against tensile or torsional strain and which in the preferred construction of the device is constructed of iron, steel, or the like, the reinforcing bar being rigidly secured between the sections by means of rivets or other fastening means 3 passing therethrough. In the present instance this bar is somewhat in the form of an I beam in cross section and is thickened at its rear edge beyond the adjacent edges of the sections 1 by a bead or flange 4 which serves to hold the sections against accidental displacement, it being, of course, understood that a similar bead may be formed along the front edge of the bar if found necessary or desirable in practice. The flange 4 terminates short of the ends of the reinforcing bar to constitute oppositely facing shoulders, as best seen in Fig. 4, for a purpose to be presently disclosed. As one means for attaching this whiffletree to the vehicle or object to which the draft is to be applied, a strap 5 encircles the whiffletree at an intermediate point and has its forward end widened and secured thereto and preferably bent to conform to the shape thereof, while the rear end of this strap projects outwardly beyond the corresponding edge of the whiffletree and constitutes an attaching eye. 6 designates two ferrules which substantially incase the opposite ends of the compound whiffletree abutting against the aforementioned shoulders, and which are loosely encircled by rings 7 of the whiffletree hooks, said rings being retained in position in any suitable manner, such as by passing through rearwardly disposed eyes 8 formed on the ferrules. In front of the whiffletree, the rings 7 are formed with the hooks proper 9, which are designed for engagement with the trace or tug of the harness of the draft animal.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be apparent that I have provided an improved compound whiffletree which may be applied to carriages or wagons, or other vehicles with which draft appliances of this character may be advantageously employed, said whiffletree being simple and durable and comparatively light in construction while at the same time being susceptible of withstanding considerable strain without losing its rigidity, and consisting of comparatively few parts that may be readily assembled and easily and cheaply manufactured so

as to permit the whiffletree to be placed upon the market at a price not too great to prevent its general adoption.

It is to be observed that the usual wooden whiffletrees may be conveniently converted into compound whiffletrees embodying the improvements of my invention, by merely splitting the ordinary whiffletree longitudinally to form the two wooden sections and securing the same together with a suitable reinforcing bar interposed therebetween.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

As a new article of manufacture, a whiffletree of the character described, comprising complementary wooden sections 1, a flat reinforcing bar 2 of solid metal interposed between and coextensive with the sections, fastening elements 3 inserted through the complementary sections and the reinforcing bar to secure the parts together, the reinforcing bar being formed at one longitudinal edge with

an outstanding bead or flange 4 arranged beyond and overlapping the peripheries of the respective sections 1 and terminating short of the ends of the bar to provide oppositely facing shoulders, ferrules 6 carrying tug-engaging means and mounted terminally on the whiffletree and abutting against the aforementioned shoulders, and a metallic strap 5 in the form of a closed loop encircling the whiffletree intermediate of the ferrules, the strap conforming with and being fitted to the edge of the whiffletree opposite to the flange 4 and being spaced from the other edge of the whiffletree to provide an attaching eye, all as and for the purpose specified.

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

HENRY O. SCHULTZ. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

HARVEY F. AKE,
SAMUEL AKE.