

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC BURGETT, OF MIDDLEBURG, NEBRASKA.

HOOK FOR SINGLETREES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,126, dated August 17, 1897.

Application filed May 27, 1897. Serial No. 638,397. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC BURGETT, of Middleburg, in the county of Richardson and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hooks for Singletrees; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to hooks for singletrees; and it consists, essentially, of a bifurcated head in which is pivotally mounted a spring-actuated arm having free movement and devoid of locking-shoulders in connection with the spring.

The invention further consists of the details of construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully herein-after described and claimed.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple hook for whiffletrees having a spring action and so arranged relatively to the spring as to prevent fracture or breakage of the latter and at the same time sustain a retention of the tug or trace on the end of the singletree and also provide for ready detachment when the parts are properly manipulated.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a detail perspective view of a whiffletree-hook embodying the invention and showing a portion of a trace in engagement therewith. Fig. 2 is a section on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the locking-arm disconnected.

Referring to the drawings, wherein similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views, the numeral 1 designates a tongue or shank which is inserted in the end of a singletree and is provided with an outer head 2, which is vertically bifurcated or slotted, as at 3. The said slot 3 merges into a recess 4 on the under part of the head, and therein is a dog 5, which is pivotally attached and has bearing against the end of a flat spring 6, which extends longitudinally of the head in a longitudinal plane, so as to bring a square engaging end against the inner side of the dog. At

the point where the spring 6 engages the dog the latter is recessed, as at 7, and at the lower end the said arm is also tapered to a thin edge, while at the upper end it is thickened and has an outer beveled portion 8. The inner surface of the said dog at the rear is cut away at a bevel, as at 9, and bears upon a shoulder 10, formed at the upper termination of the slot to prevent said dog from being moved inward beyond a predetermined vertical position, and thereby is formed a secure attachment of the trace end with the hook.

In applying the trace it is slipped over the upper end of the arm and the lower reduced end pressed inward until the trace passes thereover. The lower end of said arm is then permitted to fly out through the action of the spring 6 and close over the eye in the trace, and any tendency of the trace to work off the head is prevented by the upper and lower projections of the said arm, as the latter is prevented from tilting through the medium of the shoulder 10, formed on the upper part of the slotted portion 3. By the engagement of the upper shoulder 10 and the beveled portion of the inner side of the head locking-shoulders for the spring need not be formed and are dispensed with, thereby simplifying the construction of the locking-arm and making the device as an entirety much stronger and less liable to break the spring 6. In removing the trace the same operation is pursued as in applying it, the eye in the trace being first slipped over the upper end of the locking-arm, when it can readily be drawn over the lower portion.

The parts of the device may be ornamented in any preferred manner, and in view of the simplicity of construction it is inexpensive in the cost of manufacture, and it is obviously apparent that many minor changes in the details of construction and arrangement of the several parts might be made and substituted for those shown and described without in the least departing from the nature or spirit of the invention.

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

A device of the character set forth, consisting of a shank having a slotted head with a

shoulder at the upper portion thereof, a spring
extending outwardly into the slot, and an arm
pivotally mounted in said slot and having a
reduced lower end and an enlarged upper end
5 with an outer beveled surface and an inner
cut-away part to engage the shoulder at the
upper part of the slot in the head, said arm
normally extending beyond the head on op-
posite sides thereof and movable inwardly at
10 the lower end in attaching or detaching the

trace, substantially as and for the purpose
specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed this
specification in the presence of two subscrib-
ing witnesses.

ISAAC BURGETT.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. PEAKE,
OSCAR KERR.