

E. H. PETTIT.

Spring-Bolt Fastening for Tongues, Whiffetrees, &c

No. 159,116.

Patented Jan. 26, 1875.

Fig. 1

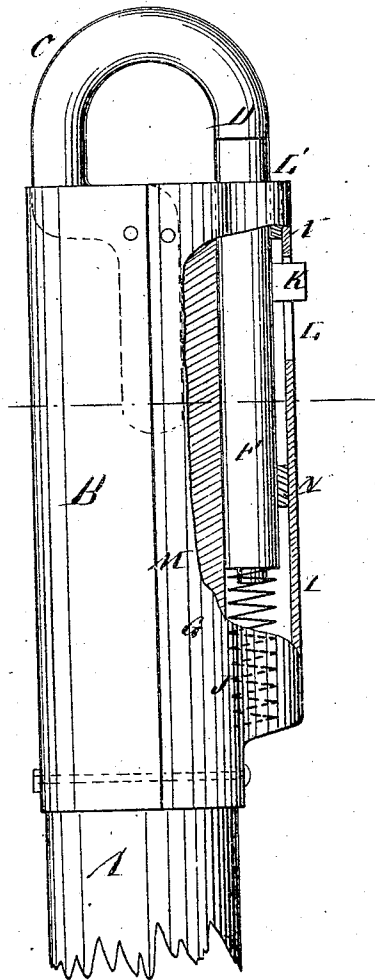
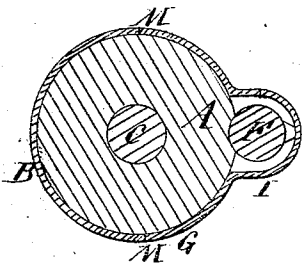


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

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ETHAN H. PETTIT, OF TWIN LAKE, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
DELLAMAR WADE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPRING-BOLT FASTENINGS FOR TONGUES, WHIFFLETREES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **159,116**, dated January 26, 1875; application filed
September 5, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ETHAN H. PETTIT, of Twin Lake, in the county of Muskegon and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spring-Bolt Fastening, of which the following is a specification:

The invention will first be fully described, and then pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 is a side view of the device applied, with parts broken away to show the construction. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of Fig. 1, taken on the line *x x*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the tongue or whiffletree. B is a semicircular plate on the end of the tongue. C is the hook, which is secured in the end of A, but is bent or turned in a semicircle to form an eye, with the bent end D terminating before it reaches the end of the tongue. F is the spring-bolt, secured to the end of the tongue by other semicircles, G. The semicircle is not a true arc of a circle, but bags in one direction to receive the bolt, or is composed of two semicircles—a large one, G, and a small one, I. J is a spiral spring within the small semicircle, which bears with a constant pressure against the end of the bolt, and serves to press it outward and against the end D of the hook. K is a lug on the bolt, which extends through a mortise, L, in the

casing I, by means of which the bolt is thrown back, so that its end will be flush with the end of the tongue. This leaves an open space at L' for the introduction of the harness-straps, or the trace or other article to be secured. The semicircular plate B and the large semicircle G are brought in contact on the sides of the tongue, as seen at *m*, and both are attached to the tongue by screws or nails, as seen in the drawing. *n n* are small lugs or guides for keeping the bolt in position.

The advantages of this fastening over the fastenings in ordinary use are many, and must be obvious to all.

I am aware that it is not new to provide a whiffletree with a spring-bolt arranged within a case, the said case having a cap or hook protector and bearings for the bolt.

What I claim is—

1. The plate B, having circular portions G and I to receive a tongue-yoke, in the manner described.

2. A tongue-yoke consisting of the hook part C and spring-held straight part F combined, and their ends meeting, so as to form a flush-joint, as shown and described.

ETHAN H. PETTIT.

Witnesses:

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