L. D. BROWN.

Wagon-Tongue Support.

No. 201,323. Patented March 19, 1878.

Fig. 1.

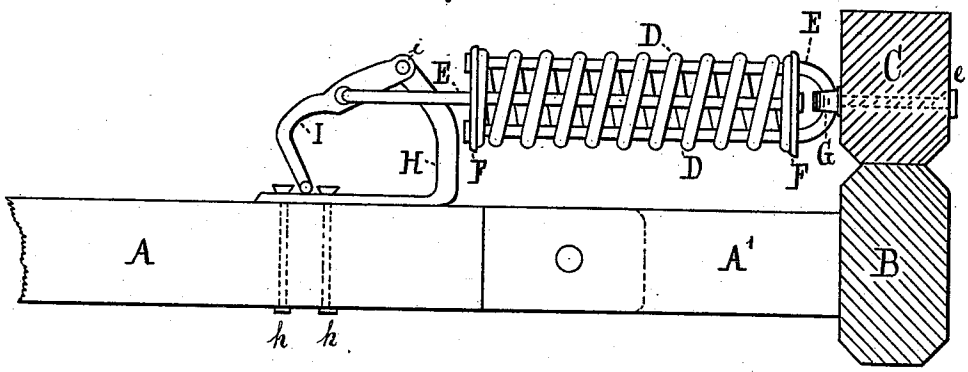


Fig. 2.

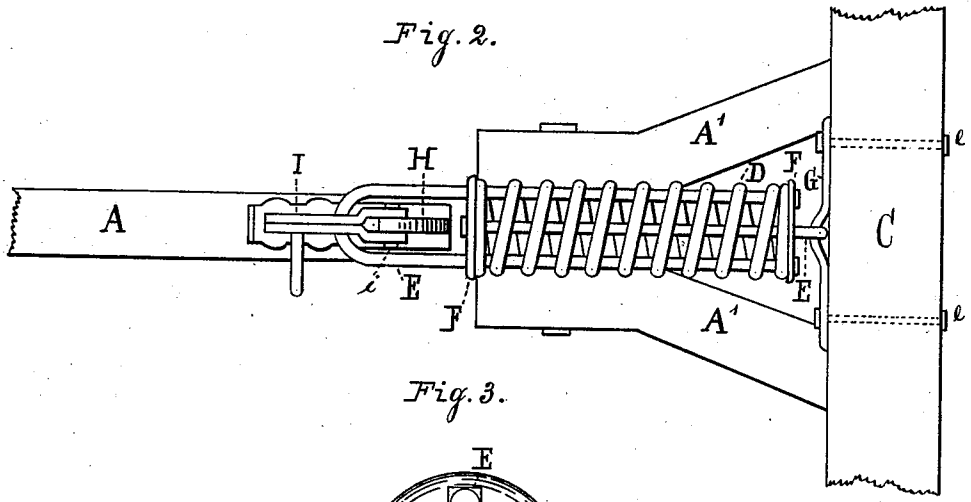
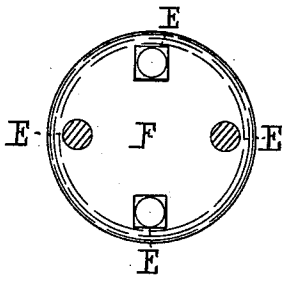


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LORENZO D. BROWN, OF MONTMORENCY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO WILLIAM S. HAGGARD, OF LA FAYETTE, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WAGON-TONGUE SUPPORTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,323**, dated March 19, 1878; application filed November 9, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LORENZO D. BROWN, of the town of Montmorency, county of Tippecanoe, and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wagon-Tongue Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts.

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention, showing the manner of attaching it to the tongue and bolster. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same; and Fig. 3 is a view of the plate or cap to be placed over the ends of the springs, and to which the staples or bolts are secured.

In said drawings, those portions marked A represent the rear end of a wagon-tongue; B, a portion of the front axle-tree; C, the bolster thereon; D, the spring; E E, the staples or rods therein; F F, the plates or caps on the ends of the spring to which the staples are attached; G, a device by which one of the staples is fastened to the bolster or some other suitable point on the wagon; H, the device fastened to the tongue; I, a small lever pivoted thereto, to which the other staple is attached in such a manner that the moving of the lever from one position to the other will operate to raise or lower the tongue, as the case may be.

The advantage of having an elastic device for this purpose is, that the tongue or neck-yoke will not be thrown up against the horse's chin, nor will the vehicle be strained, as when the tongue is perfectly rigid.

It will be observed that the elasticity obtained by the use of this device is obtained by compression instead of torsion. The advantage of this arrangement is too apparent to need comment.

The lever I is an important part of this invention. By its use in the form shown, the tongue becomes supported by simply being raised, the raising of the tongue operating to throw the lever over in front, and the point of attachment of the staple thereto being lower than the pivot *i*, the downward pressure of the tongue tends to hold the device locked rather than otherwise.

As will be readily seen, the raising of the tongue very slightly will allow the lever to be disengaged and the tongue lowered when desired.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the tongue A of a wagon, of a support the rear of which shall be fastened to some suitable point on the wagon, consisting of the spring D, staples E E, caps F F, device H, and lever I, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. A wagon-tongue support attached at one end to the bolster, or other suitable point on the front of the wagon, and at the other end to the lever I, by which the device is operated to support the tongue, which lever is, in turn, attached to the device H on the top of the wagon-tongue, all in combination with each other, substantially as herein shown and specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at La Fayette, Indiana, this 24th day of October, A. D. 1877.

LORENZO D. BROWN. [L. S.]

In presence of—
C. W. EATON,
JAMES W. CONINE.