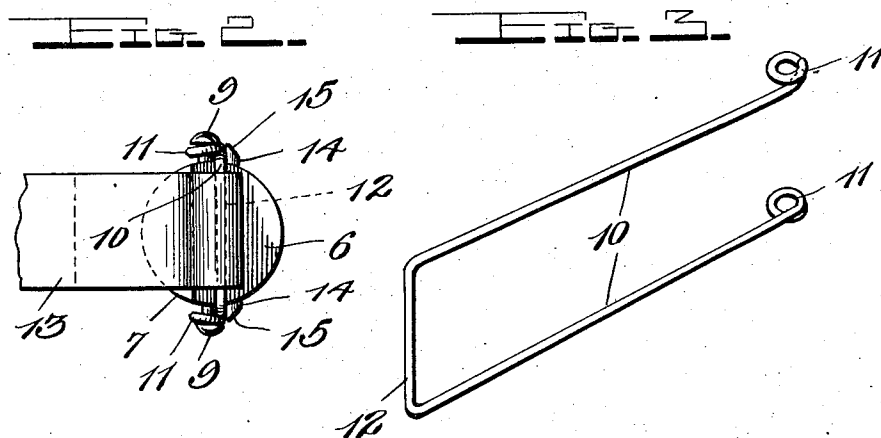
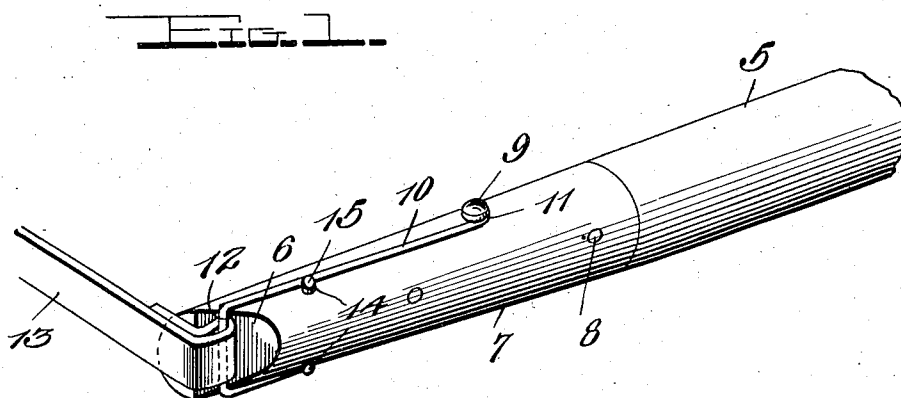


F. COLLINS.  
WHIFFLETREE HOOK.  
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1,028,545.

Patented June 4, 1912.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRANK COLLINS, OF LYNNVILLE, TENNESSEE.

## WHIFFLETREE-HOOK.

1,028,545.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 4, 1912.

Application filed March 21, 1912. Serial No. 685,267.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK COLLINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lynnville, in the county of Giles and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whiffletree-Hooks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to improvements in whiffletree hooks for connecting the trace to the end of the whiffletree and has for its primary object the provision of a simple, efficient and inexpensive device of this character whereby the trace will be at all times securely held upon the end of the whiffletree.

15 A further and more specific object of the invention resides in the provision of an elongated U-shaped holding member pivotally mounted upon the end of the whiffletree, said whiffletree having a beveled face with which the intermediate or bight portion of the holding member to which the trace is connected co-acts, and means on the whiffletree normally acting to prevent pivotal movement of said holding member in one direction.

20 With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

25 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a whiffletree hook embodying the present invention; Fig. 2 is an end elevation thereof; and Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the hook.

30 Referring in detail to the drawing 5 designates the whiffletree, the end of which is chamfered or beveled as indicated at 6. Upon the end of the whiffletree a metal cuff 7 is secured thereon by means of the rivet 8. This cuff is provided with pivot studs 9 at diametrically opposite points.

35 The hook or trace holder proper consists of a single piece of heavy wire 10 bent into elongated U-shaped form and having its extremities coiled as at 11 and loosely mounted upon the pivot studs 9. The intermediate portion 12 of the hook or loop extends across the beveled face 6 on the end of the whiffletree and to this intermediate portion of the hook the end of the trace 13 is connected. Lugs 14 are formed on the cuff 7 adjacent to its end and are each provided with an inclined face 15 over which the longitudinal

portions of the elongated loop or hook are adapted to be forced so that said longitudinal portions will lie behind said lugs and maintain the intermediate portion of the hook in close proximity to the beveled face 6 of the whiffletree. It will of course, be understood that the longitudinal portions of the wire hook have sufficient resiliency to permit them to be forced over the inclined faces of the studs 14 in order to attach or detach the trace to said hook.

40 In the use of the device when the whiffletree is mounted upon the draft bar, the beveled face thereof is disposed rearwardly, so that when the animal pulls forwardly upon the trace, the forward pull upon the outer end or intermediate portion of the hook causes the same to closely bind the end of the trace between the beveled face of the whiffletree and said hook. When the trace is slack, the lugs or pins 14 will effectually prevent the rearward pivotal movement of the hook. In this manner, the trace is at all times held in engagement upon the end of the whiffletree and its accidental detachment therefrom effectually prevented.

45 From the foregoing, it is thought that the construction and manner of operation of my improved whiffletree hook or trace holder will be clearly understood.

50 The device is very simple in construction, may be inexpensively manufactured and is highly efficient and serviceable in practical use.

55 The device can also be easily and quickly applied to the whiffletree without necessitating any material alterations thereof.

60 While I have shown and described the preferred construction and arrangement of the various parts, it will be understood that the device is susceptible of considerable modification without departing from the essential feature or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

65 Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. The combination with a whiffletree having a beveled end face, a longitudinally extending elongated hook pivotally mounted at its ends upon the whiffletree and having its intermediate portion disposed across said beveled face and in close proximity thereto, and lugs with which the longitudinally extending portions of the hook co-act to limit the pivotal movement thereof in one direction.

2. The combination with a whiffletree having a beveled end face, of an elongated U-shaped hook longitudinally disposed upon the whiffletree and pivotally mounted thereon at its ends, the intermediate portion of said hook being adapted to cooperate with the beveled face of the whiffletree to retain a trace in engagement therewith, and stop lugs provided with beveled surfaces over which the longitudinally extending portions of the hook are adapted to be forced, said lugs limiting the pivotal movement of the hook in one direction.
3. The combination with a whiffletree having a beveled end face, of a cuff secured upon said whiffletree provided with oppositely disposed pivot studs, an elongated U-shaped hook pivotally mounted upon said studs at its ends and extending longitudinally upon the whiffletree, the intermediate portion of the hook being disposed across the beveled face of the whiffletree and in close proximity thereto to retain a trace connected to the intermediate portion of the hook in engagement with said beveled face, and stop lugs formed on said cuff provided with beveled faces over which the longitudinal portions of the hook are adapted to be forced to dispose the same behind the lugs and limit the pivotal movement of said hook in one direction.
- In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.
- FRANK COLLINS.
- Witnesses:  
J. T. MARTIN,  
H. F. McLAURINE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."