

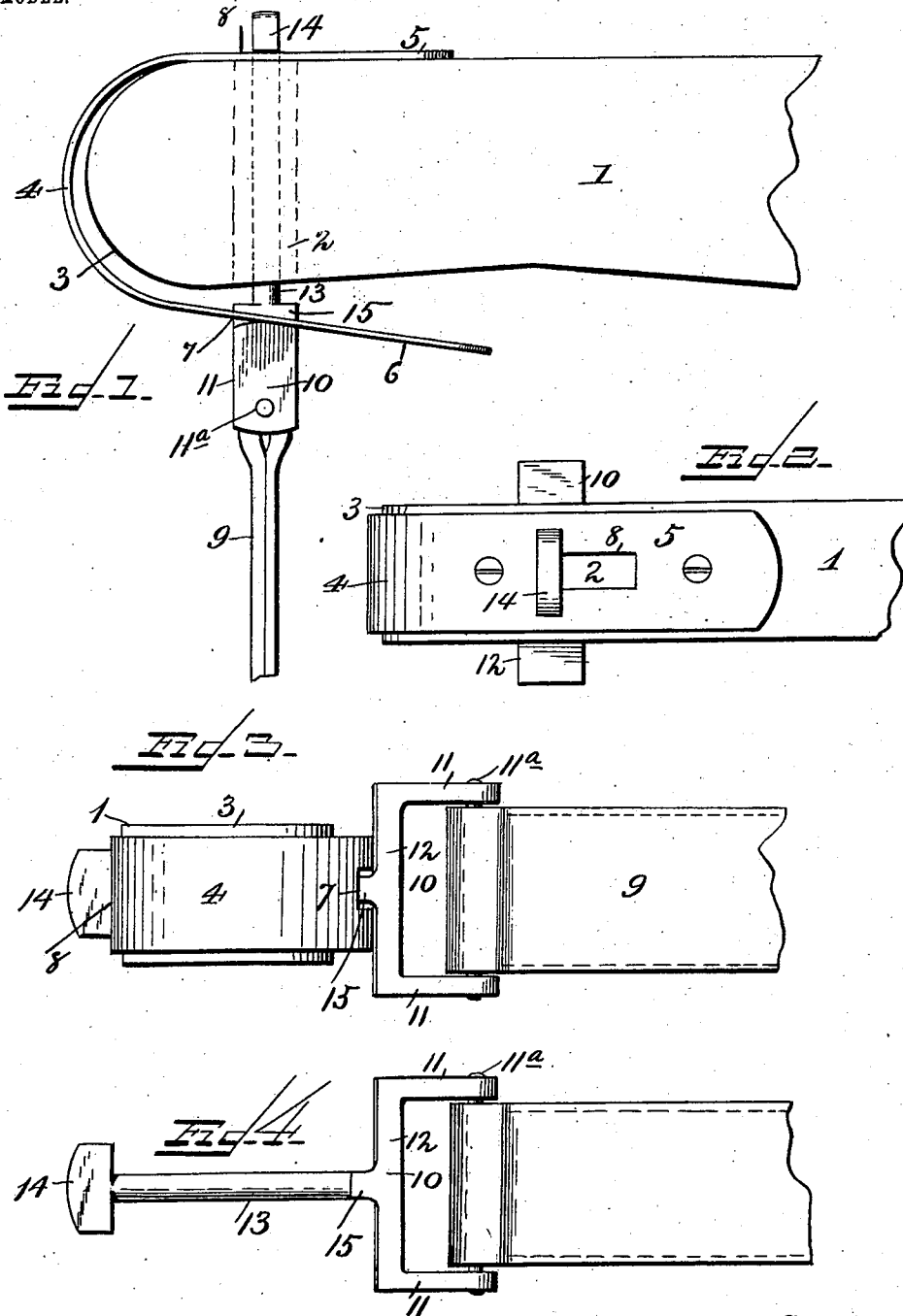
No. 728,744.

PATENTED MAY 19, 1903.

J. MORRISON.
TRACE FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH MORRISON, OF EAST SCHUYLER, NEW YORK.

TRACE-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 728,744, dated May 19, 1903.

Application filed March 13, 1903. Serial No. 147,643. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH MORRISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Schuyler, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Trace-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to trace-fasteners, and has for its object to construct a device of this character by means of which a trace may be fastened to a whiffletree and be easily detached at pleasure.

The simple and novel construction employed by me in carrying out my invention is fully described and claimed in this specification, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my device with the trace fastened. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the trace fastened. Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the whiffletree. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the trace-holder.

Like numerals of reference designate like parts in the different views of the drawings.

The numeral 1 designates a whiffletree apertured transversely at 2 and rounded off on the end at 3. A curved spring 4 embraces the rounded end 3. It is rigidly attached at its rear end 5 to the rear of the whiffletree-bar, but is free at its forward end 6, which extends at a slight angle to the front face of the bar 1. Two rectangular apertures (designated 7 and 8) are formed in the front and rear, respectively, of the spring 4 and are located in alinement with the aperture 2.

A trace 9 carries a yoke-shaped member 10, having side bars 11 and a cross-bar 12. The side bars 11 are transversely apertured to accommodate a cross-pin 11^a, which serves as a pivot for the yoke 10. Formed integral with the cross-bar 12 is a shank 13, having a button 14 on its free end which is similar in shape but slightly smaller than the apertures 7 and 8. An enlarged portion 15, rectangular in cross-section, is also formed on the shank adjacent to the cross-bar 12 and of greater length than the width of the aperture 7. The maximum dimensions of the button 14 and enlargement 15 extend at right angles to each other.

In attaching the trace to the whiffletree the shank 13 is turned so that the button 14 will extend parallel to the aperture 7 and is then

inserted through the apertures 7 2 8, thereby forcing the end 6 of the spring toward the whiffletree. As soon as the button 14 passes clear through the aperture 8 the shank will be revolved until the enlargement 15 extends parallel to the aperture 7, when the spring will react and the aperture 7 will embrace the enlargement 15, and thereby hold the shank 13 against turning, which action will securely lock the device until the end 6 of the spring is forced back and compelled to release the enlargement 15, after which the shank 13 may be turned a half-revolution and withdrawn.

I do not wish to be limited as to details of construction, as these may be modified in many particulars without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

1. In a device of the class described, the combination of a whiffletree-bar having a transverse aperture therein, a shank bearing a button on one end and having an enlargement on the other to adapt said shank to be inserted in said aperture and given a half-turn to prevent its withdrawal, and an apertured spring mounted on said whiffletree-bar in position to engage said enlargement to secure said shank against turning, substantially as described.

2. In a trace-fastener, the combination of a whiffletree-bar having a transverse aperture therein, a spring secured to the rear of said bar and curved around to embrace the end thereof, said spring having two elongated apertures therein located in alinement with said transverse aperture, a trace bearing a shank having a button thereon to adapt said shank to be inserted in said aperture in said spring and given a half-turn to prevent its withdrawal, said shank having an enlargement thereon which is engaged by said spring to hold the shank against rotation, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH ^{his} MORRISON.
mark

Witnesses:

JOHN KINET,
HENRY MARSH.