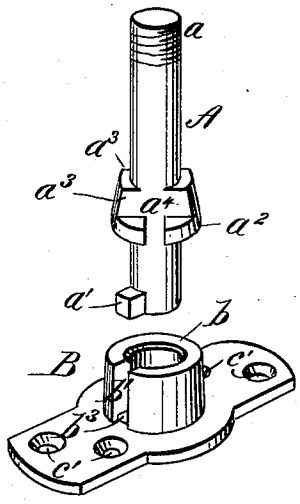
(Model.)

C. D. THATCHER.

CARRIAGE TOP PROP

No. 306,874. Patented Oct. 21, 1884.

Fig. 1.



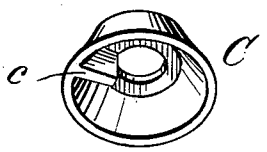


Fig. 2.

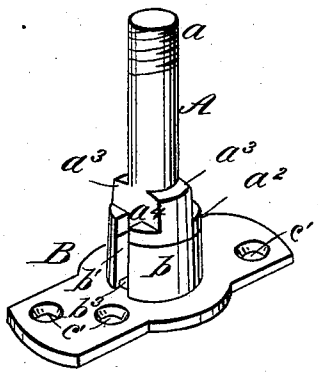


Fig. 3.

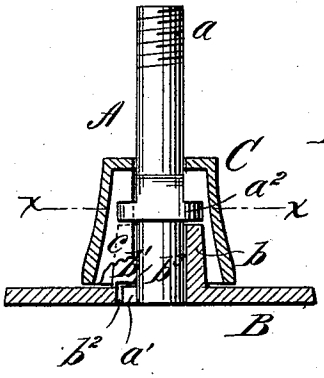


Fig. 4.

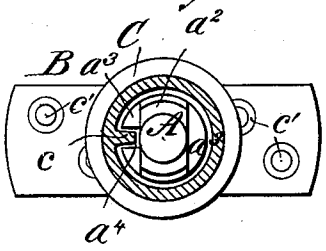
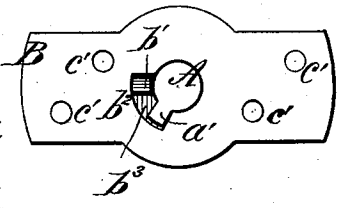


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARRIAGE-TOP PROP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 306,874, dated October 21, 1884.

Application filed March 7, 1884. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES D. THATCHER, of Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Top-Prop for Carriages, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the bolt and bow-plate detached. Fig. 2 is a perspective of the bolt placed in the socket of the bow-plate, with the covering washer or cap detached. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation of the complete prop. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view of the same, taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 is an inverted plan view of the top-prop.

The invention consists, principally, of a top-prop so constructed that the employment of screw-threads is dispensed with in connecting the bolt with the bow-plate.

The invention also consists of the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the bolt, B the bow-plate, and C the covering washer or cap. The bolt A is screw-threaded at its outer end, as shown at *a*, to receive a nut, in the ordinary manner. At its inner end the said bolt A is formed with the lug a', which, together with the slot b' and recess b^2, made in the bow plate B, and collar *b* thereof, forms a kind of bayonet-joint for locking the said bolt A and plate B together. Above the lug a' a distance equal to the height of the collar *b* the bolt A is formed with the flange a^2, which is made square on opposite sides, as shown at a^3, for the application to the bolt of a wrench for turning the bolt when necessary, and this collar is notched out of line with the lug a', as shown at a^4, to receive the locking-fin *c* of the washer or cap C, which fin, when the cap C is in place, enters also the slot b' of the collar *b*, which prevents the bolt A and washer or cap C from turning, as will be understood from Fig. 3. The bow-plate B is adapted to be secured to the bow of the carriage top by screws passing through the screw-holes c' and entering the bow in the ordinary manner, and the recess b^2 is extended to one side of the lower end of the slot b', to form an offset, b^3, at the lower edge of the collar *b*, under which offset the stud a' fits, to form the lock when the bolt is put in place in the bow-plate B and turned to bring the notch a^4 in flange a^2 to coincide with the slot b' made in the collar *b*. The bolt A having been put in the bow-plate B and turned to the position shown in Fig. 2 with the notch a^4 standing in line with slot b', the washer or cap C is to be put in place over the flange and collar of the bolt and bow-plate, as shown in Fig. 3, with the internal fin, *c*, thereof entering the notch a^4 and slot b', which locks the bolt A from turning in the plate B, and thus causes the stud a', acting in connection with offset b^3, to securely lock the bolt and bow-plate together. In this manner it will be seen that all tapping of the bow plate B and forming of screw-threads upon the lower end of the bolt A are avoided, and that the connection of the bolt with the plate is perfectly secure and reliable, and that the prop is thus made cheaper and better than the common form of prop.

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

1. The bow-plate B and bolt A, locked together by means of an offset and lug, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The bolt A, formed with lug a' and flange a^2, notched at a^4, and bow-plate B, formed with collar *b*, slotted at b', and recessed to form offset b^3, in combination with the washer or cap C, formed with the locking-fin *c*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

CHARLES D. THATCHER.

Witnesses:
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JNO. F. CHORPENING.