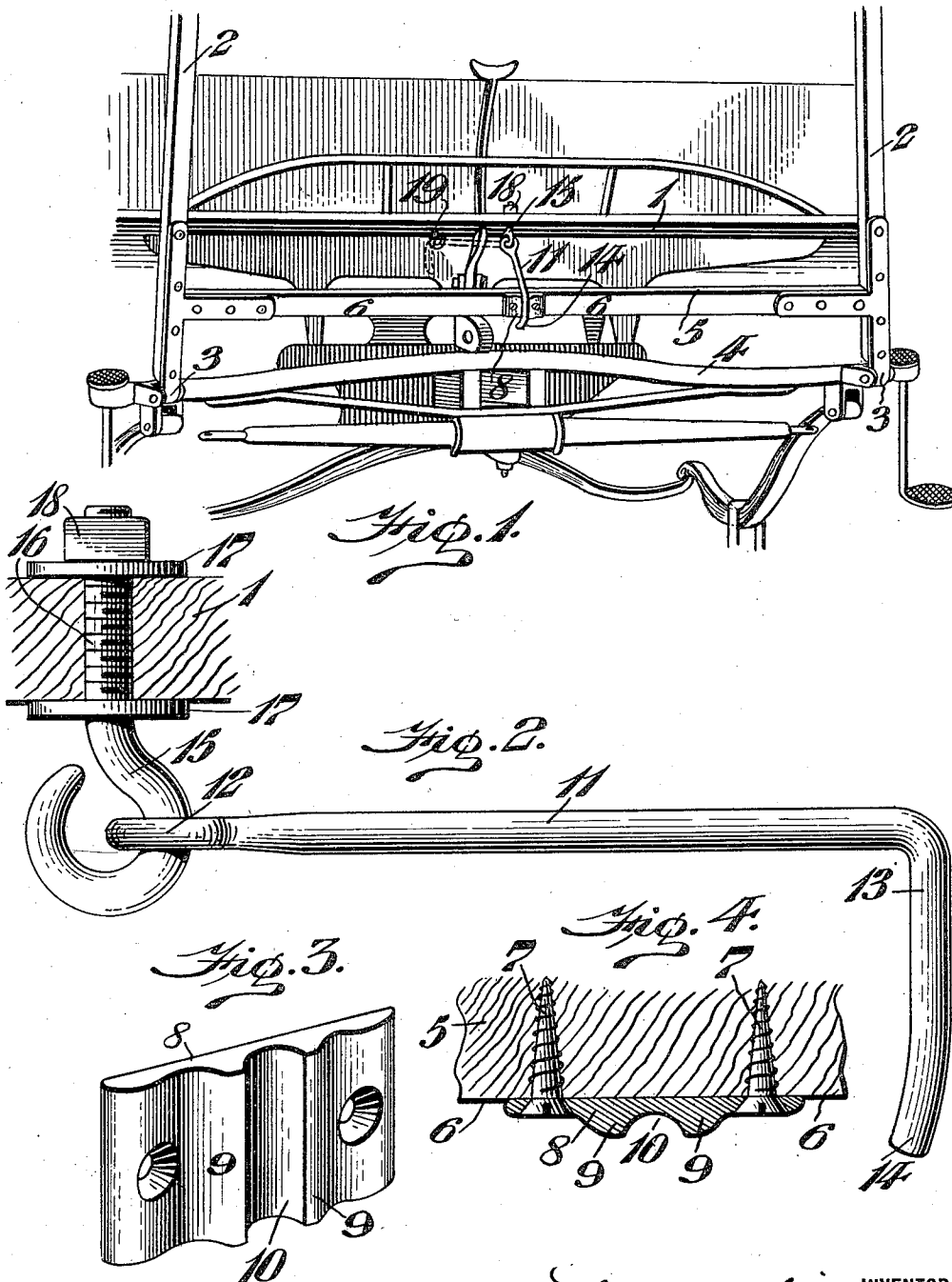


A. C. HIXON.
WAGON SHAFT HOLDER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 9, 1912.

1,064,483.

Patented June 10, 1913.



WITNESSES

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ARTHUR CLAYTON HIXON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

WAGON-SHAFT HOLDER.

1,064,483.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 10, 1913.

Application filed July 9, 1912. Serial No. 708,452.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR C. HIXON, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Wagon-Shaft Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a device for supporting wagon shafts or thills in upright position, and in close proximity to the front of the wagon when the latter is not in use, and has for an object to provide a simple and effective means of maintaining shafts for wagons or the like out of the way and thus increasing the storage space in a stable and at the same time eliminating the danger of the shafts becoming broken, bent, or otherwise damaged, during the movement of vehicles in the stable.

It further consists of other novel features of construction all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings a preferred embodiment which is at present preferred by me, since the same has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Figure 1 represents a perspective of a portion of a vehicle body showing my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 represents a side elevation of the hook portion of my device and its adjuncts. Fig. 3 represents a perspective of a retaining plate forming part of my invention. Fig. 4 represents a transverse section of the retaining plate and a portion of its support.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings:—1 designates the floor or foot-board of a vehicle to which my novel shaft supporting means is adapted to be attached, and in this connection it will be noted that the portion of the vehicle shown is the new type of six spring delivery wagon having shafts or thills 2, which are pivoted at 3, to the fifth wheel bar 4, and are adapted to be swung through a wide range of movement and may be brought to a

substantially perpendicular position beside the front of the vehicle.

5 designates the cross-bar of the shafts 2, upon the bottom face 6 of which I, preferably, secure by means of screws 7 or like fastening means, a retaining plate 8 of suitable material, the function of which is to receive and lock the supporting element for the shafts. In order that this retaining plate may perform its function in the manner desired, I preferably provide the same with a pair of transverse ribs 9 which extend in the present instance from side to side of the plate 8 and form between them a groove or seat 10, the configuration of which is adapted to conform to the shape of the member coacting therewith. It will further be noted in connection with this retaining plate that it is preferable to locate the same at substantially the center of the cross-bar 5, so that when the parts are in engaged or operative position the weight of the shafts will be equally distributed.

11 designates a hook member, preferably of metal, having one end terminating in an eyelet 12 and its opposite end in a downwardly turned hook portion 13, the end of which is, in the present instance, bent rearwardly for a purpose to be presently described. This hook member 11 is preferably supported beneath the floor or foot-board of the vehicle and for this purpose I prefer to utilize a threaded eye-bolt 15 upon which the eyelet 12 is supported, while the threaded stem 16 of the bolt passes through the floor or foot-board 1 and is retained in place by means of the washers 17 and nut 18.

19 designates a hook or the like suitably mounted beneath the floor or foot-board 1, as the case may be, and located at a suitable distance from the bolt 15 to serve as a support for the hook member 11 when the latter is not in use and inoperative as a shaft supporting means.

In operation of the device the shafts 2 are swung about their pivots 3 to bring them to a substantially vertical position whereupon the hook member 11 is brought down over the face of the retaining plate 8 with the hook portion 13 seated within the groove 10. It will here be noted that the length of the hook portion 13, not including the bent end 14, is of substantially the same length as the length of the groove 10, which in this instance is the same as the width of the retaining plate 8. When the parts are in this

position, as shown in Fig. 1, the end 14 of the hook member 11 is disposed beneath the lower edge of the retaining plate 8, and thereby serves as an abutment upon which
5 the weight of the shafts is partially sustained. The importance of this construction will be apparent when it is seen that the resultant of the forces tending to pull the shafts down passes through the eye-bolt
10 15 and the abutment formed by the inturned end 14, so that the hook member is effectually locked in engagement with the plate 8. Furthermore any side or lateral movement is entirely prevented by the ribs 9, between
15 which it is normally seated.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a simple and efficient device for retaining or holding shafts of vehicles in a substantially vertical position, one which occupies a minimum of space on the vehicle, is
20 practically concealed from view and yet one which may be quickly and readily adjusted into its operative position, and when in such position forms a self-locking means which
25 cannot be jarred or shaken loose and requires manual manipulation to be released.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction of a
30 wagon shaft holder which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable

in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have, in the present instance, shown and described a preferred embodiment thereof which has been found in practice to give satisfactory and
35 reliable results, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.
40

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

In a device of the character stated, the combination of a hook member fastened beneath the footboard of a vehicle, said member comprising a hook portion of predetermined length, a retaining plate secured upon the bottom face of a cross-bar of a pair of
50 shafts, a rearwardly turned end on said hook portion adapted to form a lock beneath said plate and means on said plate adapted to coact with the hook portion of said hook member and prevent lateral movement thereof.

ARTHUR CLAYTON HIXON.

Witnesses:

PATRICK CONNER,

GEORGE W. WINTERS.

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