

E. SPEARS.
Tongue-Support.

No. 161,713.

Patented April 6, 1875.

Fig. 1.

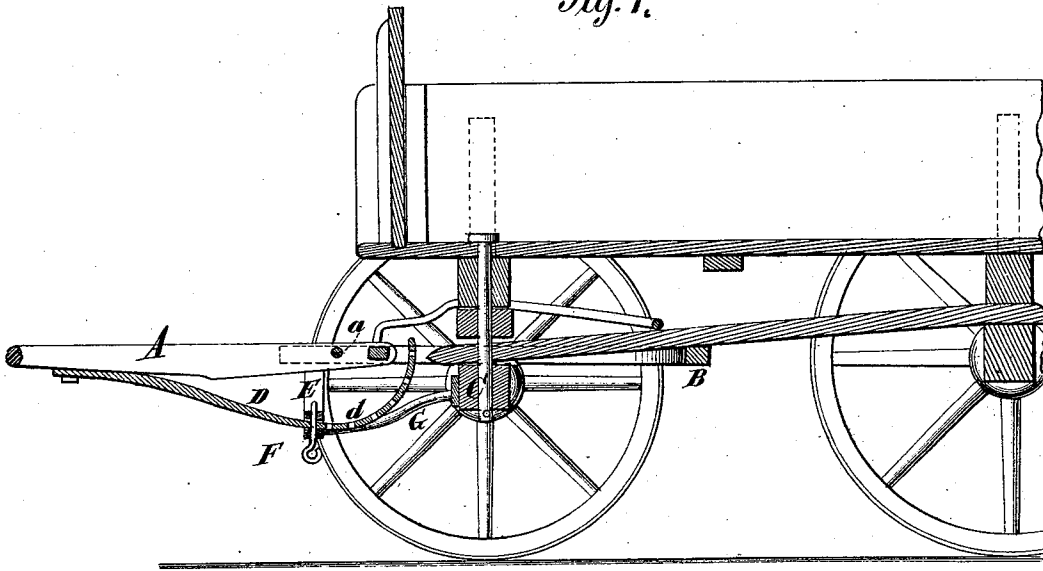
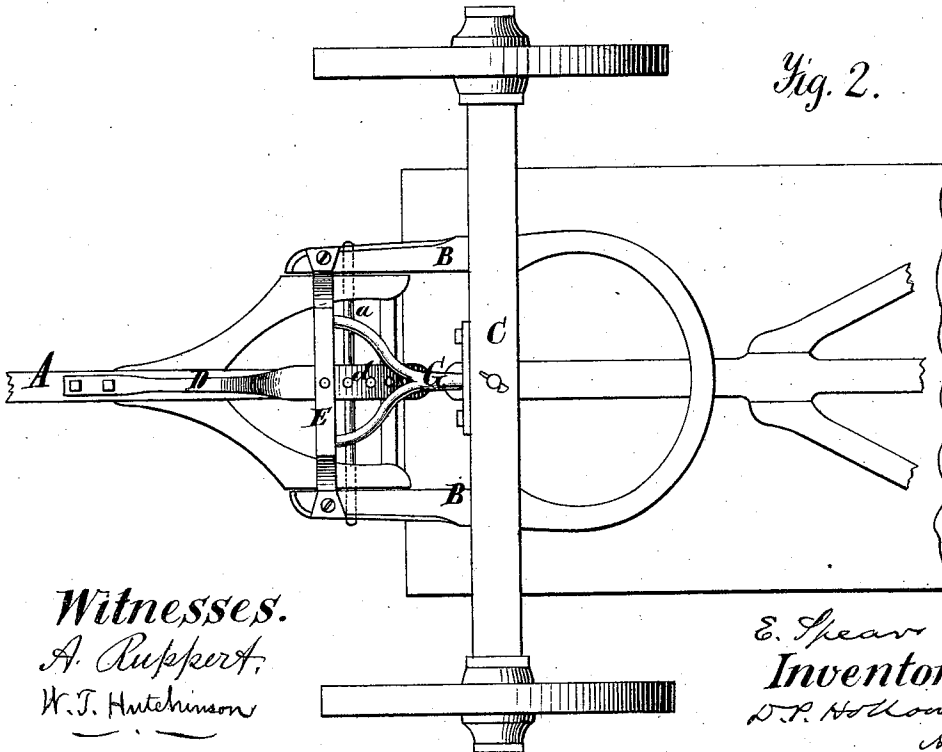


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
A. Ruppert,
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Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMANUEL SPEARS, OF LA FAYETTE, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
HIS RIGHT TO CHRISTIAN SCHERER, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TONGUE-SUPPORTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **161,713**, dated April 6, 1875; application filed
March 4, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMANUEL SPEARS, of La Fayette, in the county of Tippecanoe and State of Indiana, have invented an Improvement in Tongue-Supports, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in combining with the tongues or shafts of a wagon, capable of swinging up and down on a horizontal axis, certain devices, by means of which the tongues or shafts may be supported in an elevated position when the wagon is not in use, and which may also be so adapted as to provide either a loose or a stiff tongue or shafts, as circumstances may require.

These devices consist in a curved arm, rigidly secured to the shafts or tongue near the pivoted end, and a hanger depending from the hounds of the wagon, if such are used, and connected by braces to the front axle of the wagon, the curved portion of the arm which plays through a slot in the hanger having a series of holes, so that it may be fixed by a bolt, or its play limited, according as a loose or a stiff tongue is wanted.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the front end of a wagon embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is a bottom view thereof.

The same letters of reference are used in all the figures in the designation of identical parts.

I have shown my invention, in connection with a wagon having a tongue, A, pivoted by a bolt, *a*, to the hounds B, projecting from the front axle C. D is a bar of metal firmly secured at one end of the tongue A, and curved at the other in the arc of a circle, having the axis of the pivot *a* for its center, and reaching just beyond the rear end of the tongue. The curved end of the bar D has a number of holes, *d*, and plays in a slot of a hanger, E, suspend-

ed from the hounds B, to which it is firmly secured. At the point of the slot the hanger has a hole bored through it, which is in line with the holes *d* in the bar D. By passing a pin, F, through the hole in the hanger, and one of the holes in the bar D, the tongue can be held rigidly at any desired elevation, either to be used as a stiff tongue or be thrown up out of the way when the wagon is not in use.

When it is desired to use the tongue as a loose one, the pin F is withdrawn from the hanger, and passed through a hole in the bar D in front of the hanger, which, while permitting the tongue to rise to any elevation, will sustain it like a stiff one by the pin F coming in contact with the hanger.

In order to relieve the hounds from the strain of the weight of the tongue a forked brace, G, extends from the hanger E to the axle C, so that the principal strain will be transferred from the hanger E through the brace to said axle.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the tongue A, curved and perforated bar D *d*, fixed hanger E, and pin F, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of the tongue A, bar D *d*, pin F, hanger E, brace G, and axle C, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

his
EMANUEL X SPEARS.
mark.

Witnesses:

J. S. BERRYHILL,
A. ORTH BEHM.