(No Model.)

W. A. HENDRYX.

THILL COUPLING.

No. 252,316. Patented Jan. 17, 1882.

fig. 1

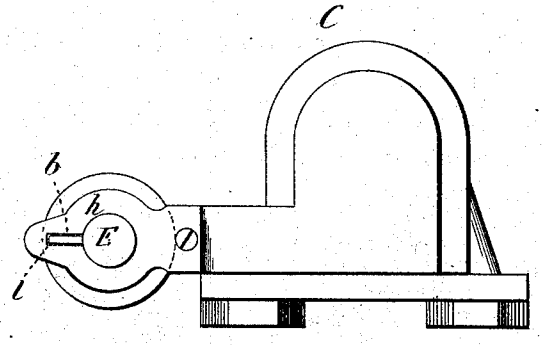
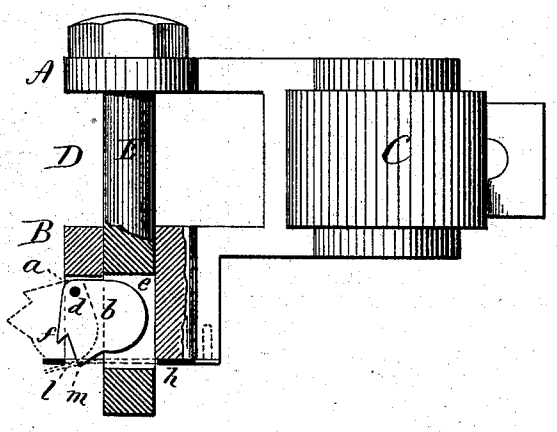


fig. 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILBUR A. HENDRYX, OF BIG RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

THILL-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 252,316, dated January 17, 1882.

Application filed May 31, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILBUR A. HENDRYX, of Big Rapids, in the county of Mecosta and State of Michigan, have invented a new Improvement in Thill-Couplings; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a side view; Fig. 2, a sectional plan view.

This invention relates to an improvement in carriage-shackles, the object being to dispense with the nut usually employed for holding the thill-iron bolt in place, and provide a convenient means for holding and releasing it; and the invention consists in the construction, as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claim.

A represents one ear, and B the other, formed upon or attached to the clip C in the usual manner for carriage-shackles, leaving a space, D, between the two ears for the introduction of the thill-iron; E, the bolt, which passes through the two ears and the thill-iron to serve as the pivot on which the thill-iron works. The ear B is extended, and in a longitudinal recess or slot, *a*, a cam-shaped catch, *b*, is hung upon a pivot, *d*. The bolt E is constructed with a corresponding slot, *e*, into which the catch *b* will enter, as seen in Fig. 2, when the bolt is in place, the extension of the catch into the slot in the bolt being sufficient to prevent the removal of the bolt until the catch *b* be turned outward from the slot, as seen in broken lines, Fig. 2. The catch is provided with a finger-piece, *f*, as a convenient means for moving the catch.

To lock the catch in its closed position, a spring-latch, *h*, consisting of a thin piece of steel, is attached to the outer end of the ear in rear of the bolt, and extends forward near the outer end, and is constructed with a slot, *l*, to engage a projection, *m*, on the catch when in its closed position, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2. This latch may be sprung away from the catch *b*, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 2, sufficient to permit the catch to be turned away to release the bolt, or when in returning the catch the nose of the projection *m* will strike the latch and spring it away sufficient to permit the catch to pass to its place and until the latch again engages it.

I claim—

In a carriage-shackle, the catch *b*, pivoted in a slot in one ear, combined with the bolt, constructed with a corresponding slot, into which the said catch will enter when the bolt is in place, or from which the catch may be turned to permit the removal of the bolt, and a spring-latch to engage the said catch when in the closed or locking position, substantially as described.

WILBUR A. HENDRYX.

Witnesses:
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