

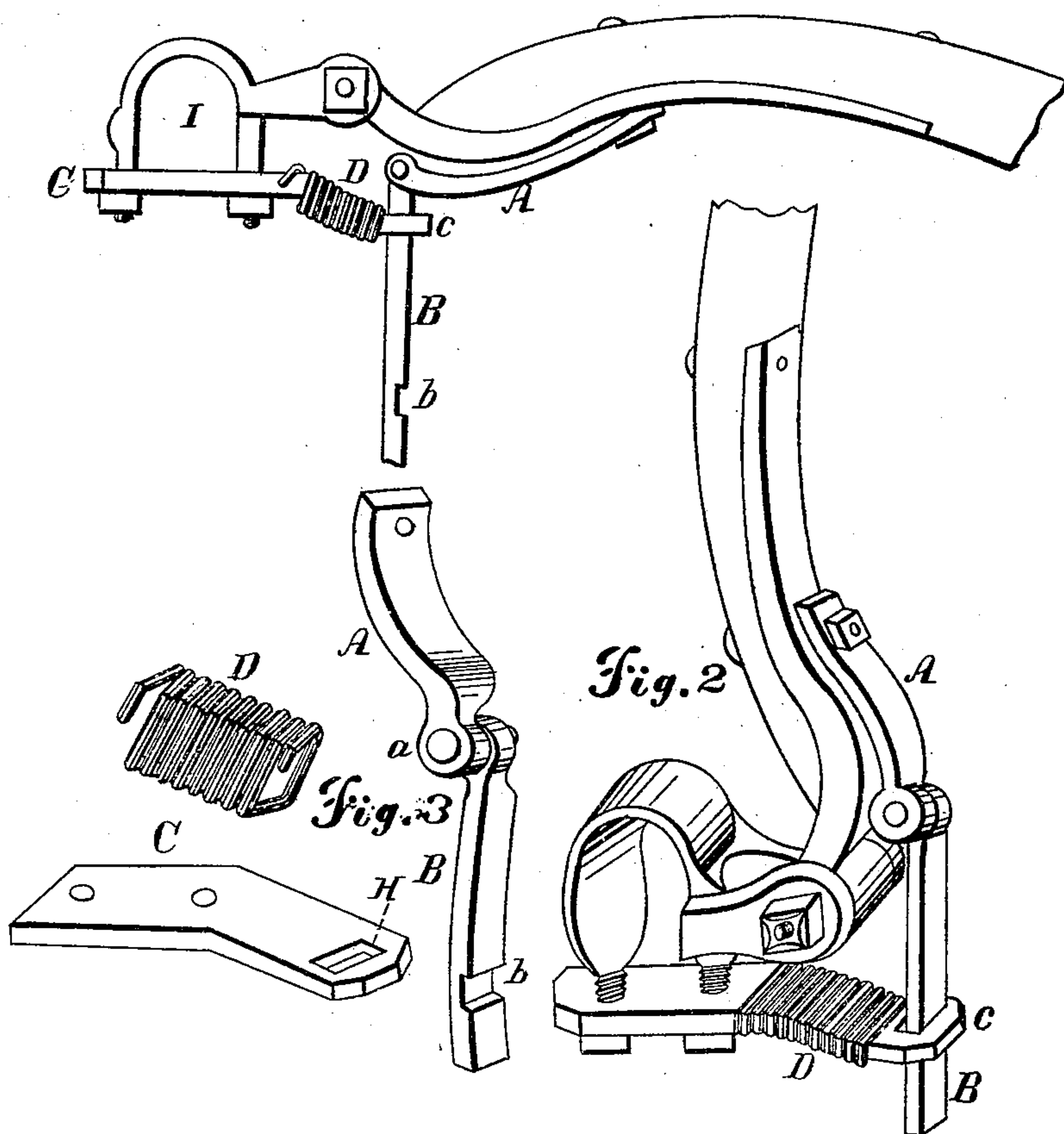
FINK & HERSHOCK.

Thill Coupling.

No. 81,355.

Patented Aug. 25, 1868.

*Fig. 1*



*Witnesses.*

*John B. Niles*  
*Jacob Stauffer*

*Inventors.*

*Paul Fink*  
*Jacob B. Hershock*

# United States Patent Office.

REUBEN FINK AND JACOB B. HERSHOCK, OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

*Letters Patent No. 81,355, dated August 25, 1868.*

## IMPROVED THILL-COUPLING.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, REUBEN FINK and JACOB B. HERSHOCK, of Lancaster, in the county of Lancaster, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements on Thill-Couplings for shafts or vehicles; and we declare that the following is a full and clear description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows our improvement combined with the ordinary thill, the shaft down.

Figure 2, a perspective view of the same, with the shaft thrown up vertically and held in place.

Figure 3 shows the several parts in detail, and detached.

The object of our invention is, like that of other devices employed for the purpose, to provide a means to support the shafts of vehicles in a perpendicular position when raised up out of the way, as is frequently made necessary, and to prevent rattling in the same while driving.

The drawings so clearly show the construction and application of our invention as to require only a simple statement to enable any one skilled in the art to make and use the same.

It consists in the addition (to the ordinary clip) of two pieces, A and B, hinged together at *a*, fig. 3. The piece A is secured by a screw-bolt below the shaft-arm of the ordinary clip-coupling, as shown by figs. 1 and 2. The other portion, B, of the pieces or two parts, hinged as aforesaid, has an open notch, *b*, and is passed through a slot, H, in the projecting end of the bed-plate *c* of the clip, which embraces the axle or bed I. This prolonged slotted portion is slightly inclined, and surrounded by a coiled spring, D, to bear up against the notched tongue or piece B, in order to hold the same in place, and also to prevent rattling.

The operation is simple. In ordinary driving, the position is shown by fig. 1. When the shafts are elevated, the piece B slides upwards through the slot H, and is locked in the notch *b*, as shown by fig. 2, and in this position supports the shafts vertically or even when inclined backwards against the vehicle, but will not prevent the shafts from being turned down by a simple pull on either of them. The spring yields readily.

We are aware that springs are used on clips and thill-couplings with the same object in view; nor do we claim a thill-coupling clip or spring, as such are common. But we are not aware that any application has been made heretofore of hinged pieces attached and operated for that purpose in the manner shown and described.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the hinged pieces A B, arranged and entering the slotted prolongation of the bed-plate *c*, substantially in the manner and for the purpose specified.

2. In combination with the piece A, hinged at *a* to the notched piece B, the bed-plate *c*, when prolonged and furnished with a slot, H, and coiled spring D, arranged and operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

REUBEN FINK,  
JACOB B. HERSHOCK.

Witnesses:

WM. B. WILEY,  
JACOB STAUFFER