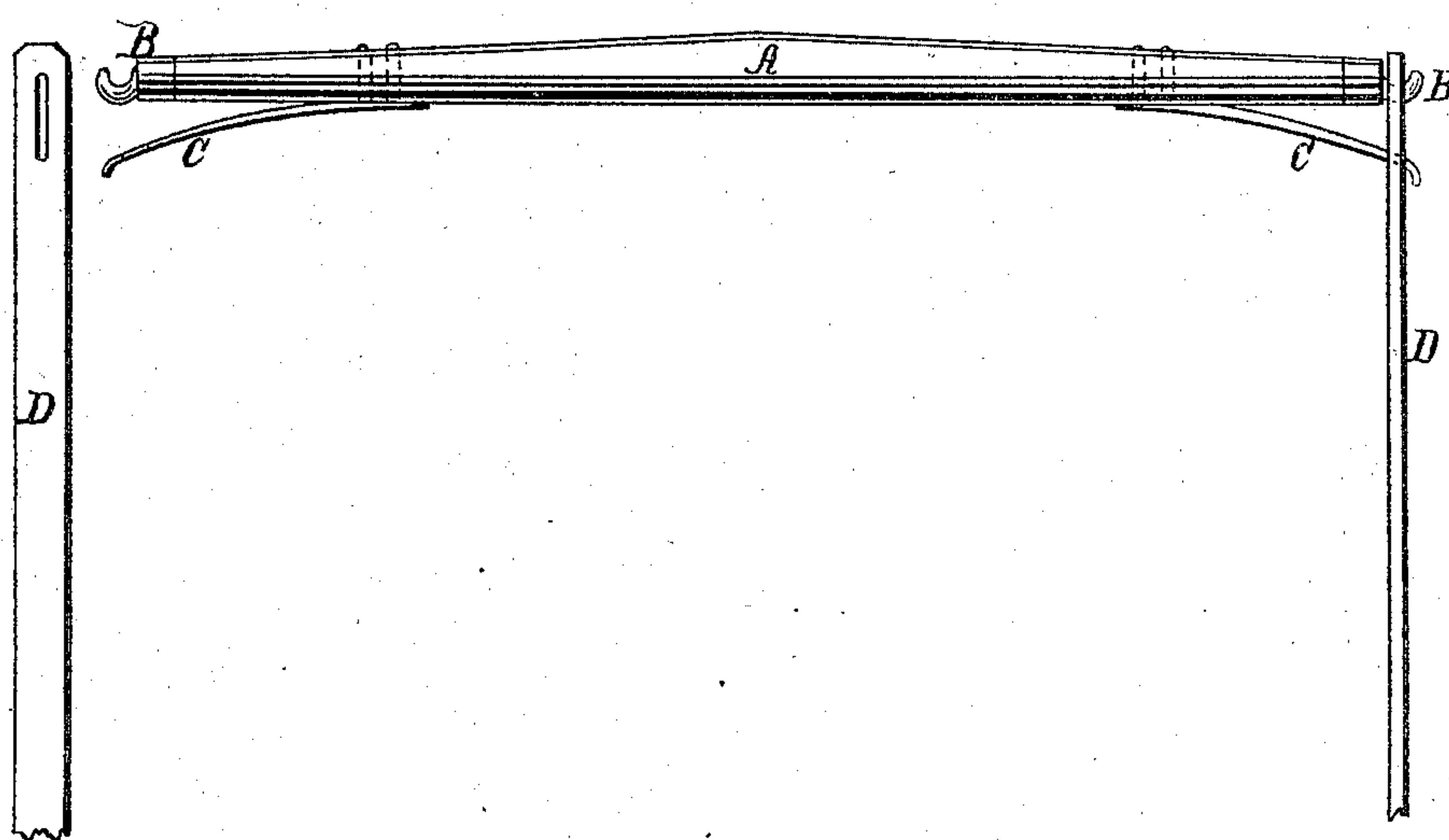


S. P. WILLIAMS.  
Whiffletree Hook.

No. 97,578.

Patented Dec. 7, 1869.



Witnesses.

A. W. Almqvist  
Jesse Brooks

Inventor.

S. P. Williams  
per *[Signature]*  
Attorneys

# United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS, OF RUTLAND, VERMONT.

*Letters Patent No. 97,578, dated December 7, 1869.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN TRACE-LOCK FOR WHIFFLETREES.

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

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS, of Rutland, in the county of Rutland, and State of Vermont, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Trace-Lock for Whiffletrees; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which the figure is a side view of a whiffletree to which my improved trace-lock has been attached.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved lock, by means of which the trace or tug may be effectually guarded against becoming accidentally detached, and which shall at the same time be simple in construction, and easily applied and operated; and

It consists in the spring, in combination with the whiffletree and trace-hook, when so constructed as to enter the same eye of the trace or tug with the said trace-hook, and hold the trace or tug securely upon said hook, as hereinafter more fully described.

A represents a whiffletree, to the ends of which are attached trace-hooks B, which may be attached to the ends of the whiffletree, or may be made solid with the ferrules, as may be desired.

C are springs, the inner ends of which are secured to the whiffletree A, in such positions that their outer ends may be even with the hooks B.

The outer ends of the springs C are bent forward slightly, as shown in the figure, to prevent them from slipping out of the eyes of the traces or tugs.

The outer ends of the springs C are passed through the same eyes of the traces or tugs D with the trace-hooks B, and, pressing against the forward parts of said eyes by their elasticity, hold the said tugs or traces securely upon the trace-hooks, and prevent them from becoming accidentally detached.

With this construction, it is also very easy to hook and unhook the tugs or traces, as the hooks can be made short, and require but very little slack to the said tugs or traces.

Having thus described my invention,

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The springs C, in combination with the whiffletree and trace-hooks, when said springs are so constructed as to enter the same eyes of the traces or tugs with the trace-hooks, and hold the said tugs or traces forward upon said hooks, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

A. H. TUTTLE,  
WM. V. MEEKER.