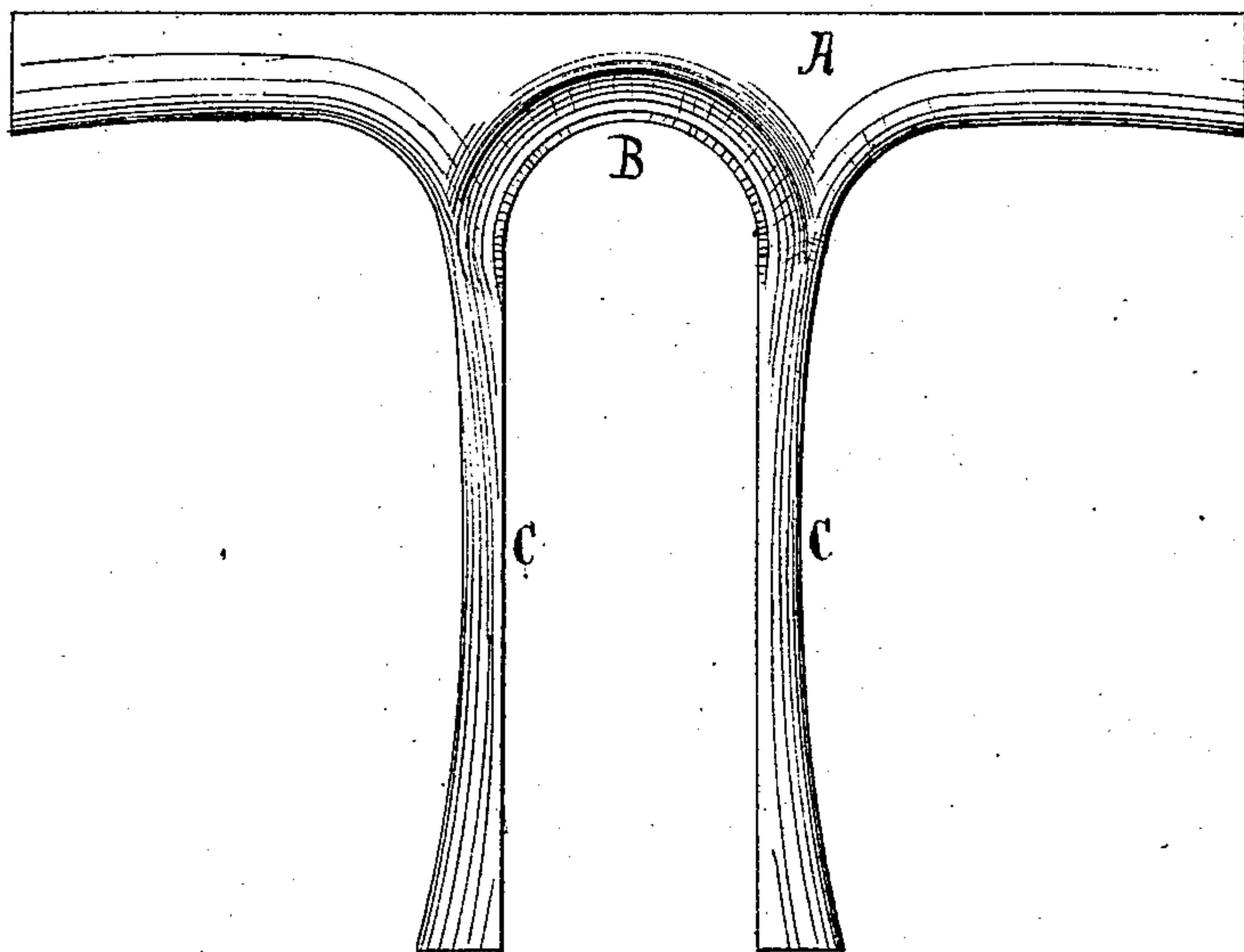


R. R. MILLER.  
Fifth Wheel Head Clip.

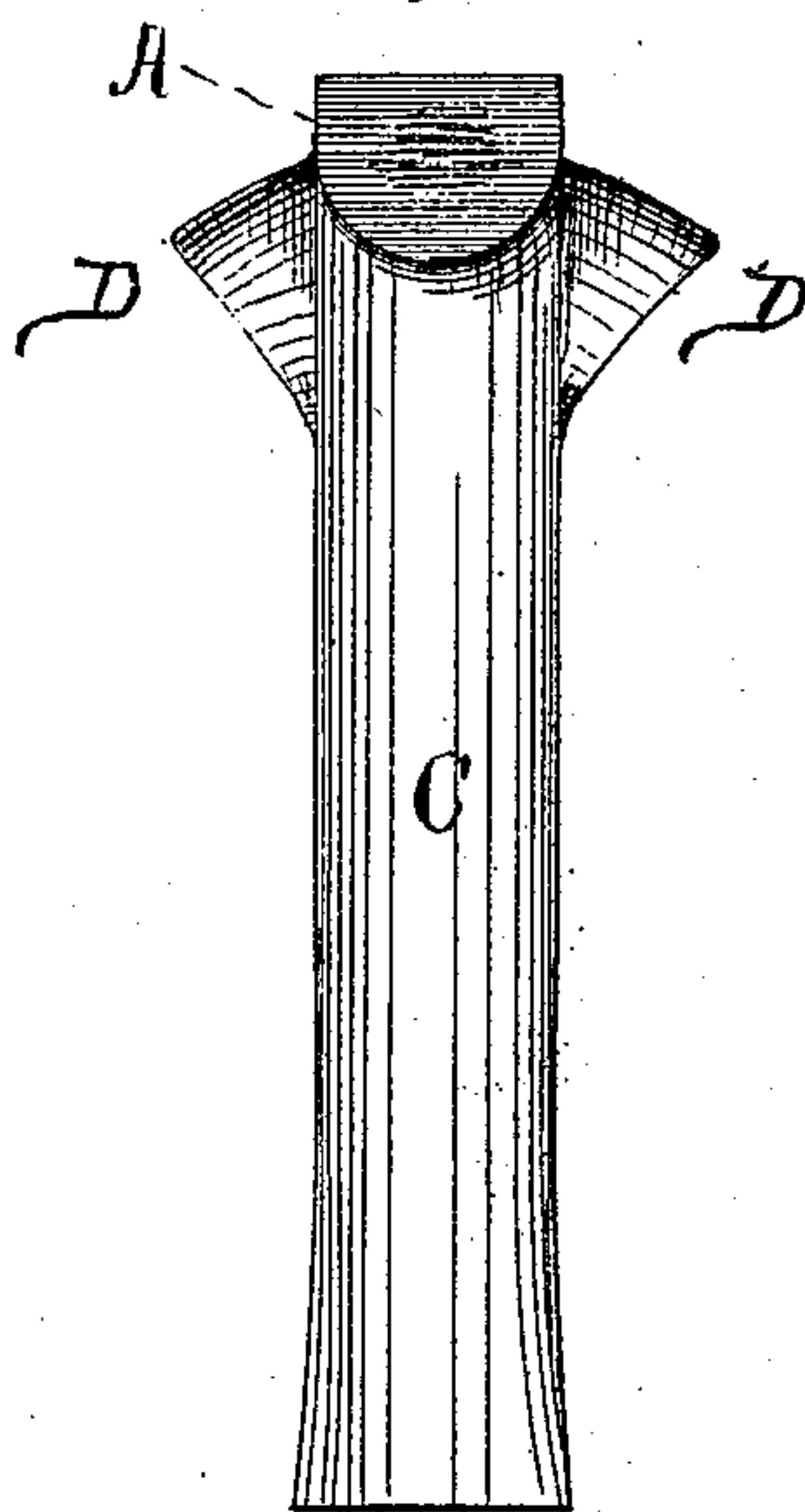
No. 100,177.

Patented Feb. 22, 1870.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses:  
*W. H. Finckel*  
*Wm J. Peyton*

Inventor:  
*R. R. Miller*  
*John A. Diederich*

# United States Patent Office.

R. R. MILLER, OF PLANTSVILLE, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF INTEREST TO J. B. SAVAGE.

*Letters Patent No 100,177, dated February 22, 1870.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN FIFTH-WHEEL HEADS FOR CARRIAGES.

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, R. R. MILLER, of Plantsville, in the county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fifth-Wheel Heads of Vehicles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and

Figure 2, a plan of a portion of a fifth-wheel head embodying my invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to the head or circle upon which the fifth wheel is mounted, and which is supported in position upon the axle or axle-bed by means of downward-projecting arms which form part of the head.

The improvement consists in so forming that part of the head which rests upon the axle-bed that an increased area of bearing surface is afforded, and the device rendered less apt to wear away the wood-work than those in common use.

In order that others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may fully understand and use the same, I will proceed to describe it in connection with the accompanying drawings.

A may represent part of the head or circle upon which the fifth wheel is mounted.

At each part of the head where it rests upon the axle-bed is formed a bearing, B, which surmounts the said axle-bed.

In my device, as in others, two arms, C C, extend downward from the head at the opposite sides of the bearing, so as to embrace the axle-bed, and hold the head A in position thereon.

It is customary to make the bearing B square or rectangular, necessitating the cutting away of the wood of the axle-bed to make the seat fit snugly thereon, and giving the bearing a tendency to wear away the wood. The bearing B in my device is concave in conformity with the contour of the axle, and I thus obviate the above-mentioned objections.

D D represent wings formed upon the head A, and extending outward laterally at either side of the bearing B. The under sides of the wings are coincident with and constitute a continuation and part of the bearing B. They increase the area of the surface B sufficiently to make it an effective and steady bearing.

Improvements in the separate parts or members of such complex structures as vehicles necessarily involve but slight variations, yet the practical importance and value of the improvement herein described will not appear inconsiderable to the eyes of those familiar with the manufacture and application of the article in question.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. A fifth wheel head or circle as formed with a concave rest or bearing surface B, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The wings D D projecting laterally from the rest B and serving to increase the area of the bearing-surface, substantially as and for the purpose explained.

The above signed by me this 21st day of January, 1870.

R. R. MILLER.

Witnesses:

H. R. BRADLEY,  
O. F. PARSONS.