J. D. PETTIT.

Improvement in Wagon-Bodies.

No. 130,531. Patented Aug 13, 1872.

Fig. 1.

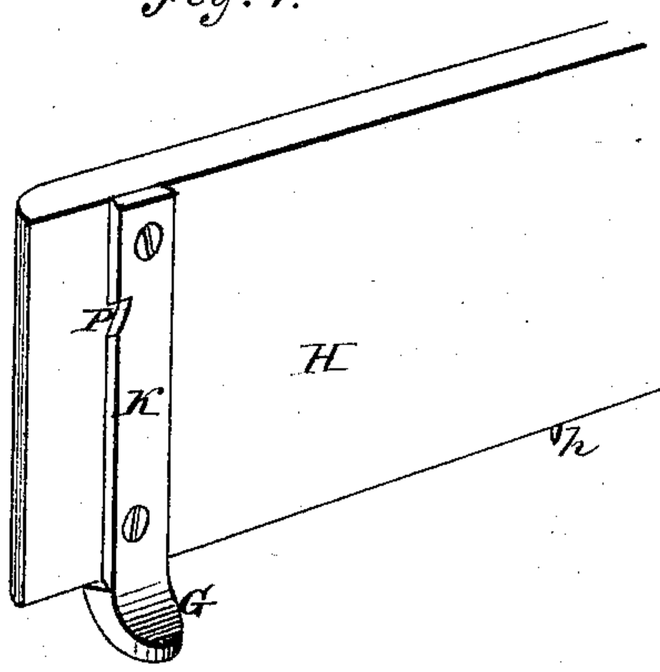


Fig. 2.

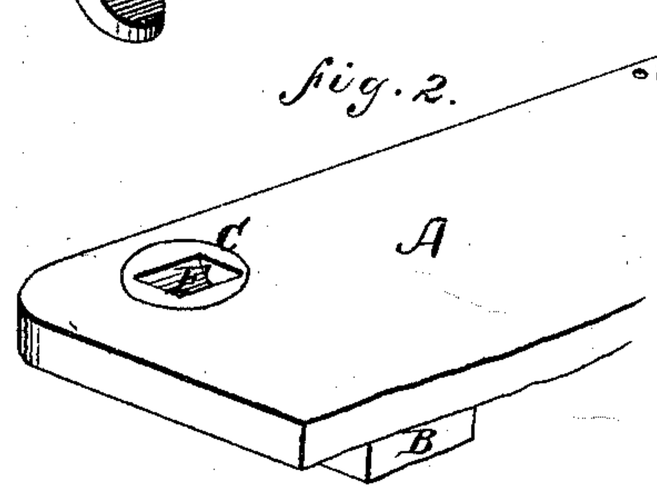


Fig. 3.

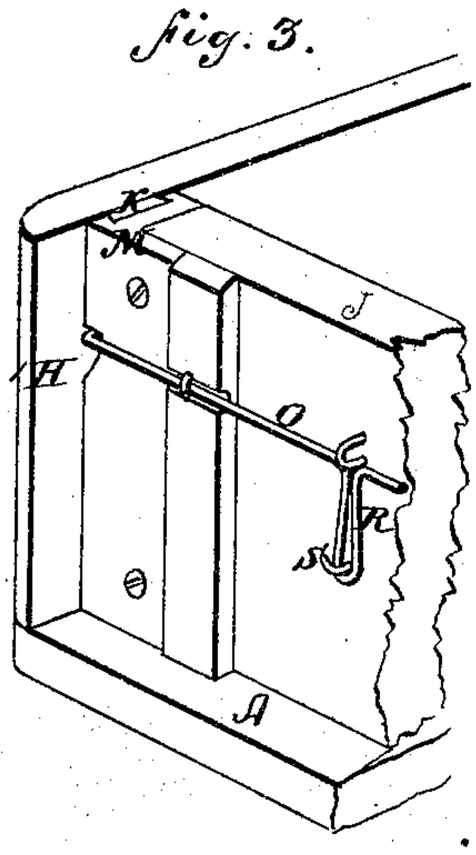
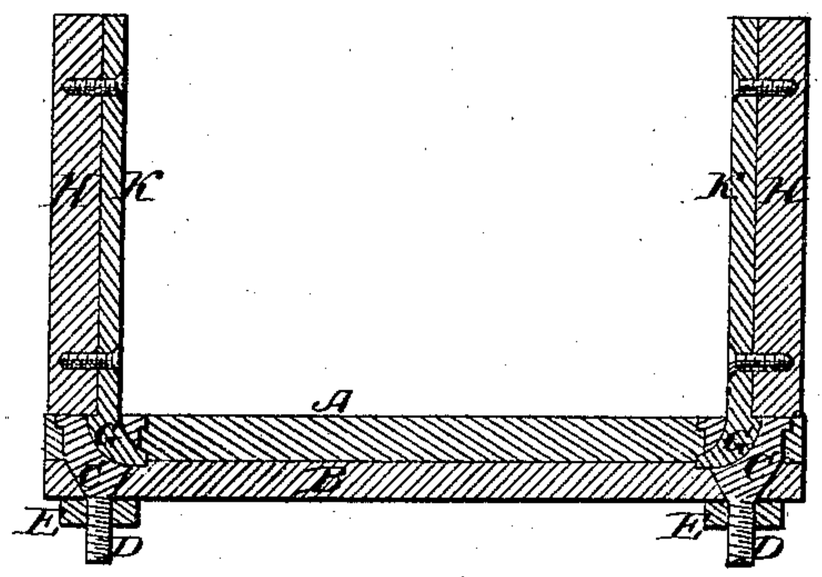


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES D. PETTIT, OF ROCHESTER, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WAGON-BODIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **130,531**, dated August 13, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES D. PETTIT, of Rochester, in the county of Fulton and State of Indiana, have invented an Improvement in Wagon-Beds; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are perspective views, showing a portion of the side piece and bed of a wagon-body provided with my invention. Fig. 3 is a perspective view, showing the connection of the end-gate; and Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section of my invention.

Similar letters of reference in the accompanying drawing denote the same parts.

This invention is an improvement on the wagon-body patented to me November 28, 1871, No. 121,409; and it consists, mainly, in an improved form of the sockets employed for the reception of the curved hooks or lugs of the side pieces, said sockets consisting of circular metal bolts provided with curved orifices and tapering toward their lower ends, where they terminate in smaller threaded stems, which project through the bed and are fitted with nuts, the whole operating, when said nuts are turned up, to clamp the cross-bars or sills of the wagon-bed to the longitudinal portions, as well as forming sockets, as above stated. It also consists in an improved method of connecting the end-gates with the side pieces, whereby a saving of metal is effected and the construction simplified.

The details of construction and method of operation will be more fully described hereinafter.

A represents the wagon-bed, which is provided at its ends with transverse sills B. C represents the circular metallic bolts or sockets, which are let into the bed A, one at each corner, the same projecting downward through the sills B, tapering inward at their lower ends, as shown in Fig. 1, and terminating in smaller threaded stems D, which are provided with nuts E. F are curved orifices in the sockets C, into which enter the correspondingly-shaped lugs G of the side pieces H, which latter are further secured to the bed A by pins *h* entering sockets *i*.

It will be readily seen that by this arrangement a socket is produced which is easily inserted and removed, and which binds the sills to the bed by turning the nuts E closely up.

The lugs G are attached to the side pieces by metal plates K, which project upward from said lugs and are bolted or otherwise attached to the inner sides of the pieces H, as shown in Fig. 1. The edges of the plates K are beveled, and constitute ways on which slide the correspondingly beveled or dovetailed grooves of the end gates J, which are formed in the metallic end plates M, as shown in Fig. 3. By this means the connection between the end gates and side pieces is effected by the use of two parts—viz., the plates or ways K, and channeled plates M.

This construction is cheaper and more simple than the former one, in which three parts were employed for the same purpose, channeled plates being attached to the side pieces over the plates K of the lugs G, and receiving dovetail tongues on the end gates.

The end gates are locked with the side pieces by means of a horizontal rod, O, which extends across the same, its ends being bent at right angles and engaged with notches P in the plates K by turning the same by means of a handle or loop, R, which is held in place by a pivoted hook, S, as shown in Fig. 3.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The sockets C, constructed and applied substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The metallic plates K, of dovetail form, having the bent lugs G at their lower end, when constructed and applied substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

JAMES D. PETTIT.

Witnesses:
B. F. MECHLING,
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