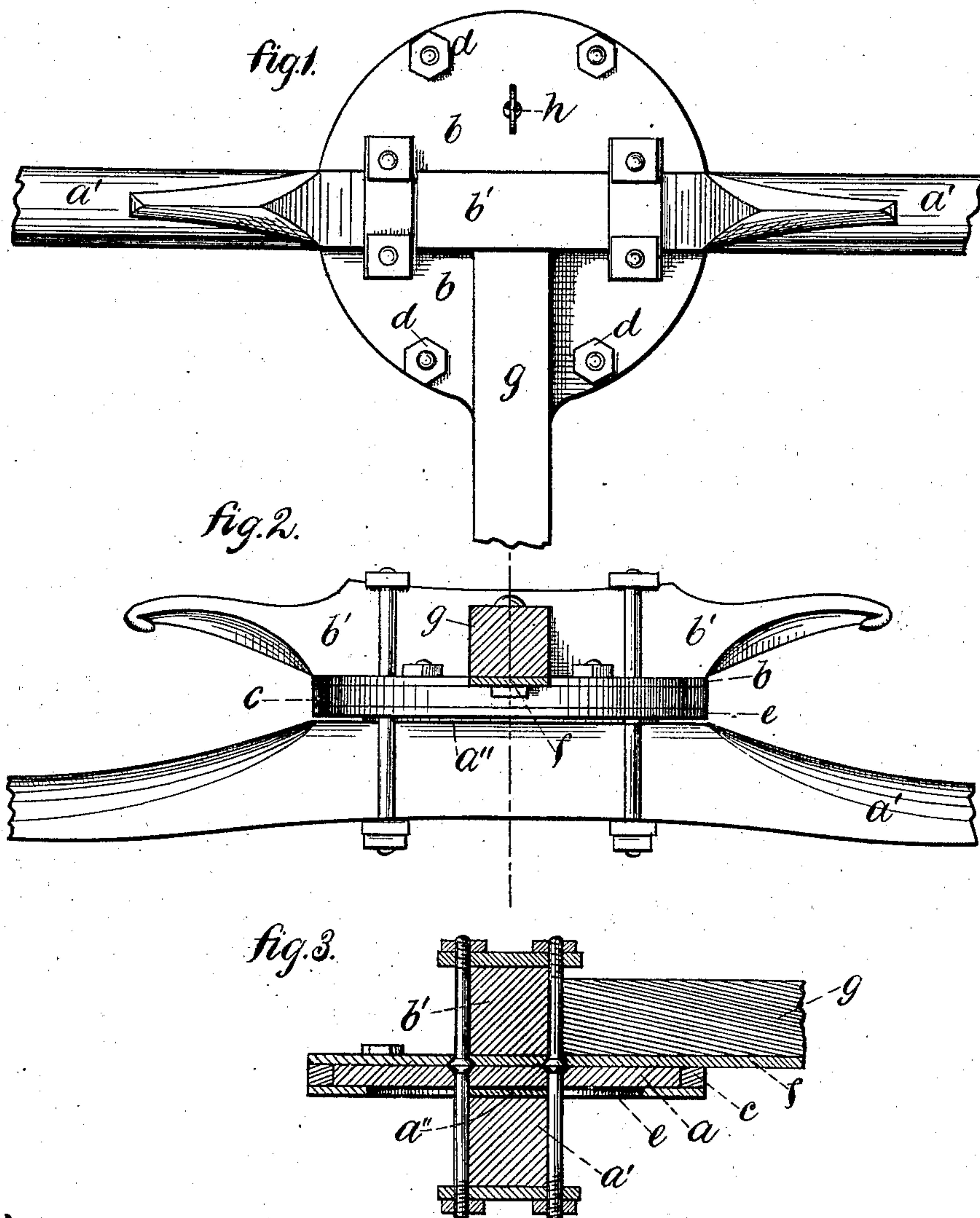


C. G. WELLS.
Fifth-Wheel for Vehicles.

No. 216,988.

Patented July 1, 1879.



Witnesses:

Robert J. Grayland
Henry Small

Inventor:

C. G. Wells
B. W. Simonds
att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES G. WELLS, OF PARKVILLE, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO PATRICK J. CHADWICK, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIFTH-WHEELS FOR VEHICLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,988**, dated July 1, 1879; application filed May 9, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES G. WELLS, of Parkville, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fifth-Wheels for Vehicles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, where—

Figure 1 is a top view. Fig. 2 is a side view from the rear of the axle. Fig. 3 is a view of the device in central vertical section.

The invention resides in certain useful peculiarities of construction in that class of fifth-wheels which dispense with a king-bolt.

The letter *a* denotes a round plate, attached by bolts or clips to the axle *a'*, which I term the "axle-plate." *b* denotes a similar but larger plate, attached to the head-block *b'*, which I term the "head-block plate." *c* denotes an annulus, attached by bolts or screws *d* to the under side of head-block plate. The axle-plate fits, lies, and rotates within this annulus. The letter *e* denotes an annular flange, attached to the under side of the annulus *c* by the same screws *d*. The annulus *c* and annular flange *e* may be made in one piece. This annular flange overlaps the axle-plate and holds it to place. The axle-plate bears a shoulder, *a''*, fitting within and to the annular flange *e*.

The head-block plate is extended on one side to form the strap *f*, whereto to attach and thereby strengthen the wooden reach *g*.

It is essential that the axle-plate be under the head-block plate, and that the annulus *c* and annular flange *e* shall be under and attached to the head-block plate. If the positions were reversed dirt thrown on top of the device would constantly work down into the joint or bearings of the parts and soon destroy their usefulness. This position of parts is also essential to permit the extension of the head-block plate into the strap *f*.

The letter *h* denotes a screw-stop to an oil-hole.

I claim as my invention—

The axle-plate *a*, attached to the axle, the head-block plate *b*, extended into the strap *f* and attached to the head-block, and the annulus *c* and annular flange *e*, under and attached to the head-block plate, all combined to operate substantially as shown and described.

CHAS. G. WELLS.

Witnesses:

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