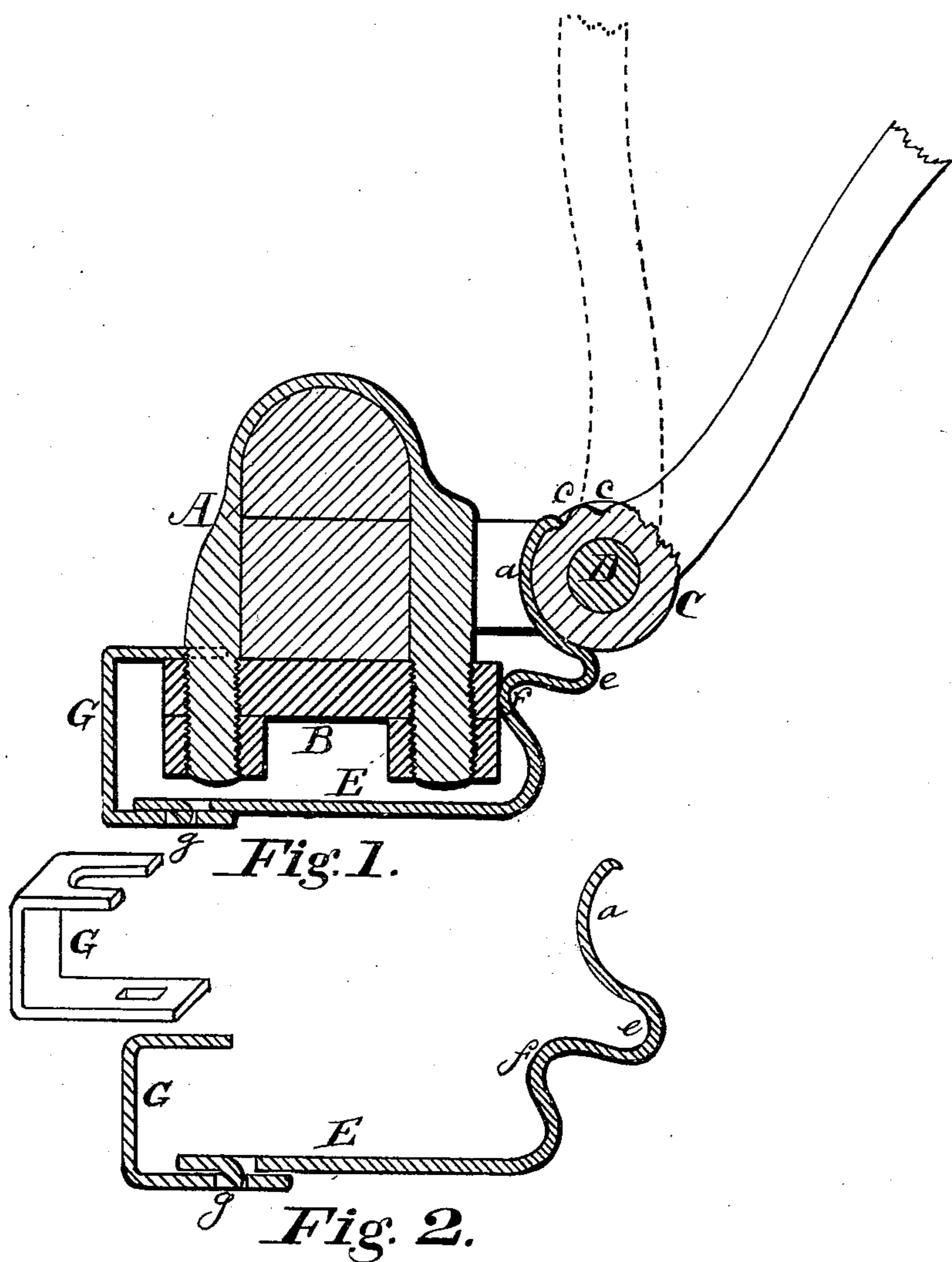


(No Model.)

T. HENRY.  
THILL COUPLING.

No. 245,298.

Patented Aug. 9, 1881.



Witness:  
Geo. W. F. Abbott  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS HENRY, OF ROCKPORT, OHIO.

## THILL-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 245,298, dated August 9, 1881.

Application filed January 5, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS HENRY, of Rockport, in the county of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thill-Couplings, of which the following is a specification.

These improvements relate to thill-couplings for carriages, wagons, and like vehicles; and it consists of the attachment of a steel spring to the coupling in such a manner that the rattling of the coupling is effectually prevented, and also in providing a means of holding the thills in an upright position when the shafts are turned up for the purpose of raising them out of the way when the carriage is not in use.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section of a thill-coupling having my improvement attached. Fig. 2 is a detached view of my spring attachment.

A represents the clip of a thill-coupling. B is the tie-bar; and C is the eye-piece or thill-iron, coupled to the clip by a bolt, D. This is of the ordinary construction.

My improvement consists more especially in supplying to the thill-coupling a device for preventing its rattling in case of wear, and which will also serve to hold the thills in an upright position when turned up, as hereinafter described and claimed. To do this I take a piece of flat spring-steel, E, and bend it in the form shown in Fig. 2. The forward end is formed so as to fit against the rear side of the eye-piece C, between the ears *a* of the clip A. I also make two crooks or bends, *e* and *f*, in the said spring E, below the ears *a*. The bend or crook *f*, when the said spring is in its place, bears against the end of the tie-bar B.

The rear end of the spring is secured to the clip A by means of a small clip, G, which clasps the back end of the tie-bar and the end of the spring E, the lower end of the clip G having a hole, which catches on a lug, *g*, made near the end of the spring E.

The thill-iron or eye-piece C has two grooves or depressions, *c c*, made in its upper side, into one of which the end of the spring rests. The strength of the spring is sufficient to hold the thills in an upright position when they are turned up in the position seen in dotted lines, Fig. 1.

The manner of applying this device is very simple, as will be seen from the drawings, no change or removal of the coupling being necessary. To attach the spring, place the front or curved end in place behind the eye-piece, with the bend *f* resting against the end of the tie-bar; then press up the rear end in place, and secure it by slipping on the clip G, the tension of the spring serving to prevent rattling or falling of the thills.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The spring E, having the bends or crooks *e* and *f*, in combination with the tie-bar B, and thill-iron C, provided with the grooves *c c*, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The clip G, in combination with the spring E, having the lug *g* and bends *e f*, and with the tie-bar B of the clip A, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:

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