

(No Model.)

B. McGOVERN.

THILL COUPLING.

No. 290,783.

Patented Dec. 25, 1883.

Fig. 1.

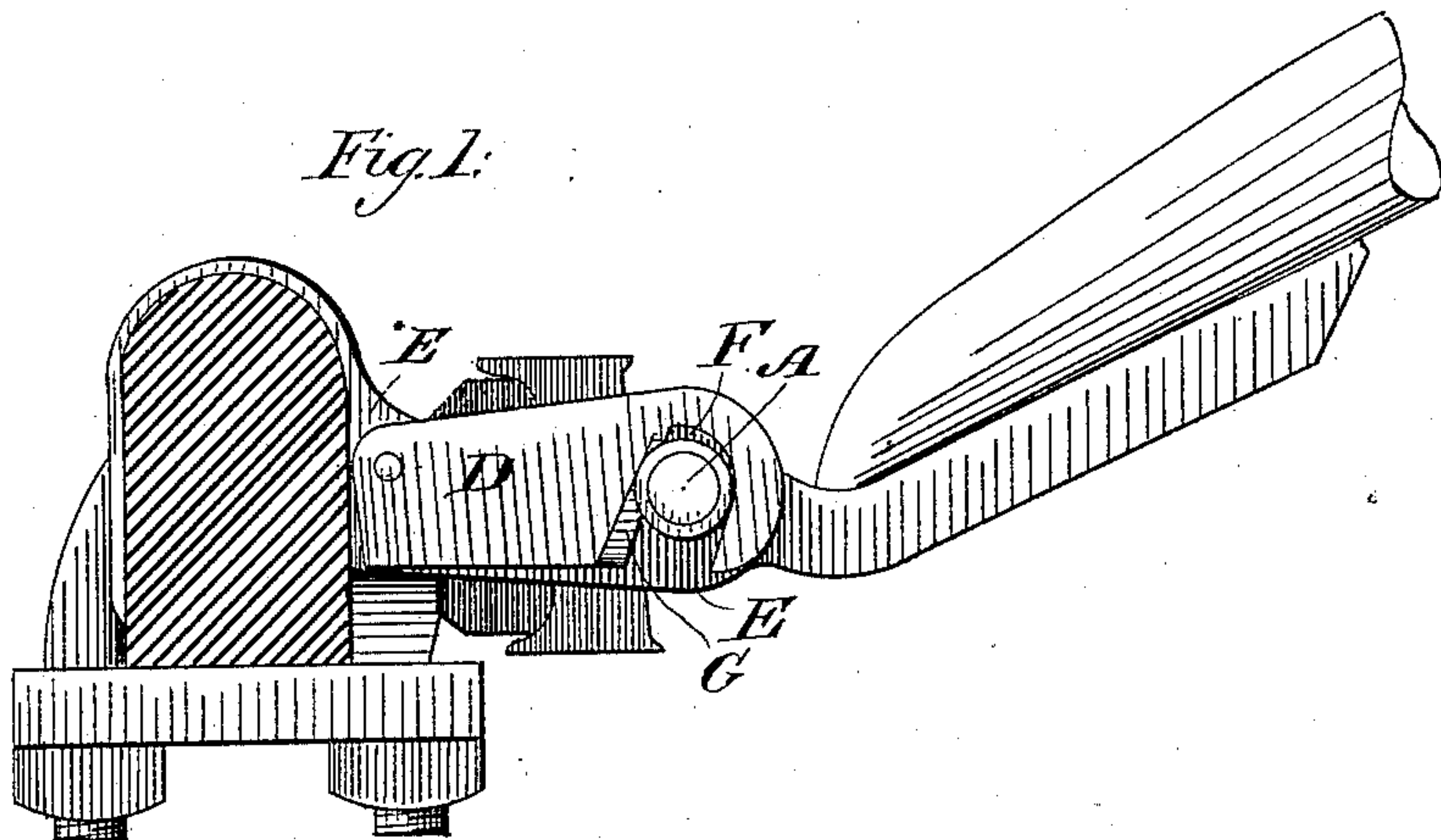


Fig. 2.

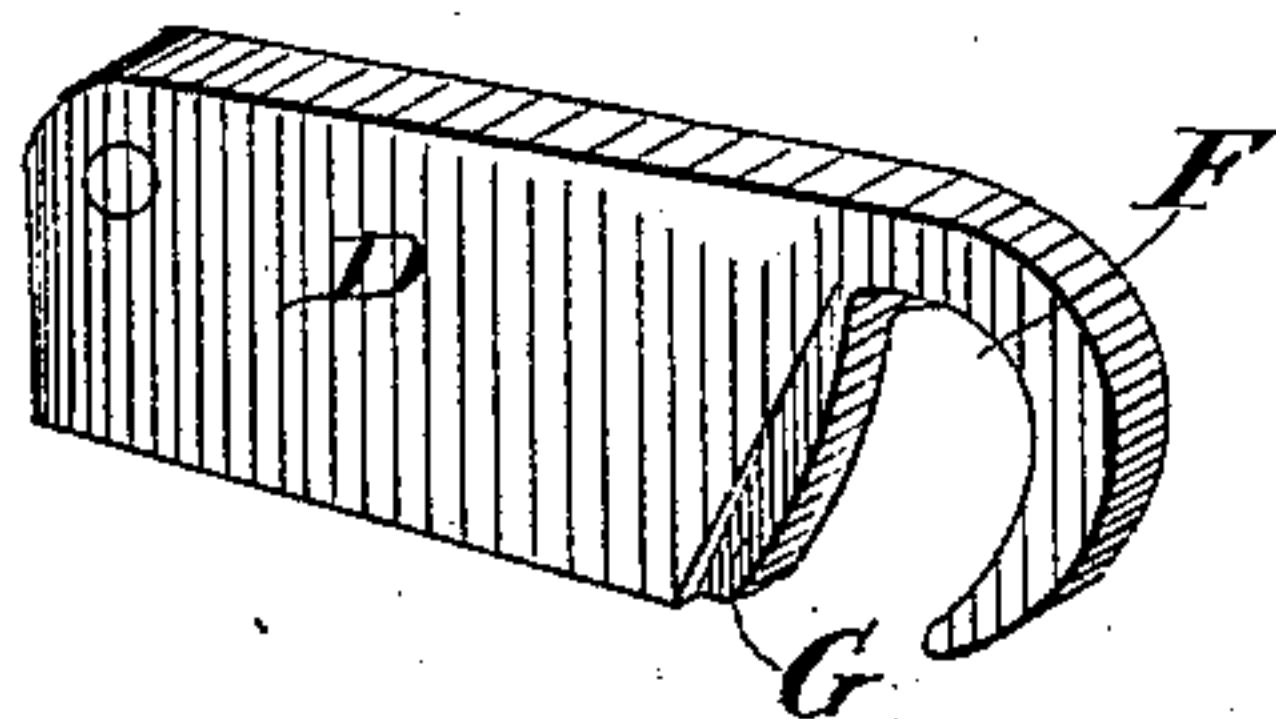
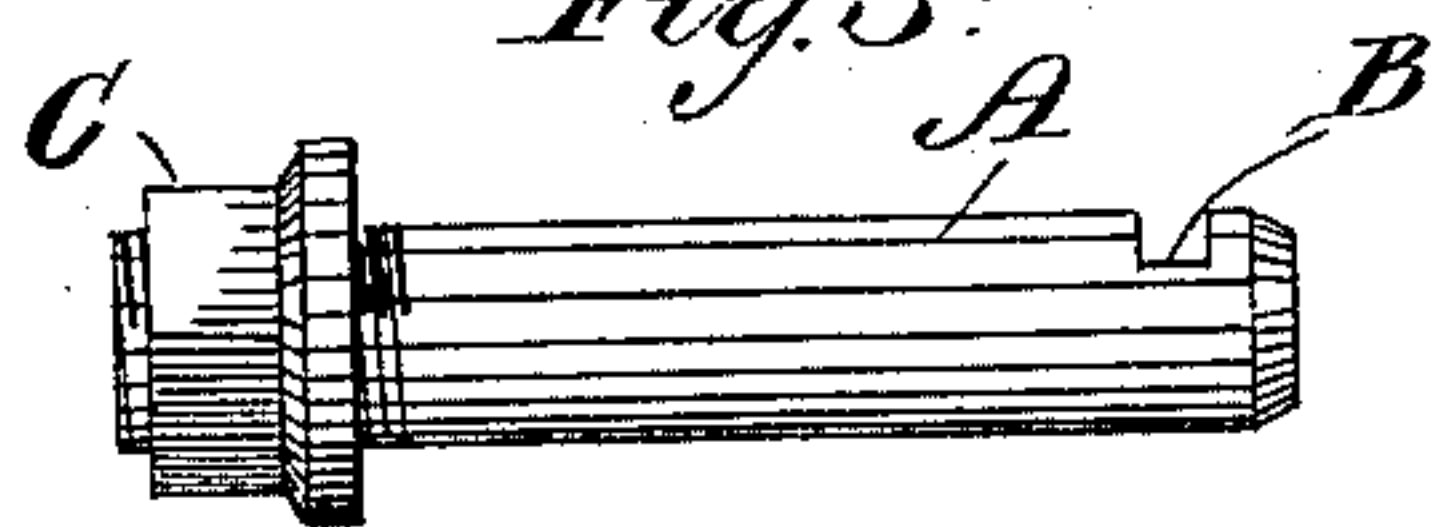


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD MCGOVERN, OF BRIDGEPORT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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THILL-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 290,783, dated December 25, 1883.

Application filed October 19, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNARD MCGOVERN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Attaching Thills to Clips; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in devices for securing thills to clips in vehicles, and has for its object to do away with the necessity of threading the bolt which passes through the thill-eye and securing it by a nut, and to afford means for securely attaching the thill-eye to the clip exceedingly simple and ready of manipulation, and at the same time more durable than the ordinary bolt and nut; and with these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction and the combination of elements hereinafter fully and in detail explained, and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may more fully understand its construction and operation, I will proceed to describe the same in detail, referring by letters to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, showing the coupling-bolt secured in my improved manner; Fig. 2, a detail view of the locking device, and Fig. 3 a detail view of the bolt.

Similar letters indicate like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

A is the bolt which passes through the clip-lugs and thill-eye. This bolt is perfectly plain, without any thread whatever, and is cut away, as seen at B, Fig. 3, to accommodate the locking device, and has at the other end an ordinary tension-nut, C, for the purpose presently explained.

D is the locking device, pivoted at its rear end to the clip-lug E, so as to be readily de-

tached therefrom. The front portion of this device is slotted, as seen at F, Fig. 2, so as to embrace the bolt A at the point where it is cut away. Near the inner portion of this slot F the stock of this locking device is beveled or cut away downward, as seen at G, the object of this being to cause said device to draw the bolt tightly after the manner of a wedge. I have shown a tension-nut on the end of the bolt; but this is not absolutely necessary, since its function is merely to draw the bolt tight. However, I prefer ordinarily to use this nut, since it may be readily adjusted, and insures the retention of the bolt in the coupling.

In applying my improvement, it is only necessary to put the bolt through the clip-lugs and thill-eye, attach the locking device, and throw it down over the bolt. In the use of a threaded bolt, the greatest drawback is the stripping of the threads during the insertion, or, as is usually the case, forcing, of the bolt into position through the clip-lugs and thill-eye, and also the latter themselves become worn and ragged thereby. One of the great advantages of my improvement is, that the locking device is readily detached from the clip, and in case of breakage a new one substituted therefor; or, if desired, the ordinary threaded bolt and nut may be used.

I do not wish to be confined to the exact shape of the locking device and the peculiar way shown of cutting away the bolt, as the latter may have a central slot, and instead of a slot the former may be constructed with a wedge-shaped lug adapted to enter within said slot, and thereby draw the bolt tight.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a thill-coupling, the thill-bolt cut away as described, in combination with a detachable pivoted locking device slotted at its forward extremity, and beveled at the outer edge of said slotted portion, substantially as set forth.

2. In a thill-coupling, the bolt A, cut away or slotted, in combination with the thill-eye, clip, and locking device D, detachably piv-

oted to the lug E, and provided with slot F, beveled at its outer rear edge, substantially as described.

3. The locking device D, pivoted to the lug
5 E, and provided with slot F, having bevel G at its outer rear edge, in combination with the bolt A, constructed and cut away as described, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BERNARD McGOVERN.

Witnesses:

S. S. WILLIAMSON,

F. W. SMITH, Jr.