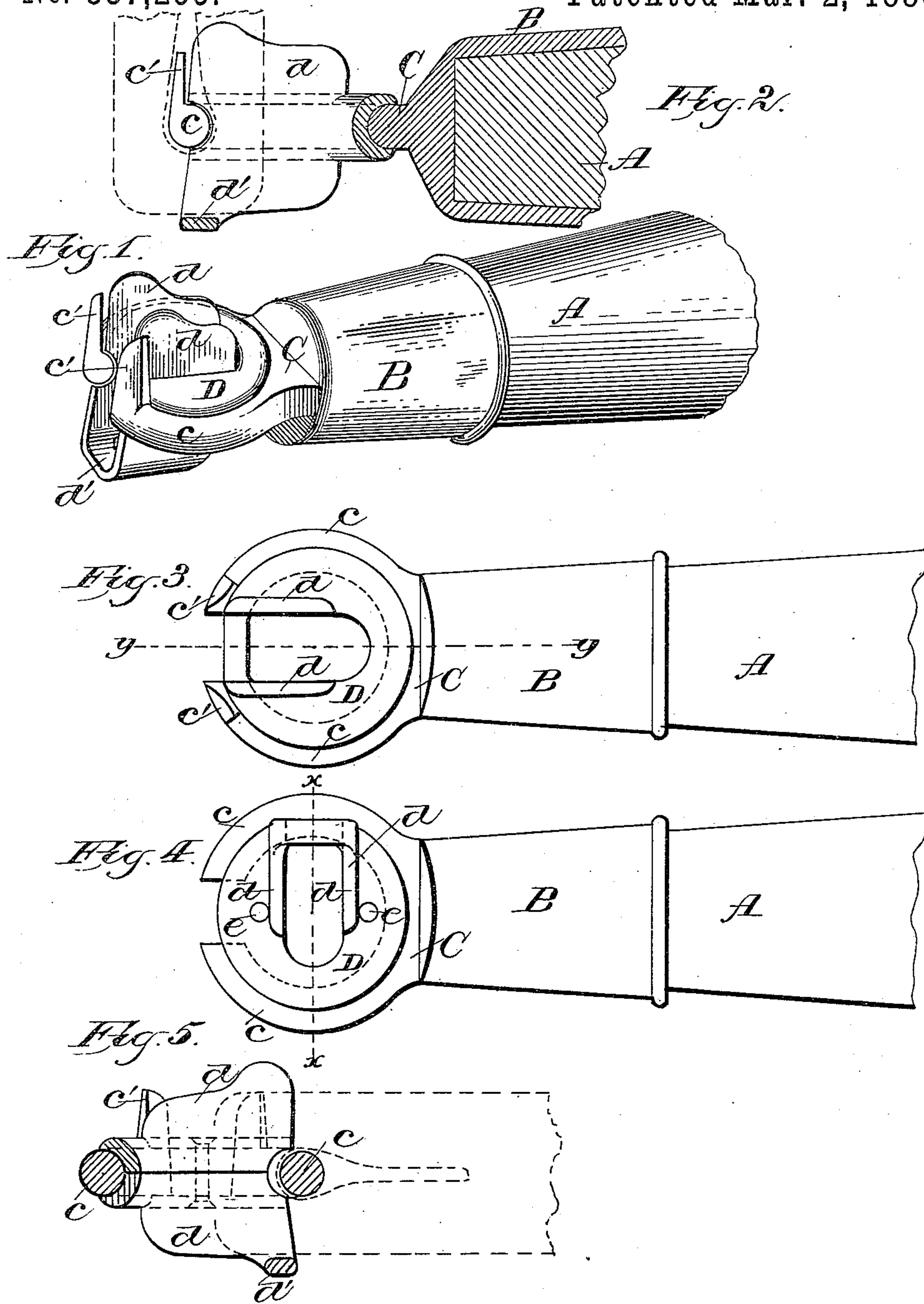


(No Model.)

F. EGGERS.
WHIFFLETREE HOOK.

No. 337,255.

Patented Mar. 2, 1886.



Witnesses:

E. L. Somers
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FERDINAND EGGERS, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

WHIFFLETREE-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 337,255, dated March 2, 1886.

Application filed August 4, 1885. Serial No. 173,490. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FERDINAND EGGERS, of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee, and in the State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whiffletree-Hooks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to whiffletree-hooks; and it consists in certain improvements on the device patented by me on the 23d day of May, 1882, No. 258,392, as will be fully set forth hereinafter.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a section on the line *y y* of Fig. 3, showing in dotted lines the position the trace occupies on being inserted. Fig. 3 is a plan view of my device. Fig. 4 is an under side plan view of the same, with the inner ring in a different position from that shown in Fig. 3, and made in two parts united by rivets; and Fig. 5 is a section on the line *x x* of Fig. 4.

In my prior patent above named I represented a device especially adapted for securing and locking the cockeye of a trace or tug within the hook on the end of a whiffletree, having particular reference to heavy farm-wagons and agricultural implements; but my present invention is designed rather for use in connection with lighter wagons, buggies, &c., wherein the tug or trace is generally provided with a slit or opening in the end of the leather itself, although it will work well with cockeyes when such are used.

A represents one end of a whiffletree provided with a thimble, B, which has cast with it the horizontal flange C, having two half-rings, *c c*, ending in the vertical fingers *c' c'*, and this flange C *c* is chill-cast around the inner ring, D, preferably, though in Figs. 4 and 5 I have represented another construction, wherein the said part D is made in two parts united by rivets *e e*. The ring D is analogous to the locking-block shown in my prior patent, and has vertical straight inner walls, *d d*, rising above and extending below the horizontal plane of the ring proper, and the said ring is not continuous, but has a portion removed between the said walls *d d*, so as to just correspond with the space between the outer ends of the half-rings *c c* on the thimble-flange described, and the walls *d d* are

united beneath said ring and half-rings by central web, *d'*, as shown best in Fig. 1.

The operation of my device will be readily understood from the foregoing description of its construction in connection with the drawings, where, in Fig. 1, I represent the trace end (by dotted lines) in the position for insertion. The ring D and flange C and its half-rings are then in the relative positions shown in Figs. 1 and 3. The end of the trace is turned in a vertical position and slipped in from the outer end of the whiffletree, the extreme end of said trace resting on the web *d'* between the walls *d d*, and then the slit or opening of the said trace end receives one of the fingers *c'*, and the trace, still vertical, is carried one-fourth around until the walls *d d* are in the position shown in Fig. 4, when the trace is restored to its normal comparatively horizontal position, (with the greatest width of the trace vertical of course,) as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 5, and it will then be impossible for said trace to become accidentally detached from the whiffletree-hook.

As stated, while I prefer to chill-cast the parts together, if desired, the ring D, with its walls *d d*, may be made in two sections and afterward riveted together; but the former manner of constructing my device is cheaper, simpler, and better in most cases.

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

A whiffletree-thimble having a flange ending in two half rings, the outer ends of which are opposite to and at a slight distance apart from each other, and there provided with vertically-projecting fingers, in combination with an inner ring revolving on the inner surfaces of said half-rings, and provided with inner guiding-walls united beneath the ring proper by a central web, the said ring being open above the web between the said guiding-walls, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

FERDINAND EGGERS.

Witnesses:

H. G. UNDERWOOD,
M. F. FREAR.