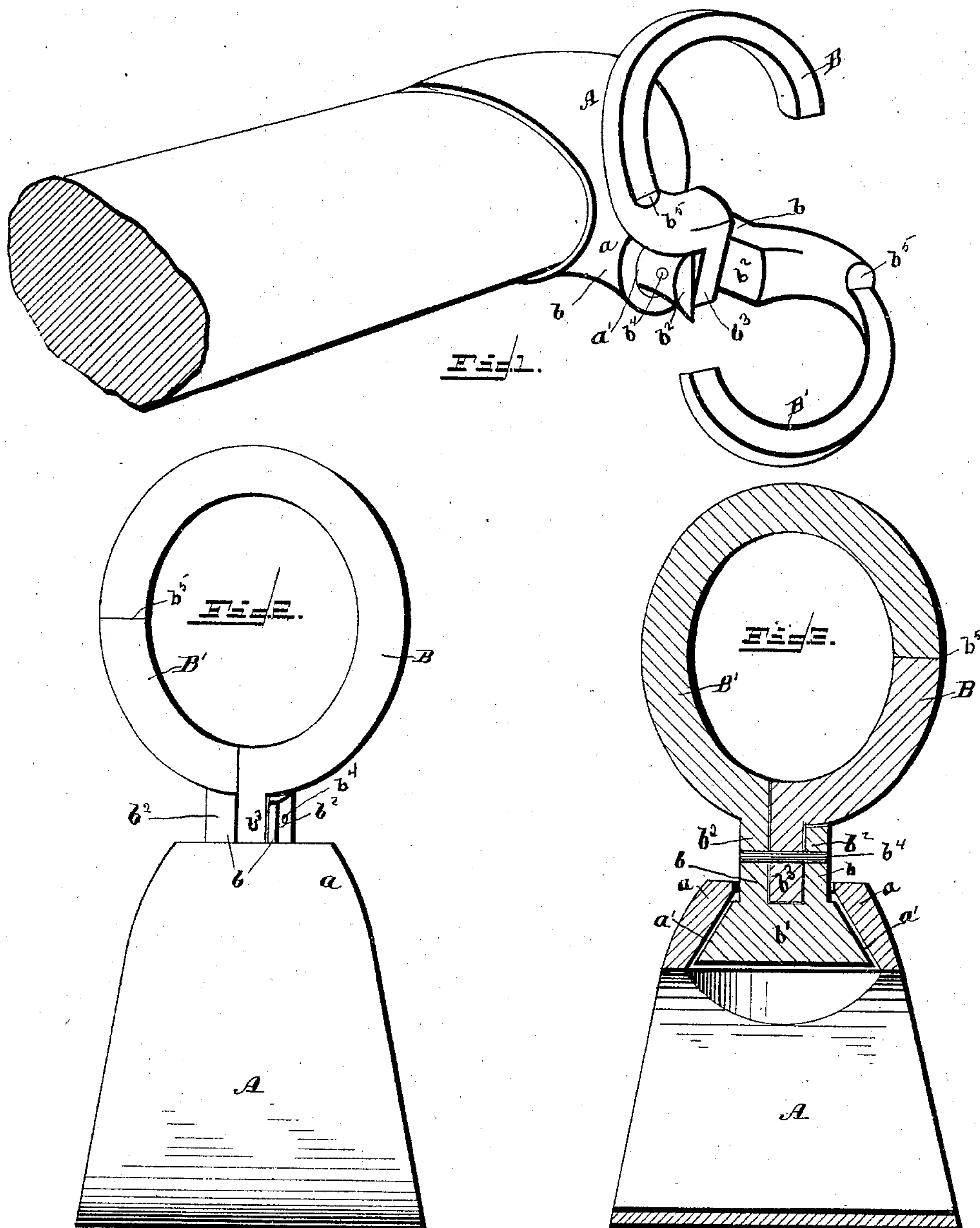


(No Model.)

W. A. SLAPPEY.
WHIFFLETREE IRON.

No. 368,735.

Patented Aug. 23, 1887.



Witnesses

M. H. Humphrey
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By *his* Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. SLAPPEY, OF FORT VALLEY, GEORGIA, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO MILTON L. COOPER AND FRANK C. HOUSER, BOTH OF SAME PLACE.

WHIFFLETREE-IRON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 368,735, dated August 23, 1887.

Application filed June 8, 1887. Serial No. 240,616. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. SLAPPEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Valley, in the county of Houston and State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Whiffletree-Irons, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in whiffletree-irons; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of the parts of the same, which will be more fully hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide means for positively securing the traces to the whiffletree and preventing them from being accidentally detached therefrom, and dispensing with the use of the ordinary lap-ring. I attain this object by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like letters of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a whiffletree, showing my improvement in connection therewith. Fig. 2 is an elevation of my improvement. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section.

A indicates a ferrule of ordinary form of construction, having a depending portion, *a*, which has an aperture formed therethrough, which has a countersunk portion, *a'*, in the upper portion thereof. This ferrule is cast or formed by forging in such a manner as to have the countersunk portion thereof to be formed on the inside thereof. This recess or aperture and countersunk portion of the ferrule form a seat for the reception of the neck *b* and upset head *b'* of one half, *B'*, of a hinged or jointed lap-ring, *B*. This half *B'* of the said ring is so constructed that it can be passed through the hole in the ferrule from the inside, and when the upset head has thus been arranged in the countersunk portion of the ferrule it cannot pull through, and, being out of contact with the whiffletree wood, a swivel motion is allowed the neck portion of the lap-ring, as will be readily understood. The neck *b* of the half *B'* of the lap-ring is formed with a mortise, *b²*, extending vertically upward in the

said neck, and which is engaged by a tenon, *b³*, formed with the half *B* of the lap-ring. When the tenon and mortise have been thus united, they are pivotally connected by the pivot-pin *b⁴*, which permits of the said parts being opened, when desired, as shown in Fig. 1. Each of the half-sections *B'* and *B* are formed with shoulders *b⁵*, which are constructed of such dimensions as to form a ring when the two parts are united. In case the half-section *B'* should break, another can be adjusted to the same ferrule.

In connecting the traces to my improved form of attachment the section *B'* is opened and turned away from the section *B*, and the trace is first passed over the section or half *B'* and then carried forward and passed over the end of the hinged section *B*, when the two parts are closed to form a ring and the trace secured in connection with the whiffletree. When the trace is thus secured in the two sections, the said sections are of themselves secured by the trace in connection therewith, as will be readily understood.

The novelty and utility of my improvement being apparently obvious and appreciable, it is unnecessary to further enlarge upon the same herein.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a whiffletree-iron consisting of a two-part sectional lap-ring adapted to be opened, one section having a head, *b'*, formed therewith, engaging with a socket formed in the ferrule *A* to form a swivel-joint, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the ferrule *A*, having a depending projection, *a*, provided with an internal aperture or socket, the two-part pivotally-jointed lap-ring swiveled in the said socket in the projection *a*, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with the ferrule *A*, having the depending projection *a*, having an aperture therethrough and a countersunk portion at the top of said aperture, of the sectional or

lap ring B, one part of which is formed with a neck, *b*, which is mounted in connection with the aperture in the ferrule A, substantially as described.

- 5 4. The combination, with the ferrule A, having the depending portion *a*, formed with an aperture, having a countersunk portion adapted to be situated adjacent to the whiffletree wood, of the sectional ring B, having the neck

b, and the upset head *b'*, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WM. A. SLAPPEY.

Witnesses:

A. B. GREENE,
J. L. HYATT.