

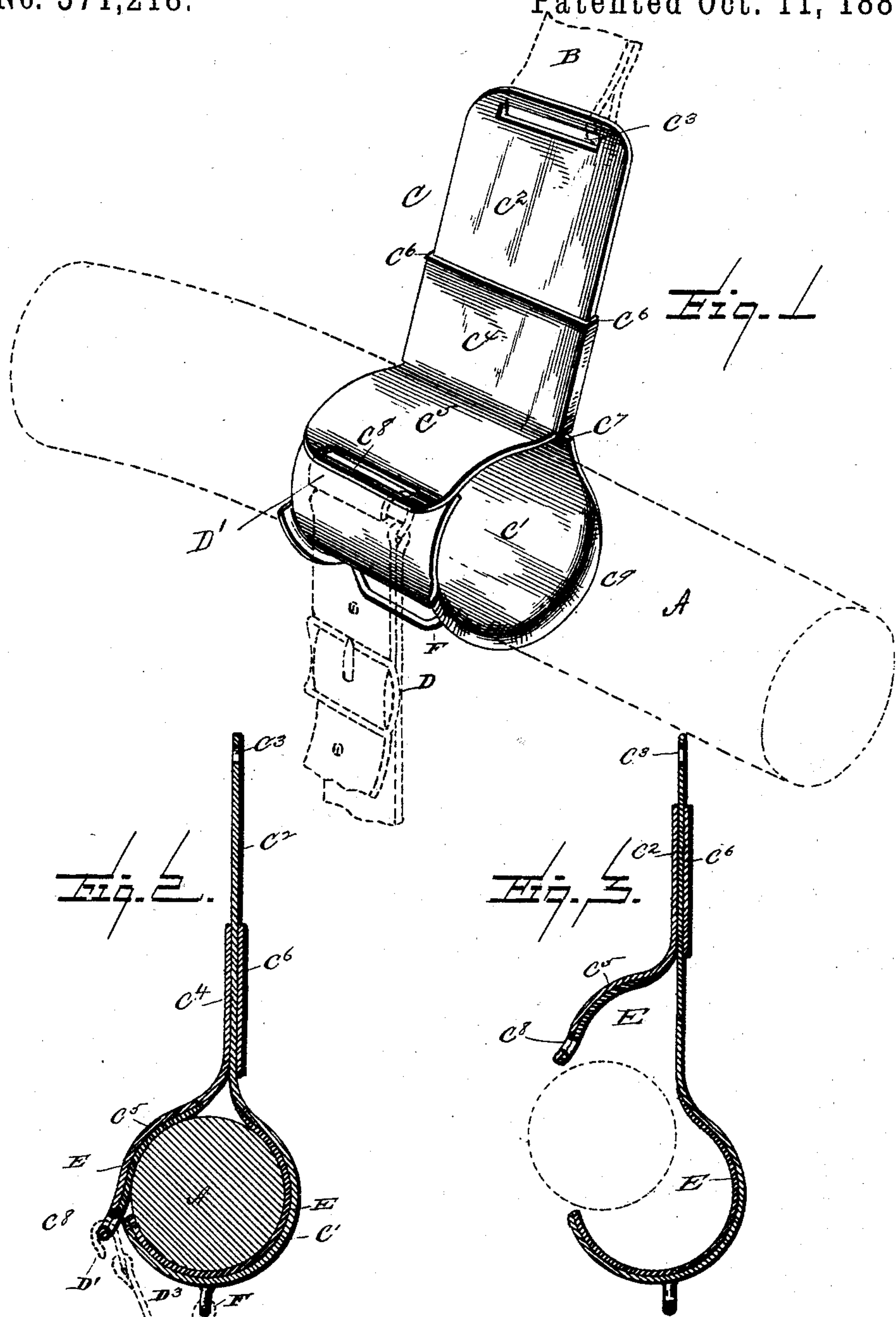
(No Model.)

P. RANSOM.

THILL TUG.

No. 371,218.

Patented Oct. 11, 1887.



Witnesses:

*L. C. Hiles,*  
*W. S. Duval*

Inventor:

*Peter Ransom.*  
By his Attorney, *E. B. Stocking*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER RANSOM, OF PULTNEY, NEW YORK.

## THILL-TUG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 371,218, dated October 11, 1887.

Application filed March 5, 1887. Serial No. 229,816. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PETER RANSOM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pultney, in the county of Steuben, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thill-Tugs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in harness, and to that portion thereof known as "thill-tugs;" and the object of the invention is to provide a metal tug for connecting the saddle and thills together, obviating the necessity of backing the horse within the shafts, and adapted to be connected by simply dropping the shafts down over the horse or lifting them up from the ground and placing them into the tugs, which open for their reception.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a thill-tug constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the same, the tug being shown as closed; and Fig. 3 is a similar view, the tug being shown open.

Like letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

A represents the thill, and B the strap leading from the saddle for connection with the thills. To each end of strap B is connected the thill-tug C, and it comprises the cylindrical thill-receiving portion C' (the outer edges of which are flared or beaded, as at C<sup>9</sup>, to prevent abrading the thills) and the plate C<sup>2</sup>, at the upper end of which is formed a slot, C<sup>3</sup>, for the reception of the end of the strap B, which is formed with a loop for connection therewith.

C<sup>4</sup> represents the locking-plate, formed with the forwardly-projecting curved lip C<sup>5</sup>, and with the bent edges C<sup>6</sup>, adapted to slide upon and embrace the edges of the plate C<sup>2</sup>. The plate C<sup>2</sup> is somewhat narrower than the socket portion C' thereof, whereby shoulders or stops C<sup>7</sup> are formed thereon, against which the bent edges of plate C<sup>4</sup> strike when said plate is in its lowest position.

The outer edge of the locking-lip C<sup>5</sup> is

slotted, as at C<sup>8</sup>, and adapted for the reception of the strap D, which connects the two thills and prevents their rising by passing underneath the horse.

For the purpose of preventing thills from being injured by contact with the tugs, a leather lining, E, may be provided in the tugs; or, as before stated, the entire tug may be covered with leather or other suitable material.

The operation of the invention is readily apparent from the above description, in that to couple the thills with the saddle-strap it is only necessary to slide the locking-plate upwardly, as shown in Fig. 3, place the thills in the socket C', lower the locking-plate to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and connect the strap D at the slot C<sup>3</sup>, whereby the locking-plate will be prevented from rising.

Instead of providing a hook, D', on the strap D, said strap itself may be passed through the slot C<sup>8</sup> of the locking-slide.

For the purpose of obviating the necessity of buckling and unbuckling the belly-band from the tug, I may form upon the tug a bail, F, to which one end of the belly-band may be permanently or removably attached, and upon the belly-band I secure a buckle, D<sup>2</sup>, for the purpose of attaching a small supplemental strap, D<sup>3</sup>, to which the hook D' may be secured. By this arrangement it is only necessary to connect the strap D<sup>3</sup> by means of the hook D' to the lip C<sup>5</sup>, and afterward buckle the two ends of the belly-band together in the usual manner.

Having described my invention and its operation, what I claim is—

1. The combination, in a thill-tug, of a strap-plate, having a cylindrical thill-receiving portion at its lower end, with a locking-plate mounted to slide upon said strap-plate and lock the thill in position, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, in a thill-tug, of a strap-plate having a cylindrical thill-receiving socket at its lower end, provided with shoulders, with a locking-plate mounted on said strap-plate, formed with a locking-lip and bent to embrace the edges of the strap-plate, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, in a thill-tug, of a strap-plate perforated at its top for the reception of

a strap, and having a cylindrical thill-receiving socket formed at its lower end, having stops, with a locking-plate mounted to slide upon said strap-plate and bent to embrace the edges thereof, and having a locking-lip at its lower end perforated to receive a thill-connecting strap, substantially as specified.

4. The combination of the saddle-strap B, the plate C<sup>2</sup>, slotted, as at C<sup>3</sup>, for the reception thereof, and formed with the socket portion C', flared at its ends, the plate C<sup>4</sup>, bent as at C<sup>6</sup>, and the lip C<sup>5</sup>, slotted as at C<sup>8</sup>, with the shaft A, substantially as specified.

5. The plate C<sup>2</sup>, formed with the socket portion C', and having the bail F, and the sliding plate C<sup>4</sup>, having the projecting lip C<sup>5</sup>, perforated as at C<sup>8</sup>, in combination with the straps D D<sup>3</sup>, buckle D<sup>2</sup>, and hook D', substantially as specified.

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

PETER RANSOM.

Witnesses:

RICHARD N. BENNETT,  
CHAS. WAGENER.