

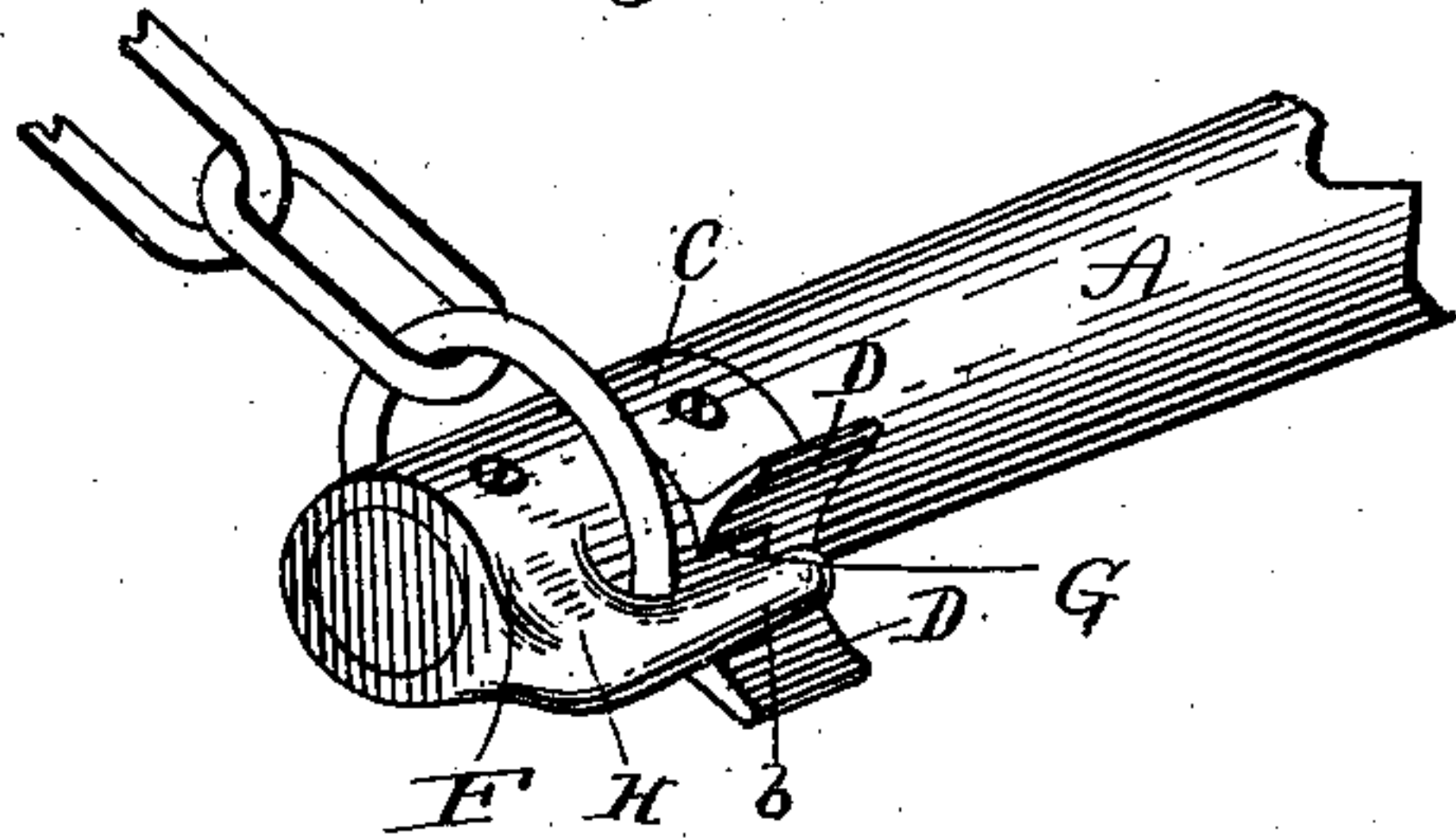
(No Model.)

N. F. REED.  
WHIFFLETREE HOOK.

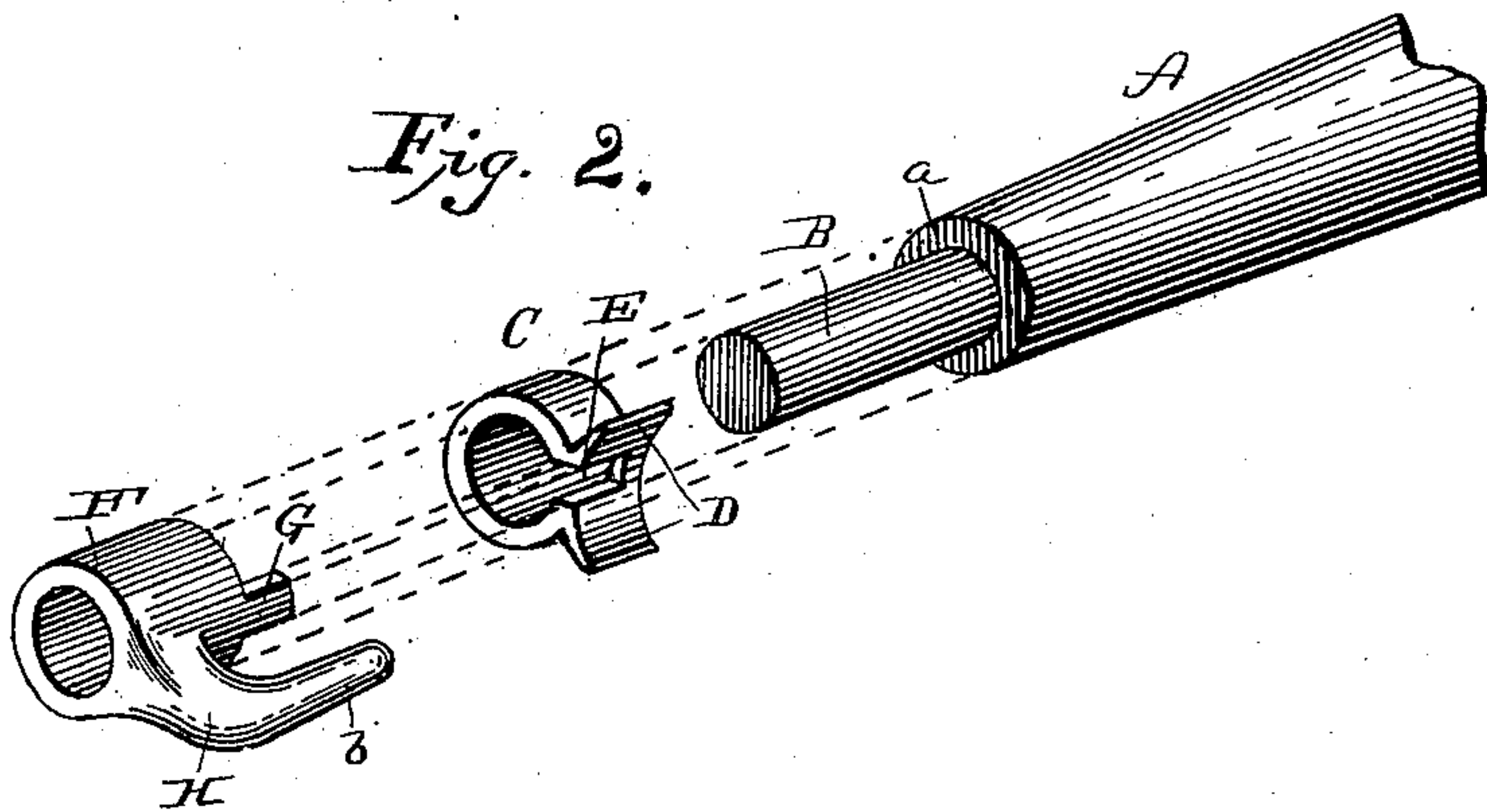
No. 376,011.

Patented Jan. 3, 1888.

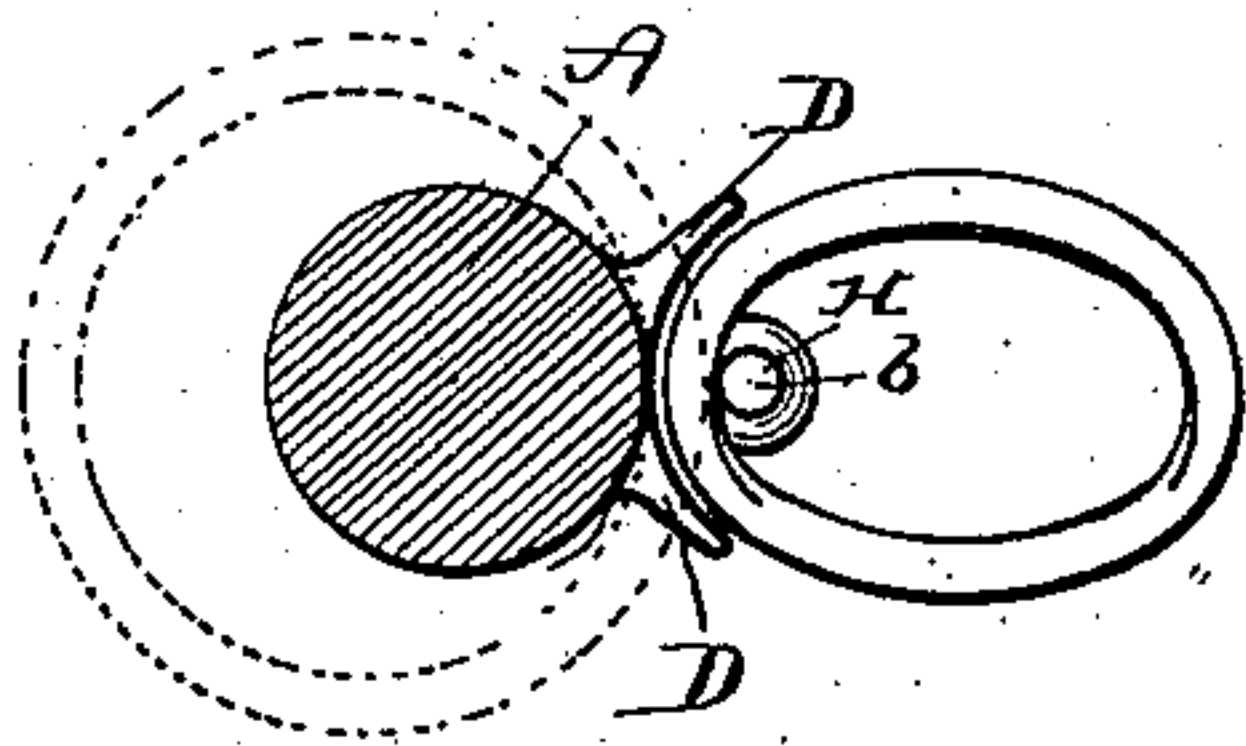
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses

*John S. Finch*  
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Inventor:

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By *his* Attorney

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHAN F. REED, OF HYDE PARK, VERMONT.

## WHIFFLETREE-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,011, dated January 3, 1888.

Application filed November 3, 1887. Serial No. 254,183. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NATHAN F. REED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hyde Park, in the county of Lamoille and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whiffletree-Hooks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in singletree-hooks; and it consists in certain novel features of construction, whereby I am enabled to produce a simple, durable, positive, and economical device for the purpose, as will be more fully hereinafter stated, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In describing the device reference is had to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of one end of singletree with my improved hook applied thereto; Fig. 2, a similar view showing the parts detached and in a position to be placed upon the singletree; and Fig. 3, a sectional view of the singletree with my hook applied, showing the method of removing the ring of the trace.

In the drawings, the letter A designates a portion of a singletree of the usual construction and having the reduced extension or end B, forming the annular shoulder *a*. Upon this reduced portion B is slipped the guard-collar C, which is adapted to fit the said extension and abut against the shoulder *a*. This collar is provided on its rear side with the two backwardly-curved guard-lugs D, which are formed longitudinally of the collar and project, respectively, upwardly and downwardly with respect thereto. These guard-lugs are formed integrally with the collar. The collar has formed in its outer edge the longitudinal slot E, for a purpose which will be presently stated. Upon the end of the extension B is placed the hook-collar F, which abuts closely against the outer edge of the guard-collar, and is provided with the projection or extension G, which fits into the slot in the guard-collar, thereby locking the two parts together and preventing their independent movement upon the extension or tenon of the singletree, as is clearly shown. This hook-collar has formed integrally with it on its rear side a right-angle hook, H, preferably taper-

ing in form, and having its longitudinal portion *b* directed inwardly with respect to the singletree and running practically parallel thereto. This horizontal portion *b* of the hook runs parallel with the projections or lugs D of the guard-collar and directly to the rear and between them, it being approximately equally distant from each lug, as shown clearly in Fig. 3. The two collars may be secured upon the singletree by any suitable device or devices. The ring of the trace is slipped over the hook H, as shown in Fig. 3, and is turned forward over the end of the singletree to the position shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. It will thus be seen that by reason of the location of the rearwardly-extending guard-lugs D with respect to the angular hook H the ring of the trace will be positively attached to the singletree, it being necessary in order to remove the trace-ring to turn it around to the rear of the singletree to the position shown in Fig. 3. Casual displacement or disengagement of the trace is effectually prevented by this device.

I wish it understood that I do not limit myself to the use of singletree-hooks, as it is evident that my invention is capable of other applications than this.

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

1. The combination of the singletree with the guard-collar thereon, provided with guard-lugs D, and the hook-collar, also placed on the singletree and provided with the angular hook H, the longitudinal portion of which projects inwardly from the end of the singletree and parallel to and between the guard-lugs D, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the singletree with the guard-collar provided with the two guard-lugs on its rear side, and also with the slot in its outer edge, and the hook-collar provided with the angular hook H and the extension I, which latter projects into the slot in the outer edge of the guard-collar, substantially as described.

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

NATHAN F. REED.

Witnesses:

C. H. HERRICK,  
H. A. WATERMAN.