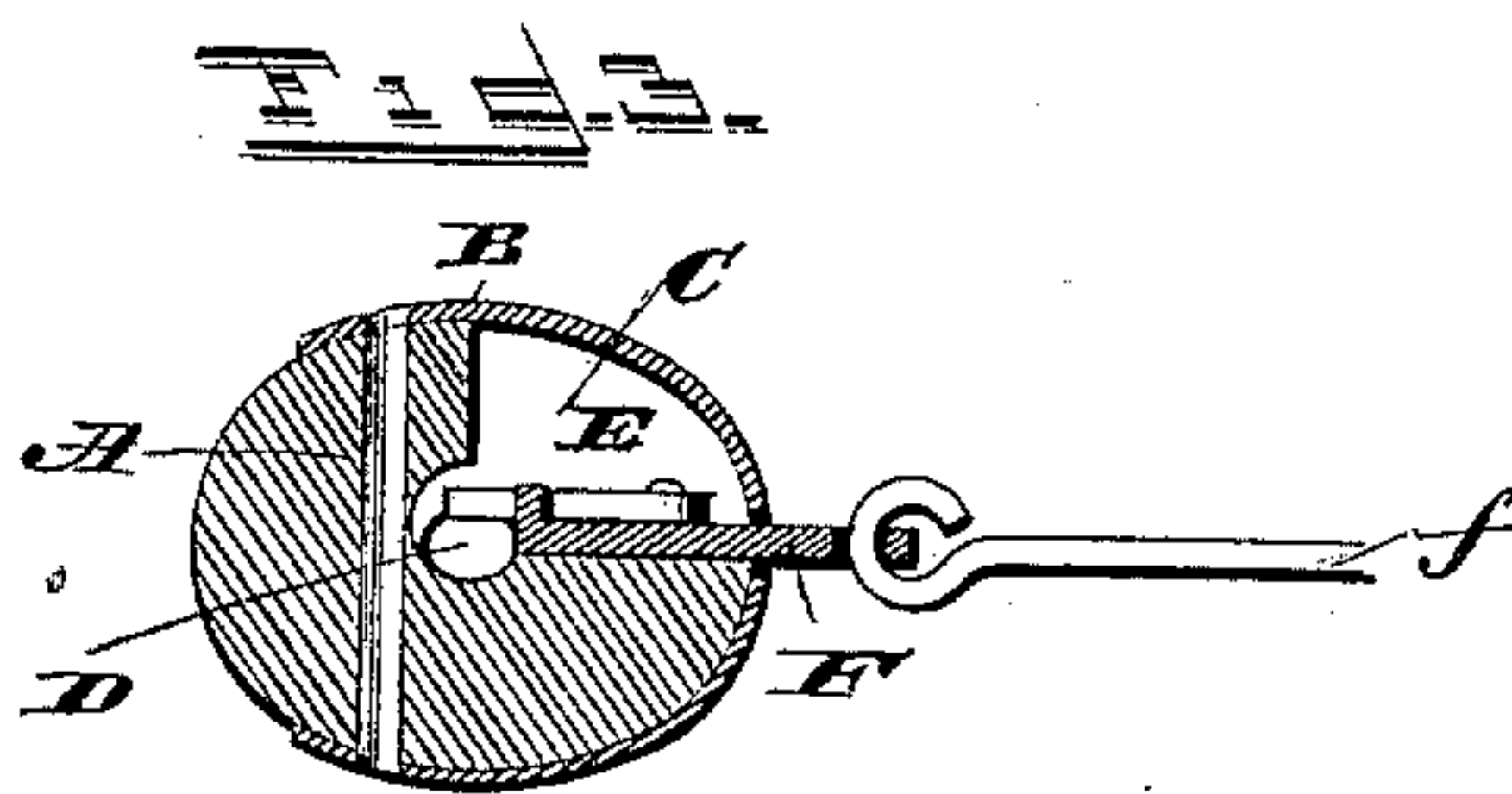
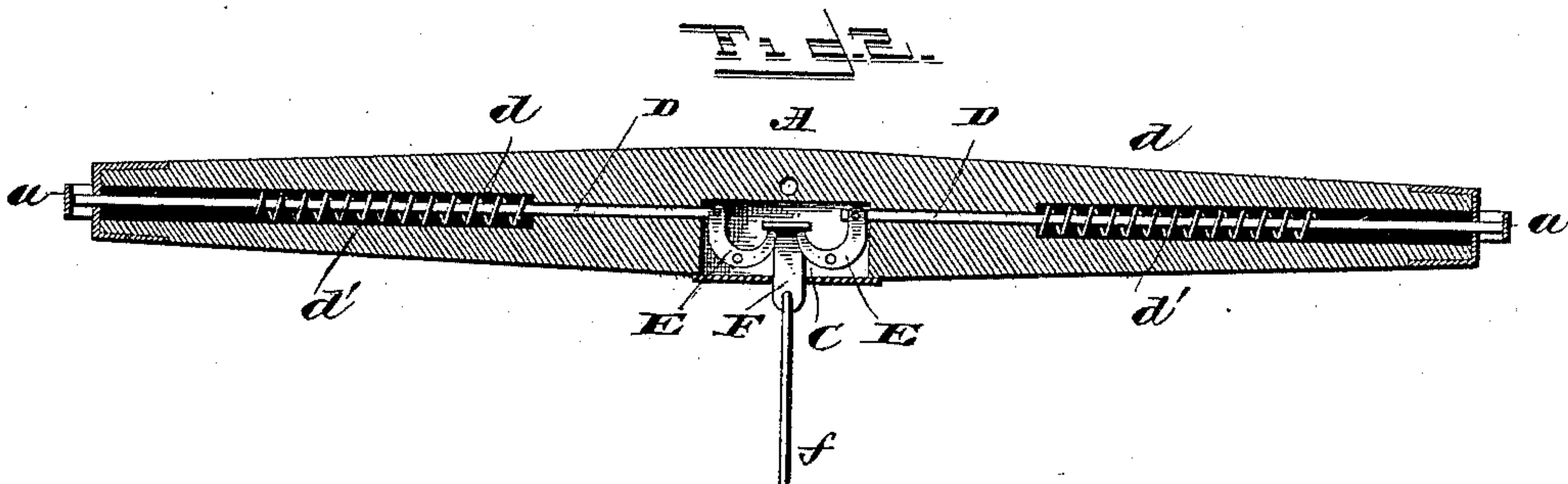
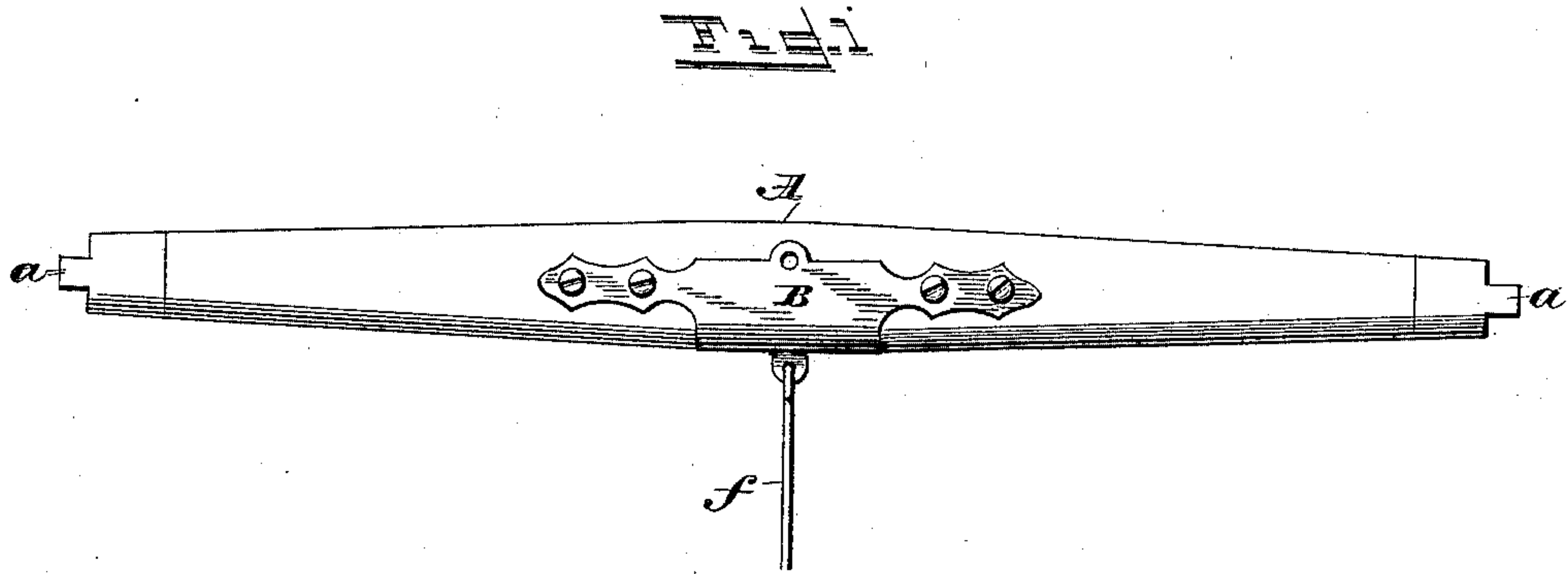


(No Model.)

F. R. COX.
WHIFFLETREE.

No. 392,011.

Patented Oct. 30, 1888.



WITNESSES,

L. S. Elliott.
E. M. Johnson.

Francis R. Cox.

INVENTOR,

by *[Signature]* Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS R. COX, OF SANDWICH, ILLINOIS.

WHIFFLETREE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 392,011, dated October 30, 1888.

Application filed August 2, 1888. Serial No. 281,801. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS R. COX, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Sandwich, in the county of De Kalb and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whiffletrees; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in whiffletrees, the object of the same being to provide a means whereby the traces can be readily detached by drawing upon a bar or connection which extends from the center of the whiffletree; and it consists in the construction and combination of the parts, which will be hereinafter fully set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a whiffletree constructed in accordance with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view, and Fig. 3 a transverse sectional view.

A refers to the whiffletree, provided at its ends with clips *a a*, the center portion thereof being re-enforced on its upper and lower edges and at one side by a plate, B, which may be of ornamental configuration, and through these plates passes a bolt for connecting the whiffletree to the thills. The whiffletree A is cut away centrally to provide a recess, C, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and the whiffletree is also bored longitudinally, which bore or opening is enlarged, as shown at *d*, near the ends of the whiffletree, the ends thereof being provided with suitable caps with central openings through which pass rods D D, the outer ends of said rods being adapted to engage with the trace-eyes. The inner ends of these bars D are pivotally secured to curved plates E E, located within the recesses C and pivoted to the whiffletree, the ends of these plates extending toward each other and resting upon a central plate, F, the rear end of which is bent upwardly and extends laterally. The rear end of this plate F

passes through the whiffletree, and with it engages either a bar or strap, *f*, so that when said bar or strap is drawn upon the inner ends of the curved plates E will be drawn rearwardly to retract the rods D D. The rods D D have attached thereto coiled springs *d'*, which normally throw the same downward, so that their ends will bear against the clips *a*.

The device hereinbefore described is simple, and by the bore and cutting away of the whiffletree it is lightened without materially decreasing the strength thereof, as where it is cut away it is re-enforced.

The ornamental plate B, which covers the recess C, has openings therein, through which the connecting-bolt passes, as well as an opening through which the plate F passes.

I claim—

1. The combination, in a whiffletree having a central recess and longitudinal recess extending therefrom to the ends of the whiffletree, of the rods D D, provided with spring *d'*, the inner ends of these rods being connected to pivoted curved plates E, the ends of which engage with an upturned portion of a sliding plate, F, substantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, in a whiffletree provided with clips and a re-enforcing plate, B, which partially encircles the center portion of the whiffletree, and is provided with forwardly-projecting perforated portions and laterally-extending ends, which extend beyond the recesses in the whiffletree, the whiffletree being provided centrally with a recess, C, and longitudinally with a bore for the reception of the rods and springs, of the rods *d*, the springs *d'*, for projecting the same, the rods being pivotally connected to curved plates E, which are pivoted within the recesses C, a plate, F, having an upturned portion which engages with the inner ends of the curved plates E, and connection *f*, the parts being organized substantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

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

FRANCIS R. COX.

Witnesses:

GEO. GREENFIELD,
C. G. FAXON.