

No. 636,096.

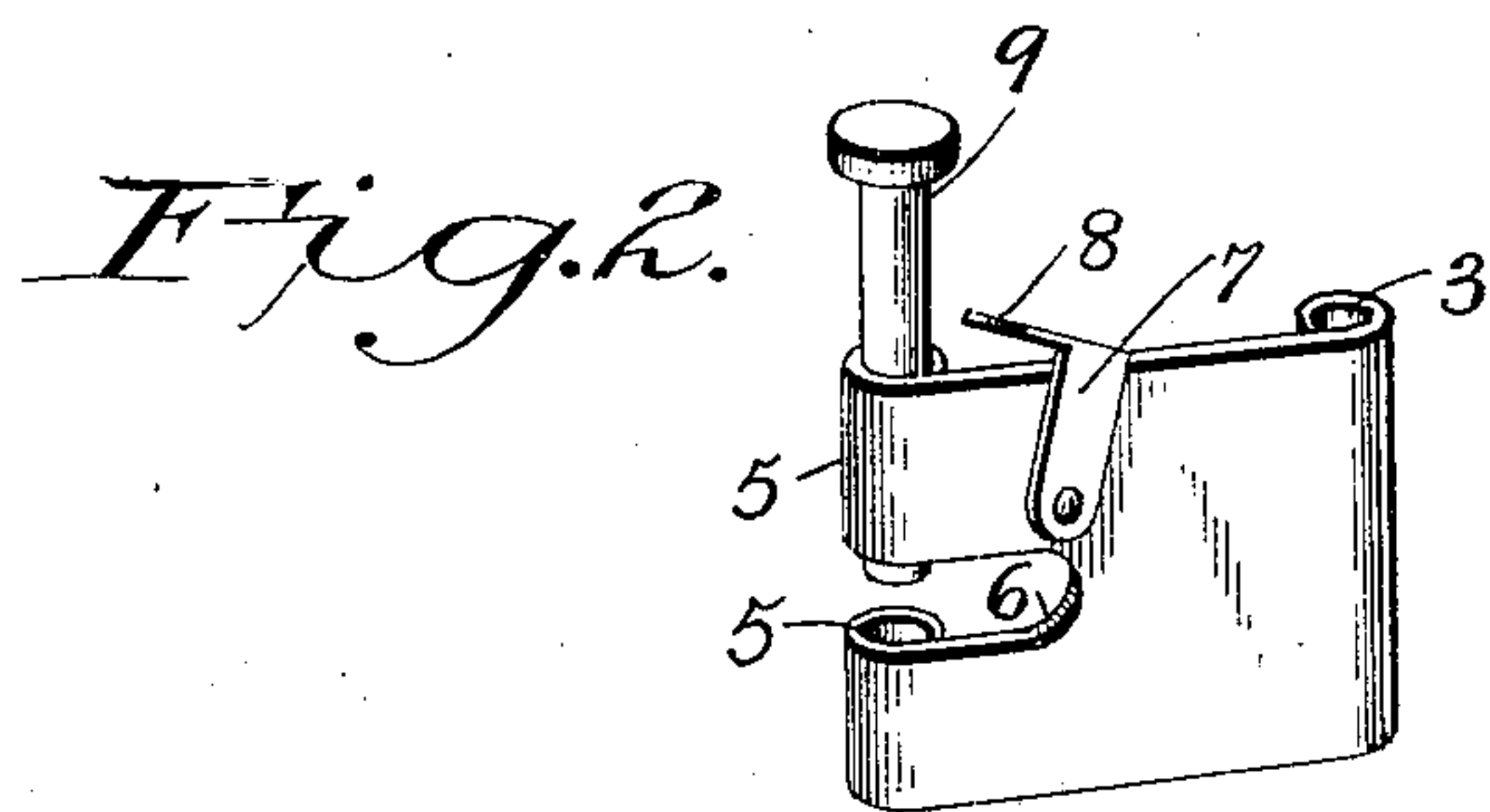
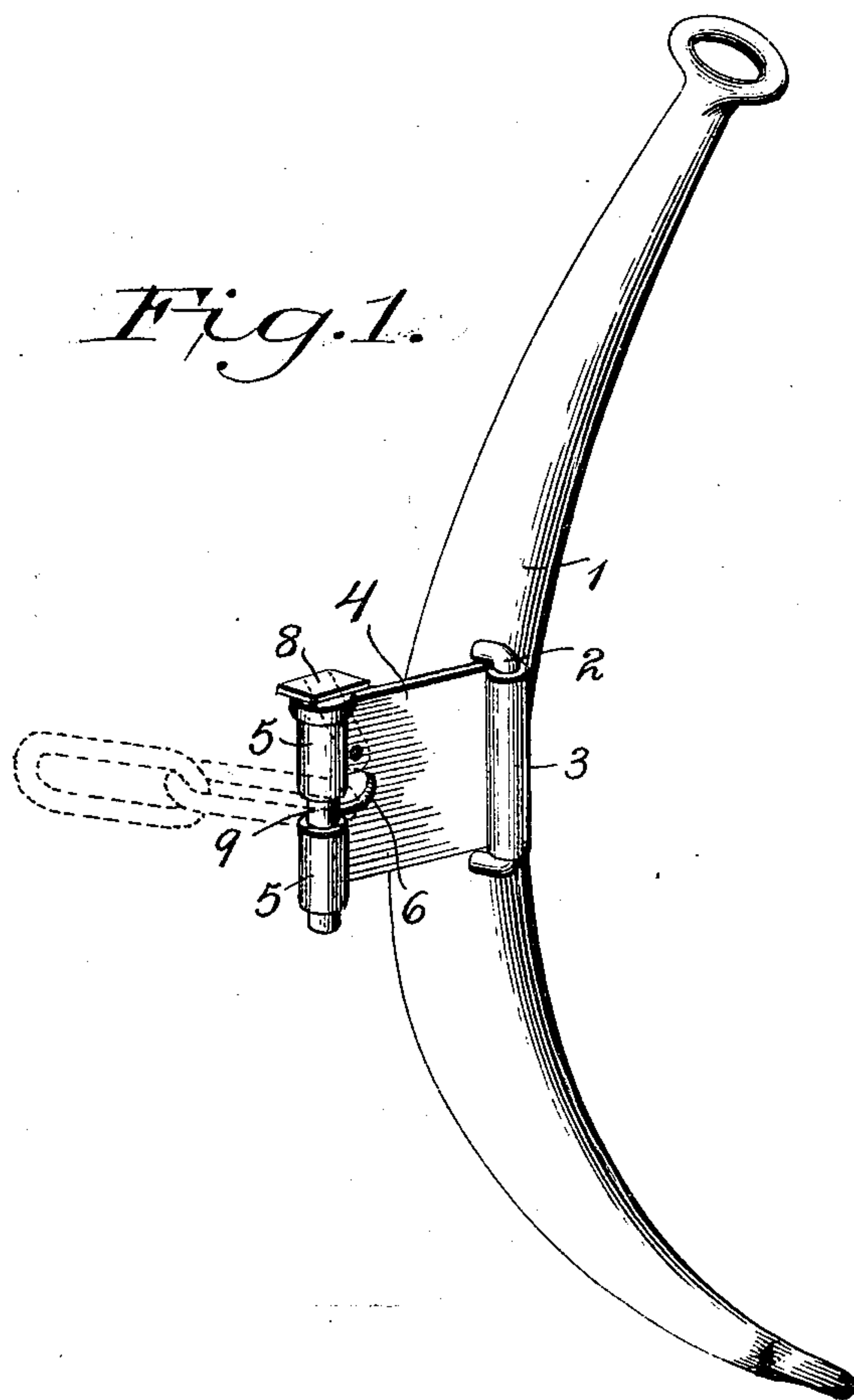
Patented Oct. 31, 1899.

W. W. ADKINS.

HAME HOOK.

(Application filed May 15, 1899.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

*Louis D. Heinrich*  
*Chas. S. Hoyer*

INVENTOR

*William W. Adkins.*  
*By Victor J. Evans.*  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WOOD ADKINS, OF JACKSONVILLE, MISSISSIPPI.

## HAME-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 636,096, dated October 31, 1899.

Application filed May 15, 1899. Serial No. 716,910. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WOOD ADKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Kemper and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hame Attachments; 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.

This invention relates to hames, and particularly to fastenings or latches attached thereto; and the purpose of the same is to accommodate an easy application or separation of a tug or trace-chain in the operation of connecting up or disconnecting harness, particularly in heavy draft appliances of this character.

The invention consists, primarily, of a hame having a staple secured thereto, a latch-plate movably supported by said staple and having a slotted free end provided with knuckles for the reception of a coupling pin or bolt, and a keeper with an angular head attached to one side of the said latch-plate and shiftable to and from the head of the coupling pin or bolt to hold the latter in place and against accidental disengagement.

The invention further consists of the details of construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hame, showing the improved fastening or latch thereon and a portion of a tug or trace-chain in dotted lines and in attached position. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the improved fastening or latch.

Referring to the drawings, wherein similar numerals are used to indicate corresponding parts in the views, the numeral 1 designates a hame of any preferred form of construction and material, and at a suitable elevation thereon a staple 2 is secured. By means of an inner elongated knuckle 3 a latch-plate 4 is movably connected to the said staple 2, and the outer free end of the said latch-plate has knuckles 5 formed thereon and separated by a longitudinal slot 6, arranged intermediate thereof and extending into the body of

the plate 4. To one side of the upper portion of the plate 4 a keeper 7 is pivotally secured and has an angularly-disposed head 8, which is broader than the body of the keeper, supporting the same and intended to project over the upper edge of said plate and also the upper termination of the top knuckle 5. The knuckles 5 are adapted to removably receive a coupling pin or bolt 9, which extends across the longitudinal slot intermediate of said knuckles and forms a locking-bearing for the forward link or other analogous device of a tug or trace-chain.

Before the tug or trace-chain is connected to the improved fastening or latch the parts will be arranged as shown by Fig. 2 and the coupling-pin or bolt 9 elevated so as to clear the entrance to the slot 6. The forward link or other analogous device of the tug or trace-chain is then inserted in the slot 6 until the opening is in line with the knuckles, and thereby permit coupling pin or bolt 9 to be pushed down and locked to said tug or trace-chain in connection with the improved attachment.

After the coupling pin or bolt has been pushed down to its full extent and to prevent accidental displacement thereof the keeper 7 is pushed over in the direction of the knuckles 5 until the head 8 thereof stands over the head of said coupling pin or bolt, as shown by Fig. 1. When the said keeper is in this latter position, it is thrown past the center, and therefore will resist any movements which tend to effect an unlocking of the same, and by this means a temporary reliable securement is attained and the coupling pin or bolt prevented from working upward in the knuckles 5. The said keeper is of such construction that it can be readily turned over manually when desired to disconnect the parts, and the head of the coupling pin or bolt may then be easily grasped and said device lifted to disconnect the tug or trace-chain. The extension of the slot 6 into the body of the latch-plate is to accommodate the movement of the front link or other device of the tug or trace-chain a sufficient distance to bring the opening through which the coupling pin or bolt is to pass in proper alinement for securing purposes.

It will be observed that the improved fas-



tening or latch is of a very simple nature and that the bearing and strain of the tug or trace-chain is brought directly on the said coupling pin or bolt and transmitted through the 5 latch-plate to the staple 2. It is also proposed to have the slot 6 medially located in the plate 4, so as to equalize the strain or tension and overcome any irregularities in wear and also obviate as much as possible 10 buckling or bending of said plate 4.

The improved fastening will not materially add to the cost of the hame to which it is applied, because it includes a simple plate with knuckles at opposite ends, as set forth 15 and constituting the main part of the device. The keeper is also simple in its mode of attachment and construction, and all parts are of course made of metal, it being preferred that the coupling pin or bolt 9 be harder than 20 the plate 4.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

The improved hame attachment herein de-

scribed, consisting of a plate having at one end an elongated knuckle to receive a staple 25 on a hame, a longitudinal slot at the opposite end of said plate open at the outer end with a knuckle upon each side of the outer end of the slot, a coupling-bolt adapted to engage in the outer knuckles and to traverse 30 said slot, and a keeper consisting of a substantially vertical arm pivotally mounted on said plate in proximity to the inner end of said slot and having an angularly-disposed head extending across the upper edge of the 35 plate and to engage over the head of the coupling-bolt after the latter is inserted in the knuckles, all substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 40 in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM WOOD ADKINS.

Witnesses:

J. A. ADAMS,

W. H. WILKERSON.