

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. DEPLANTY, OF COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO JOSEPH W. UNCAPHER AND ELMER E. WILSON, OF SAME PLACE.

NECK-YOKE-CENTER-LOCKING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 656,521, dated August 21, 1900.

Application filed December 30, 1899. Serial No. 742,094. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. DEPLANTY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coffeyville, in the county of Montgomery and State of Kansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Neck-Yoke-Center-Locking Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to carriage and wagon poles, and contemplates the provision of a securing device which while adapted to permit of a neck-yoke center or ring being readily placed on the tip of a pole or tongue and against the holdback or lip thereof is calculated to effectually prevent casual disconnection of said neck-yoke center or ring from the pole-tip and the consequent dropping of the pole.

The invention also contemplates the embodiment of the said securing device in an attachment which is readily applicable to pole-tips and wagon-tongues such as at present in general use.

With the foregoing in mind the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating by full lines a pole equipped with my improved securing device and by broken lines a portion of a neck-yoke and the center thereof. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central section of my improved device. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the device. Fig. 4 is a detail section taken in the plane indicated by the broken line 4 4 of Fig. 2.

Referring by letter to the said drawings, A is a carriage or wagon pole.

B is the pole-tip, provided with the usual holdback-lip *a*.

C is a neck-yoke.

D is the neck-yoke center, and E is my improved device for preventing casual disconnection of the neck-yoke center or ring from the pole-tip. This device in the preferred embodiment of the invention is in the form of an attachment readily applicable to and removable from ordinary pole-tips or wagon-tongues. It comprises a body *b*, a keeper *c*, pivotally connected to the body, and a spring *d*. The body *b* is in the form of a clip and

is made up of a lower member *e*, having a reduced and circular depending portion *f*, and an upper member *g*, connected by screws or bolts *h* to the lower member. The keeper *c* is in the form of a swinging arm and is provided at its rear end with a hollow circular portion *i*, which is loosely secured on the reduced portion *f* of the clip member *e* and serves as a casing for the spring *d*. At its forward end the said keeper is provided with a U-shaped yoke *j*, which is designed to straddle the pole-tip or tongue in advance of the neck-yoke center D after the manner shown in Fig. 1, and thereby prevent casual disconnection of the neck-yoke from the tip. The keeper is returned to and normally held in the position shown in Fig. 1 by the spring *d*, which is coiled about the depending portion *f* of the clip member *e* and is connected to said clip member and the keeper, as best shown in Fig. 2.

In practice the body *b* of my improved device is secured on a pole-tip or wagon-tongue, immediately in rear of the lip or holdback *a* thereof, and the device is used as follows: When it is desired to secure the center of a neck-yoke on the pole-tip, the yoke end of the keeper *c* is swung laterally off of the pole-tip or tongue, and the neck-yoke center is pushed rearwardly on said tip until it brings up against the lip *a*, after which the keeper *c* is released. When the keeper is thus released, the spring *d* will return it to and normally hold it in the position shown in Fig. 1 and enable it to effectually prevent casual disconnection of the neck-yoke from the pole-tip or tongue.

It will be appreciated from the foregoing that my improved securing device is readily applicable to ordinary pole-tips and wagon-tongues and that while it is calculated to effectually prevent casual disconnection of a neck-yoke from the pole-tip or tongue it does not render difficult the placing of the neck-yoke on said pole-tip or tongue.

I have entered into a detailed description of the construction and relative arrangement of the parts of my improved securing device in order to impart a full, clear, and exact understanding of the same. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to such specific construction and arrange-

ment of parts, as such changes or modifications may be made in practice as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. An attachment for pole-tips or tongues comprising a clip one of the members of which has a reduced, circular projection, a swinging keeper having a casing at one end pivotally mounted on the circular projection of the clip member, and also having a yoke adapted to straddle a pole-tip or tongue, and a coiled spring surrounding the projection of the clip member and connected to the said member and the keeper, substantially as specified.

2. The combination with a pole-tip or tongue having a holdback or lip; of an attachment comprising a clip fixed on said tip

in rear of the holdback or lip; one of the clip members having a reduced, circular projection, a swinging keeper having a casing at one end pivotally mounted on the circular projection of the clip member, and also having a yoke adapted to straddle the pole-tip or tongue, and a coiled spring surrounding the projection of the clip member and connected to said member and keeper, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES F. DEPLANTY.

Witnesses:

LEVI BOOTHBY,
H. BARNES.