

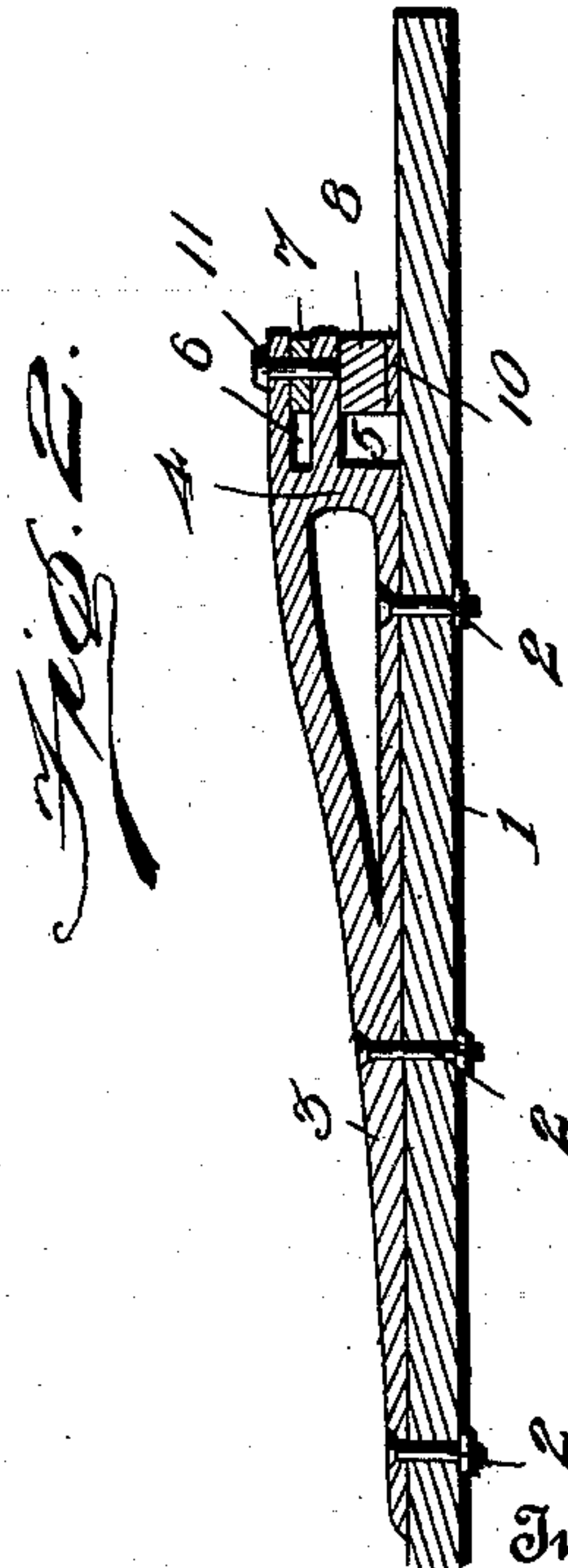
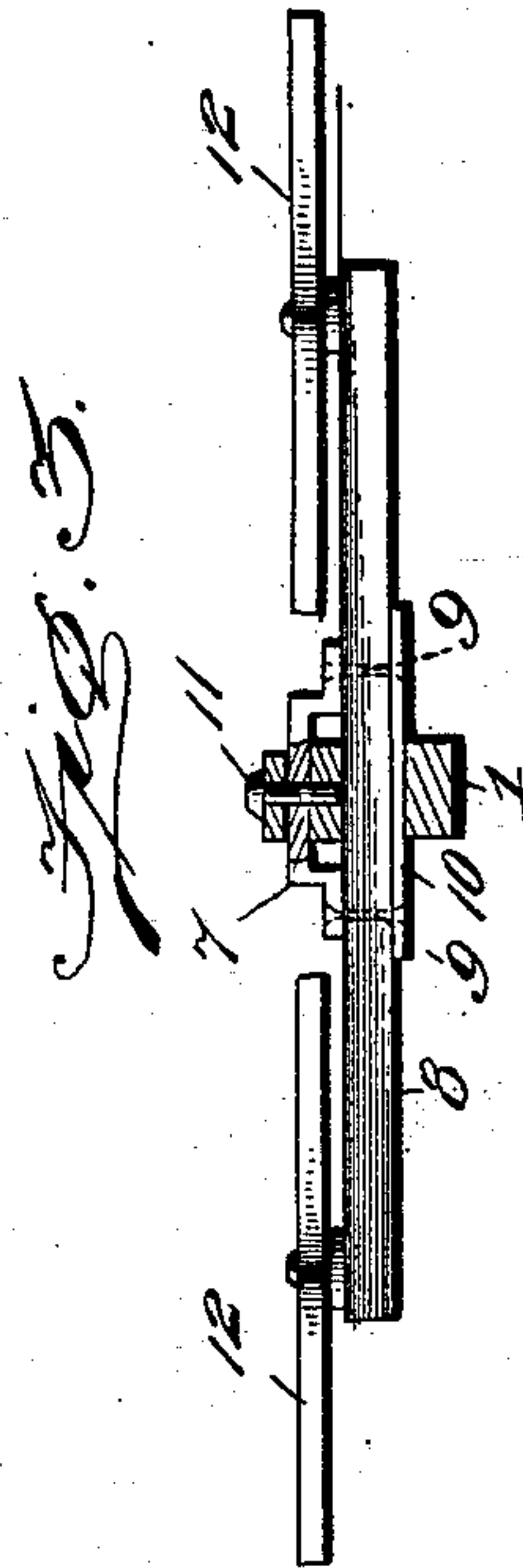
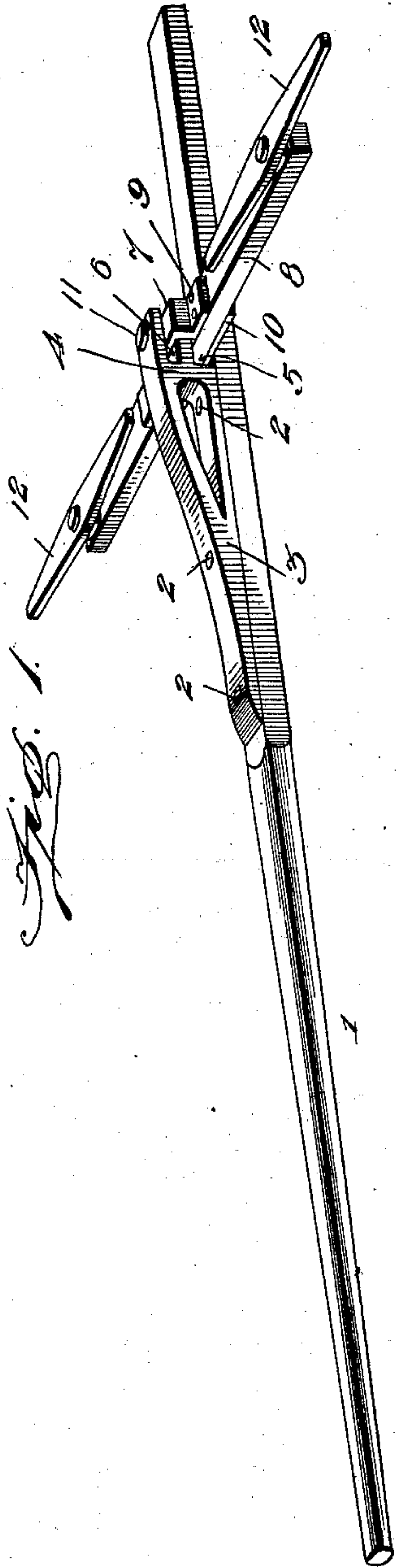
No. 657,589.

Patented Sept. 11, 1900.

J. M. CONRAD  
WHIFFLETREE.

(Application filed Mar. 22, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JUSTIN M. CONRAD, OF ARLINGTON, NEBRASKA.

## WHIFFLETREE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 657,589, dated September 11, 1900.

Application filed March 22, 1900. Serial No. 9,772. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JUSTIN M. CONRAD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Arlington, in the county of Washington and State of Nebraska, have invented new and useful Improvements in Whiffletrees, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in whiffletrees; and its primary object is to provide a device of this character adapted to be detachably secured to a tongue and pivoted thereto in such a manner as to bring the point of draft on a line with the center of the pivots of the singletrees.

To this end the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, showing the preferred form of my invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device attached to a tongue. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section therethrough; and Fig. 3 is an elevation of the whiffletree, showing the tongue and hammer-strap in section.

Referring to said figures by numerals of reference, 1 is a tongue of suitable construction and secured to a vehicle in any desired manner. Detachably secured to the upper surface of the tongue by means of bolts 2 or in other suitable manner is a hammer-strap 3, formed of suitable material and enlarged, as at 4. This enlarged end is cut away at 5 and is provided with a horizontal transverse slot 6, adapted to receive a plate 7, substantially U-shaped in section and secured at opposite ends to a whiffletree 8 by means of bolts or rivets 9 passing therethrough and preferably engaging with a plate 10 upon the bottom of said whiffletree. It will be seen that the whiffletree hangs within the recess 5, formed in the hammer-strap. A pin 11 passes through the forked end of the hammer-strap and the plate 7, thereby permitting the whiffletree to pivot, as is obvious. Singletrees, as 12, are pivoted upon the surface of the whiffletree in any suitable manner and are so arranged that the center of their pivots is within the same vertical and horizontal plane passing through the pivot of the whiffletree. By this construction I overcome the twisting of the whiffle-

tree, which occurs where the hammer-bolt or draw-pin is placed down through the double-tree and tongue, thereby placing the points of draft of the singletrees and whiffletree out of alinement. By arranging the trees as in my device they are in position to be used for any style of work.

The device can be applied to any form of wagon-tongue, &c., and the parts may be made of malleable iron or suitable material, whereby the strap may be bent to conform to the shape of the tongue.

It will be understood that when the device is not used with a wagon a clevis with hooks may be substituted for the hammer-strap.

In the foregoing description I have shown the preferred form of my invention; but I do not limit myself thereto, as I am aware that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages thereof, and I therefore reserve the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

While I have shown the hammer-strap secured to the tongue at a point in front of the whiffletree, the same may, if desired, be secured at the rear thereof.

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

1. In a device of the character described the combination, with a whiffletree, of singletrees pivoted thereto, a plate secured to the whiffletree therebetween, and a hammer-strap pivoted within said plate at a point in alinement with the center of the pivots of the singletrees.

2. In a device of the character described the combination, with a tongue, of a hammer-strap detachably secured thereto, a forked end to the hammer-strap, a plate pivoted therein, a whiffletree secured to the plate, and singletrees pivoted to the whiffletree on opposite sides thereof.

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

JUSTIN M. CONRAD.

Witnesses:

FRANK W. LUDWIG,  
WHITFIELD D. LEWIS.