

No. 689,105.

Patented Dec. 17, 1901.

W. W. MEREDITH.
TRACE HITCHER.

(Application filed July 31, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

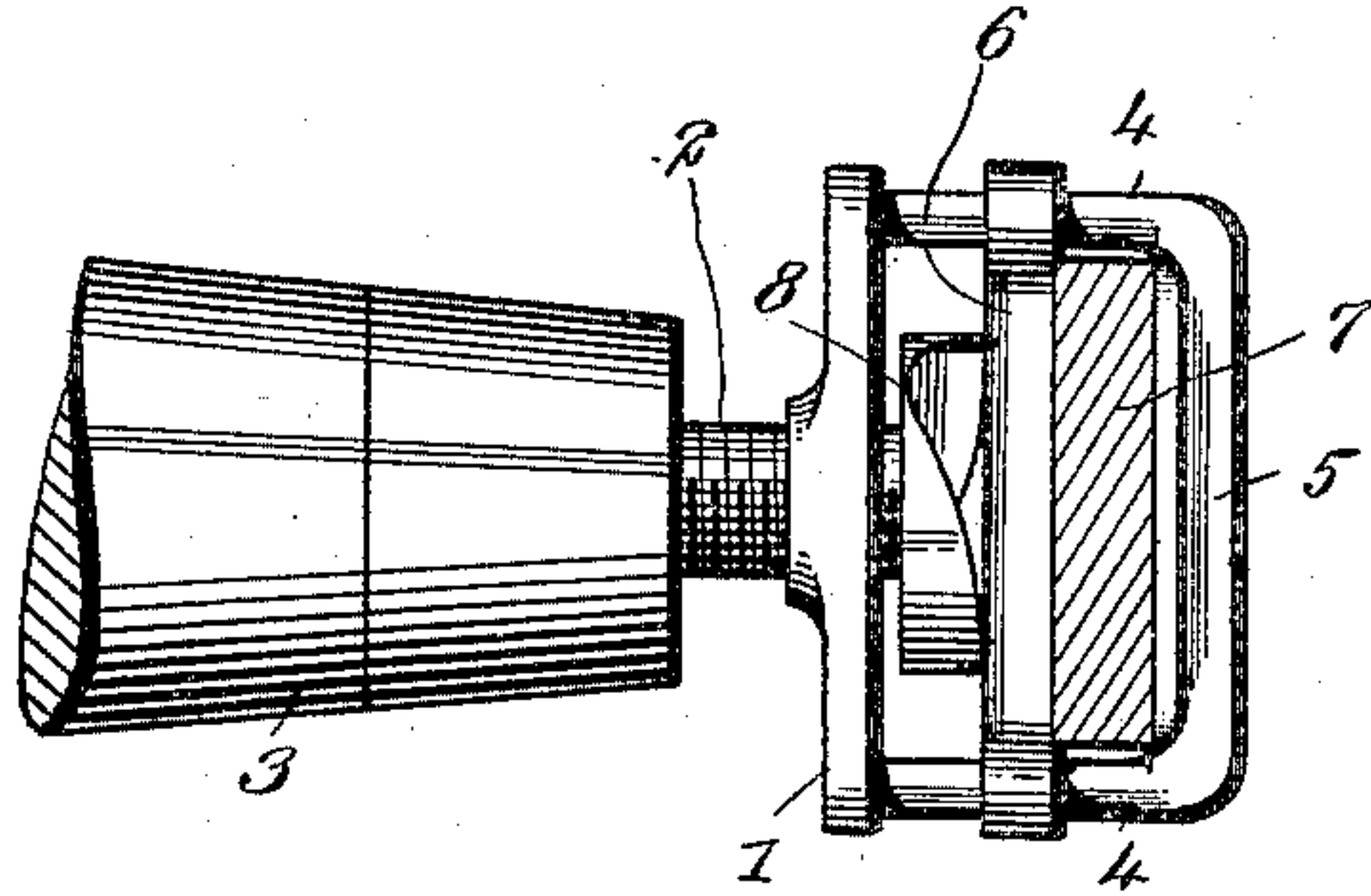


Fig. 2.

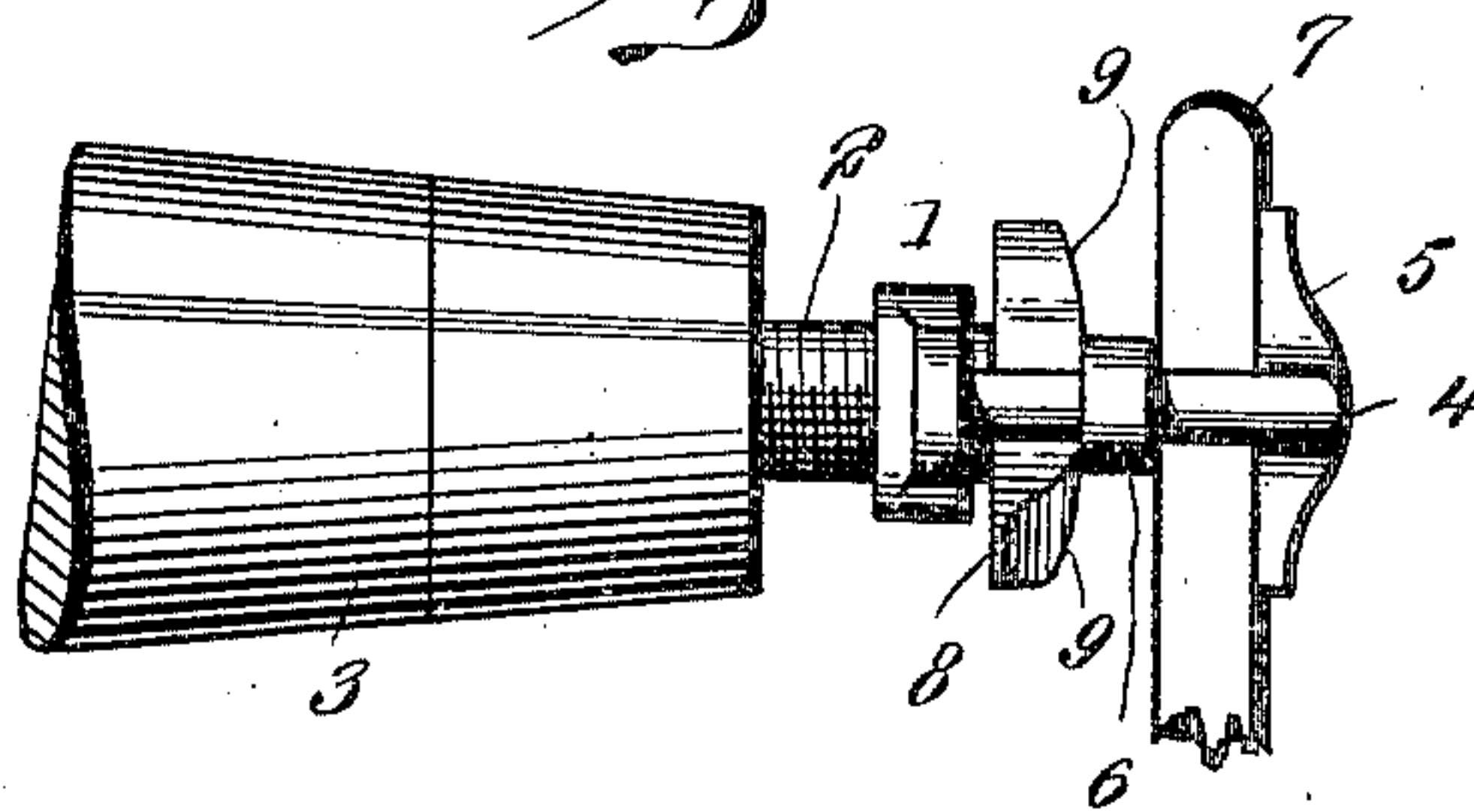
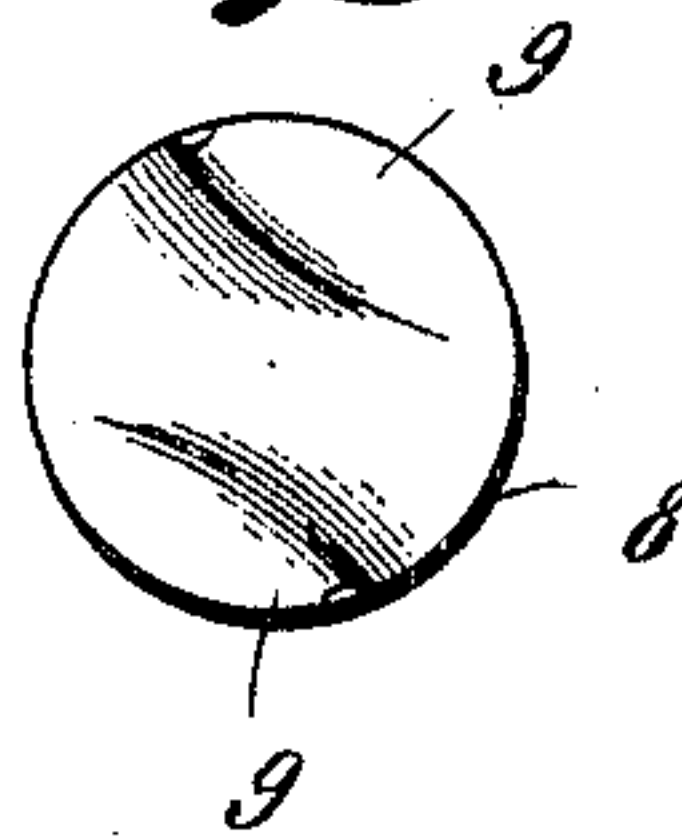


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

A. R. Appleman
C. R. Ferguson

INVENTOR

Walter W. Meredith

BY

Mumford
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER WILLIAM MEREDITH, OF AKRON, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO MATTHEW A. AGNES AND CHARLES H. MAXSON, OF AKRON, IOWA.

TRACE-HITCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 689,105, dated December 17, 1901.

Application filed July 31, 1901. Serial No. 70,355. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER WILLIAM MEREDITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Akron, in the county of Plymouth and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Trace-Hitch, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for attaching or hitching traces to whiffletrees; and the object is to provide a device for this purpose of simple construction and by means of which a trace may be quickly attached or released and obviating the necessity of forming eyes in the trace, which has a tendency to weaken it, or to attach tug-eyes to the trace, and, further, by the use of which the trace may be adjusted as to length without taking up or letting out the same in the harness.

I will describe a trace-hitch embodying my invention and then point out the novel features in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front view of a trace-hitch embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a top view thereof, and Fig. 3 is a face view of a cam-plate employed.

The trace-hitch comprises a base-plate 1, having a rotary motion on a screw or stem 2, which engages the end of the whiffletree 3. Connected to the base-plate is a loop comprising the opposite posts 4, connected at the outer end by a bar 5. Movable in the loop portion is a clamping-bar 6. This clamping-bar has recesses in its ends, in which the posts 4 engage, so that the said clamping-bar may slide along said posts to clamp the trace 7 between it and the outer bar 5. The screw or shank 2 passes through the base-plate 1, and secured to its end is a cam-plate 8, having opposite cam-lugs 9. These cam-lugs are gradually tapered from their greatest projection to the plate, the inclines being both in the same direction. The space between the cam-lugs 9 is designed to receive the clamp-

ing-bar 6 when the trace is to be inserted or detached.

In operation when it is desired to attach the trace the yoke is to be rotated until the bar 6 passes into the space between the cam-lugs—that is, the loop will be given a one-quarter turn, bringing the two posts 4 on a substantially horizontal line. After inserting the trace the loop is to be turned to its normal or vertical position, as indicated in the drawings, and during this movement the cam-lugs will force the clamping-bar outward and tightly against the trace. By the use of this device it will be seen that the trace may be readily adjusted as to its length, and, further, as there are no holes or eyes formed in the trace it is not weakened.

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

1. A trace-hitch, comprising a shank portion, a base-plate mounted to rotate on the shank portion, a loop attached to the plate, a clamping-bar movable in the loop, and a cam-plate attached to the shank and engaging with said bar, the said cam-plate having oppositely-inclined projections, substantially as specified.

2. A trace-hitch, comprising a shank adapted to be engaged with the whiffletree, a base-plate mounted to rotate on the shank, a loop attached to the base-plate, and consisting of opposite posts, and a connecting-bar for said posts, a clamping-bar having recesses in its ends to receive the posts, a plate attached to the shank, and opposite cam projections or lugs on said plate for engaging with the clamping-bar, the space between said projections or lugs being sufficient to receive the clamping-bar, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WALTER WILLIAM MEREDITH.

Witnesses:

O. J. MORTERUD,
E. H. YOUNGSTROM.