

No. 706,273.

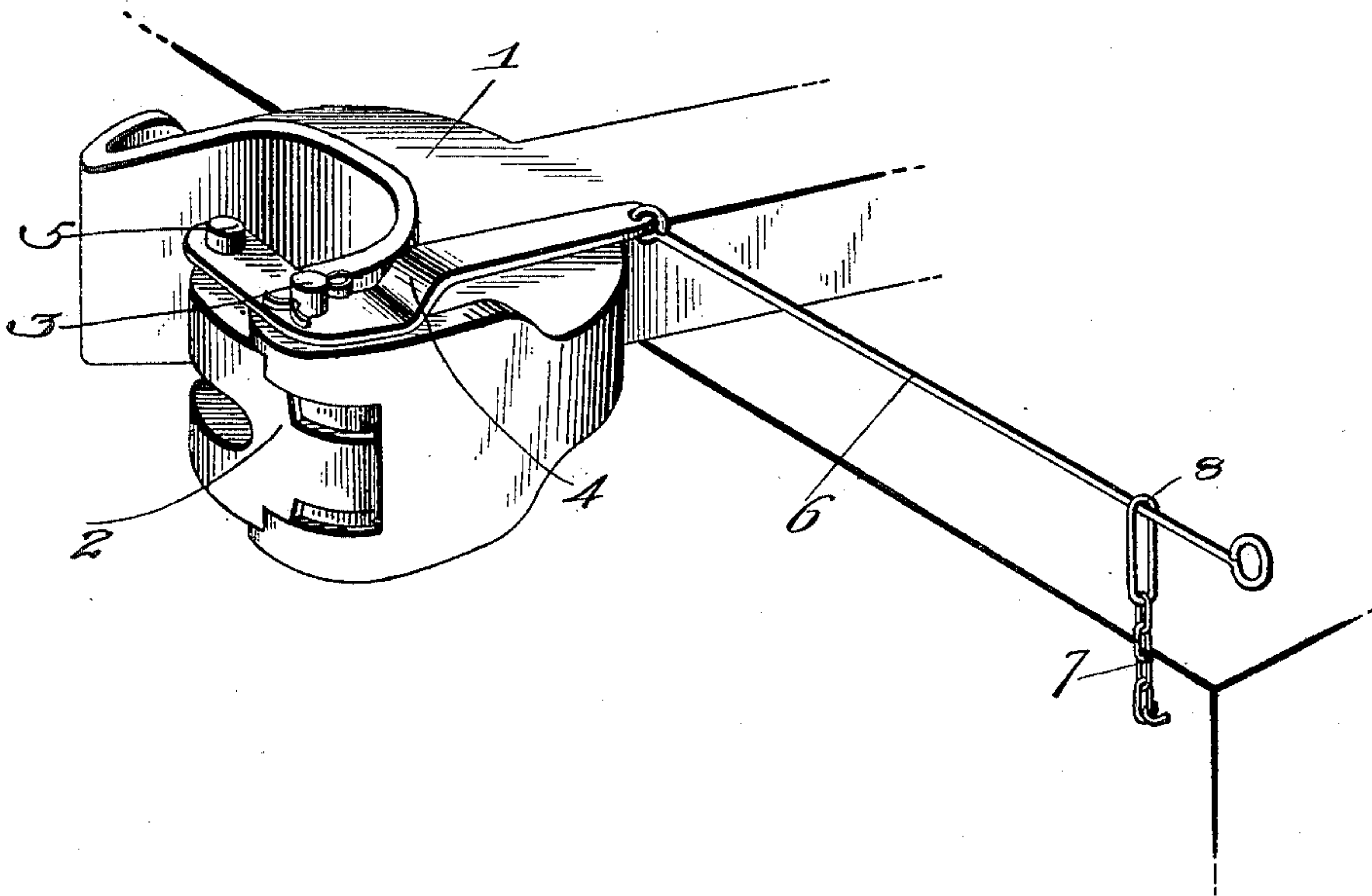
Patented Aug. 5, 1902.

W. H. STILLWELL.  
CAR COUPLING.

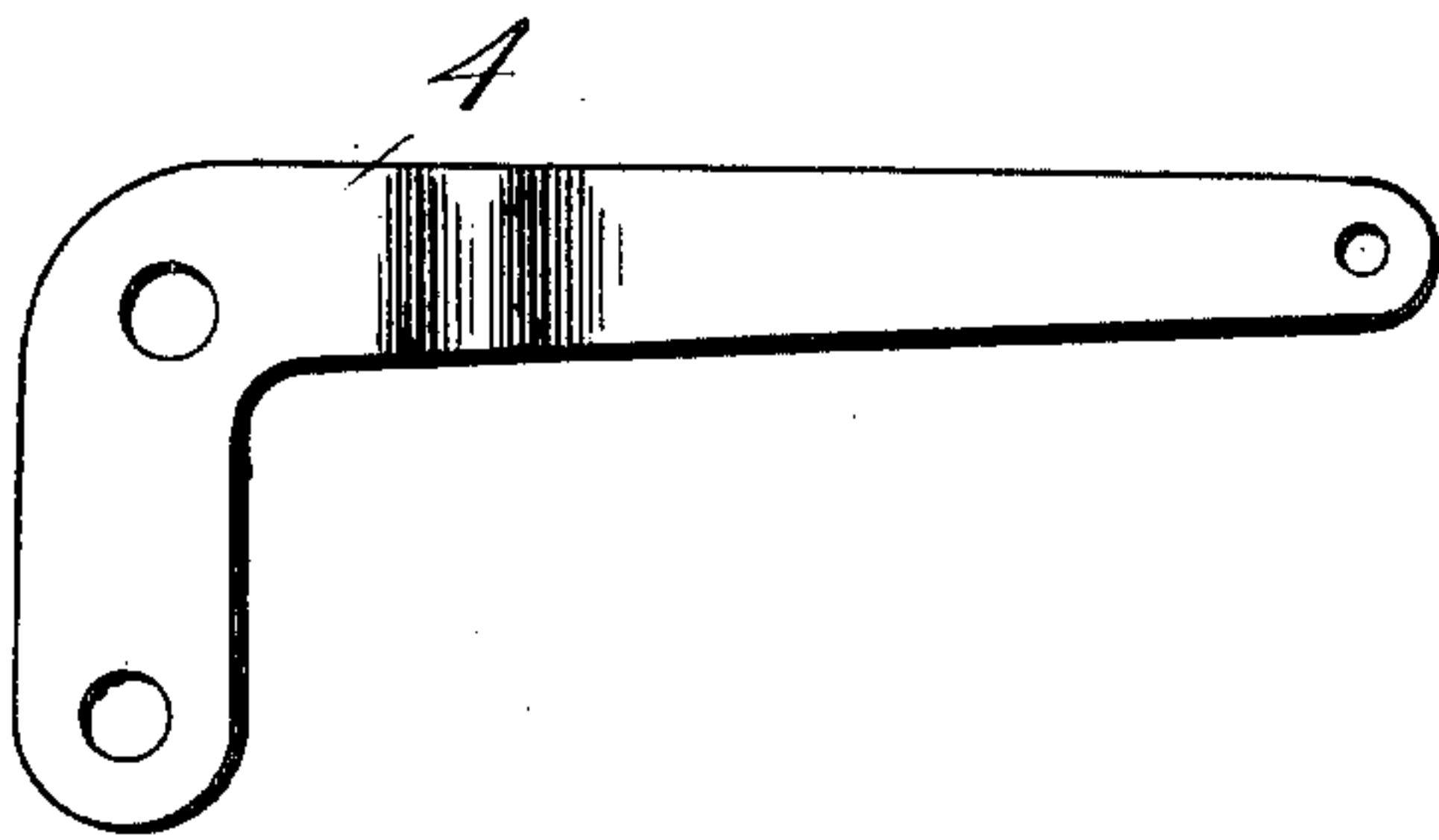
(Application filed June 12, 1902.)

(No Model.)

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Inventor

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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WENDELL HOUGH STILLWELL, OF DAVENPORT, IOWA.

## CAR-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 706,273, dated August 5, 1902.

Application filed June 12, 1902. Serial No. 111,315. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WENDELL HOUGH STILLWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Davenport, in the county of Scott and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Car-Couplers; and I do 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.

The invention relates to car-couplers.

The object of the invention is to provide a car-coupler of the Janney type with simple, durable, and comparatively inexpensive means which is adapted for use on all forms of couplers of this type, whereby the knuckle of the coupler may be swung into proper position for coupling without the necessity of the brakeman going in between the cars and pulling or kicking the knuckle open or standing upon the platform and kicking the knuckle open, either of which operations is a very hazardous one, oftentimes resulting in the loss of life and limb.

With this and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a bottom perspective view of the car-coupler, illustrating the application of the invention; and Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the angular lever.

Referring to the drawings, 1 denotes a coupling-head of the Janney type having the usual knuckle 2 connected to the head by a knuckle-pin 3 in the usual manner.

It is oftentimes desired to open and close the knuckle, and this has usually been done by the trainman standing on the platform and kicking the knuckle open or closed or standing on the ground and pulling or kicking the knuckle open or closed. In either of these positions the trainman's life is endangered, and to overcome these objectionable operations, and thereby lessen the loss of life, I provide means whereby the coupling may be opened or closed by a trainman from a safe point without the necessity of going in between the cars. These means comprise an

angular lever 4, which may be attached to any of the Janney type of couplers in use by the knuckle-pin 3. One arm of the lever projects toward the body of the car to which the coupler is attached, and the other arm projects under and is parallel with the outer end of the knuckle and is connected thereto by the coupling-pin 5. As all of the Janney-type couplers are provided with angular knuckles, it will be observed that this angular lever may be attached to any form of the Janney-type coupler with but very slight modification and that only in small details of construction. The lever may be operated from either side of the car. As shown in the drawings, I have illustrated a rod 6, connected to said lever and supported by a chain 7, having a guide-ring 8, through which the rod projects. This arrangement may be duplicated upon the other side of the car, if desired. It will thus be seen that it is wholly unnecessary for the attendant to expose himself to injury incident to the coming together of two cars while he is in the act of opening or closing the knuckle, as the knuckle may be freely operated from the side of the car by grasping the rod and moving it in the desired direction to open and close the knuckle. It will be observed that the device may be attached to the coupler without the employment of foreign or additional elements, the knuckle-pin serving as a fulcrum for said lever and as a lock for connecting the end of the lever to the knuckle.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction, mode of operation, and advantages of the invention will be readily understood without requiring an extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and details of construction may be made within the scope of the invention without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

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

1. The combination with a coupling of the Janney type comprising the head, the knuckle and the knuckle-pin for pivotally connecting the knuckle to the head, of an angular lever



pivotally connected to the knuckle-pin and having one end connected to the knuckle, and means for operating the said lever, substantially as set forth.

- 5 2. The combination with a coupling of the Janney type comprising the head, the knuckle and the knuckle-pin for pivotally connecting the knuckle to the head, of an angular lever pivotally connected to the knuckle-pin and  
10 provided with an aperture alined with the coupling-pin apertures of the knuckle, and a

coupling-pin inserted through said apertures of the knuckle and the aperture of the angular lever, and means for operating the angular lever, substantially as set forth.

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

WENDELL HOUGH STILLWELL.

Witnesses:

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