

No. 712,916.

Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

J. M. DUNLAP & J. W. TRACY.  
SINGLETREE OR DOUBLETREE.

(No Model.)

(Application filed July 29, 1902.)

Fig. 1.

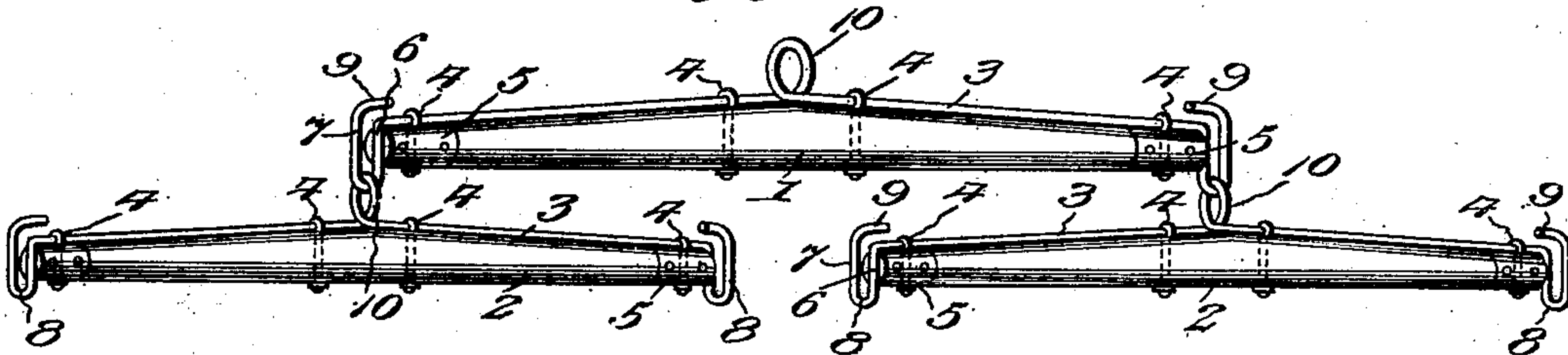


Fig. 2.

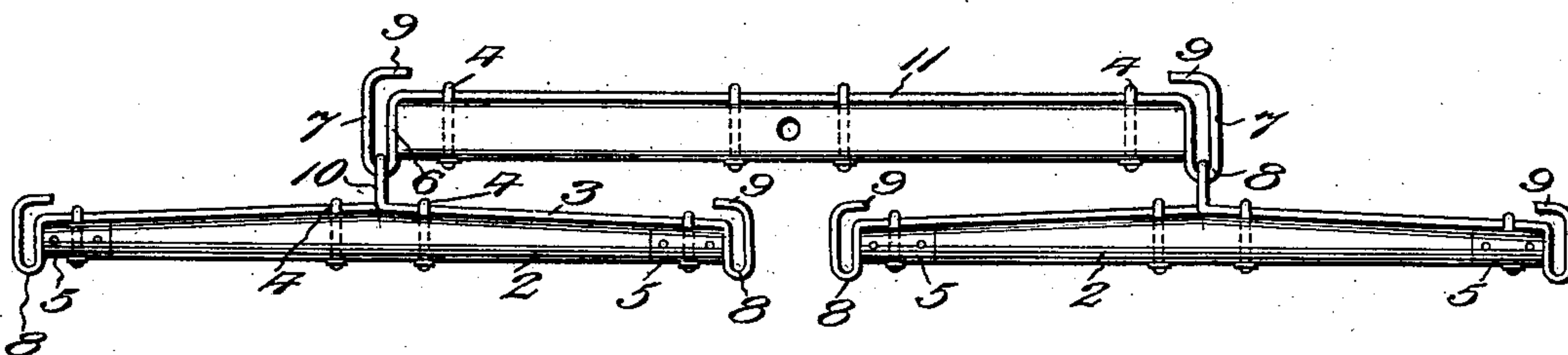


Fig. 3.

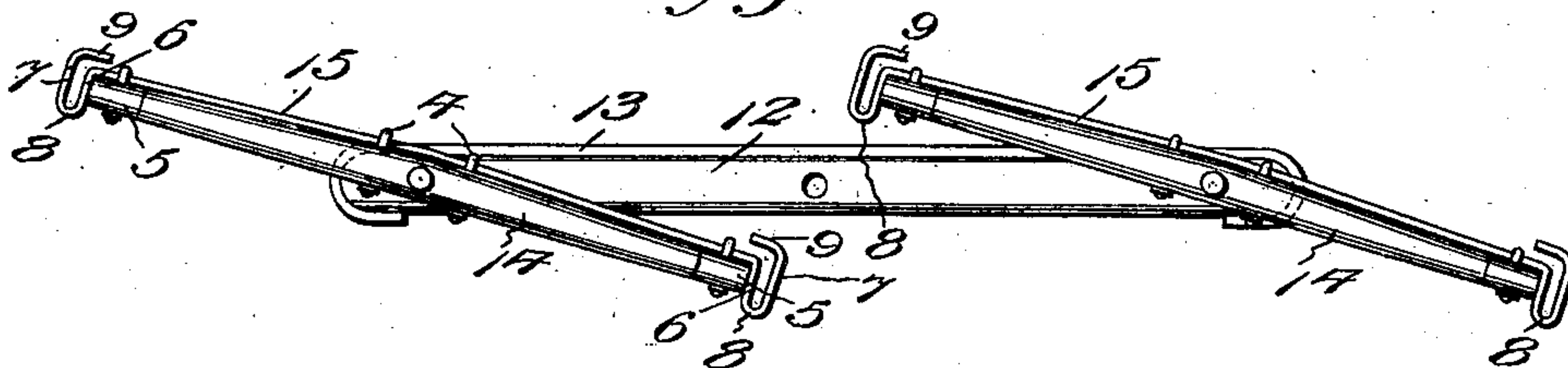
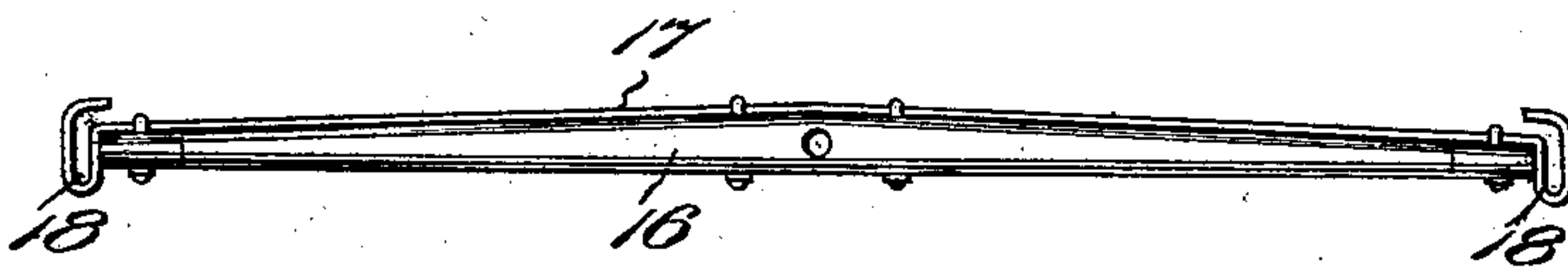


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SINGLETREE OR DOUBLETREE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,916, dated November 4, 1902.

Application filed July 29, 1902. Serial No. 117,497. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN M. DUNLAP and JAMES W. TRACY, citizens of the United States, residing at Vicksburg, in the county of Livingston and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Singletrees or Doubletrees, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to singletrees and doubletrees; and the points of novelty consist in the construction of the several parts and in their combination as a whole, whereby a stronger and more economical construction will result, more fully hereinafter described in detail.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of a doubletree and singletrees embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing a slight modification in the construction and arrangement of the parts. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of a doubletree, showing singletrees thereon and also embodying a further modification in construction and arrangement. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of either a doubletree or singletree embodying a modification in the construction thereof.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

Referring particularly to Fig. 1, the numeral 1 designates a doubletree, and 2 singletrees. To the back edge of the doubletree and each singletree a rod 3 is normally held and is bent to conform to the rear edge contour of such devices. This bar 3 is held in engagement with either the doubletree or singletrees by eyebolts 4, arranged on opposite sides of the center and at the ends thereof. The doubletree and singletrees are formed, as usual, of wood and provided with end wear sleeves or caps 5, and the rods 3 are terminally extended over the outer ends of the said caps or sleeves in planes at right angles to form forwardly-projecting hook members 6, said members being extended in advance of the front edges of the doubletree and singletrees and rebent to provide rearwardly-projecting hook members 7, parallel to the hook members 6, and to form forward bearing-bends 8. The terminals of the mem-

bers 7 are projected rearwardly beyond the adjacent portions of the rods 3 and bent inwardly to provide guards 9, one for each hook, and each stands in parallel relation to the adjacent portion of the rod 3 and spaced apart from the latter a suitable distance to serve as an entrance-throat for the attachment of draft devices or the application of singletrees to doubletrees, as clearly shown by Fig. 1. The guards 9 of the several hooks prevent the devices in engagement with the latter from becoming accidentally detached when moved rearwardly, and a reliable connection thus results. Each rod 3 has at its center between the eyebolts 4 on opposite sides of the center of the doubletree and of each singletree an eye 10, which is formed by doubling and twisting the said rods, the eye 10 being in a substantially horizontal plane for securement to the rear extremity of a wagon-tongue or analogous device, and the eyes 10 of the singletrees are in planes at right angles to the upper and lower sides of the said singletrees for convenience in assemblage of the singletrees in connection with the hooks of the doubletree and to dispose the said singletrees in proper positions.

The form of the device shown by Fig. 2, as far as the singletrees are concerned, presents a structure similar to that just described; but the rod 11, secured to the rear edge of the doubletree, is in this instance straight and is not formed with the central loop or eye 10, heretofore described. In other respects the structure disclosed by Fig. 2 is the same as that shown by Fig. 1 and bears the same reference-numerals.

In the arrangement shown by Fig. 3 the doubletree 12 has a back or reinforce iron 13, and the singletrees 14 are pivotally mounted on the said doubletree and have rods 15 without the central loops, but formed with the hooks similar to those shown by Figs. 1 and 2. In Fig. 4 a detail of either a singletree or doubletree 16 is illustrated. The rod 17, secured to the back of this device, is without the loop or eye at the center, but has the end hooks 18 in all respects similar in formation to the hooks heretofore described.

The improved device will be found exceptionally strong and durable in either of its



forms and economical in the cost of manufacture by reason of the absence of the individual hooks or holding devices usually employed in connection with the opposite ends of doubletrees and singletrees. The pulling strain on the hooks of either the doubletree or singletree is equally distributed over the back edge of such devices through the medium of the provision of the rods and the integral formation therewith of the terminal hooks for attaching purposes. In the form of doubletree and singletree having the loops or eyes at the center of the rods and which are formed before said rods are applied the expense and inconvenience arising from separately securing an eye or loop at the center of the back edge of a doubletree or singletree is overcome, and, moreover, when the rod bearing the hooks and eyes or loops, as well as the rods without the eyes or loops, is applied all the parts which serve as attaching means are simultaneously secured in operative position, thus saving considerable time in preparing a doubletree or singletree for practical service. Moreover, by disposing the rods directly against the edges of the doubletree or singletrees a reinforcement is not only provided for the latter devices, but the rods themselves are strengthened and braced, especially in view of the intermediate eyebolts 4, disposed on opposite sides

of the center of each doubletree or singletree and engaging the rods.

Changes in the form, proportions, and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

1. The combination with a doubletree or a singletree, of a rod applied to and secured in close relation to the rear edge thereof and formed with opposite horizontally-disposed terminal hooks at an angle thereto and which extend across the ends of the singletree or doubletree, the entrance-throats to said hooks being in rear of the ends of the singletree or doubletree.

2. The combination with a doubletree or a singletree, of a rod closely applied against and secured to the rear edge thereof and having horizontally-disposed angularly-projecting terminal hooks with entrance-throats in rear of the ends of the doubletree or singletree, and rear terminal guards extending inwardly in planes parallel with the said rods.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

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JAMES W. TRACY.

Witnesses:

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