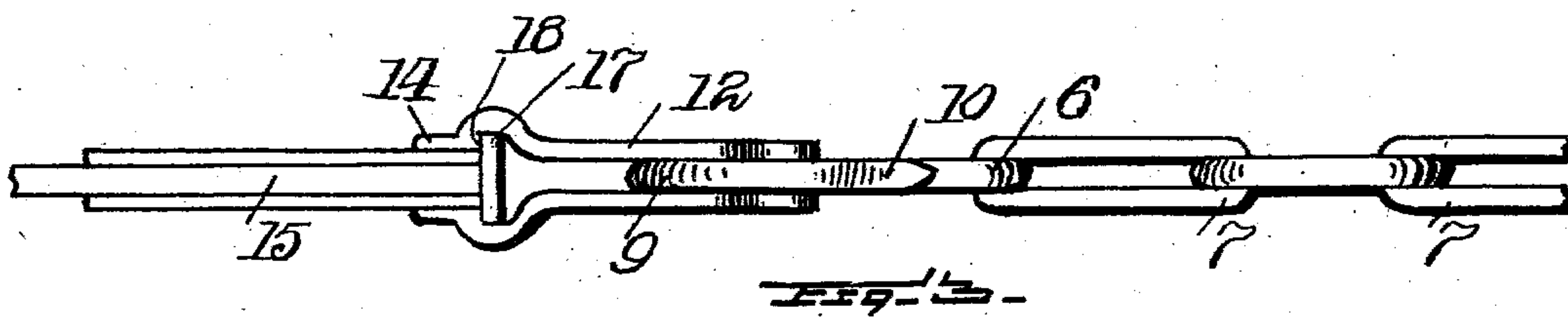
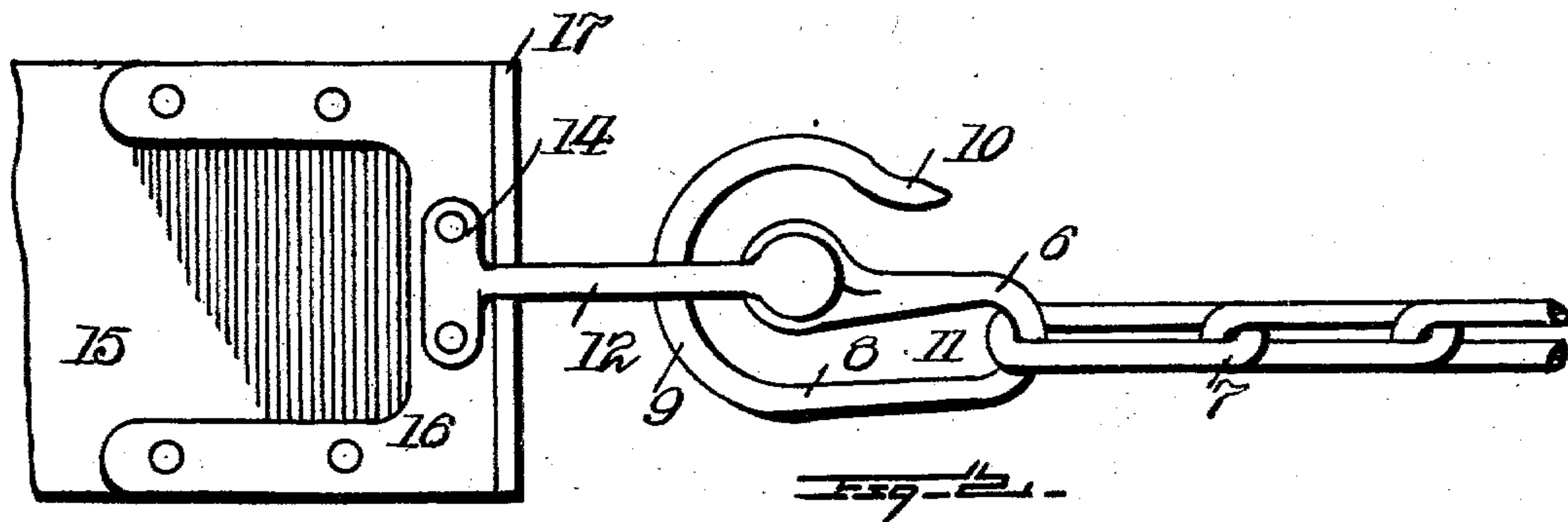
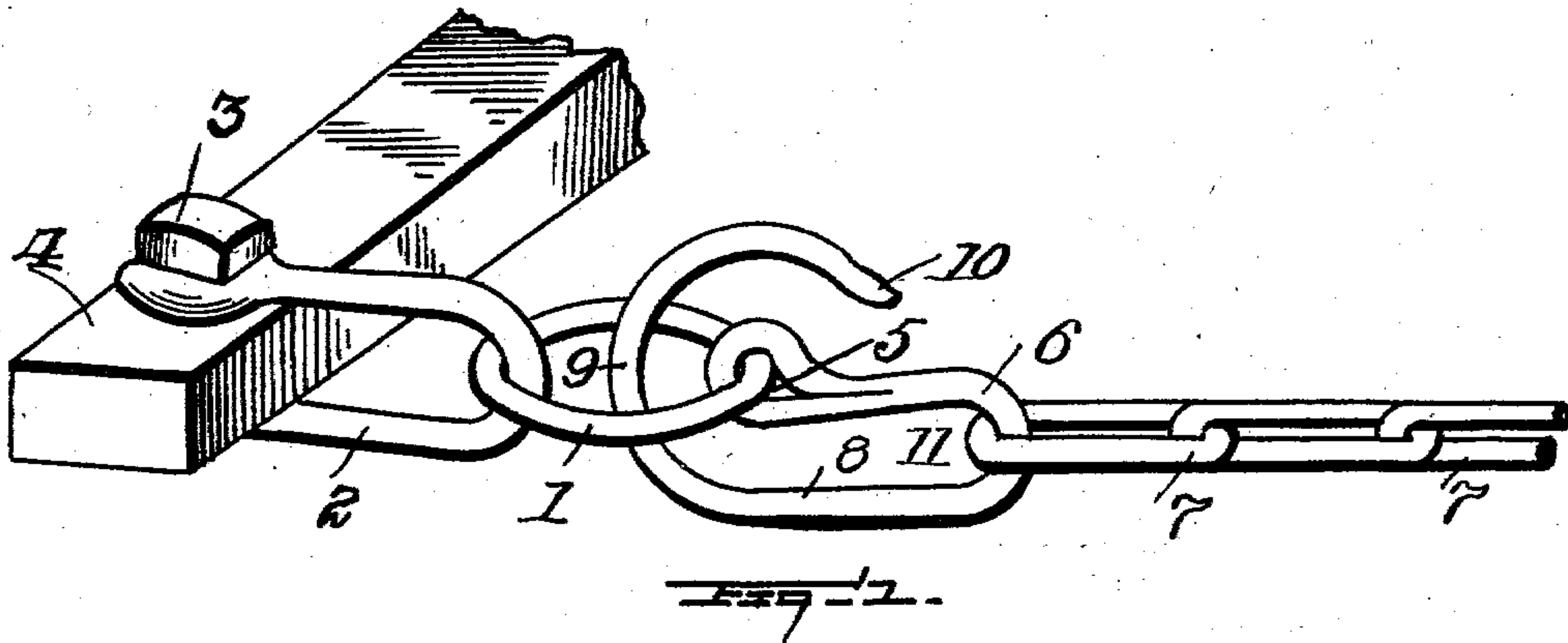


No. 720,959.

PATENTED FEB. 17, 1903.

J. W. OVERHOLT.
HOOK FOR SINGLETREES.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 31, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. OVERHOLT, OF LUXOR, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO EDMOND H. BAILEY, OF GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

HOOK FOR SINGLETREES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 720,959, dated February 17, 1903.

Application filed October 31, 1902. Serial No. 129,540. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. OVERHOLT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Luxor, in the county of Westmoreland and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hooks for Singletrees and Analogous Uses, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in hooks, and relates particularly to such hooks as are employed on singletrees, doubletrees, and in various connections on harness; and the invention has for its object to construct a hook in which the liability of accidental disengagement of the part detachably connected to the hook is reduced to a minimum.

A further object of the invention is to construct a hook in such a manner that there may be no outwardly-lying points which are liable to engage with passing objects.

Briefly described, my invention resides, primarily, in the construction of the hook, which from the pivotal eye thereof is bent forwardly and downwardly and then bent rearwardly on a plane directly underneath the eye and the forwardly-extending portion of the hook and is then curved upwardly in a rearward direction and forwardly and downwardly to a point above but in front of the eye of the hook. The hook is permanently fastened to one object by the connection through the eye thereof and is detachably connected to another object or article by inserting the free end of the hook through the object and turning the hook, so as to bring the object connected therewith into engagement with the downwardly-bent forward end of the hook. This construction will be hereinafter more fully described, and specifically pointed out in the claims, and in describing the invention in detail reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and wherein like numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views, in which—

Figure 1 is a detail perspective view showing the application of my improved hook to a singletree. Fig. 2 is a side elevation show-

ing the application of my improved hook to a trace-tug. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the same.

To employ my improved hook in connection with a singletree, I will attach the hook to the singletree by means of a ring 1, which is inserted through the eye of the hook and also engages with the clevis 2, that is fastened by means of the bolt 3 or other suitable means to the singletree 4. The ring 1 may be inserted through the eye of the hook and then slitted, or a split ring may be employed for connecting the hook to the clevis, as will be readily apparent, my invention residing in the construction of the hook.

To form my improved hook, I take a suitable bar or piece of material and double the same over at one end to form an eye 5 and then extend the bar in a forward and then downward direction to form the portion 6, with which the trace-chain 7 or other like object is detachably connected. The bar or other piece of material of which the hook is being formed is then carried rearwardly on a plane directly underneath the eye and forwardly-extending part of the hook, this portion 8 of the hook being curved upwardly at the rear of the hook, as at 9, and then curved over on a plane directly above the eye and extended forwardly, the forward or free end 10 of the hook lying at a point some distance in front of the eye. It will be observed that the parts of the hook embraced in the curve which is given to the hook are all on the same vertical plane. The pocket 11, which receives the trace-chain or other connection, is slightly wider than the remaining space between the eye and the balance of the hook, this space being adapted to be of only sufficient width to permit the easy entrance and exit of the link of the trace-chain or other connection. To detach the trace-chain or other connection, it will be observed that the end 10 of the hook is passed downwardly through the ring 1, thus elevating the forward end 6 of the hook, and when the curved portion lies under and the portion 8 of the hook is uppermost the link or other connection will be readily disengaged from the hook.

In Fig. 2 I show the same form of hook applied to a trace-tug. To accomplish this, I

employ a pair of clamp-bars 12, which are riveted to the eye of the hook at one end and at the other end have pieces 14, which are adapted to be riveted to the trace-tug 15. In order to obtain a secure connection, I preferably rivet metal plates 16 to the sides of the leather traces 15, these metallic plates 16 carrying a bar 17, the edges of which project beyond the plates, so as to be engaged by the shoulders 18 of the clamp-bars 12.

Although I have illustrated in the accompanying drawings a hook which may be advantageously employed in connection with a singletree and also a trace-tug, yet it will be observed that the hook may be advantageously employed in various other connections. For instance, it may be used in lieu of the single hook on the ends of a line or may be employed as the terret-hook on the saddle of single harness or as the neck-yoke or breast-yoke hook and in various other connections of a like nature. As the weight of the hook in front of the pivotal point is considerably greater than the weight back of the pivotal point, it will be observed that when not turned up to the position shown in the drawings the tendency of the hook will be to fall, so that the end 6 will be lowermost, obviating any danger of disengagement of the detachable connection with the hook. It will also be observed that the open end of the hook being forward toward the horses the tail of the horse will not be liable to become entangled with the hook, as is the case with single harness where the open end of the hook projects rearwardly. It will also be observed that by reason of the hook being disposed vertically instead of sidewise, as is the common case, the point or open end 10 of the hook is not liable to become engaged with any passing object, so as to damage the same, as is frequently the case where the pointed

open end of the singletree-hook projects outwardly beyond the end of the singletree. It will be observed, therefore, that while I have shown the application of the hook for two purposes yet I do not wish to be limited to such use, and it will also be noted that various changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the general spirit of the invention.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a hook having an eye formed in one end thereof, and the shank of said hook bent forwardly from the eye, and then downwardly and rearwardly, said rearwardly-bent portion extending in substantial parallelism with the forwardly-bent portion of the shank, said shank being curved upwardly in the rear of and in a parallel curve to the eye of said hook, and being carried forward beyond said eye, substantially as described.

2. A hook of the type set forth comprising an eye at one end thereof, a shank extending forwardly therefrom, said shank bent downwardly and then rearwardly in substantial parallelism with the forwardly-extending portions of said shank and in the same vertical plane therewith, the tongue of said shank being curved inwardly in substantial parallelism with the curve of said eye portion, the free end of said hook being brought forward to beyond the said eye and above the forwardly-extending portion of the shank, substantially as described.

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

JAMES W. OVERHOLT.

Witnesses:

THOS. WASHABAUGH,
P. WENDELL.