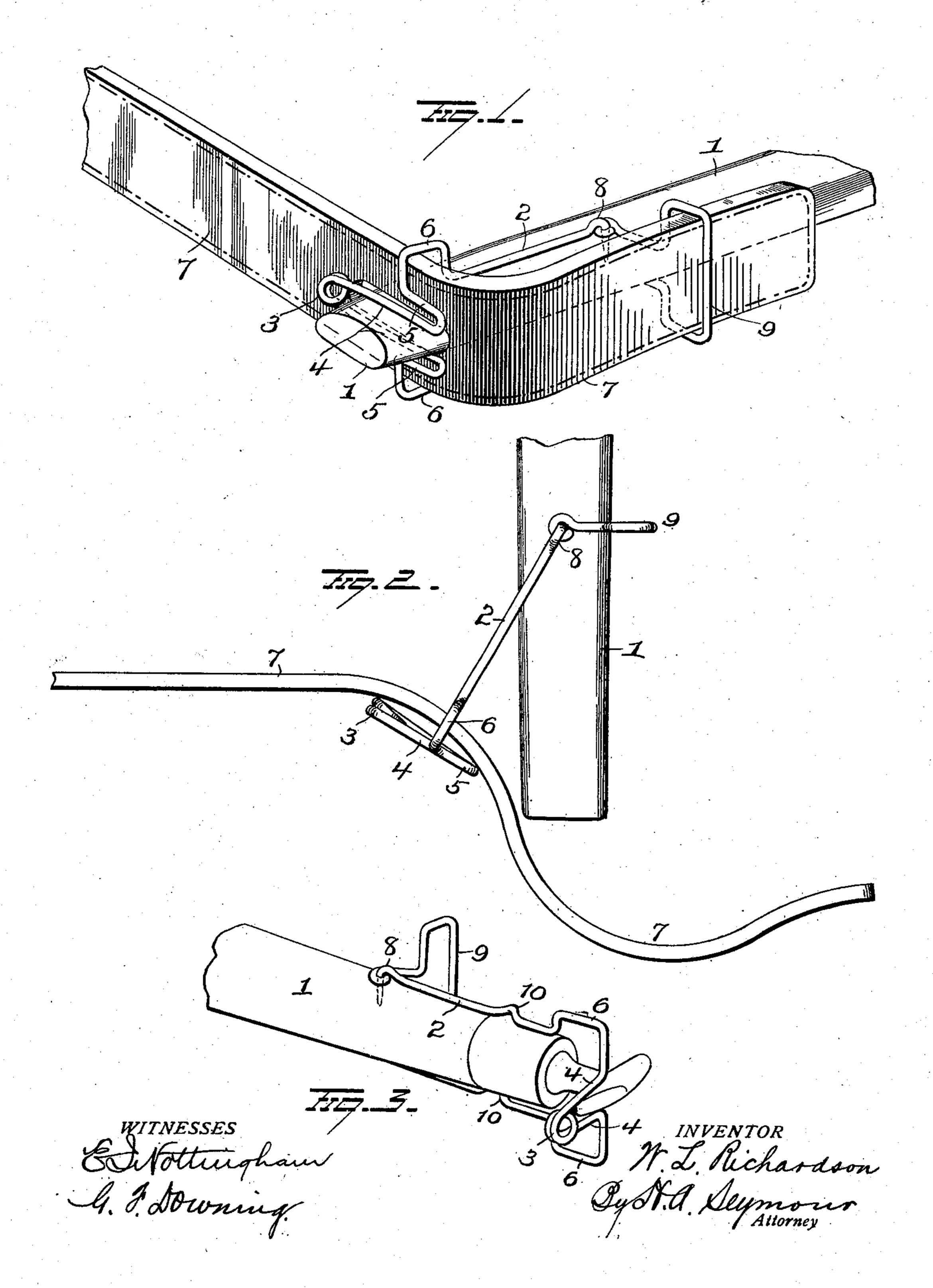
W. L. RICHARDSON.
TRACE HOLDER.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM L. RICHARDSON, OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

## TRACE-HOLDER.

No. 867,603.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 8, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, William L. Richardson, a resident of Salt Lake City, in the county of Salt Lake and State of Utah, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Holders; and I do hereby 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.

o My invention relates to improvements in trace holders, the object of the invention being to provide improvements of this character of simple construction, cheap to manufacture, applicable to any size or style of whiffletree, and neat and attractive in appearance and which will secure a trace on the whiffletree against all possibility of accidental disconnection, yet when moved to its releasing position will permit the easy and quick removal or attachment of a trace however stiff it may be.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts as will be more fully hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating my improvements in operative position. Fig. 2 is a plan view and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modification.

1 represents a whiffletree of ordinary construction, 30 to which my improved holder 2 is pivotally secured. The holder 2, comprises a spring wire, coiled midway between its ends, as shown at 3 and the wires extended approximately parallel, in a rearward direction, forming opposite spring jaws of an open spring clamp 4 to 35 slide onto and from the whiffletree and when forced thereon will securely clamp the holder against accidental movement. The wires are then bent back upon themselves, as shown at 5 to a point about midway the thickness of the whiffletree when attached thereto, and 40 are then bent, forming the loop portion 6 to receive the trace 7, and then extend inward along the whiffletree the desired distance and are slightly curved or bowed. at their inner ends as shown at 8, and terminate in lugs or pins to be forced into the whiffletree and secured in 45 any desired manner. The loop portion 6 is located a sufficient distance from the point of pivotal attachment to permit the loop when the holder is swung to open or releasing position to allow the trace to be easily inserted in the loop and over the whiffletree or removed

from such position without the application of great 50 power even though the trace be very stiff.

A wire loop 9 is pivotally attached to the bowed portions 8 of holder 2 by bending the ends of the loop 9 around the bowed portion 8 and this loop 9 is adapted to receive the end of the trace when the latter is secured on the whiffletree some distance from its rear end and thus hold this long overlapping portion of the trace out of the way and is an additional security for the trace attachment.

The operation is as follows:—To attach the trace to 60 the whiffletree, the holder 2 is swung to the position shown in Fig. 2, when the trace can be readily passed through the loop 6 and over the end of the whiffletree. The holder is then forced back onto the whiffletree and the spring clamp 4 will firmly grasp the end of the latter and prevent possibility of accidental movement of the holder.

The spring clamp 4 can be spread or contracted to fit whiffletrees of various sizes and shapes and the holder can be adjusted to fit almost any kind of whiffletree 70 known and can be easily affixed to whiffletrees in use.

In the modification illustrated in Fig. 3, the holder is shown on a whiffletree having a metal end and is provided with inwardly projecting bent jaws 10 to grasp the whiffletree and assist the spring jaw 4, which latter 75 engages the metal end, and securely clamp the holder in its operative position.

A great many slight changes might be made in the general form and arrangement of the parts described without departing from my invention, and hence, I would have it understood that I do not restrict myself to the precise details set forth but consider myself at liberty to make such slight changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim 85 as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:—

1. A trace holder, comprising arms to be pivotally secured to a whiffletree, an open spring clamp to engage the whiffletree and secure the holder thereon against pivotal movement, and a trace receiving loop formed in the holder 90 between the clamp and the pivotal point of the holder.

2. A trace holder, comprising a spring wire bent forming an open clamp at its end to slide onto the whiffletree and clamp the same, a trace receiving loop formed in the wire to one side of the clamp, and means for pivotally 95 securing the inner ends of the wires to the whiffletree.

3. A trace holder comprising a spring wire to be pivotally attached at its ends to a whiffletree and bent between its ends forming a spring clamp open at one end to receive the outer end of the whiffletree, and loops 100

formed in the wire in proximity to the clamp to embrace the edges of the trace.

4. The combination with a whiffletree, of a trace holder pivoted thereto having an open spring clamp at its outer end to engage the outer end of the whiffletree, trace receiving loops formed in the holder between the clamp and points of pivotal attachment to embrace the edges of the trace, and a trace receiving loop pivotally attached to the holder.

10 5. A wire trace holder comprising two parts, pivotally connected together, one to be pivotally attached to a

whifletree and constructed with an open spring clamp to receive the whifletree outside of the connection of the trace to the latter, and the other to receive and hold the overlapping end of the trace.

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

WILLIAM L. RICHARDSON.

Witnesses:

J. E. FRICK,

E. W. COALE.