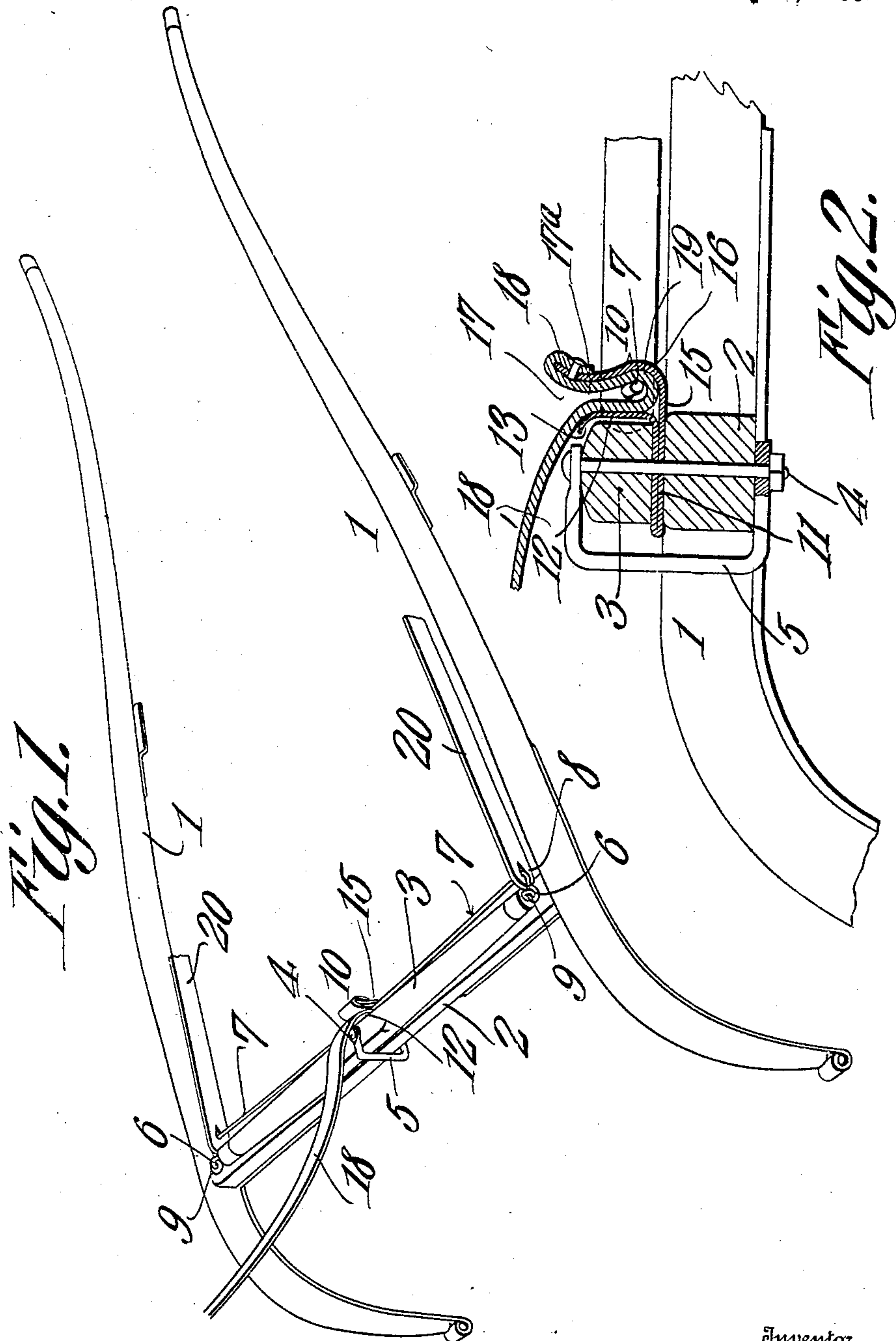


J. WORRELL.
HORSE DETACHER.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 30, 1908.

904,666.

Patented Nov. 24, 1908.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WORRELL, OF LINDEN, TENNESSEE.

HORSE-DETACHER.

No. 904,666.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 24, 1908.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WORRELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Linden, in the county of Perry and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful Horse-Detacher, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a horse detacher, and has for its object to provide a simple device of this character which can be quickly operated to release the traces from connection with the whiffletree and permit an unruly horse attached to a vehicle equipped with this device to escape from the shafts and save the occupants of the vehicle from danger and the vehicle itself from possible destruction.

The invention has no complicated mechanism to get out of order, is operated by the simple act of pulling a strap, and enables the draft to be applied to the whiffletree in substantially the same horizontal plane as on vehicles having the ordinary form of trace fastenings.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the shafts of a vehicle with my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a central cross sectional view through the cross bar of the shafts and the whiffletree and through the improved horse detacher.

Similar reference numerals are used for the same parts in all the figures.

The vehicle shafts 1, their connecting cross bar 2 and whiffletree 3 pivoted thereto by the usual bolt 4 and rearwardly embracing yoke 5 are like those parts in common use. Fastened to each end of the whiffletree 3 is an eye 6 to which is hinged a metal rod 7 long enough to reach the center line of the shafts. Each rod 7 has a right angled bend 8 near its outer end which terminates in a loop or eye 9 connected to the eye 6 in the whiffletree end, as shown in Fig. 1. As thus constructed the rods 7 can swing in vertical, horizontal and any intermediate planes. The rods are of equal length and when in normal position their ends are practically in contact in front of the whiffletree opposite the pivot bolt 4 thereof.

The numeral 10 indicates a clip made of

thin spring metal, such as steel, sharply bent upon itself about the center of its length to bring the two sections in contact for a distance equal to the width of the whiffletree. This folded portion 11 of the strip is placed between the cross bar 2 and the whiffletree 3 and serves as a wear plate for these parts. A hole is made in the portion 11 through which the pivot bolt 4 passes. That portion 12 of the upper fold of the strip in front of the whiffletree is bent upwardly at a right angle and lies close to the forward edge of said whiffletree with its extreme end 13 curving over the top of the same. The under portion 15 of the fold 11 extends forward a short distance beyond the portion 12 and is bent upwardly and rearwardly to produce a curved seat 16, after which it is curved outwardly to form in connection with the portion 12 a spreading mouth 17 to receive the ends of the rods 7. The portion 15 terminates a short distance above the plane of the top of the whiffletree and has riveted to its end on the outer side a strap 18 of leather or other suitable flexible material. The strap 18 is normally folded over the end of the portion 15 and down its inner side to the seat 16, forming there a loop 19 in which lie the adjacent ends of the rods 6, and thence upwardly against the portion 12 the strap passes rearwardly to the dash of the vehicle where it is secured in a convenient position within easy reach. The portion 15 is of such shape that when the strap 18 is in place a narrow throat 17^a is formed below the mouth 17 to hold the rods in the loop 19.

The traces 20 are secured to the rods 7 adjacent the right angled bends 8 at their outer ends, and as these ends are connected to eyes 6 in the axis of the whiffletree, the draft of the horse relative to the pivot bolt 4 will be the same as when the traces are coupled directly to the whiffletree. The traces 20 are attached to the rods 7 by passing the ends of said rods through the eyes in the traces and pushing the latter towards the shafts. The strap 18 is then folded and placed in the seat 16 almost closing the throat 17^a, after which the ends of the rods 7 are pushed down into the fold 19 of the strap, the portion 15 yielding to let the rods pass through the neck 17^a. To release the horse, the strap 18 is given a pull, this draws the loop from the seat 16 and releases the ends of the rods 7 which will be drawn forwardly in the direction of the shafts and permit the traces to slip from

them and release the horse. Placing the pulling force or draft of the horse at or below the center of the whiffletree, gives better results and prevents the pivot bolt 4 from being bent by the force applied to the whiffletree.

I claim:—

1. In a horse detacher, a whiffletree, a rod hinged at each end of said whiffletree in its longitudinal axis and having a right angled bend at its hinged end, the other ends of said rods extending towards each other, combined with a clip formed of a single strip of spring metal folded upon itself with the folded end between said whiffletree and the cross bar of the shafts and secured by a through bolt, the two free portions of said strip being turned up in front of the whiffletree to form a seat for said rods, a contracted throat and a spreading mouth; and a strap attached to the end of the outermost portion of the clip

adapted to fold into said mouth, throat and neck around said rods and extend rearwardly therefrom.

2. In a horse detacher a clip therefor formed of a single strip of spring metal bent upon itself the two portions contacting for about one half their length from the fold to enter between the whiffletree and cross-bar, the upper portion being then bent vertically and its end curved rearwardly, the under portion extending a short distance in advance and curved upwardly and inwardly to form a seat and a contracted throat and then outwardly to form a spreading mouth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN WORRELL.

Witnesses:

A. M. AUSTIN,
C. D. LOVELESS.