(No Model.)

J. B. GORDON & M. J. CUNNINGHAM.

WHIP SOCKET.

No. 307,110. Patented Oct. 28, 1884.

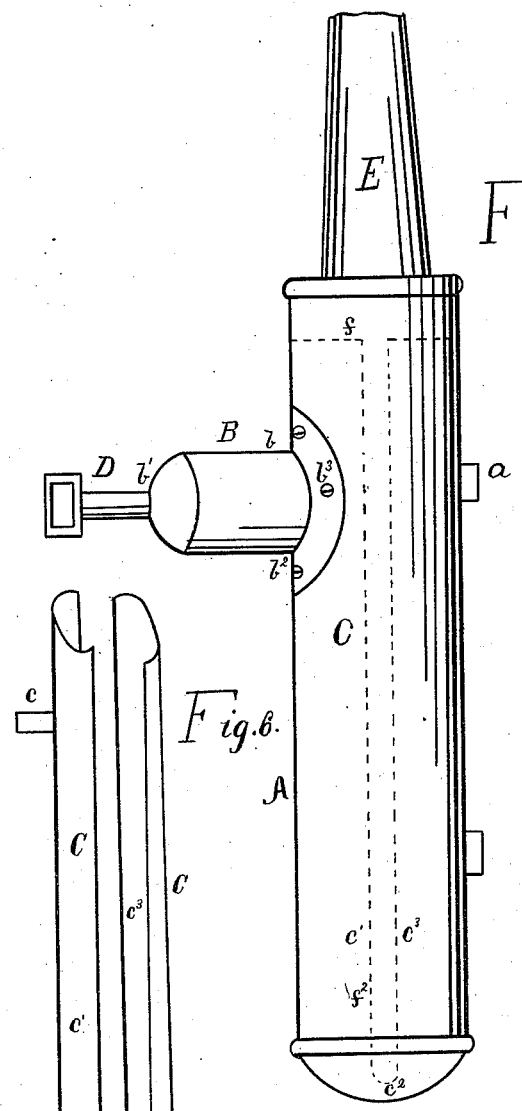


Fig. 1.

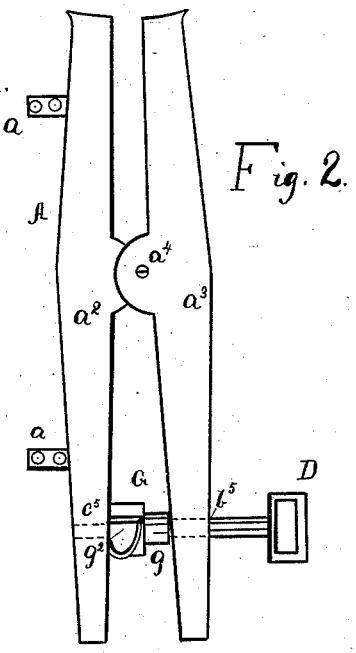
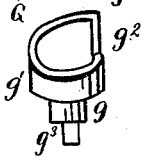


Fig. 2.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 3.



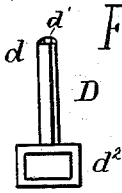


Fig. 4.

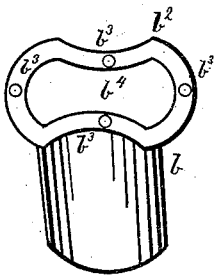


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.
G. A. Haseltine.
L. F. Martin

Inventor.
John B. Gordon and
Martin J. Cunningham,
By Seward A. Haseltine.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. GORDON AND MARTIN J. CUNNINGHAM, OF SPRINGFIELD, MO.

WHIP-SOCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 307,110, dated October 28, 1884.

Application filed May 23, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN B. GORDON and MARTIN J. CUNNINGHAM, citizens of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Greene and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Locks and Whip-Sockets; and we 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.

Our invention is a new and useful device for locking a whip into a socket, the object of which is to provide for locking an ordinary whip in any kind of a whip-socket to prevent its being stolen. These objects we attain by means of the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the lock at the top. Fig. 2 is a view showing a hinged whip-socket with the lock at the bottom. Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6 are detail views.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A represents any ordinary whip-socket of any desired size, and it may be of any desired shape. A modification is shown, A′, Fig. 2. It has the usual attachment, *a*. To the said whip-socket we attach a device for causing the whip to be clasped at or near the top of the socket, where the whip is smaller than at the butt or lower end, so as to prevent the whip from being pulled out of the socket while the device is locked.

B is a lock attached to the socket, preferably near the top or bottom. It is composed of a case, *b*, of any desired size and shape, which has a hole, *b′*, to receive a key, and a flange, b^2, for securing it to the socket, which may be accomplished by bolts, rivets, solder, or other equivalent means. In this case is placed a screw or equivalent device, preferably a cam, G, as shown, having a head, *g′*, which has a varying or inclined edge, g^2, and an end, *g*, formed in any desired shape, in which may be made a hole to receive a key, but preferably, as shown, a post, g^3, which may be made square, as represented, or in any desired shape, to enter the hole in the key.

In the whip-socket is placed a suitable spring, C, which we prefer to bend in the shape of a bow, c' c^2 c^3, Fig. 6, (also by dotted lines in Fig. 1.) To this spring is attached a post, lug, or projecting rod, *c*, which is placed so as to rest against the varying or inclined edge g^2 of the cam.

D is a key, of any desired shape, to enter the opening *b′* in the case *b*, and may be formed to enter the opening in or to receive the part of the end *g*, as above set forth. We prefer to form a hole, *d′*, in the end *d*, to receive the post g^3 of the cam.

When it is desired to lock the whip in the socket, the key is placed in the opening *b′* and turns the cam G. This pushes out the rod or post *c*, which rests against the varying edge of the cam, and forces the attached side c' of the spring against the whip E at a point, *f*, where it is smaller than at the butt or bottom end, f^2. The key is removed and the whip is removed and the whip is secured. To loosen the whip, the key is replaced and turned in the opposite direction, which permits the spring to move back against the side of the socket. When the socket is hinged at or near its middle, as in Fig. 2, a^4, the screw, cam, or other equivalent device to be turned by the key is placed between the lower ends of the sides or levers a^2 a^3, which are formed to receive it. A hole, b^5, is made for the key to enter one side, while the other is provided with a lug or post, c^5, against which the head of the cam works to open the lower part of the levers, which closes the top about the whip, and vice versa, when desired to release the whip.

This device is simple, cheap, and durable, and saves both time and trouble in taking care of whips, and also prevents their being stolen or lost by any means from the socket.

Having thus described the construction, use, and operation of our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a whip-socket, a cam, G, which has a head, *g′*, with a varying edge,

g^2, and an end, g, with a lug, c, said lug being placed so as to work upon the varying edge of the cam to open and close the mouth of a whip-socket, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of a whip-socket having a case, b, with a spring, C, having a lug, c, together with a cam, G, having a varying inclined edge, g^2, and a key, D, said cam operating upon the said lug so as to close and open the socket, substantially as shown and described.

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

JOHN B. GORDON.
MARTIN J. CUNNINGHAM.

Witnesses:
SEWARD A. HASELTINE,
J. T. WHITE.