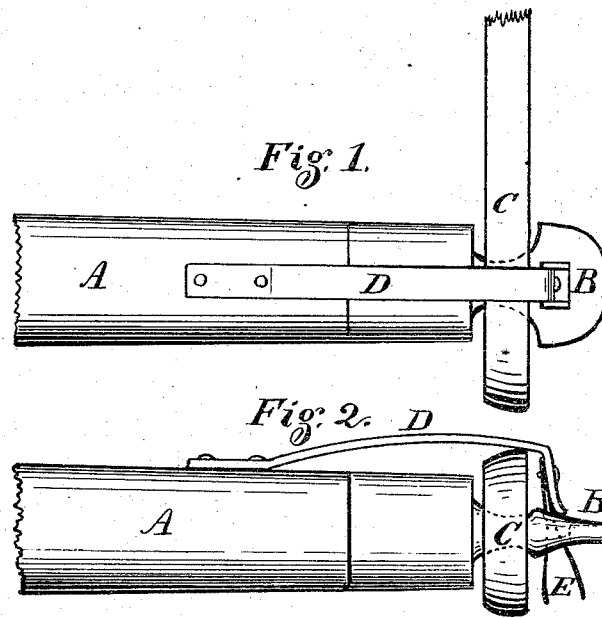


W. WELLS.  
Trace-Fasteners.

No. 164,950.

Patented June 29, 1875.



Witnesses.

*A. J. Marvin*  
*H. B. Tabbitt*

Inventor.

*William Wells*  
*By Geo. W. Tibbitts, Atty.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WELLS, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TRACE-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **164,950**, dated June 29, 1875; application filed March 10, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WELLS, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented an Improvement in Trace-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification:

This improvement relates to a device for securing traces on whiffletree ends; and consists of a spring-tip on the end of a strap attached to the whiffletree, and which passes over the trace and through the eye in the whiffletree end.

To enable others to fully understand my invention I proceed to describe the same in detail by the aid of the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view. Fig. 2 is a side elevation.

A represents a whiffletree; B, the metal end; C, the trace. D is a strap attached to the whiffletree A, and is used to keep the trace from coming off. In order to prevent the said strap from flying or jarring out, I place on the

end which goes through the eye a metal tip, E, composed of a strip of steel bent double, as shown, leaving the ends spread apart, and which is secured to the strap by a rivet at the folded end, leaving the open ends pendent. To insert this tip the ends are pressed together and passed through the eye in the whiffletree end, when they spring apart and effectually prevent the strap being withdrawn except by hand.

I am aware that it is not new to employ a spring-metal catch, either made of a single piece or having one end jointed or hinged, to secure traces to whiffletrees; and I do not consider any such devices as of my invention.

What I claim is—

In a trace-fastening, the combination of socket B, leather strap D, and riveted spring-tip E, all substantially as set forth.

WILLIAM WELLS.

Witnesses:

M. ROGERS,  
CHAS. A. STIBLE.