

N. DEXTER.  
DETACHING HORSES.

No. 188,602.

Patented March 20, 1877.

Fig. 1.

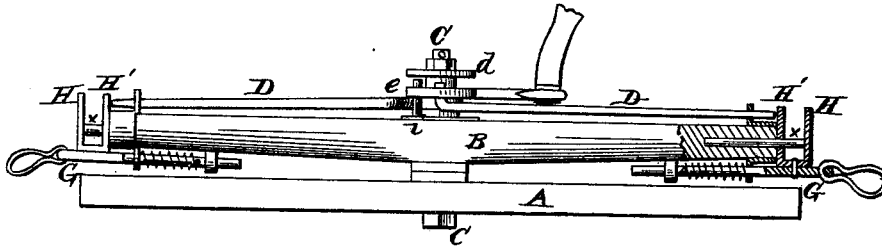
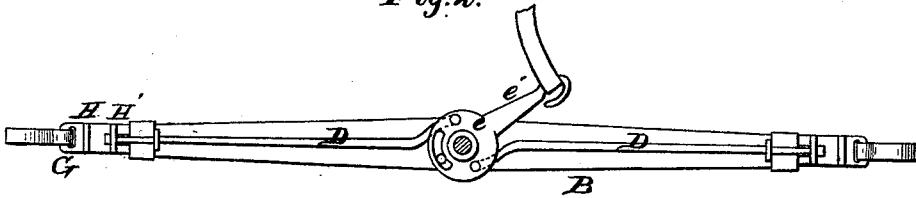


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN DETACHING HORSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **188,602**, dated March 20, 1877; application filed September 9, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NORMAN DEXTER, of Finleyville, in the county of Washington, and in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Device for Detaching Horses from Vehicles; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the devices hereinafter described with the whiffletree of a buggy or wagon, whereby the traces may be readily detached at the will of the driver, as will be set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a side view, and Fig. 2 a plan view, of my invention.

In the figures, A represents the cross-bar between the shafts of a vehicle, and C the whiffletree, connected to same, in the usual manner, by means of a screw-bolt.

Each end of the whiffletree is provided with a stationary bolt or pin, *x*, over which the end of the trace is caught.

Lying beneath the whiffletree at each end are two movable bolts, G G. These bolts are held in suitable bearings, which are secured to the whiffletree, and are surrounded with coiled-wire springs, which operate upon said bolts, so as to draw them inward.

At the outer ends of these bolts, and forming a part of them, are two ears, H H'. The inner of these ears is provided with a hole, through which the pin *x* of the whiffletree passes. The outer ear butts up against the end of the pin *x* when the devices are in their normal condition.

When the bolts are drawn outward the end of the tug or trace may be inserted between the two ears and caught upon the pin *x*.

D D represent two rods, which are placed upon the top of the whiffletree, and held in place by suitable guides. The inner ends of these rods turn upward and catch into a disk, *e*, through holes in the same.

The disk *e* surrounds the bolt C, and partially rotates around it. This disk has a lever, *e'*, connected to it, and from this lever a cord passes back to the driver for the purpose of operating the disk.

When the lever *e'* is pulled backward, the rods, which are connected eccentrically to the disk, move outward, and, pressing against the inner ears H', move them so as to throw the traces from the pins *x*, and thus disengage them from the whiffletree.

A washer, *d*, is placed over the bolt C, for the purpose of keeping the disk *e* in its proper place.

A pin, *i*, passes up from the whiffletree, and through a slot in the disk *e*, which acts as a guide for said disk.

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

The bolts G G, with their springs and ears H H', in combination with the whiffletree and its bolts, and the disk *e*, with its arms D D and lever *e'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 30th day of August, 1876.

NORMAN DEXTER.

Witnesses:

ALFRED B. HUFFMAN,  
GEORGE O. JONES.