J. W. REEVES.

OX BOW.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 28, 1910.

1,040,756.

Patented Oct. 8, 1912.

Fig. 1.

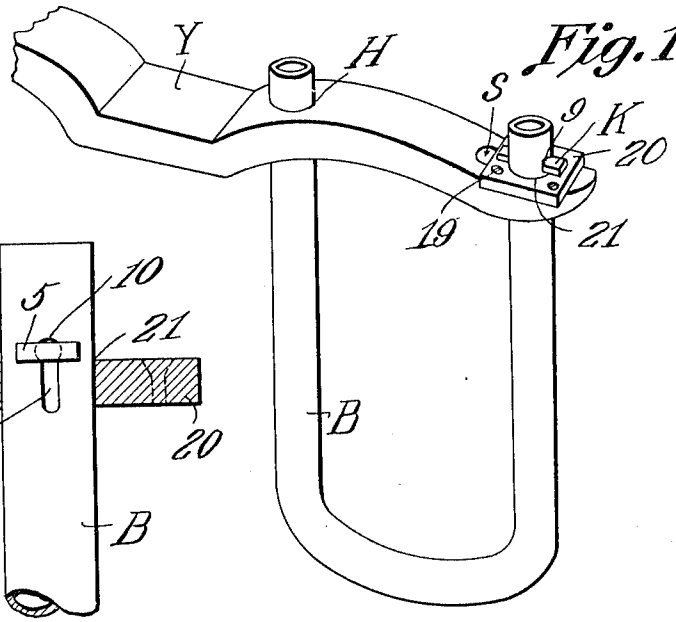


Fig. 5.

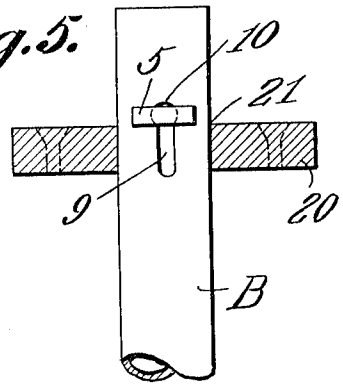


Fig. 2.

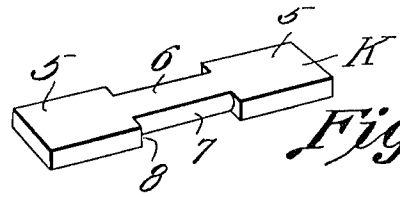


Fig. 3.

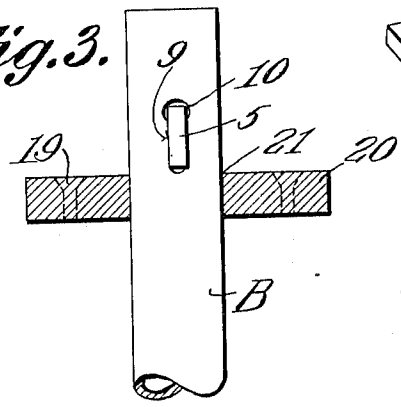
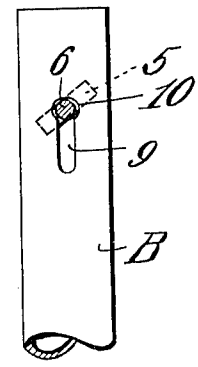


Fig. 4.



James W. Reeves
Inventor

by C. A. Snow & Co.
Attorneys

Witnesses

J. Tomlin

L. Compton

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES WILEY REEVES, OF BURNSVILLE, MISSISSIPPI.

OX-BOW.

1,040,756. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 8, 1912.

Application filed November 28, 1910. Serial No. 594,567.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. REEVES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Burnsville, in the county of Tishomingo and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Ox-Bow, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to neck yokes, such as ordinarily used on oxen, and more especially to the bows thereof; and the object of the same is to produce an improved fastening between the bow and the yoke.

To this end the invention consists in the details set forth below and shown in the drawings hereto attached, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device complete, Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the key, Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are sectional views showing different steps in the act of attaching the bow.

Referring to the said drawings, the letter Y designates the ox yoke which is usually made of wood, and the letter B designates the bow which I prefer to make of bent tubing and in a variety of sizes. One leg of the bow usually and preferably projects through a round hole H in the yoke, and the other leg through a slot S therein, this arrangement permitting the use of a narrower bow than that shown in the drawing, whereas the length or depth of different bows will vary according to the use to which they are to be put.

Coming now more particularly to the present invention, the letter K designates a key which is employed for fastening my improved ox bow in place. This key best seen in Fig. 2 is made of metal having a flat body I-shaped in plan view and including rectangular heads 5 connected by a narrow stem 6 which is rounded on its opposite edges 7 so as to leave shoulders 8 facing toward each other. The bow B is provided in one or both its legs with an upright key-hole slot 9 whose length equals the greatest width of the head 5 of the key as best seen in Fig. 3, and the rounded end 10 of said key-hole slot has a diameter which equals the greatest width of the neck 6 of the key so that said neck may be turned therein. Upon the yoke Y is placed, and in some cases may be secured by screws 19 as shown, a plate or washer 20 made preferably rectangular in contour, and having a round hole 21 of a size to closely fit this leg of the bow B. The use of this plate permits the application of the bow to a yoke which has one hole H and one slot S, the plate lying over the slot S and presenting a hole which is spaced from the hole H a distance equal to the width of the bow which is being used. Thus it will be seen that with the use of such a plate any bow within a reasonable limit can be connected to the yoke, providing only that the hole H and slot S through the yoke are of sufficient width to admit the legs of the bow. It is intended that the inner leg shall pass freely through the hole H, while the outer leg shall pass through the slot S and the hole 21 in the plate and be held by the key K passing through the key-hole 9 at a point above said plate. Having secured this plate to the bow, the parts are assembled by inserting the legs of the bow upward through the yoke, one leg passing through the hole H and remaining freely therein and the other leg passing through the hole 21 in the plate 20 and the whole bow being raised so that the leg which has the key-hole slot 9 shall be projected considerably through the plate as seen in Fig. 3. The key is then turned on edge and inserted through the key-hole slot, then it is raised until its neck stands within the rounded end 10 of said slot as seen in Fig. 4, then it is turned axially for a quarter revolution until the longest diameter of said neck stands transversely of the rounded end of the key-hole slot at which time the neck cannot pass down into the small end of the slot because the neck in that direction is wider than said slot, and then the entire bow is dropped to the position shown in Fig. 5 when the key will rest flat upon the plate.

The assembling of parts as just described is of course done after the yoke has been placed upon the neck of the animal, and the bow is placed astride its neck in a manner well understood; and it will be found that with but little practice the parts can be assembled very quickly in the manner above described. Thereafter the animal will have extreme freedom of action whether going forward or turning corners or even if it should be backed, and I have found by experience that if the animal should lie down or fall down into a cramped position where it is necessary to remove the bow before the animal can be got up again, the parts can be very readily disconnected without the use of any tools.

What I claim as new is:—

The combination with a yoke having a circular opening extending therethrough and a longitudinally extending slot, of a plate secured to the yoke and bridging the slot, said plate being adjustable longitudinally of the slot and having a circular opening therein adapted to register with the slot, a U-shaped bow having its ends extending through the circular openings in the yoke and plate respectively, that end portion of the bow above the plate being formed with a longitudinal slot, and a flat key removably and revolubly mounted in the slot, the intermediate portion of the key engaged by the bow being reduced to permit rotation of the key within the slot, the flat end portions of the key bearing downwardly on the plate and constituting supports for the bow, the pressure of said end portions upon the plate serving to prevent rotation of the key within the bow.

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

JAMES WILEY REEVES.

Witnesses:
WALTER L. ELRIDGE,
L. M. GROSS.