My present invention pertains to tongues for wagons, agricultural machines and other purposes, and it contemplates the provision of a tongue which while simple and inexpensive in construction is possessed of the practical advantages hereinafter ascribed to it.

The invention in all its details will be fully understood from the following description and claim when the same are read in connection with the drawing, accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 comprises disconnected perspectives of the parts comprised in my improvement.

Figure 2 is a detail perspective of a portion of the body of the tongue.

Figure 3 is a detail perspective of the metallic reinforcement of the tongue.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view showing the clip of my improvement in connection with a neck yoke.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawing.

I show in Figures 1 and 2 the forward end of a tongue body constructed in accordance with my invention, the said body being designated by 1 and being formed, by preference, of wood, and characterized by a plurality of vertically disposed apertures 2 and by a longitudinal central rib 3, the said rib 3 extending from the upper surface of the tongue over the end of the tongue and under the tongue longitudinally to an intermediate point 4 in the length of the tongue, said rib 3 affording rabbets 5 at its opposite sides, Figure 2.

The reinforcement of my novel tongue is designated by 6 and includes upper and lower apertured straps, and a bight 7 joining the forward portions of the said upper and lower straps. The straps alluded to are connected to the body 1 through the medium of bolts or rivets 8, and the said bight or loop 7 is extended above the plane of the upper surface of the upper strap and is merged into a curvilinear portion 8 which is merged, in turn, into a straight portion 9, said portions 8 and 9 serving in conjunction with the before-mentioned rabbets 5 of the body 1 to form channels 10. The said channels 10 extend from notches 11 in the lower strap of the metallic reinforcement to the bight or loop 7. The said notches 11 are formed in the lateral edges of the lower strap 9, and are designed to permit of the ready introduction into the channels 10 of the inwardly extending projections 12 on a clip 13. Manifestly, the said projections 12 may be expediously and easily passed through the notches 11 in the lower plate of the metallic reinforcement and into the channels 10 after which said projections 12 may be moved along the channels 10 to a position in the bight or loop 7 of the reinforcement. In the latter position, the clip 13 may be used for the connection of a neck yoke to the forward end of the tongue, or may be utilized for the attachment to the tongue of a lead chain, (not shown).

Obviously, when it is not desired to use the clip 13, a clip 13', Figure 4, or an appropriate clip of any other configuration may be employed for the connection with the tongue of a neck yoke designated by 14 in Figure 4 and connected by chains 15 with the clip.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that by virtue of my improvement the clip is strongly connected to the tongue without liability of casual displacement, and yet when it is desired to disconnect the clip and consequently the neck yoke or the lead chain, as the case may be, from the tongue, the same may be expeditiously and easily accomplished by moving the projections 12 of the clip downwardly and rearwardly in the channels 10 until the projections 12 are coincident with the notches 11 whereupon the projections 12 may be moved downwardly to separate the clip from the tongue. It follows from this that the clip may be readily connected with the tongue when it is desired to use the clip.

Another practical advantage of my improvement will be appreciated when it is stated that my tongue attachment or appurtenance does not offer any projection against which lines or reins can catch either below, above, or at the sides of the tongue.

I have explicitly described the preferred embodiment of my invention in order to impart an exact understanding of the said embodiments in all of its details. I do not desire, however, to be understood as limiting myself to the precise structure disclosed, my invention being defined by my appended claim within the scope of which structural changes or modifications may be made without departure from my invention.
Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

In combination, a tongue body apertured and provided with a longitudinal central rib and rabbets at the opposite sides of the rib, said rib extending from an intermediate point in the length of the body at the under side thereof in front of the forward end of the body and to a point flush with the upper side of the body, a metallic reinforcement having upper and lower straps connected respectively to the upper and lower sides of the body and also having a bight or loop connecting the upper and lower straps and extending upwardly beyond the upper strap, the lower strap serving in conjunction with said rabbets to form channels, and the said lower strap having lateral notches in communication with the channels, and a clip detachably associated with the reinforced tongue body and constructed and arranged to straddle the lower strap of the metallic reinforcement and having inwardly extending projections adapted to be introduced through the notches of the lower strap and moved in the channels to and from the upwardly extending bight or loop.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHESTER HETRICK.