

L. K. Selden.

Umbrella.

N^o 16340

Patented Jan. 6, 1857.

Fig. 2.

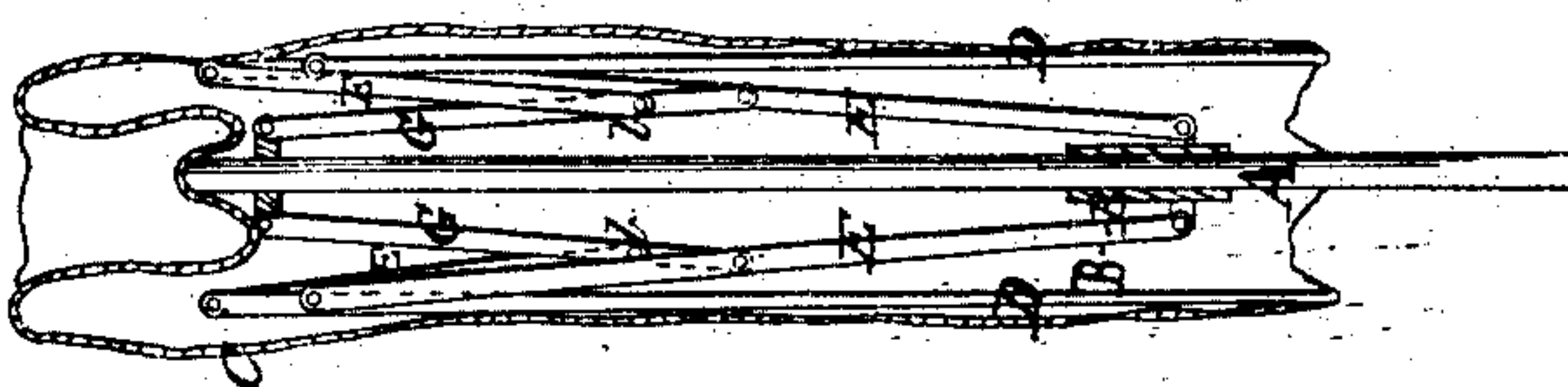
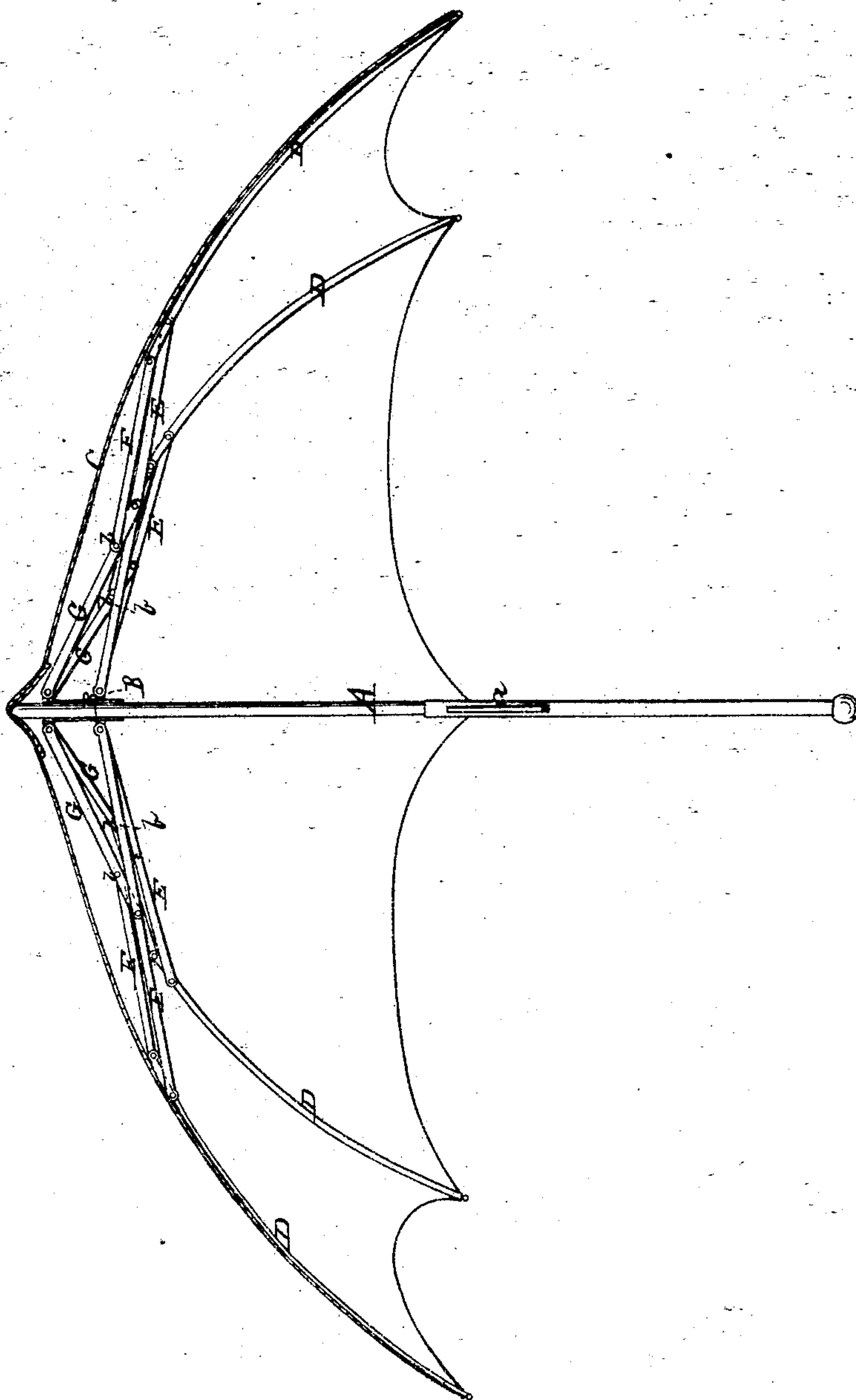


Fig. 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

L. K. SELDEN, OF HADDAM, CONNECTICUT.

FOLDING UMBRELLA.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 16,340, dated January 6, 1857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, L. K. SELDEN, of Haddam, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Portable or Folding Umbrella; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a vertical section of my improvement, the umbrella being in an open or distended state. Fig. 2, is also a vertical section of ditto, the umbrella being folded or in a closed state.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

My invention consists in the employment or use of jointed braces attached to the inner ends of the ribs and to the stretchers and also to the upper end of the stick or handle, as will be hereinafter fully shown and described, whereby the umbrella may be folded within a short space, and the use of the catch or fastening for keeping the ribs distended, dispensed with.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents the handle or stick which is provided with a slide B. The handle is jointed at *a*, the joint being constructed in any proper way.

C, represents the cover to which the ribs D, are attached. These ribs are quite short, extending about half way between the edge of the cover and the upper end of the handle.

E, are the stretchers, the outer ends of which are pivoted to the ribs D, at a short distance from their upper ends. The inner ends of the stretchers are pivoted to the slide B. To the upper ends of the ribs D, braces F, are pivoted, and the inner ends of these braces are pivoted at *b*, to braces G. The upper ends of the braces G are pivoted to the upper end of the stick A and the lower ends of said braces G, are pivoted to the stretchers F.

From the above description of parts it

will be seen that the ribs D, are firmly supported and kept properly in place by the stretchers E, and braces F, G, and that the ribs are distended and closed by raising and lowering the slide B. When the ribs are closed, the upper or central portion of the cover folds within the outer portion, as shown in Fig. 2, the braces F, G, fold inward. When the slide B, is raised, and the ribs D, and cover C, distended, no catch is required to hold the slide in proper place— for the braces F, G, are brought nearly in line and consequently the strain or thrust acts upon the braces nearly in line with their pivots. To close the umbrella, therefore, all that is required is merely to draw down the slide a trifle and the braces being thereby thrown out of line, the ribs will readily fold. Another advantage of the improvement is that the cover cannot be blown by the wind, inside out, as is frequently the case with ordinary umbrellas. When the wind acts forcibly against the inner side, the braces F, G, will be thrown out of line with each other, and they will fold inward leaving the wind to act against the loose center portion of the cover. The slide B, may be immediately raised so as to again distend the ribs. This is an important feature in the invention, because umbrellas are often broken or injured in consequence of being turned by sudden gusts of wind. The ribs D, may be constructed of metal, whalebone or cane, and the stretchers and braces may be constructed of metal. The improvement is applicable to parasols as well as to umbrellas.

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

The braces F, G, connected by pivots *b*, and attached by pivots to the ribs D, stretchers E and handle A as herein shown and described for the purpose set forth.

L. K. SELDEN.

Witnesses:

CHAS. S. RUSSELL,
I. E. SELDEN.