

E. Jacobs.

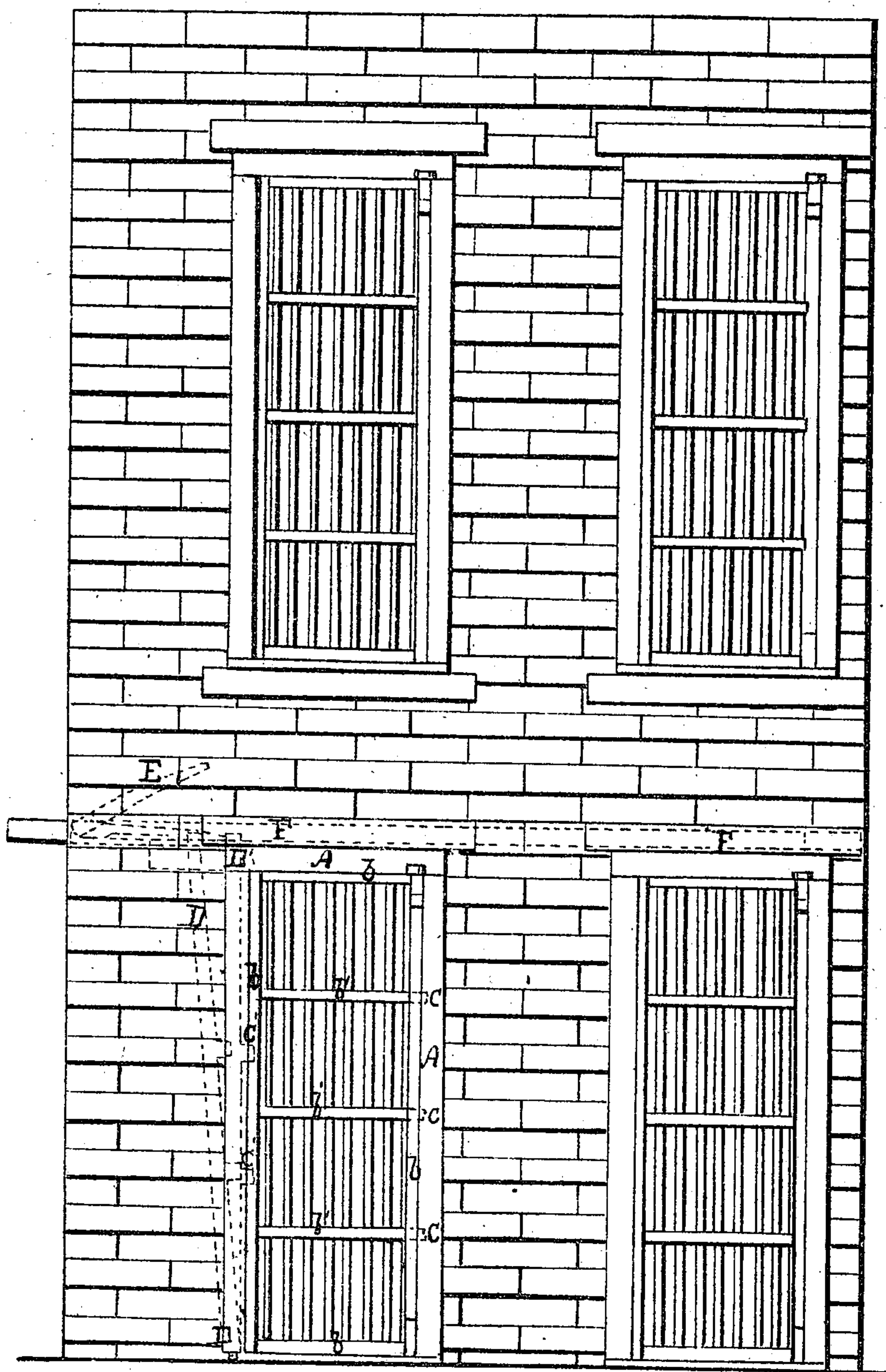
*2. Sheets.
Sheet. 1.*

Prison Door Fastening.

No 26108.

Patented Nov. 15. 1859.

Fig. 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ENOCH JACOBS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

FASTENING FOR JAIL-DOORS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 26,108, dated November 15, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ENOCH JACOBS, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Construction for the Fastening of Jail-Doors and for other Similar Purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings and references marked thereon.

The nature of the invention consists in the manner of constructing the fastening fully set forth in the following description.

To enable others skilled in the art of making and using my invention I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings and references Figure 1. represents an elevation of four cells of a two story prison showing one of the fastenings. Fig. 2. an enlarged elevation of the fastening for a single cell door. Fig. 3. is an end view of the sliding bar, F, showing flange (*f*).

Similar letters and references refer to the same parts in all the drawings.

I construct my cells of plate iron in a manner already described elsewhere, and with special reference to jail breaking. The cell doors are made of bars of iron vertical and horizontal. The casing is constructed of double angle iron rolled from a single bar, the edges of which form the outer edge of the casing, while one side forms the front of the casing, and the opposite one is riveted fast to the iron plates forming the front of the cell.

In the drawings hereto annexed A, A, A, represent the front face of the door casing constructed of the double angle iron; B, B, the vertical door bars, while *b*, *b*, *b*, *b*, constitute the door frame, and *b'*, *b'*, *b'* constitute the horizontal bars of the door, that project through the inner face of the casing corresponding to the middle of the U bend of the angle iron, and form thus the bolts *c*, *c*, *c*, projecting in the rear beyond the vertical line of the hinges.

c' c' are bolts or projecting flanges on the pivoted swinging bolt D, D'. This bolt or bar is pivoted at the bottom and swings in an arc at the top. The projections *c'*, *c'*, in the act of locking are received into mortises, *d*. Through the bend of the double angle iron and through the vertical bar, *b*,

of the door frame. The bolts *c*, *c*, *c*, and *c' c'* constitute the immediate bolt part of my fastening. The mortises are through the middle of the U bend of the angle iron as before stated.

When the jail or prison is completed, the whole front of the door end of the cell, except the door and the casing, A, is concealed from view by the walls of the building as seen in Fig. 1.

The swinging bolt D extends upward above the casing, A, and through a horizontal forward projecting flange *f*, *f*, on the lower edge of the sliding bar, F. The slot or mortise through the flange *f*, *f*, is of sufficient length to allow the full sweep of the swing bar D, D', as seen in the two positions of D, D', represented in the 2d figure. The sliding bar F has a horizontal movement in space equivalent to that shown by the two positions of the bar D, also seen by the two positions of the dog, E, by the corresponding positions of its hinge at *x*, *x'*.

The bar, F, does not necessarily form any part of the fastening here claimed. It is designed only as a means of operating the fastening of several doors together, using a single bar to lock and unlock a series of cells by a single movement. The dog E, is at rest in its natural position on the top of the flange *f*, *f*, as seen at D', Fig. 2, the door being locked and the end of D' being held in place by the end of the dog resting against it. The dog E being raised by a key entered at the key hole, *z*, or in any other equivalent manner, when the key is removed, the dog falls upon the top of the swinging bar. When it rests in the position at D, but, if in the position at D', then the door will be locked, as the end of the dog drops in front of the swinging bar. Thus we will suppose the door of the cell closed, the swinging bar pushed up in the position at D' so that the bolt *c'* shall enter the slot at (*d*) and the dog E drops in front of D', and holds the door firmly locked. If now a series of cells are to be opened at once, the slide bar F being connected with each of the series, as here shown to be connected with a single cell, is pushed to the left, and the entire series are unlocked by the movement, and closed again by drawing the slide to the right.

If a single cell is to be opened then, the

dog E is raised by a key or other equivalent means, and the single cell is opened and closed at will. In such prisons as county jails it is not generally an object, to open
5 and close more than a single cell at once; but in State prisons where great numbers are incarcerated in a single establishment, the use of the extended bar F is important.

10 Having now fully described the method used by me for constructing the several parts of the jail door with reference to the fastenings, and the mode of making and applying the said fastenings I proceed to state

what I regard and claim as my invention, which is—

15

1. Making the casings of heavy iron doors of double angle iron substantially as described.

2. Fastening iron doors by swinging bars working in the outside cavity of the double
20 angle iron casing, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

ENOCH JACOBS.

Witnesses:

ALEXANDER JOHNSTON,
O. P. RANSOM.