

J. ROMANS.

Sheep Rack.

No. 53,346.

Patented March 20, 1866.

Fig. 1.

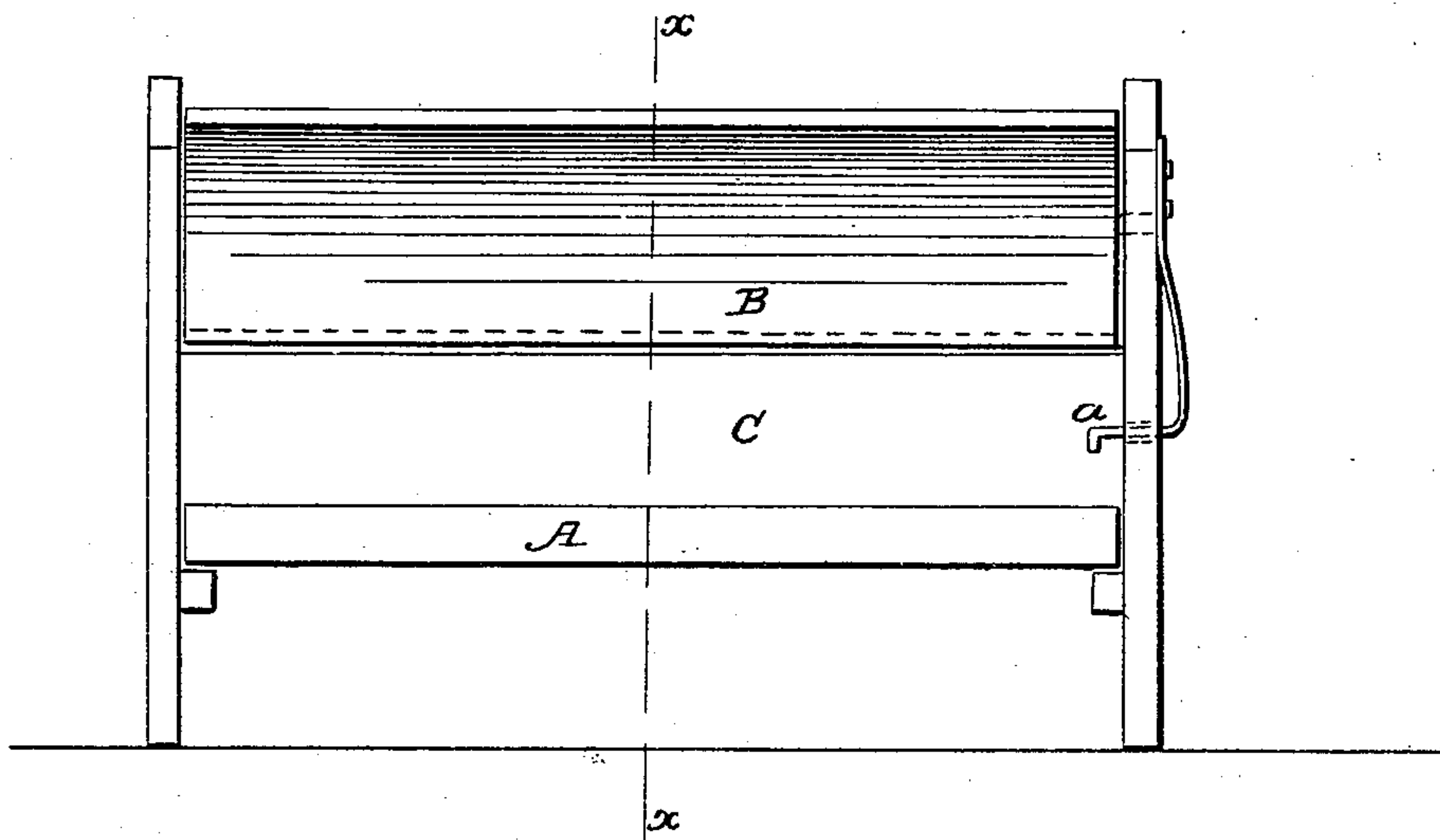
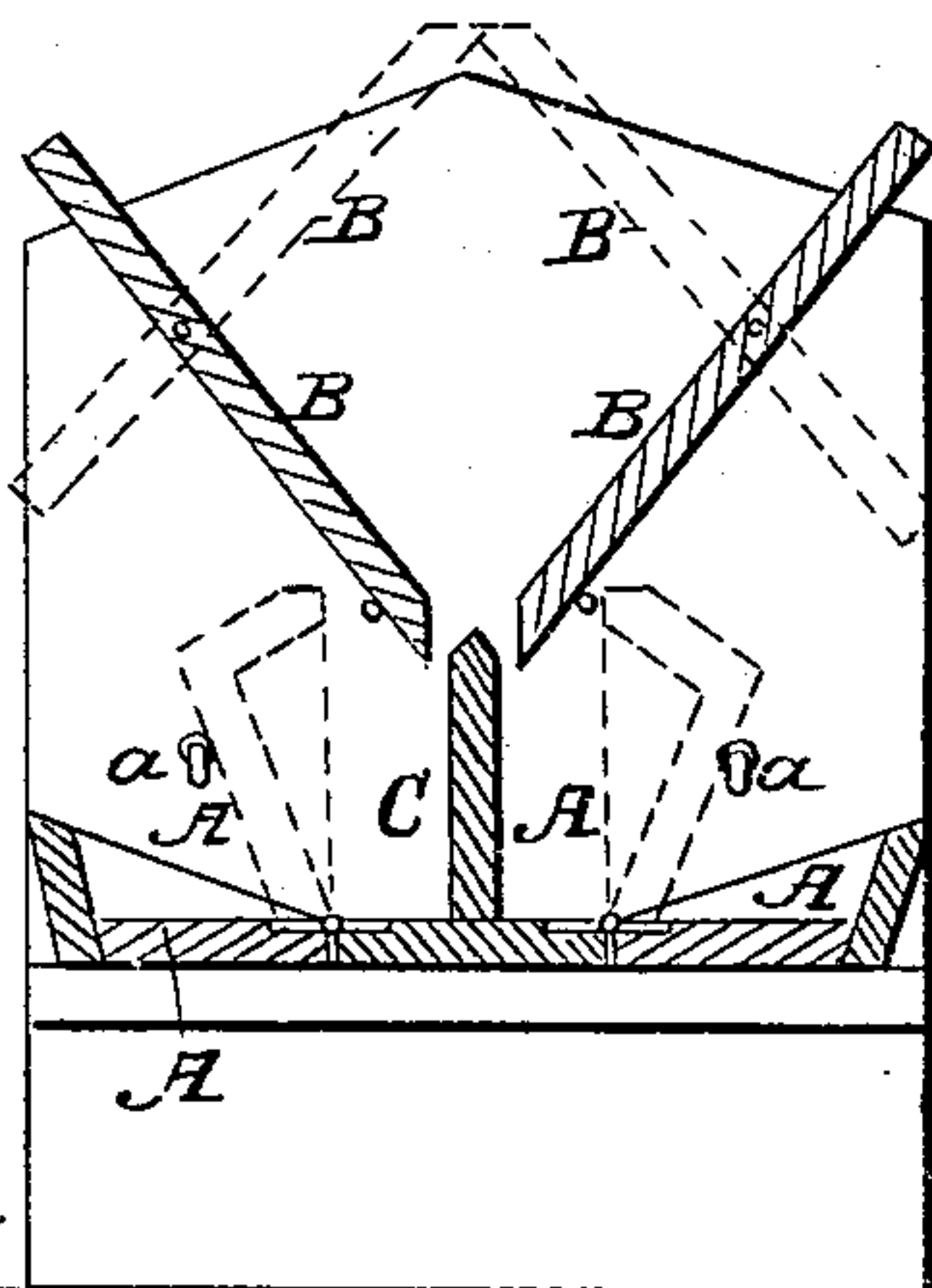


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN ROMANS, OF COLLAMER, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHEEP-RACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 53,346, dated March 20, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ROMANS, of Collamer, Chester county, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Sheep-Feeding Rack; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a sheep-rack with a hopper which is convertible into a roof for excluding snow and rain from the troughs; and also to so arrange the troughs that they can be folded up either empty or filled with feed, their position being such that the contents will be inaccessible to the sheep until the proper time to feed them.

This invention consists, first, in pivoting the two sides of the hopper in a manner which will permit of their being thrown upward so that the two edges will meet, thus providing an inclined roof which projects over the rack at each side thereof; second, in so hinging the troughs that they may be folded or turned upward so as to be entirely shielded by the roof, and at the same time capable of containing a considerable quantity of grain or other feed, by which arrangement the trouble and annoyance of clearing out the troughs after a fall of snow or rain is entirely obviated.

A A designates the two troughs, which are arranged within a suitable frame, and which are hinged or pivoted within the frame in such manner that they may be folded or thrown upward, as shown at Fig. 2, suitable catches or stops *a a* being provided for preventing them from folding down. The stops in the present instance consist of a bolt protruding through the end pieces of the trough and attached to flat springs secured on the outside of the said end pieces.

B B are the sides of the hopper which are convertible into a roof for the sheep-rack. They are pivoted or hinged in any suitable

manner in the frame of the rack to permit their being thrown upward to form the inclined sides of a roof. When serving the purposes of a hopper they reach down so that their bottom edges lie just below the top of a partition-board, C, placed between the troughs. This I consider better than extending the partition-board for a distance up into the hopper, for the reason that in pouring grain into the hopper there will be a more equal division of the same for each trough. When serving the purpose of a roof the said sides B B are thrown upward, so that the two edges which were the lowest will meet and form a roof inclined on both sides, as shown in red in Fig. 2. This roof will entirely protect the troughs against snow or rain, and thus the vexations and laborious task of clearing out the troughs several times a day, and usually when the sheep are very unruly by reasons of eagerness for food, will be avoided.

It will be noticed that a certain quantity of feed may be continually kept in the troughs after they have been folded up, sufficient at least for the sheep to commence upon to give time to adjust the hopper for use, and there is a sufficient space between the partition-board and edges of the hopper after the troughs have been folded up to permit of the grain being fed to them when folded up from the hopper before converting it into a roof.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. Pivoting or hinging the sides B B of the hopper, so that the same may be converted into a roof for protecting the troughs against snow and rain, substantially as specified.

2. Hinging or pivoting the troughs A A so that they may be thrown or folded up, substantially as set forth and for the purposes described.

JOHN ROMANS.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL COATES,
WM. A. FLEMING.