H. J. Burr.

Stair Rod.

No. 86,357. Patented Feb. 2, 1869.

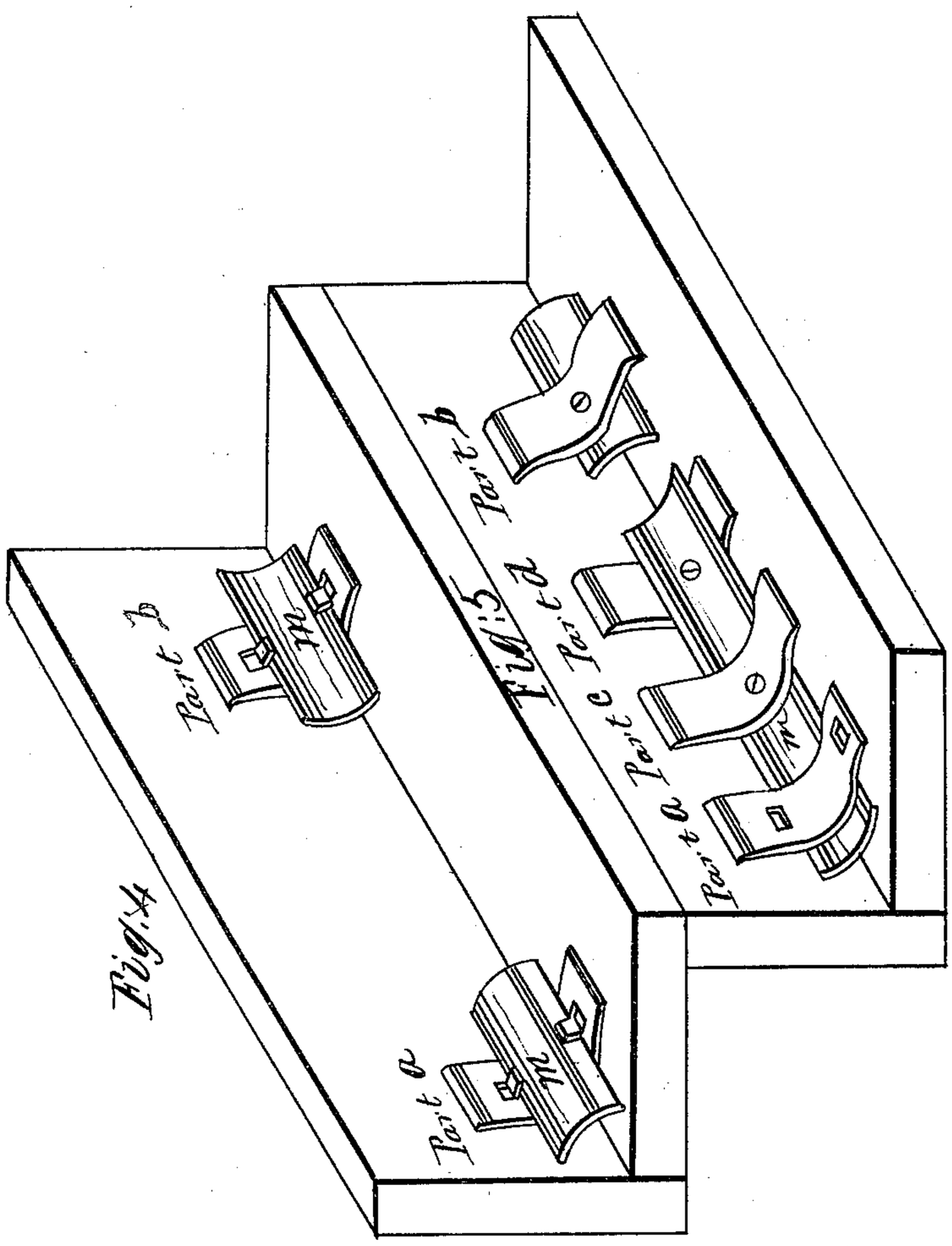

Fig. 4

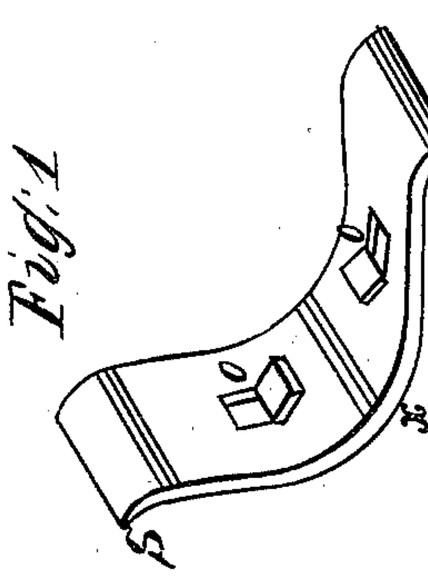

Fig. 1

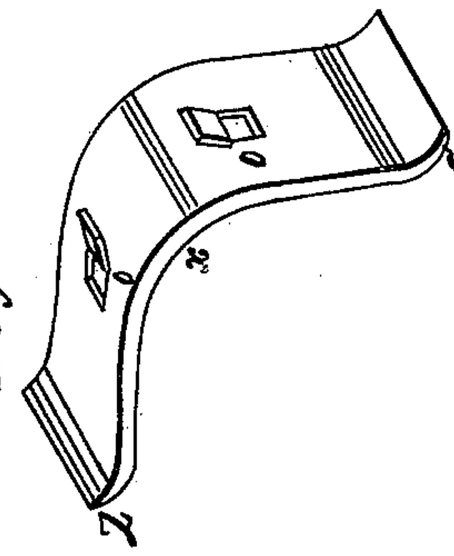

Fig. 2

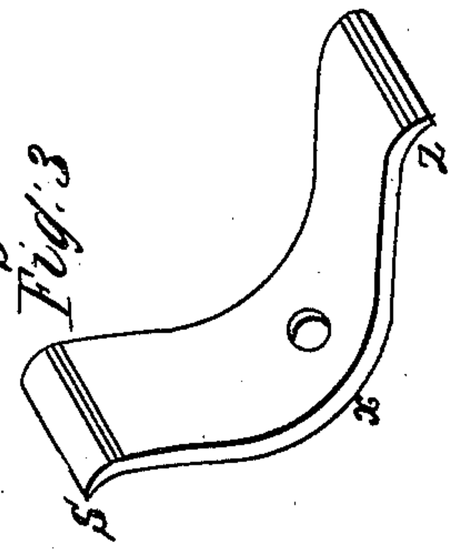

Fig. 3

Witnesses

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H. JEROME BURR, OF BLOOMFIELD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND W. EDGAR SIMONDS.

Letters Patent No. 86,357, *dated February* 2, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN STAIR-RODS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, H. JEROME BURR, of Bloomfield, in the county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fastenings for Stair-Carpet Rods; and I do declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

Stair-rods have commonly been fastened to the stair by means of nails or screws driven through the fastening proper into the wood of the stair.

My improvement does away with the use of nails or screws for this purpose, and makes a fastening that can be pressed down into the angle of the stair, there to remain fixed. The pressure of the fingers will usually be enough, but where the wood is hard, a tap of a hammer upon the ends of the fastener may be necessary.

Any elastic metal may be used for making my fastener, but I have heretofore used "hard-rolled" brass, of about one-sixteenth of an inch in thickness, nine-sixteenths of an inch wide, and two and a half inches long. These dimensions may be varied, as convenience or experience shall dictate.

The strip of brass (or other metal) is bent into the shape represented in Figure 1, and the side of the strip, when thus bent, is shown by the lines *s x z*, the angle made by thus bending being somewhat more obtuse than a right angle. The two ends, *s* and *z*, are bent a little backward, and sharpened.

As this fastener is bent a little more to an obtuse than a right angle, it is apparent that when pressed down into the angle of the stair, the sharpened ends *s* and *z* will take hold of the wood, and that any force directly applied to pull it up will but drive the sharpened ends deeper, and make firmer their hold.

It is the application of this idea or principle that constitutes the essence of my invention.

To prepare for the attachment of the rod to the fastener, I cut through and turn over on the inside of the angle, at *o o*, small bits of the brass, (or other metal,) so that they shall form projecting nibs, capable of embracing the common stair-rod in their grasp.

In Figure 2 will be seen the same nibs *o o* turned over on the opposite side.

The common stair-rods are of various sizes, and these nibs must be made of the right distance apart to embrace any given size of rod. They must, of course, be both equidistant from their respective ends of the fastener.

In Figure 4 will be seen the method of inserting the rod, *m* being the rod. Part *b* shows the concave surface of the rod facing outward. Part *a* shows the convex surface facing outward.

Figure 5, part *a*, shows the rod inserted where the nibs are on the outside of the angle, the rod in this case passing under the fastener.

Figure 3, and parts *b*, *c*, and *d*, of fig. 5, show a method of attaching fastener and rod by means of a screw or rivet, or rather, various methods, but although I believe these methods new, I do not claim them herein.

I claim as my invention—

1. A stair-rod fastener, bent into the general shape represented hereinbefore by the letters *s x z*, with the ends sharpened, as herein described.

2. In combination with the stair-rod and holder, or fastener, the nibs or lugs *o o*, as shown, for the purpose described.

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