

F. R. Baird,

Box Fastener.

No. 99620.

Patented Feb. 8. 1870.

Fig. 1.

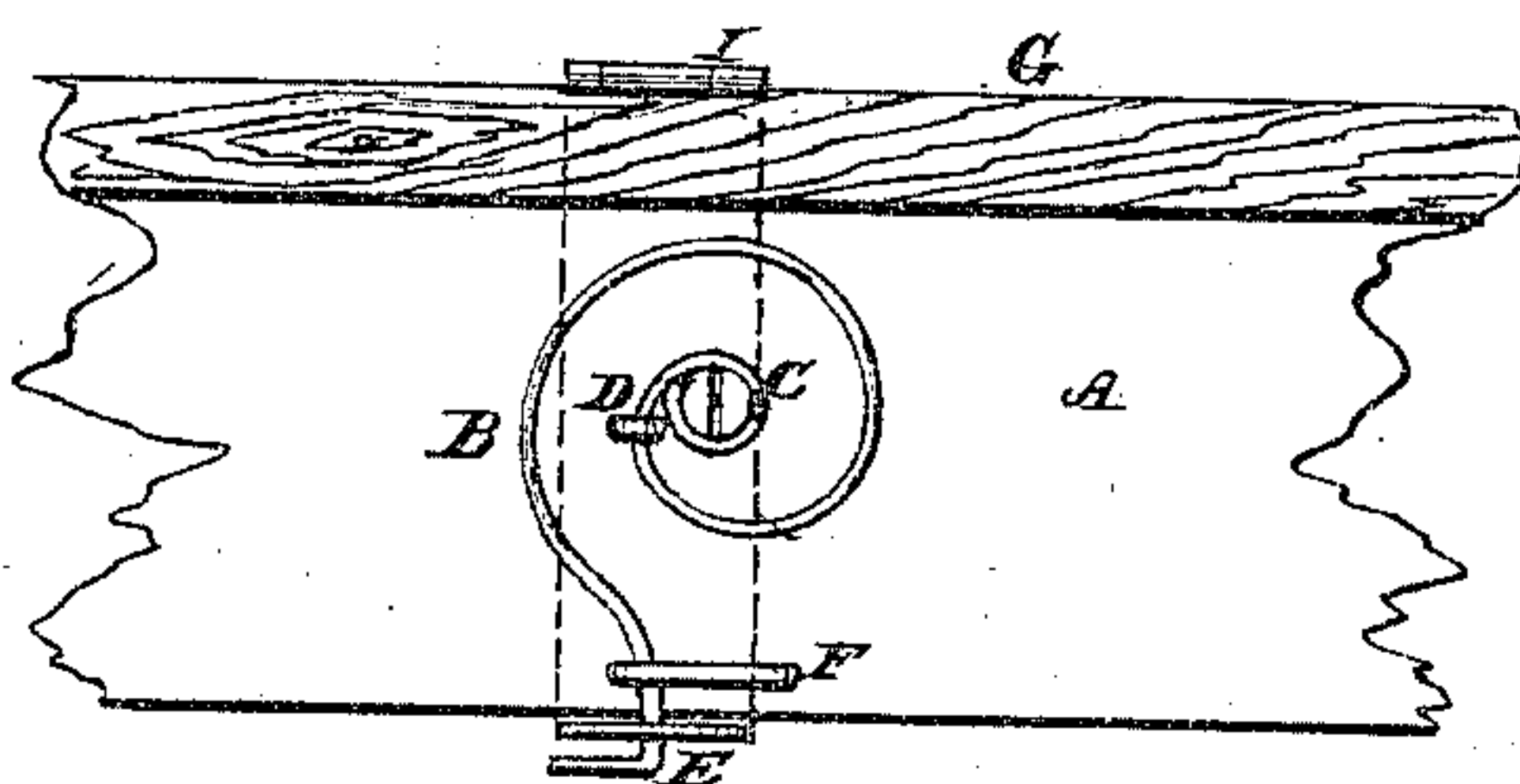


Fig. 2.

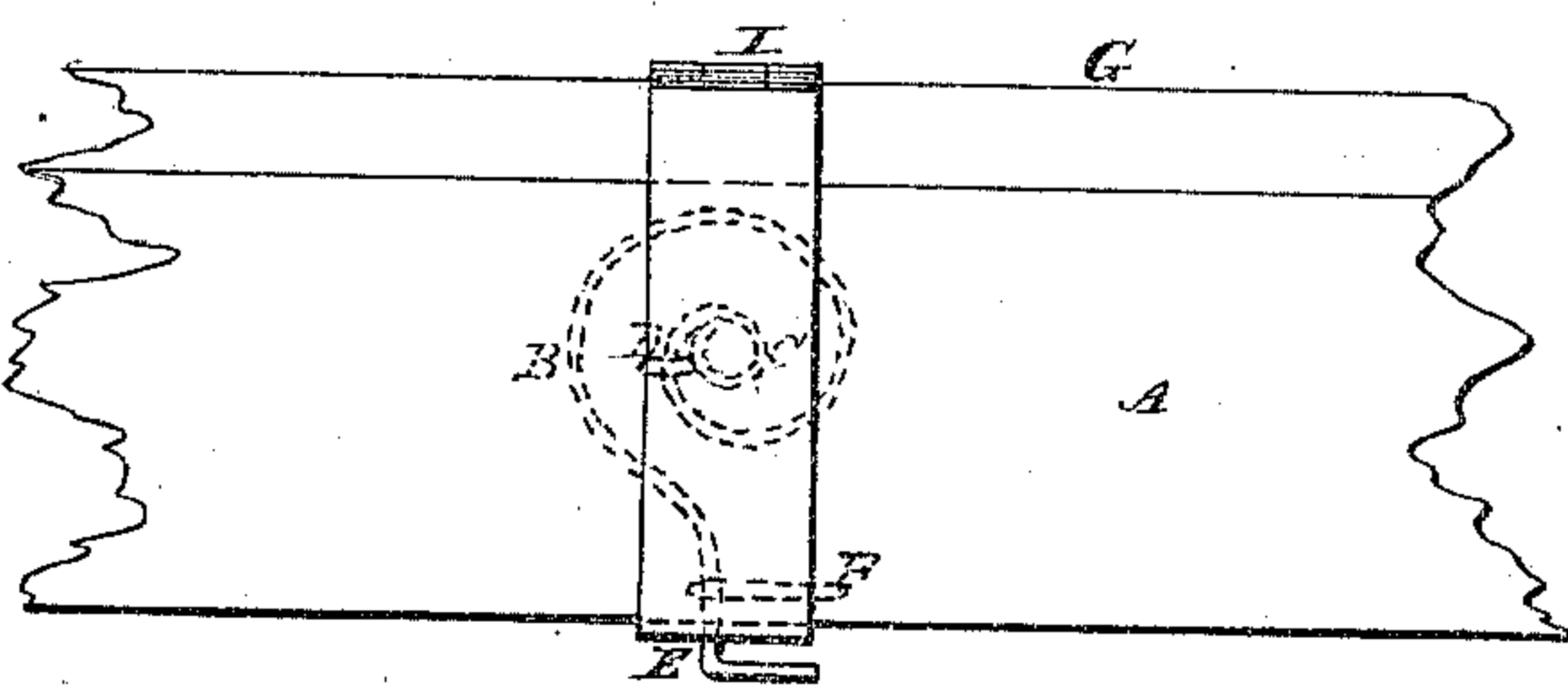


Fig. 3.

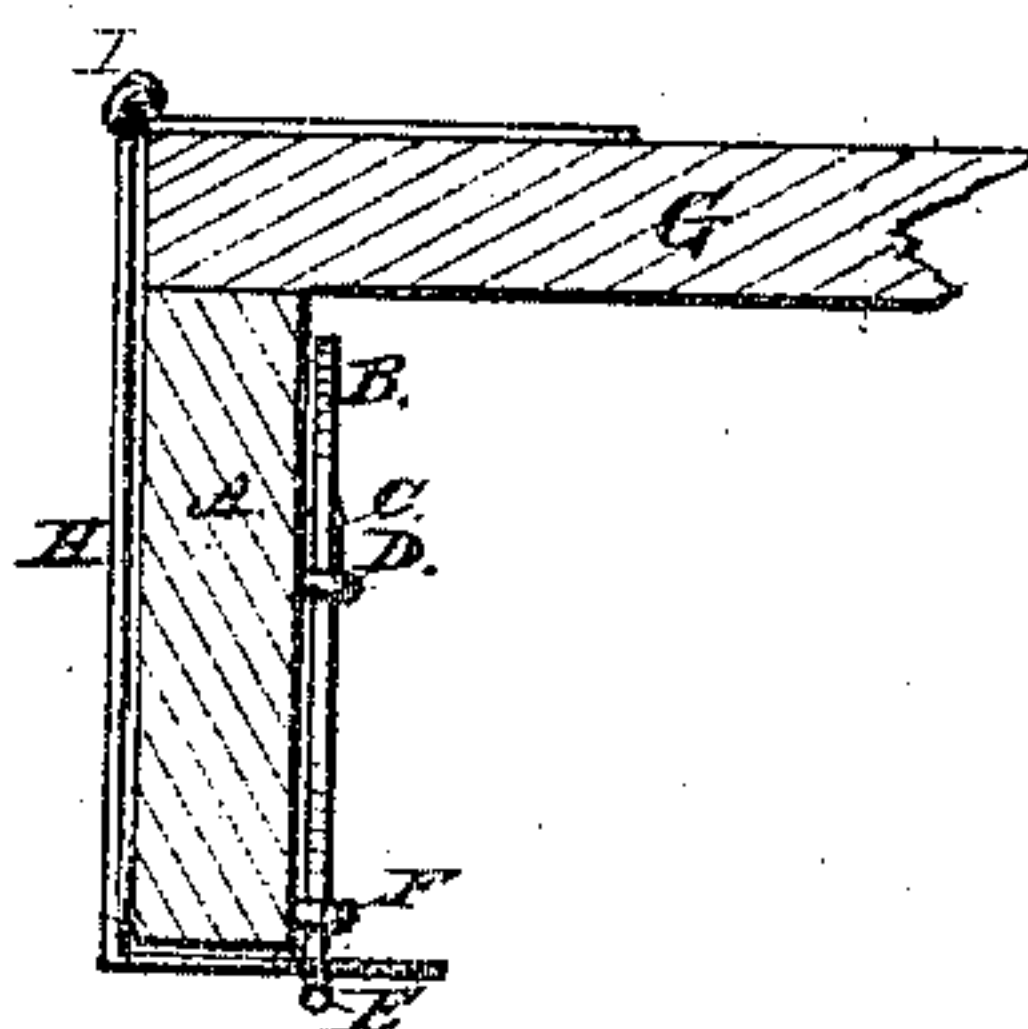
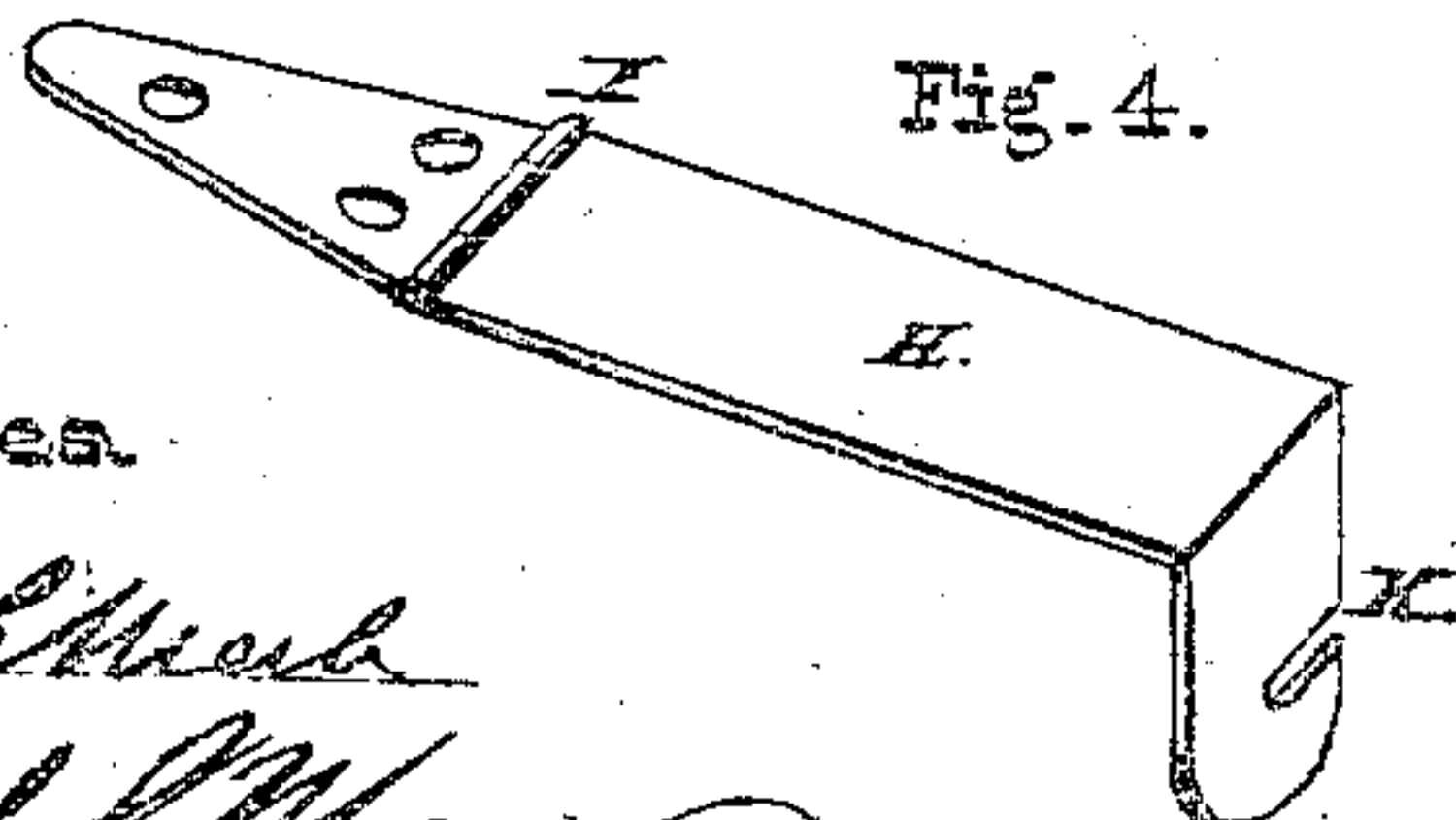


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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United States Patent Office.

FRANCIS R. BAIRD, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

Letters Patent No. 99,620, dated February 8, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN HASP-FASTENINGS FOR FRUIT-CRATES.

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, FRANCIS R. BAIRD, of Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk, and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hasp-Fastenings for Fruit-Boxes; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of an upper portion of the inside of a fruit-box, showing the spring-catch in position and the box fastened.

Figure 2 is an elevation of a portion of the upper outside of the same, showing the hasp in position and the box fastened.

Figure 3 is a vertical section of the front of the same, giving a side view of the hasp and spring-catch when the box is fastened.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the hasp.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

It is desirable in fastenings for fruit-boxes to have some sort of lock which shall not be in the way when the boxes are closely packed together, so as to make them rest unsteadily upon one another or leave spaces between those which are side by side; which shall not be liable to be knocked off by handling; which shall keep the box securely fastened, whatever its position may be or however roughly it may be moved; which shall readily be operated without the use of any sort of key; and, finally, which shall be simple in construction, durable, and cheap.

My invention has for its object such a fastening; and

It consists in the combined hasp and spring-catch hereinafter more fully described.

Upon the centre of the inside of the top front rail A of a fruit-box, constructed in the usual fashion, with a series of rails and openings between them, at the sides and ends, I secure the flat spiral spring B, made of suitable wire, the inner end of which, C, is turned in a circle, of a size fit to receive the body of a screw which passes through it into said rail, the head of the screw retaining the spring in place.

This end C is also secured by a staple, D, driven closely over a part of the spring, near the end C.

The spring, passing around its end C, in one or more circles, bends downward a little below the bottom of said rail, where it is turned at right angles op-

posite to its direction of greatest resistance, and forms a hook, E, which is the catch for the hasp.

A guide, F, fastened over the spring, near the bottom of the inside of the rail serves to confine said spring closely to said rail, but permits it to have a free lateral motion.

All parts of this spring-catch are in the same vertical plane.

Upon the front centre of the top of the box G is secured the hasp H, of the form shown in fig. 4.

This hasp is made of suitable sheet-metal, is furnished with a hinge, I, near its upper end, which end is provided with suitable holes for fastening, and at the lower end is bent at a right angle, and in the part so bent has a slot, K; and below said slot is rounded in form.

The upper end of this hasp is secured to the box with screws or rivets in such a position as to bring the hinge upon and within the front upper corner of said top G, where a suitable recess is made to receive it. The distance from said hinge and the lower bent portion of the hasp is such that when the box is closed and the hasp is bent downward, the lower bent portion will pass under the rail A, and the slot K will engage with the catch E and fasten the box.

In operation, the lid of the box is dropped into place, the hasp pushed backward, the lower rounded portion of which presses the spring-catch forward, and passes behind it until the catch reaches the slot, when the spring forces the catch into said slot and holds it fast.

To unlock the hasp, it is only necessary to move the catch forward with the finger, until it is released from the slot, and then the top of the box may be raised.

Having thus fully described the nature and merits of my invention,

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

The above-described hasp-fastening, bent at right angles to fit under the edge of the slot, and furnished with a bevelled edge and slot for automatically securing it upon a single spring-fastening, secured upon the inside of the slot.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand, this day of 18 .

Witnesses:

FRANCIS R. BAIRD.

JNO. A. HEBREW,
S. P. MOORE.