H. I. GODWIN.

117619

Imp.d Dash Board.

PATENTED AUG 1 1871

Fig 1

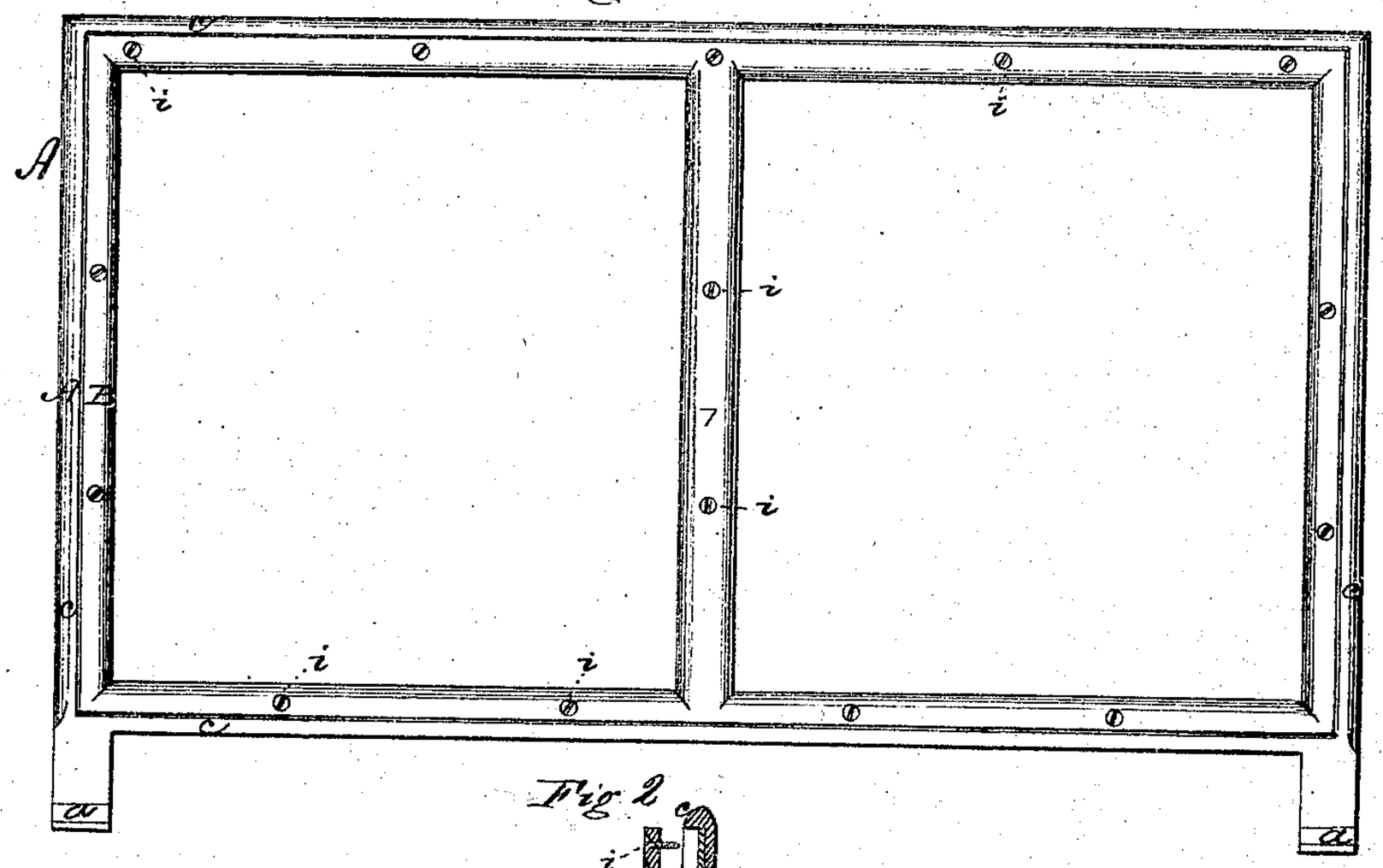


Fig 2

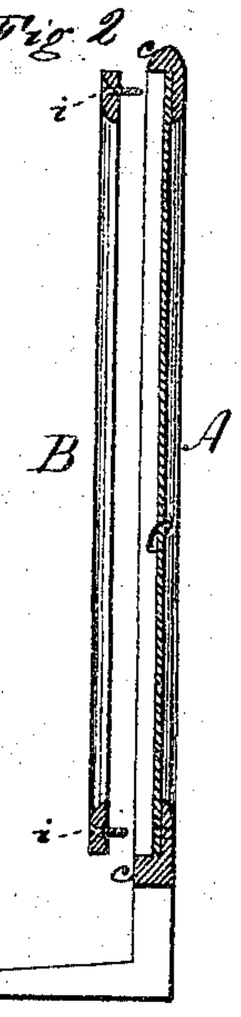
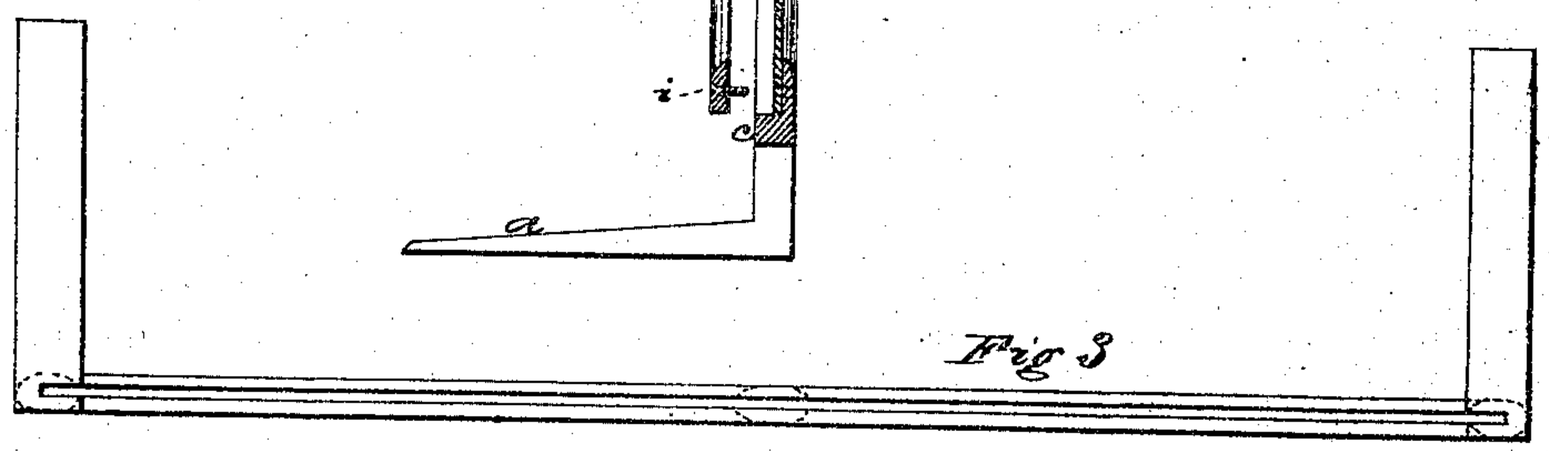


Fig 3



Witnesses

Harry King.

Phil. T. Dodge

Inventor.

Henry I. Godwin

by Dodges Munn

attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY I. GODWIN, OF WINDSOR, NORTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN DASH-BOARDS FOR VEHICLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 117,619, dated August 1, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY I. GODWIN, of Windsor, in the county of Bertie and State of North Carolina, have invented certain Improvements in Dash-Boards for Carriages, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to dash-boards for carriages; and consists in a novel manner of constructing the same of two metal frames fitting one within the other, and having the dash-sheet secured between them, as hereinafter described.

Figure 1 is a face view of my improved dash. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the same. Fig. 3 is a bottom view of a modified form of the frame.

In constructing my improved dash I first provide a metal frame, A, in a single piece, of the size and form of the required dash, and having feet *a* for securing it to the carriage. One side of the frame I recess for about one-half its thickness, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to leave a raised portion or flange, *c*, on one side around the outer edge of the frame. I next provide a frame, B, to fit within the recessed portion of the frame A, as shown in Fig. 1. I then cut the dash-sheet out of leather, metal, or other suitable material and fit it within the recessed side of frame A, as shown in Fig. 2, and then fit the frame B in place against it, as shown in Fig. 1, and fasten the frame in place by passing the screws *i* through it and the sheet into the frame A. In this manner the dash-sheet is fastened securely in place, its outer edges being clamped firmly between the two frames, and also held by the screws, while the raw edge is covered and protected by the flange of frame A, as shown. The frames may be made of malleable iron, brass, or other material, and may be decorated by silvering, painting, or otherwise, and the sheet C may be made of leather, sheet metal, canvas, wood-veneer, or other suitable material, which may be ornamented in any suitable manner. In case the sheet becomes torn or injured the frame B may be detached, the sheet removed, and a new one inserted in its place, and this without removing the dash-frame from the carriage. The inner and outer frames are both provided with the usual upright cross-bar at the middle, so that the sheet may be made in two pieces by bringing their edges together under the cross-bars, so as to be concealed from sight. This arrangement also obviates the necessity of replacing a broken dash by an entire new one, as, when only one end of the sheet is injured, it may be removed and a new piece substituted, the old portion in the other end being allowed to remain.

A dash-board constructed on my plan is cheaper, stronger, lighter, and more ornamental in appearance than those heretofore in use; and when broken it can be readily repaired by any person of ordinary intelligence.

Another manner of constructing the frame is illustrated in Fig. 3, where the frame is shown as made in a single piece, with its bottom bar slotted the whole length, and its outside bars grooved on their inner edges, so that the sheet or body can be shoved into place through the bottom bar. When, however, the frame is constructed in this manner it must be removed from the carriage before the sheet can be inserted or removed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

A dash-frame for carriages, consisting of the frame A, and the frame B made to fit therein, whereby the body C is held in place and has its edge covered, substantially as described.

HENRY I. GODWIN.

Witnesses:

PHILIP T. DODGE,

HARRY KING.