

B. RANKIN.
Wagon-Bodies.

No. 154,416.

Patented Aug. 25, 1874.

Fig. 1.

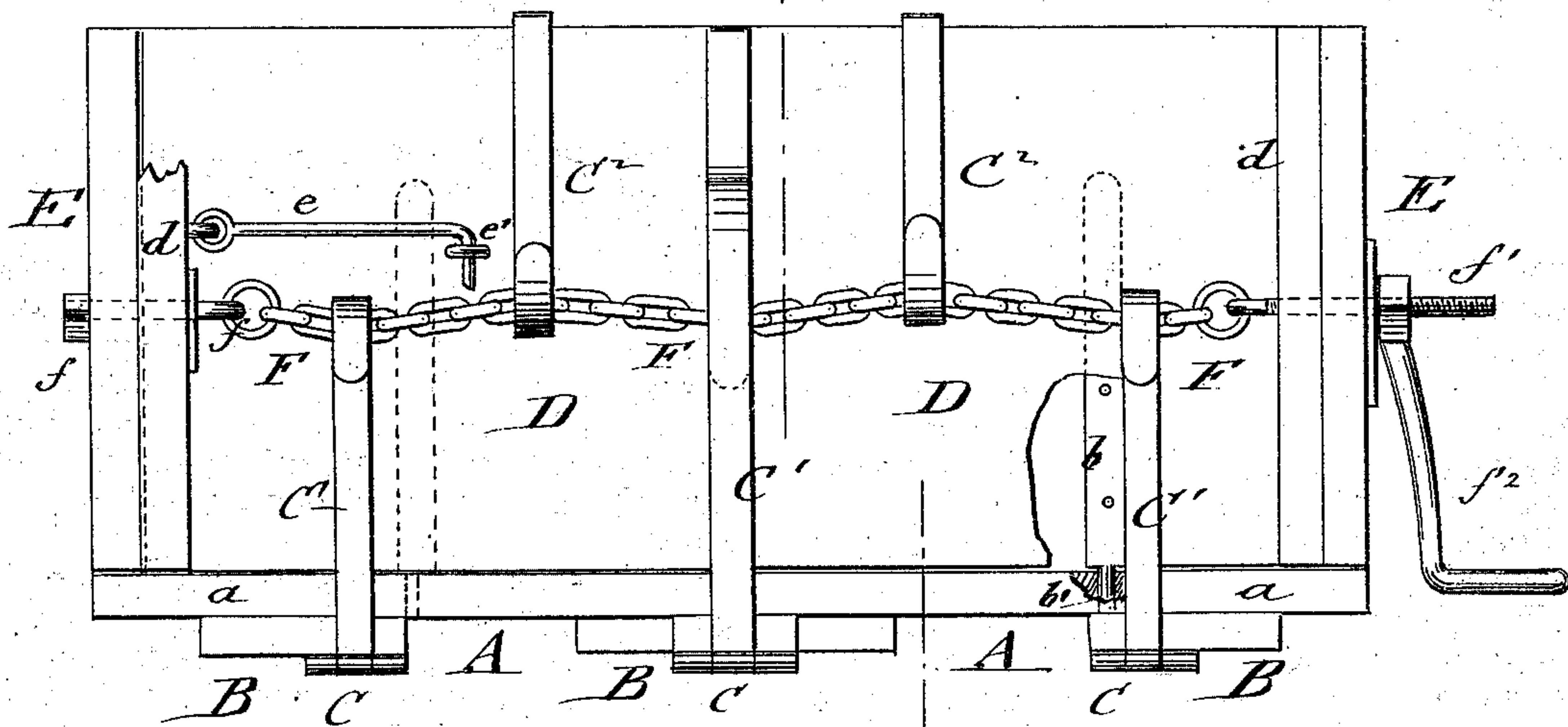
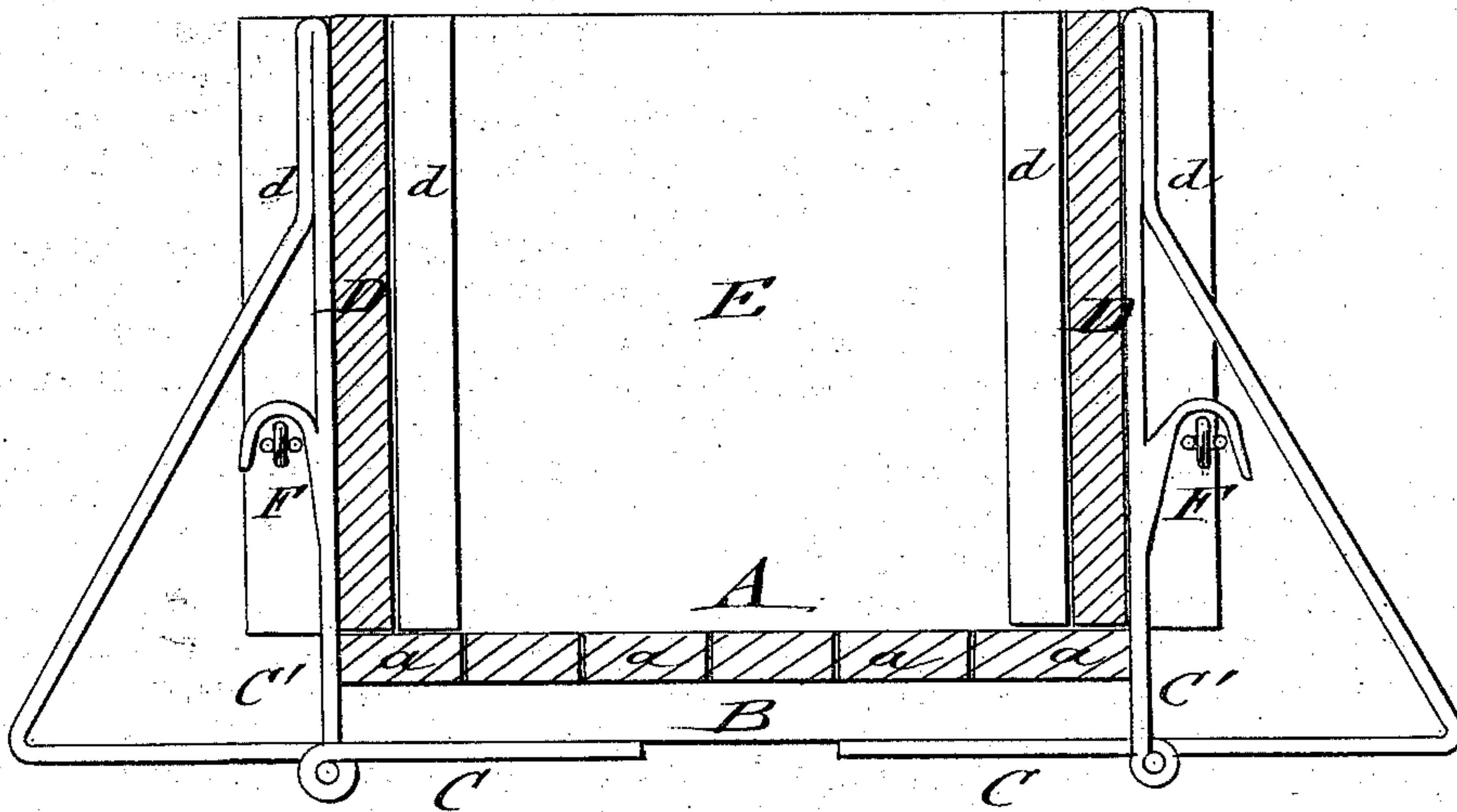


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

Chas. Nida.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN RANKIN, OF JEFFERSONVILLE, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN WAGON-BODIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 154,416, dated August 25, 1874; application filed July 11, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN RANKIN, of Jeffersonville, in the county of Fayette and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Wagon-Body, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved wagon-body; and Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section of the same on line *c c*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of my invention is to furnish a strong and durable wagon-body, which may be readily taken apart for unloading, or for the purpose of storage, while it is easily put up by any person, and forms a secure and rigid connection of the sides, end-gates, and bottom parts.

My invention consists of detachable sides and end-gates, which are firmly bound to the lateral bottom pieces by hinged hook-bars of the same, swung in upward direction, and by stationary hook-bars of the sides, in connection with a longitudinal side chain applied by screw-bolts and cranks.

In the drawing, A represents the bottom of my improved wagon-body, which is made, preferably, of longitudinal pieces *a*, of which the middle ones are loose, so as to be detachable, while the outer pieces are bolted onto the lateral connecting-pieces B. The bottom A is thereby of sufficient lightness to be readily handled and placed upon the wagon-bed by any person, the middle pieces being put in after the lateral pieces are in position. To both ends of the lateral bottom pieces B are firmly applied plates C, to which the side supporting-bars C¹, with outwardly-curved hook ends, are hinged. The sides D of the body are secured by means of inside bolts or pins *b* into holes *b'* of the outer bottom strips *a* and the lateral pieces B, and provided with similar hook-bars C², which are attached intermediately between the hinged hook-bars, extending from the upper edge to a point slightly above the hooks of the lower bars. The end-gates E are placed by parallel guide-strips *d* over the ends of the sides, the front gate being arranged for temporary purposes with hooks *e*, and fastened to staples *e'* of the sides.

The main connection of end-gates, sides,

and bottom is, however, formed by longitudinal chains F, which are applied by screw-bolt and nut *f* to the front gate, and by a screw-bolt *f*¹, with inner hook end and outer detachable crank *f*², to the rear end-gate, being placed alternately onto the hooks of the hinged and fixed bars C¹ C², so that by the turning of the end cranks the firm binding of sides and bottom in vertical, and of the sides and end-gates in horizontal, direction is obtained.

For the purpose of discharging any load at once, without the use of a scoop, the cranks are released from the screw-bolts, and the chains detached from the hook-bars. The end-gates are then taken off, and the sides raised out of their sockets.

For storage, the bottom is also taken apart and detached from the supporting parts, to be then put away with the other parts, taking up comparatively small space, and being, in this state, fully protected against the influence of the weather, and not liable to remain exposed to the same for most of the time without shelter.

The body remains thereby longer in serviceable condition, and is, on account of the easy replacing of the parts, within the control of a boy, while the common body requires two men to handle it.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The wagon-body composed of detachable bottom part with lateral connecting-pieces and hinged hook-bars, removable sides with intermediate fixed hook-bars, and detachable end-gates, all combined by longitudinal chains passing from the end-gates over the hook ends, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the hinged bottom hook-bars and fixed hook-bars, placed in opposite direction, with the binding-chains, attached by bolt and nut to one end-gate, and by adjustable hook-bolt and crank to the other, for rigidly connecting and readily detaching the parts of the body, substantially as set forth.

BENJAMIN RANKIN.

Witnesses:

GEORGE C. CARPENTER,
JOSEPH HURLESS.