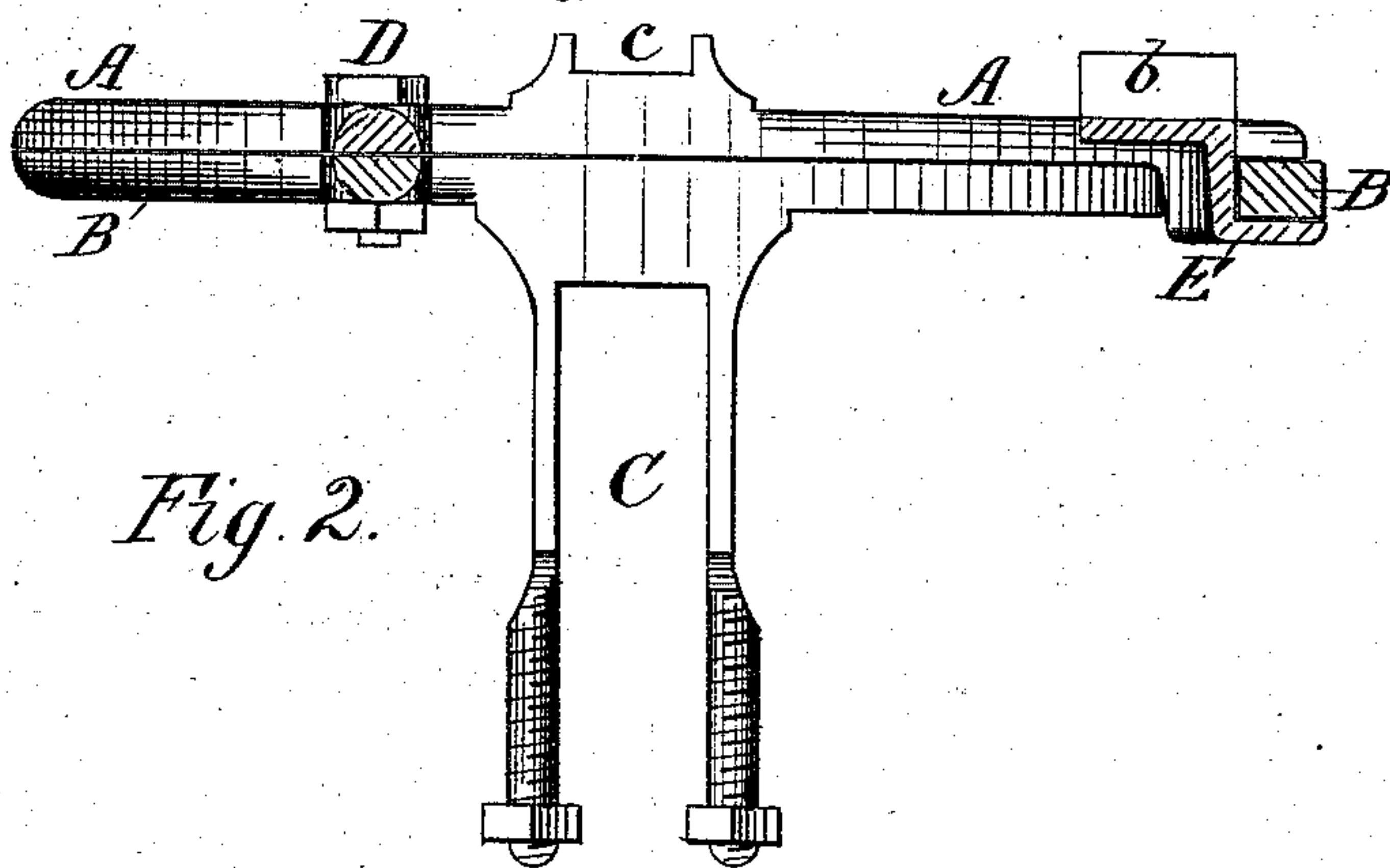
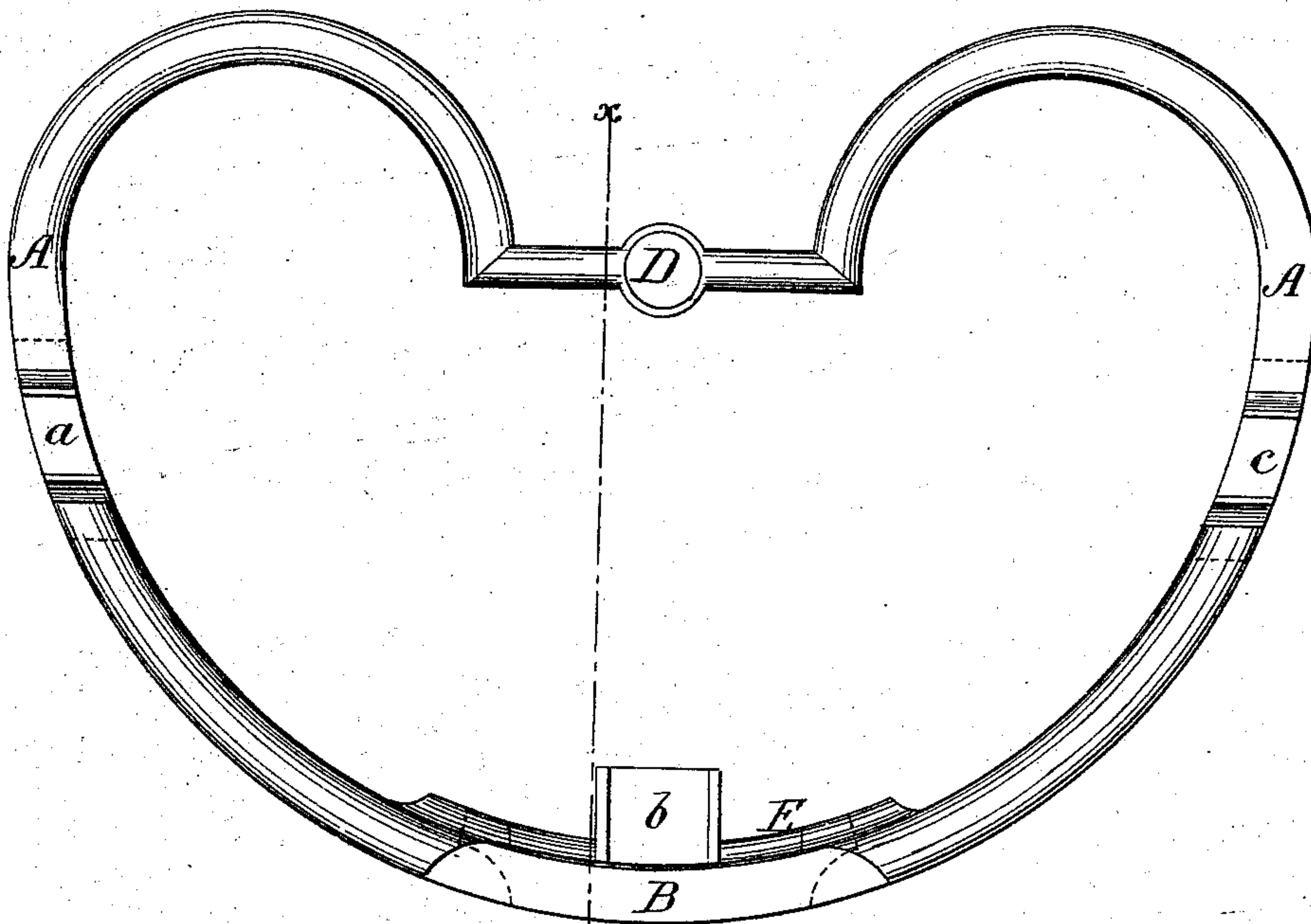


P. La BELLE.  
Fifth-Wheels.

No. 156,576.

Patented Nov. 3, 1874.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*

WITNESSES:

*G. Matthews*  
*J. L. Kemon*

INVENTOR:

*Paul La Belle*

BY

ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL LA BELLE, OF MONROE, IOWA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FIFTH-WHEELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,576**, dated November 3, 1874; application filed September 22, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PAUL LA BELLE, of Monroe, in the county of Jasper and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Fifth-Wheel; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view; Fig. 2, a section through line *x x*.

This invention relates to certain improvements in fifth-wheels for carriages, wagons, &c.; and consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts whereby the use of the king-bolt and also the perch and bed-plate are dispensed with, and a simple, durable, and neat adjustment secured.

In the drawing, A represents the top plate of the wheel, which is provided with the seats *abc*, to receive the transverse and longitudinal bearing-bars. B represents the lower plate, made to conform to the shape of the plate A, and provided with the clips C, which fasten the wheel to the axle. Plate A is fastened to plate B by a bolt, D, which forms a center, of which the wheel is the circumference. Said plate A is bent at E inwardly, downwardly, and then flanged out to form a groove, in which plate B moves. Said groove may be of any desirable shape to suit the lower plate,

and may be left open, as shown, or entirely closed by extending the flange completely around the plate B inclosing the same. Said flange at E, in addition to holding the two plates together, limits the motion of the wheels by striking against the clips C, thereby acting as a stop to prevent the carriage-wheels from striking the body of the carriage, and dispensing with the use of rub-irons.

By means of this arrangement I have constructed a carriage-circle or fifth-wheel, in which the king-bolt, perch, and bed-plate are dispensed with, and one in which the strain is distributed over the entire faces of the wheel-plates, thus reducing friction and diminishing the wear.

By means of the adjustment of the plates at E, also, the plates are prevented from ever separating from each other from wear or abuse, and an easy and smooth motion in the arc of a circle allowed them.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

The combination of the plate A, having seats *a b c* and groove E, with the bolt D and the plate B, having clips C, substantially as and for the purpose described.

PAUL LA BELLE.

Witnesses:

W. E. CONNER,  
JAMES DIXON.