

**B. R. WEBBER.**  
**Car-Couplings.**

No. 157,253.

Patented Nov. 24, 1874.

Fig. 1.

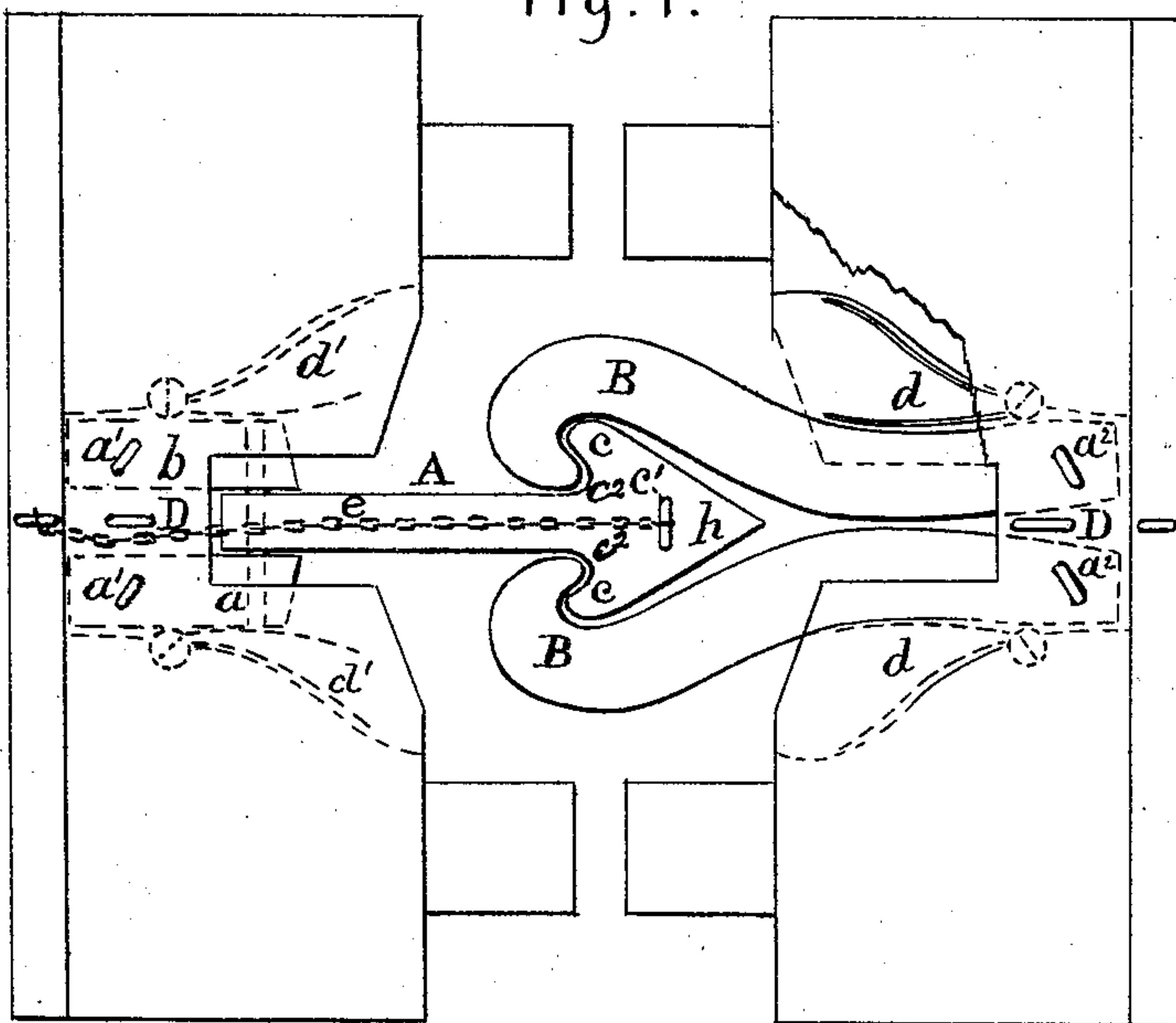


Fig. 2.

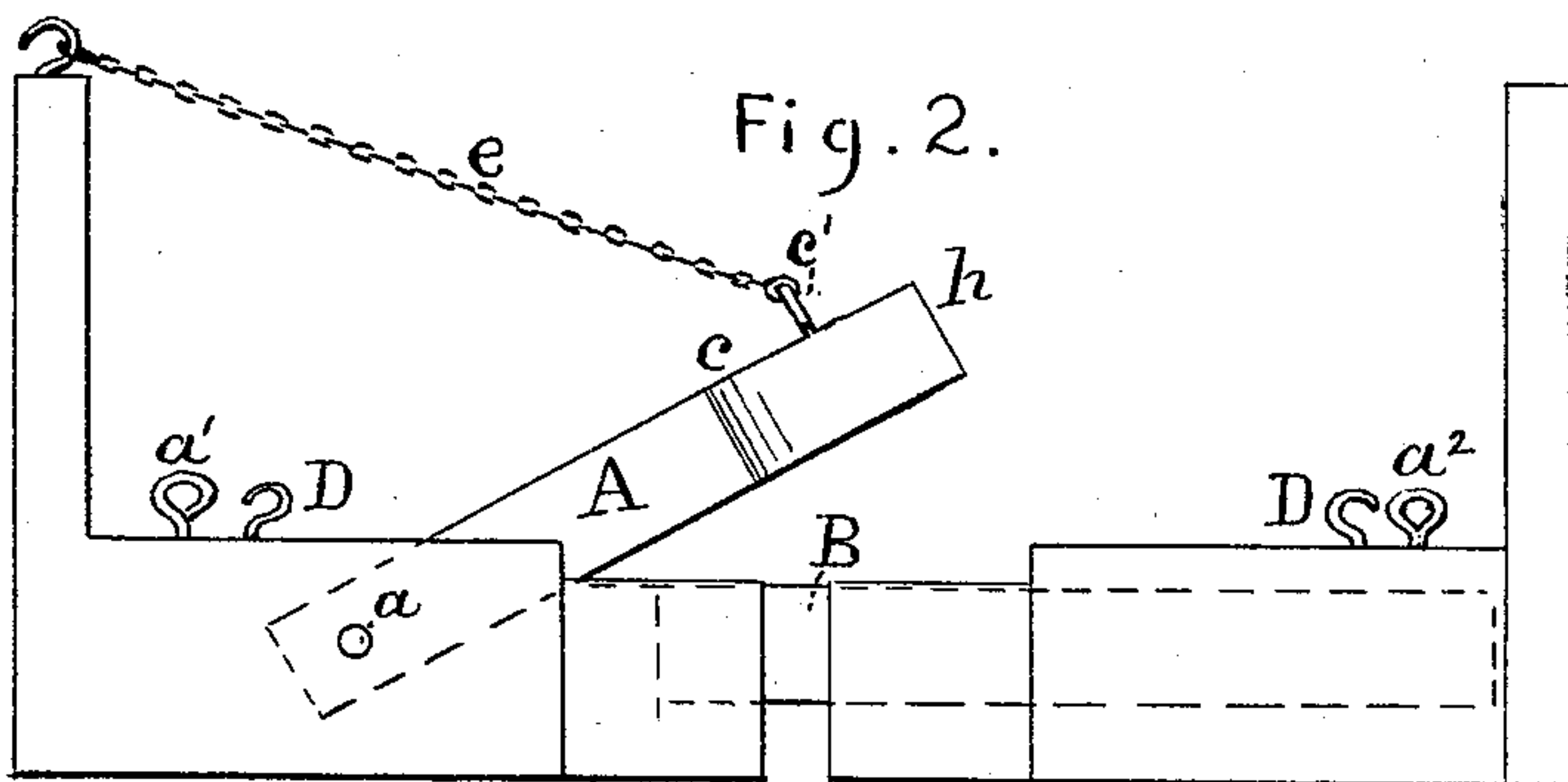
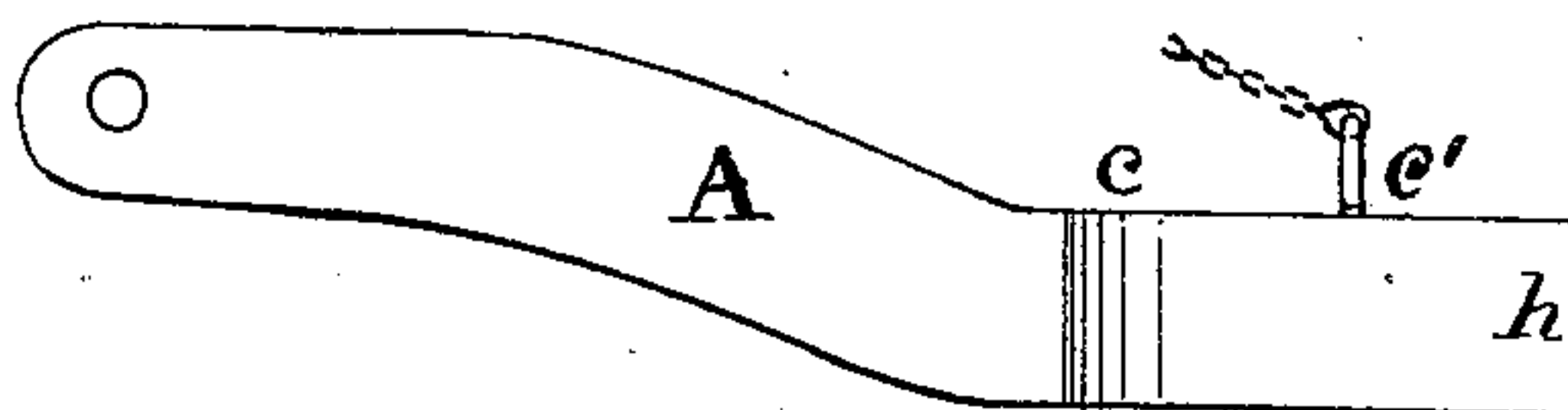


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

H. A. Daniels  
 Chas. S. Whitman

Inventor:

Benjamin R. Webber  
 By W. T. Burris  
 Atty

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN R. WEBBER, OF LISBON, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS  
RIGHT TO SYLVESTER BENNETT.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CAR-COUPPLINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,253**, dated November 24, 1874; application filed  
February 11, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN R. WEBBER, of Lisbon, in the county of Linn and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Car-Couplings; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a top view. Fig. 2 is a side view. Fig. 3 is a modification of a coupling-bolt detached.

My invention relates to automatic car-couplings; and consists of a coupling-tongue, one end of which is held by a bolt, and the other end is made in the shape of a heart or arrow-head, having shoulders and recesses, forming hook-shape holders to receive draw-hooks made to fit the shoulders and recesses of the coupling-tongue, and provided with springs to hold them in place, thus forming a coupling which holds securely without any strain upon the springs of the draw-hooks; and, while the cars are running on the track, is not liable to become uncoupled, but, if the cars should run off the track, may readily become uncoupled by the coupling-tongue passing upward or downward out of the draw-hooks, as hereinafter described.

A is a coupling-tongue, the back end of which is held by the bolt *a* extending through the tongue, and through the jaws of the block *b*, secured to the car by the bolts *a*<sup>1</sup>. The other end of the coupling-tongue is made in the shape of a heart or arrow-head, and with shoulders *c* and recesses *c*<sup>2</sup>. B B represent draw-hooks, attached to the car by the bolts *a*<sup>2</sup> *a*<sup>2</sup>, and are provided with springs *d* *d* at the sides, adjusted to allow the hooks to open to receive the head of the coupling-tongue, and to hold them in place. Similar springs *d*<sup>1</sup> are attached by the sides of the jaws of block *b*, which block is the same size as the back ends of both of the draw-hooks together, and the bolts *a*<sup>1</sup> and *a*<sup>2</sup>, and the holes in the coupling-tongue, block, and hooks correspond in size, so that the draw-hooks, or the block

with the coupling-tongue, may be readily attached in either place, or interchanged where the ends of the cars meeting have similar parts of the coupling. One end of a small chain, *e*, is attached at *c*<sup>1</sup> to the head of the coupling-tongue, and the other end of the chain is fastened on the platform of a passenger-car, or upon the top of a freight-car, for uncoupling the cars. Each car is provided with hooks D to be used with a common link in coupling with a car not provided with my coupling devices.

To couple the cars, the tongue A is placed in a horizontal position, and as the cars are run together the point *h* of the arrow-head enters between the hooks B B, pressing them apart till the shoulders *c* pass the hooks, which, by the springs, are forced back in position, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings; and, by means of the hook-shape of the shoulders, the coupling-tongue holds securely in the draw-hooks without strain upon the springs by which the hooks are held in place. The cars are readily uncoupled by a person on the top of a freight-car, or on the platform of a passenger-car, lifting the head of the coupling-tongue with the chain, as shown in Fig. 2. The coupling-tongue, shown in Fig. 3, is curved for the purpose of coupling cars of different heights.

I am aware of the patent to John Davis, dated October 20, 1863, and hereby disclaim the same, the coupling-tongue and jaws of the draw-head of which have square shoulders, while mine have hook-shape shoulders and holders, as described.

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

The combination of the tongue A, hooks B B, block *b*, springs *d* *d* and *d*<sup>1</sup> *d*<sup>1</sup>, all constructed substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 31st day of January, 1874.

BENJAMIN R. WEBBER.

Witnesses:

M. SHALER,

PETER LINEWEAVER.