F. B. PLUMB.

Slat-Irons for Carriage-Tops.

No. 163,885. Patented June 1, 1875.

Fig: 1

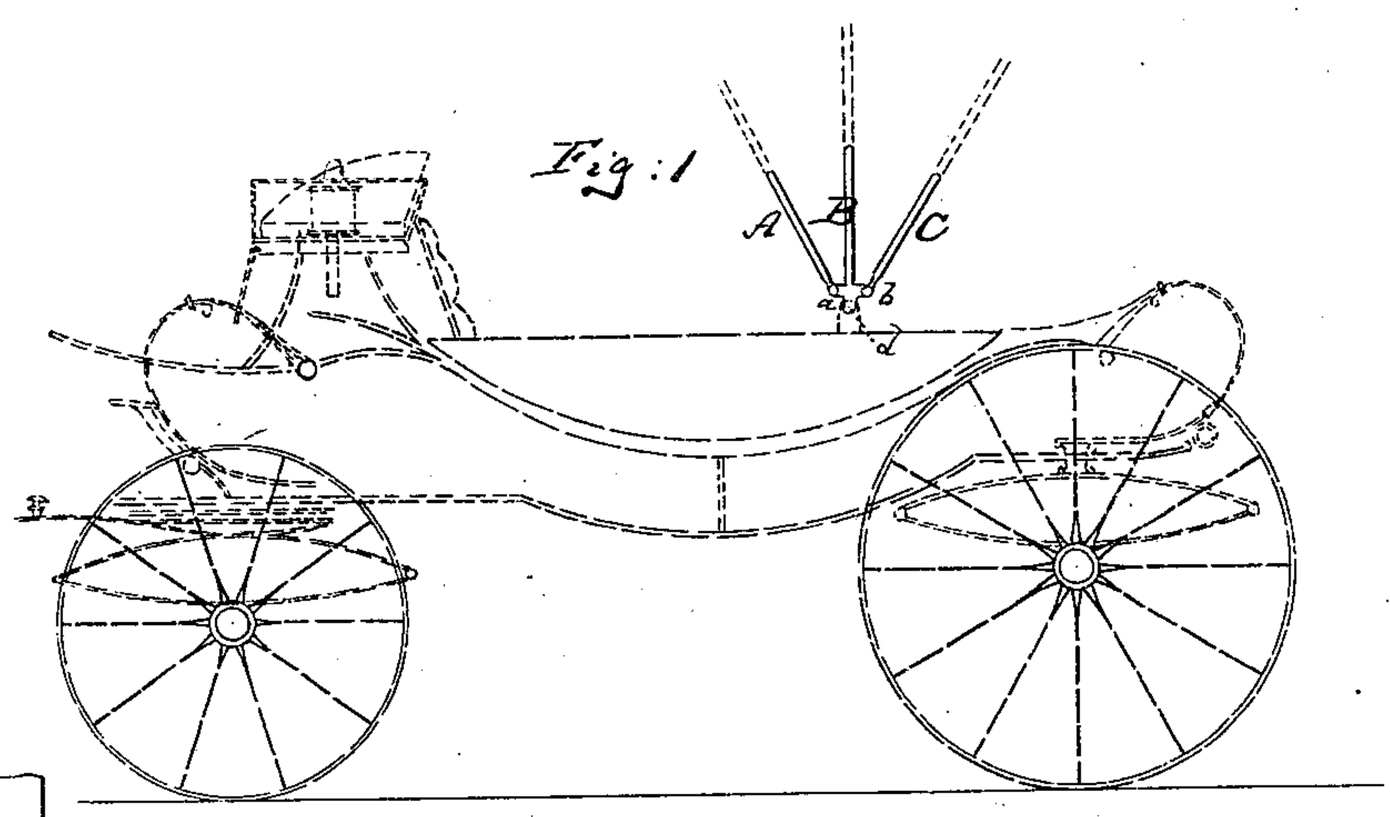


Fig: 2

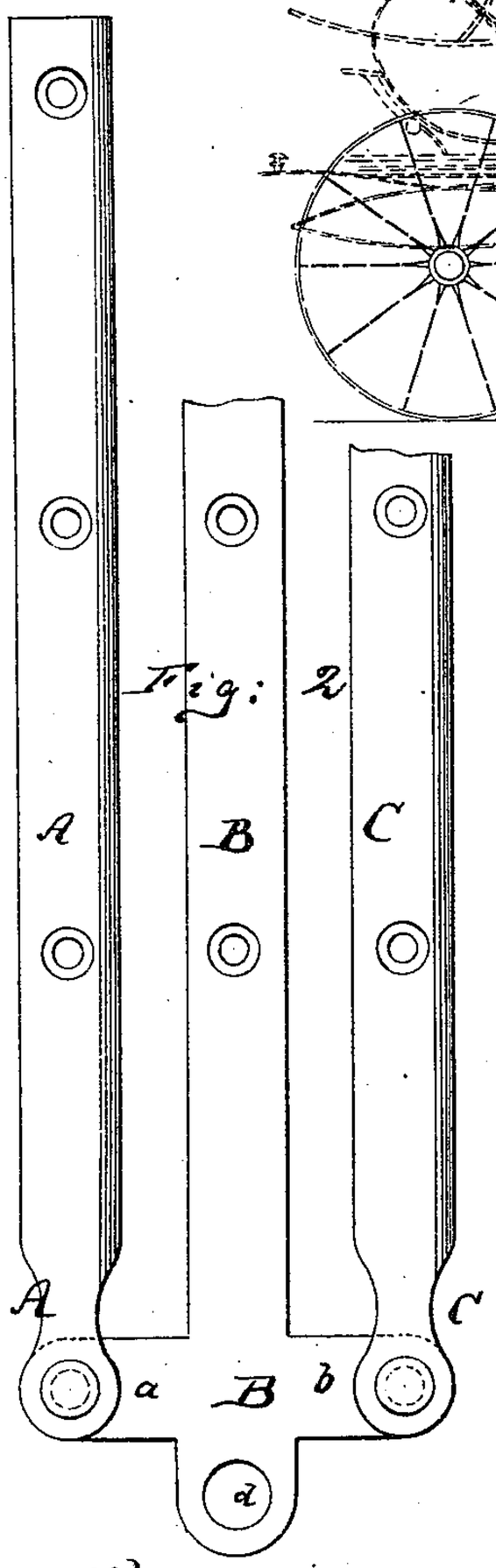
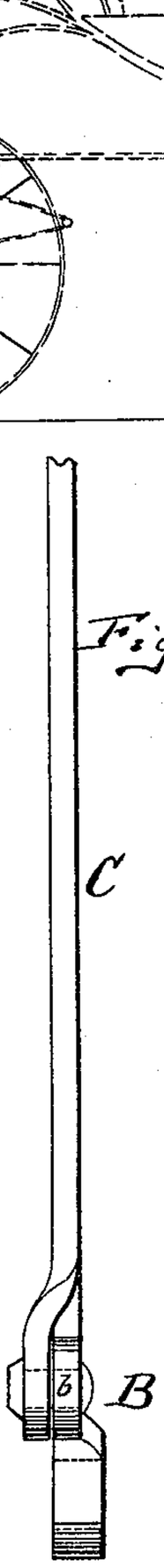


Fig: 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREEMAN B. PLUMB, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO J. B. BREWSTER & CO.

IMPROVEMENT IN SLAT-IRONS FOR CARRIAGE-TOPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,885**, dated June 1, 1875; application filed February 26, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREEMAN B. PLUMB, of the city of New York, county and State of New York, have invented an Improved Slat-Iron for Folding Carriage-Tops, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view of a carriage provided with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a detail side view, on an enlarged scale, of my improved slat-iron. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the joint of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention relates to a new construction and joint of the slat-irons which are used to connect the lower ends of the bows of a folding carriage-top, and to join the same to the carriage-body.

My invention consists in making the middle slat-iron in form of an inverted cross, its rigidly-projecting arms serving to receive the pivots that secure the lower ends of the back and front bows, all as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawing, the letters A, B, and C represent three slat-irons, united to connect the bows at one side of a carriage-top. The middle slat-iron B is perforated at its lower end, to receive the bolt by which the entire carriage-top is attached to the carriage-body. The said middle iron B is made in form of an inverted cross, as is clearly shown in Fig. 2, its projecting arms *a* and *b*, which are formed in one piece with its shank, serving, respectively, to receive the pivots that connect the irons A and C to B. The lower ends of the bows A and C are bent slightly outward, as shown in Fig. 3, so that their upper parts may be properly in line with the middle bow and with each other. This object may, however, also be attained by slightly bending the ends of the arms *a b*.

The advantage of the slat-iron construction herein described over that now in use is, that greater strength and a neater and lighter appearance are gained, and that the bows are more equally separated and lie more even, presenting a more symmetrical appearance when folded.

Another advantage is, that in folding the top together, the back arm *b* of the cross is swung under the pivot *d* of the entire top, whereby the back bow is drawn slightly forward, whereas the front bow is drawn slightly backward. The back of the folded top will then be nearly straight up and down, instead of having the upper bows farther in than the lower, the effect produced by the ordinary mode of attaching the slat-irons.

The drawing shows but three slat-irons; but a larger number may be joined, in which case the length of the arms *a* and *b*, or either, is increased, so that to one or both of said arms the ends of two or more slat-irons may be pivoted.

I claim as my invention—

The cross-shaped slat-iron B, made in one piece with the rigid arms *a b*, that project from opposite sides of said slat-iron, in combination with the slat-irons A and C, that are respectively pivoted to the arms *a* and *b*, so that the pivot of the back bow will, in folding, come beneath the pivot *d* of the slat-iron, substantially as shown and described.

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