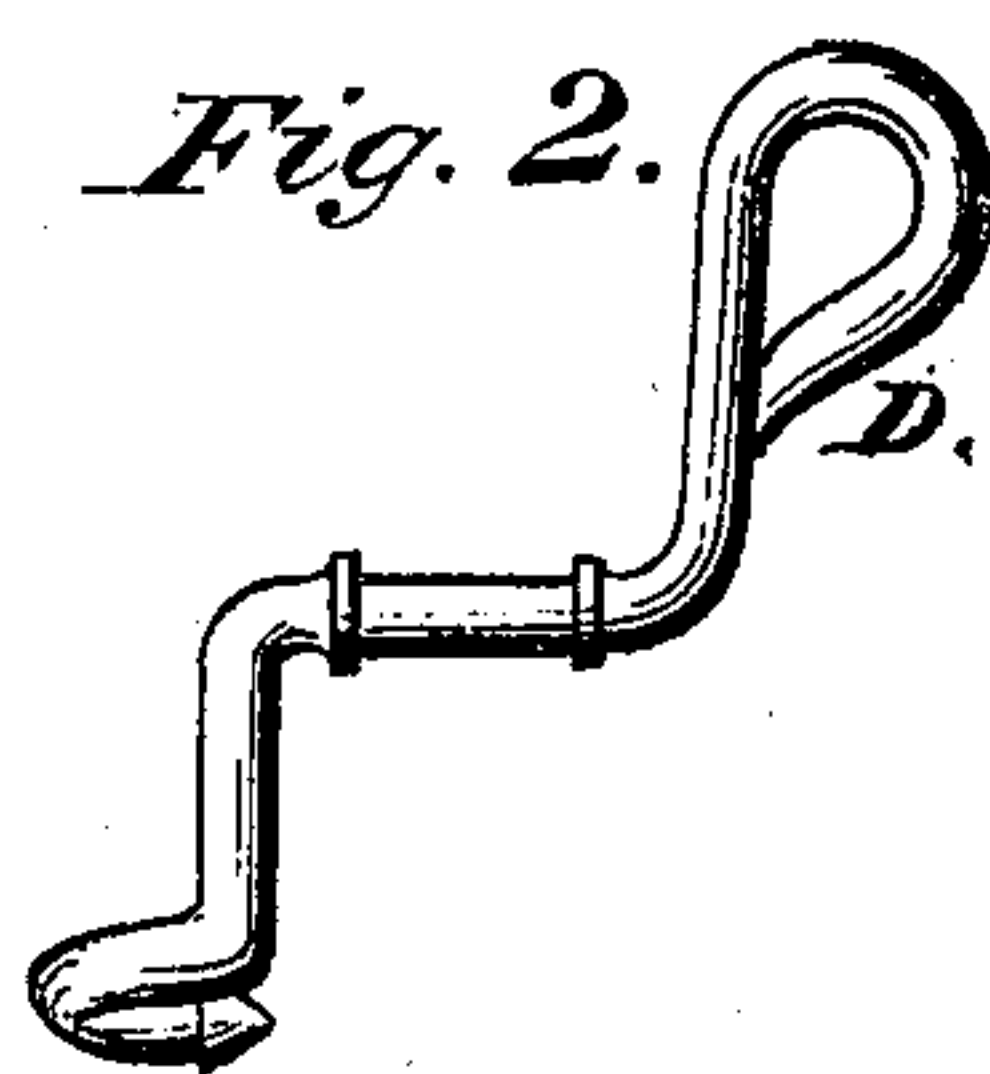
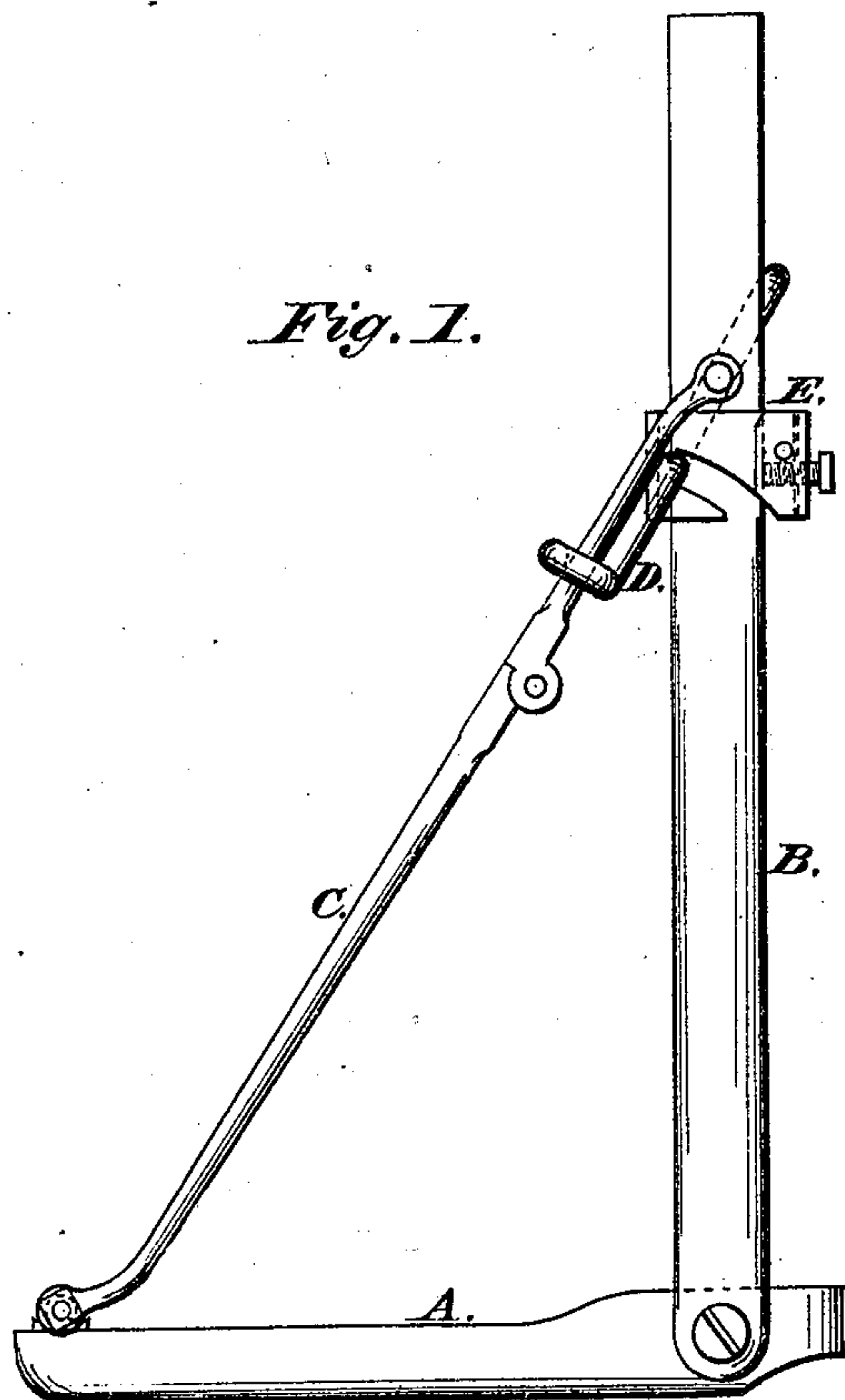


G. N. SPINK.
TOP PROP OPERATOR.

No. 177,170.

Patented May 9, 1876.



Witnesses:

D. A. Ogden
Charles Ketchum.

Inventor:

George N. Spink

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GEORGE N. SPINK, OF BELLONA, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOP-PROP OPERATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 177,170, dated May 9, 1876; application filed March 13, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE N. SPINK, of Bellona, in the county of Yates and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Carriage-Top-Prop Operators, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to form an operator that will bend the top-prop of a carriage-top, so that the top may be let down; also, when the top is put up, the prop may, with the same operator, be set in position to hold the top up. The handle of the operator comes within the carriage-top, so that a person may, while sitting on the seat, take hold of it and actuate it, to raise and lower the top of the carriage, without reaching through or around the top to get hold of the props to bend them.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of the seat, prop, top-bow, and operator. Fig. 2 is a plan of the operator.

A is the side of the seat, to which the top-prop and bows of the carriage-top are attached in any ordinary manner. B is a section of one of the top-bows, to which the prop is usually applied. It is made and attached as other bows are. C is the prop, ordinarily constructed, and is applied in the usual way. This prop-bow C and seat A are used to show how the operator D is applied, and how it actuates the top-prop. D is the operator. The end that comes inside the carriage-top is made in the form of a handle, or any shape that will be convenient to take hold of. From the handle portion it passes through the clasp that holds it to the bow B, and is then bent downward in the direction of the prop C to near its joint, and is then bent around the prop, so that it may act two ways upon the prop to straighten or bend it. The part that

is applied to the prop is provided with a lining or covering of rubber, leather, or any other material, to prevent wear and rattling when the carriage is in motion.

The shape of the operator is represented in Fig. 2. The handle may be bent in any desired direction from the clasp; but, generally, it should be turned upward to be out of the way of persons' heads, so that by pulling it backward it will set the prop to hold the top up, and by pushing it forward it will bend the prop to let the top down. An operator should be applied to each side of the carriage-top.

E is the clasp that holds the operator D to the bow B. It is made in two parts, held together by a bolt passing through them. The clasp surrounds the bow, and at one side is provided with a set-bolt to hold it to the bow where required, and also prevents any rattling. The operator D passes through the holes in the sides of the clasp. These holes are made to hook around the operator D, as shown in Fig. 1, and thus hold it in proper position.

The clasp and operator may be applied to the carriage-bow without any change or alteration of the bow or prop, and without holes through the bow to weaken it, and without any change of top prop or braces, and they may be applied to new or old tops without changing or removing any trimmings.

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

In combination with the carriage-top bow B and prop C, the clasp E and operator D, constructed and applied to actuate the prop C, in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

GEORGE N. SPINK.

Witnesses:

D. A. OGDEN,
CHARLES KETCHUM.