

I. EATON & H. M. FORTNEY.
FIFTH WHEELS FOR VEHICLES.

No. 194,959.

Patented Sept. 11, 1877.

Fig. 1.

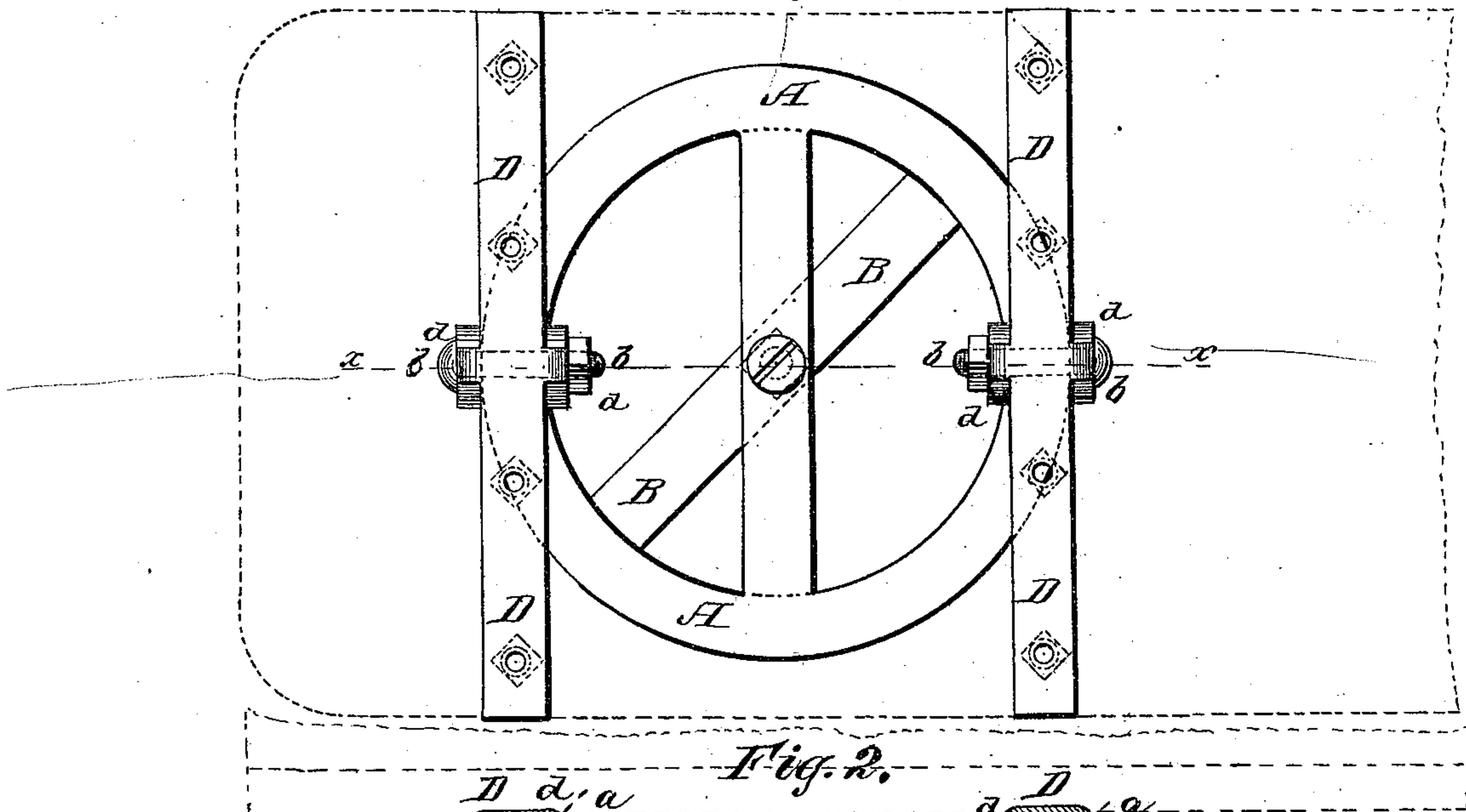


Fig. 2.

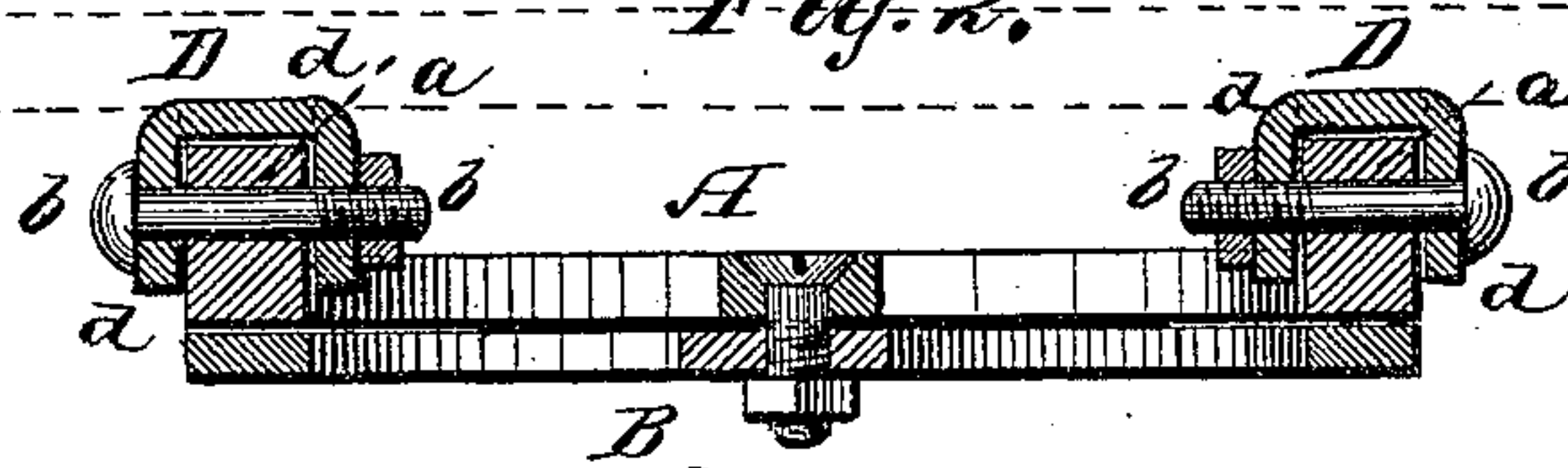
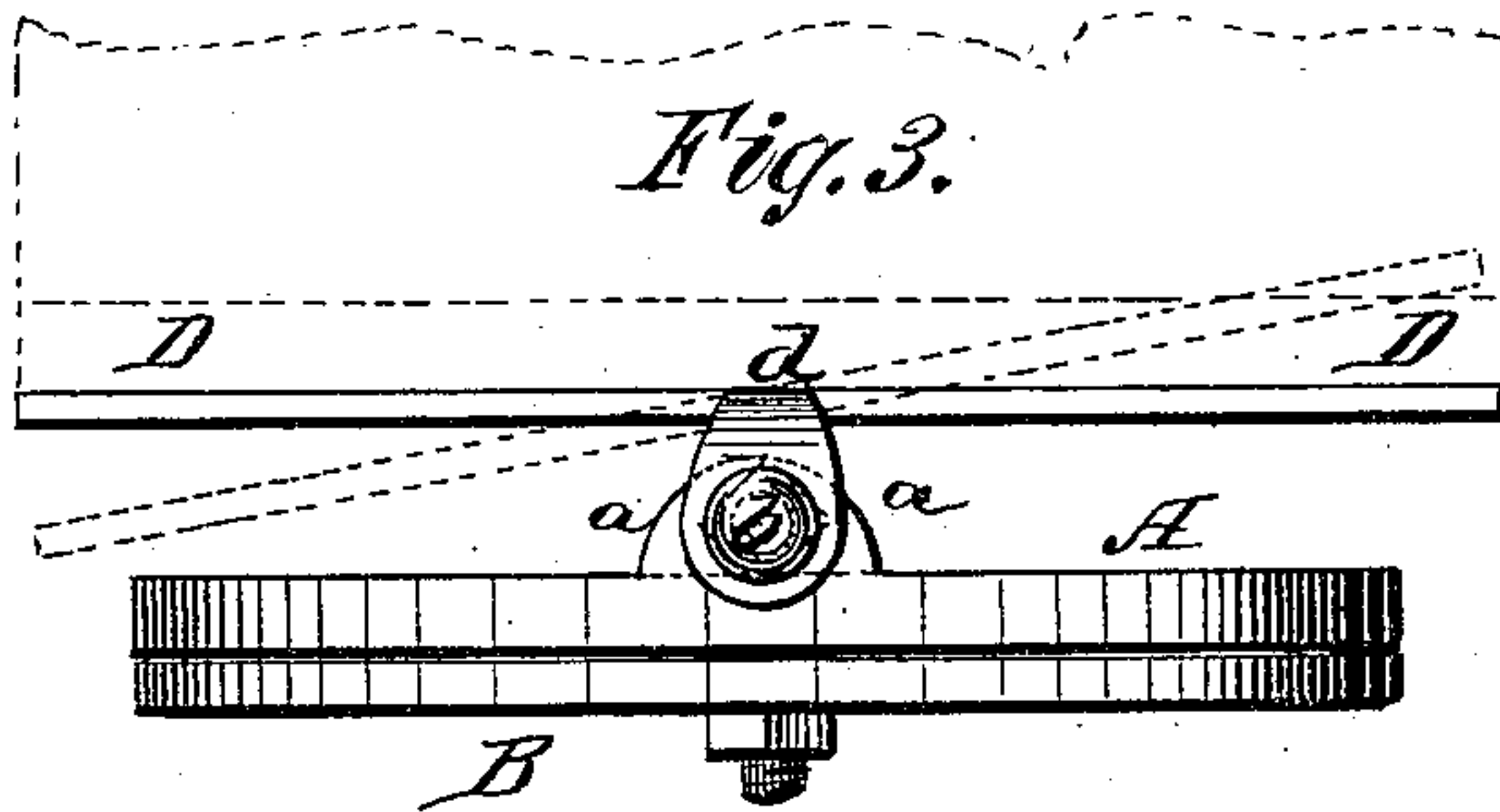


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

F. C. Dietrich
Frank Duffe

Inventors:

Isaac Eaton
H. M. Fortney

Per *C. H. Watson & Co.* Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC EATON AND HENRY M. FORTNEY, OF NEW SHARON, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIFTH-WHEELS FOR VEHICLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **194,959**, dated September 11, 1877; application filed June 9, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ISAAC EATON and H. M. FORTNEY, of New Sharon, in the county of Mahaska and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Combination of the Fifth-Wheel and Rocker; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of our invention consists in a fifth-wheel for vehicles, suspended by hinge-joints from arms secured to the under side of the bed, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, which fully illustrate our invention, Figure 1 is a plan view. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the line *x x*, and Fig. 3 a side elevation of the same.

A represents the upper, and B the lower, half of a fifth-wheel for vehicles, constructed in any of the known and usual ways. On top of the upper half A are formed two lugs, *a a*, one on each side, which are placed between lugs *d d*, formed on and projecting downward

from bars or arms D D, and bolts *b b* are passed through said lugs, as shown, thereby hinging the fifth-wheel to the centers of said arms. These arms are fastened to the under side of the top or bed of the wagon.

By thus suspending the fifth-wheel by hinged joints, or, in other words, forming a rocking fifth-wheel, we obviate the strain on the bed and wagon when one of the wheels runs in a cavity, or over an obstruction which raises one side of the wagon and wheel higher than the other. This rocker allows the bed or top to stay level, giving according to the cavity or obstruction.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The fifth-wheel herein described, consisting of the parts A B, the upper part having the lugs *a*, the lugs *d* projecting downward from the bars D, and the bolts *b*, all constructed and arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ISAAC EATON.
HENRY M. FORTNEY.

Witnesses:

J. D. KENNARD,
A. H. VICKERS.