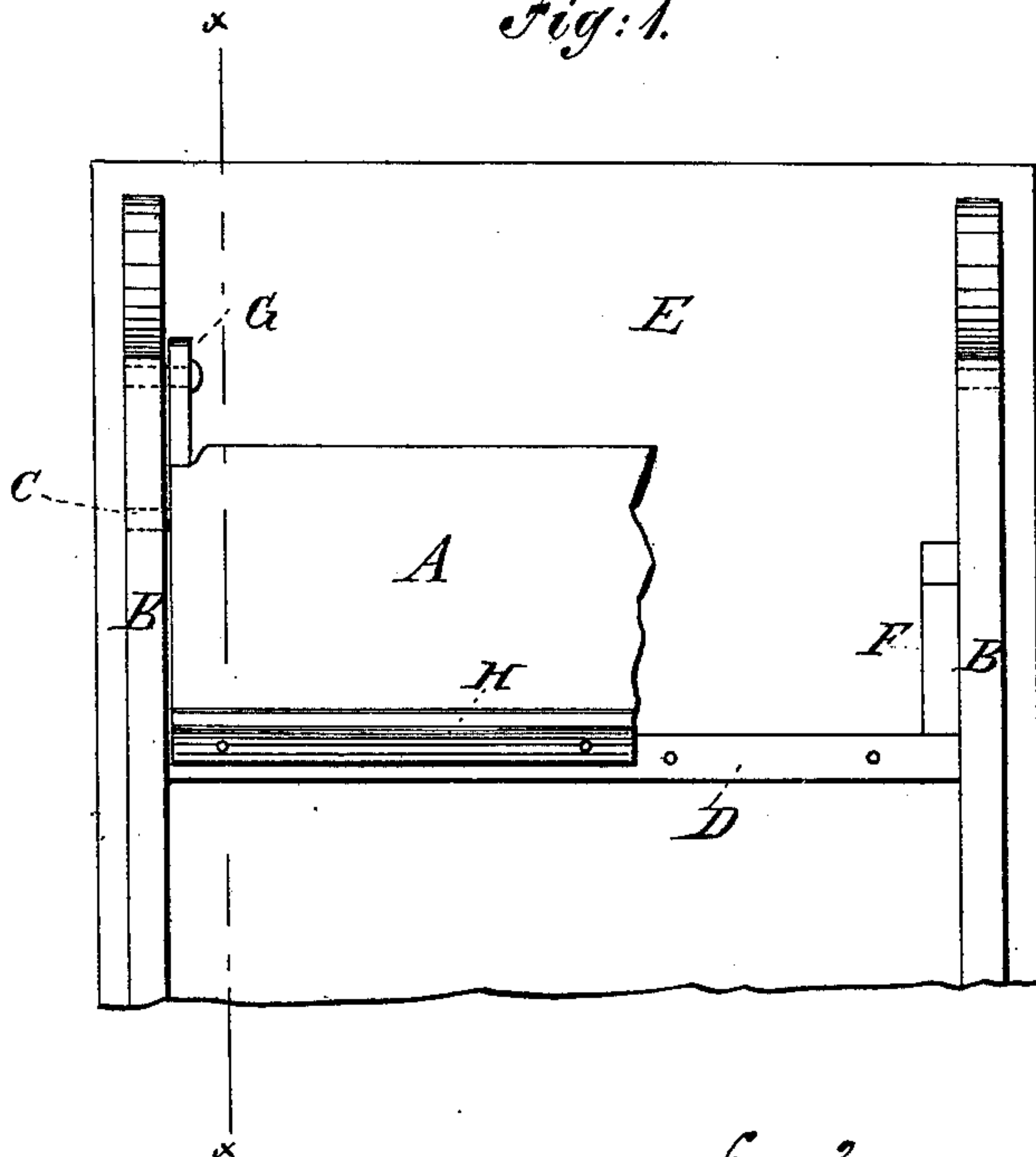


J. MURPHY.  
Book Rack.

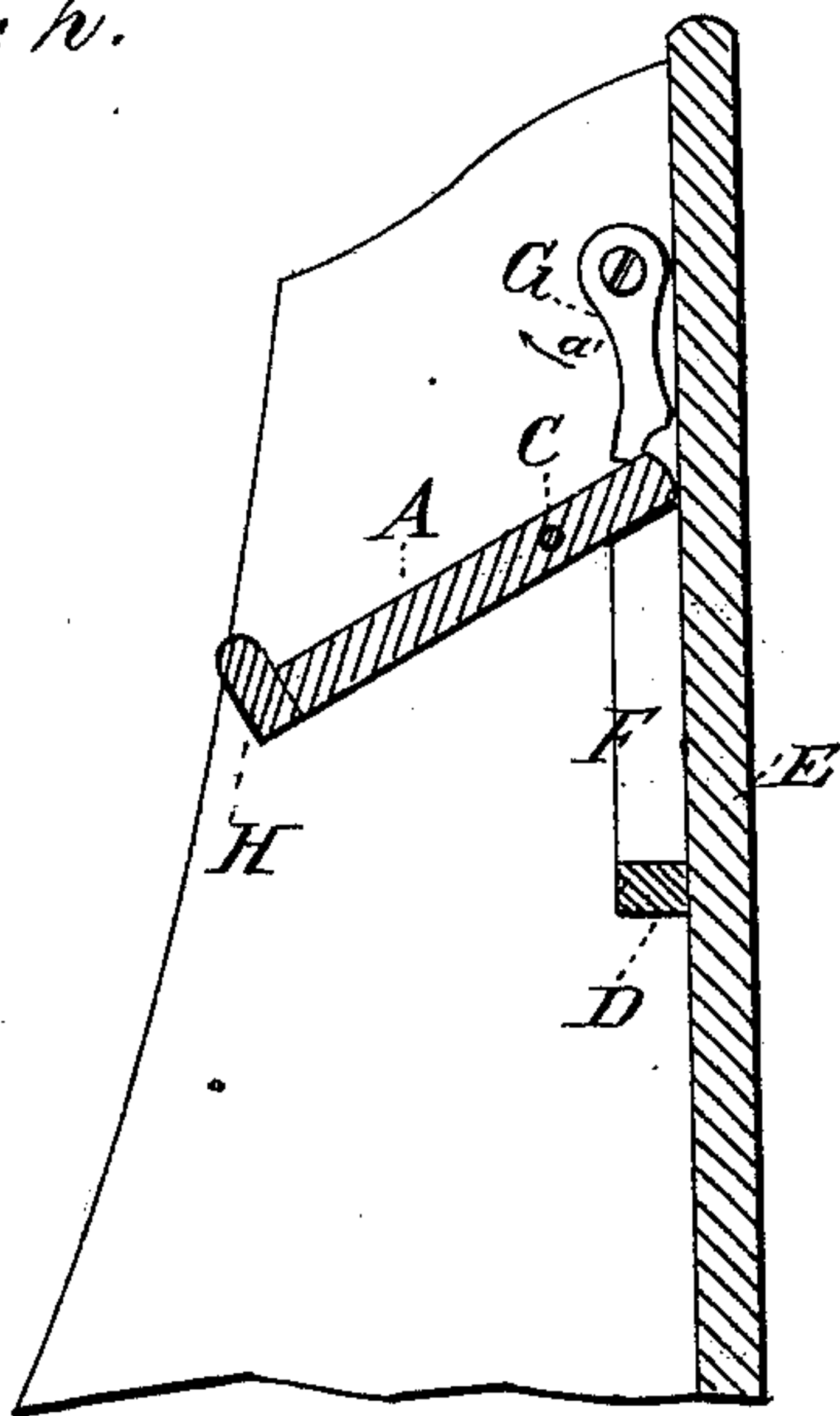
No. 229,740.

Patented July 6, 1880.

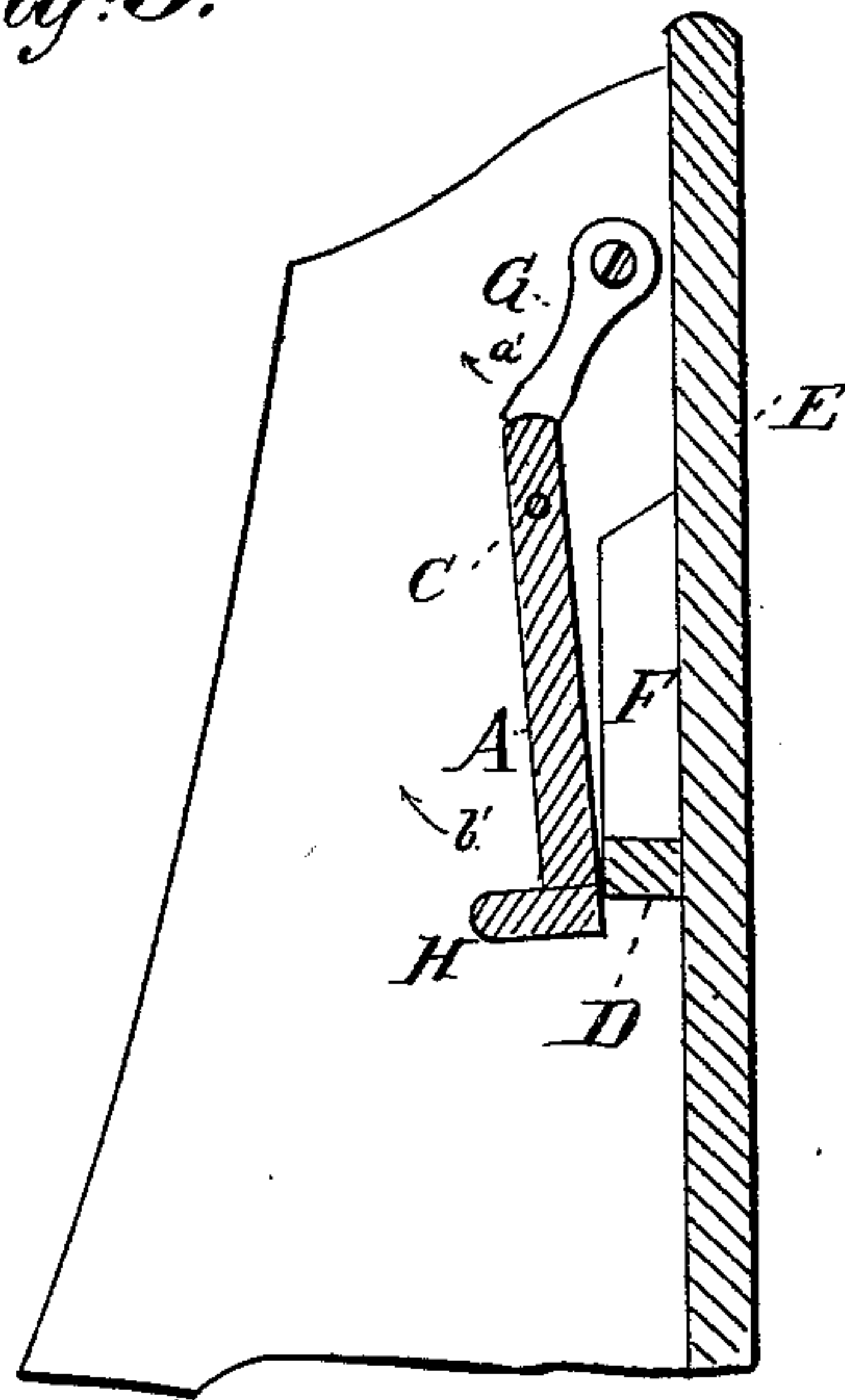
*Fig: 1.*



*Fig: 2.*



*Fig: 3.*



WITNESSES:

*Chas. Nida.*  
*C. Sedgwick*

INVENTOR:

*J. Murphy*  
BY *Mum & Co*

ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES MURPHY, OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

## BOOK-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 229,740, dated July 6, 1880.

Application filed January 23, 1880.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES MURPHY, of San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented a new and Improved Book-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved book-rack which can be changed in position, when desired, so as to serve as a book-rest.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents an elevation of the back of a pew or bench provided with my improved rack. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same on the line *x x*, Fig. 1, showing the board raised to serve as a book-rest. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same on the line *x x*, Fig. 1, showing the board lowered to serve as a book-rack.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A board, A, is pivoted between the two uprights B B of a pew, bench, or other seat by means of the two pivots C C, which may be of wood or metal, and may be fastened either to the shelves or to the uprights B B. A narrow strip, D, of wood or some other suitable material, is fastened to the back E of the seat in such a manner that when the shelf is lowered, as shown in Fig. 3, this narrow strip will form the bottom of a rack, the sides of which are formed by the back E and the board A. A strip of wood or like material, F, of the same thickness as the strip D, and having its upper end beveled, is fastened to each upright B in such a manner that the upper part of the board A rests on the inclines of the strips when the same is raised. A catch, G, is pivoted to the upright B near the back E.

The board A may be plain, slotted, perforated, or ornamental, and is provided with a ledge, H, at the lower edge, to prevent the book from slipping off.

In case the seat has no uprights between

which the shelf can be pivoted, any suitable kind of standards through which the pivots C C can pass may be attached to the seat.

Plain or ornamental backs and ends can also be made to receive the pivoted shelf A, thus making a complete and portable book-rack or book-rest which can be secured wherever required by means of screws or nails.

Ordinarily the board A is in the position shown in Fig. 3, and the book is placed into the rack formed by the strip D, the board A, and the back E. When in this position the board is out of the way, and permits of easily entering or leaving the pew or seat.

To adjust the board as a book-rest the catch G is raised in the direction of the arrow *a'* and the board is raised in the direction of the arrow *b'* until its upper part rests on the inclined surfaces of the strips F F. The catch G is then moved in the inverse direction of the arrow *a'* until it locks the board in the position shown in Fig. 2, holding the same firm and tight.

The board can also be used without the strips D and F; but nevertheless they are preferable.

The rack may be modified by making the ledge H of such breadth toward the back E of the seat as to form the bottom of the rack when the board A is in the position shown in Fig. 3, dispensing with the strip D.

If dirt or dust collects in the rack, it will fall down onto the floor as soon as the board A is raised in the direction of the arrow *b'*.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination, with the pivoted board A, of the catch G and the strip D, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

JAMES MURPHY.

Witnesses:

HENRY B. ANDREWS,

ALBERT I. MANERMANN.