

(No Model.)

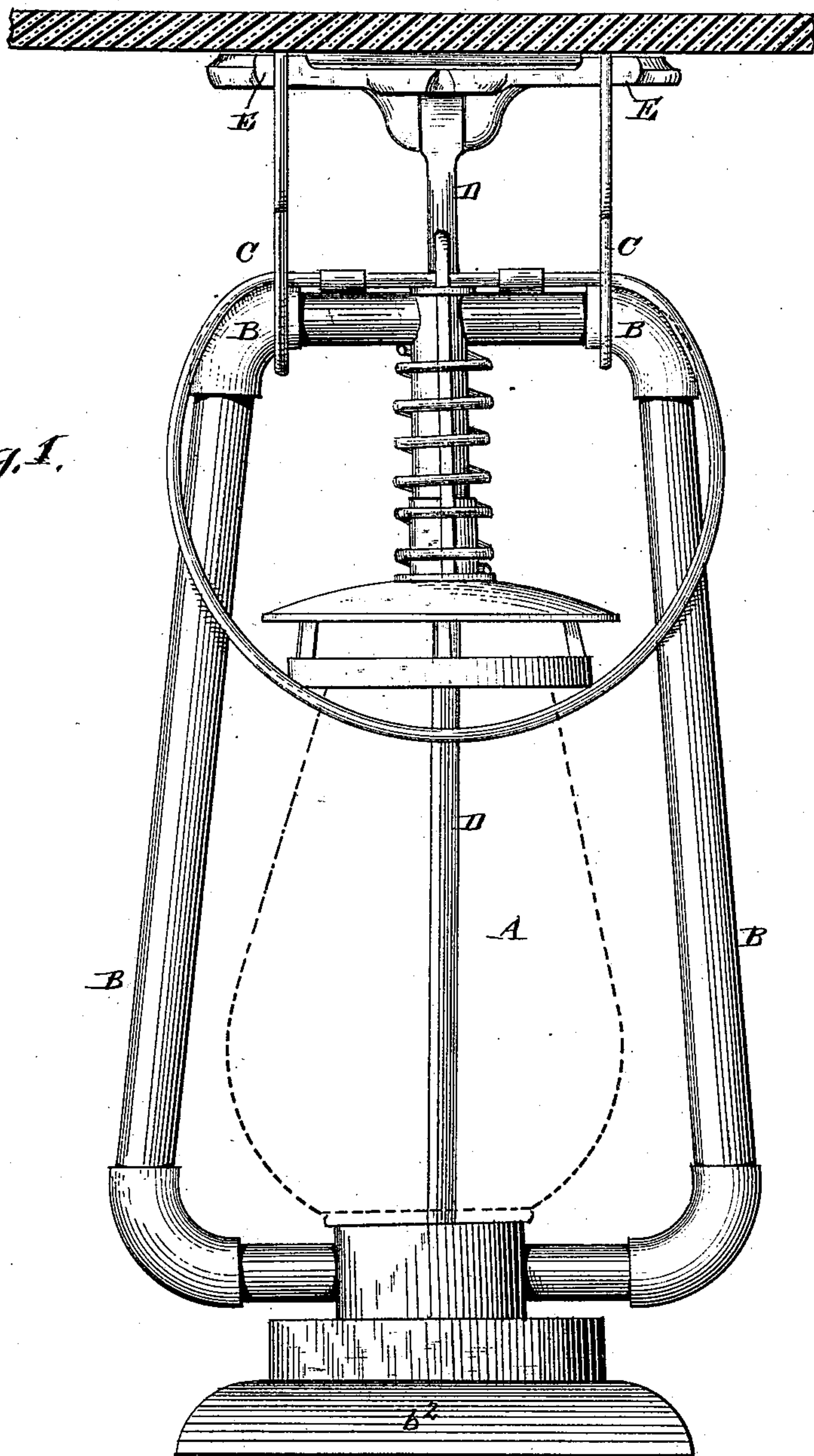
3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. B. COULTER.
Lantern Holder.

No. 235,129.

Patented Dec. 7, 1880.

Fig. 1.



WITNESSES

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ATTORNEY

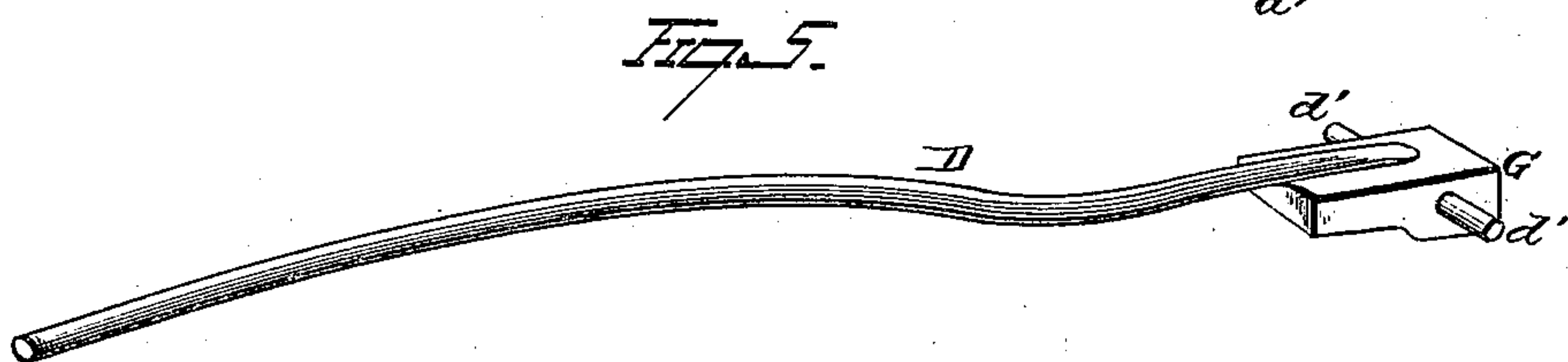
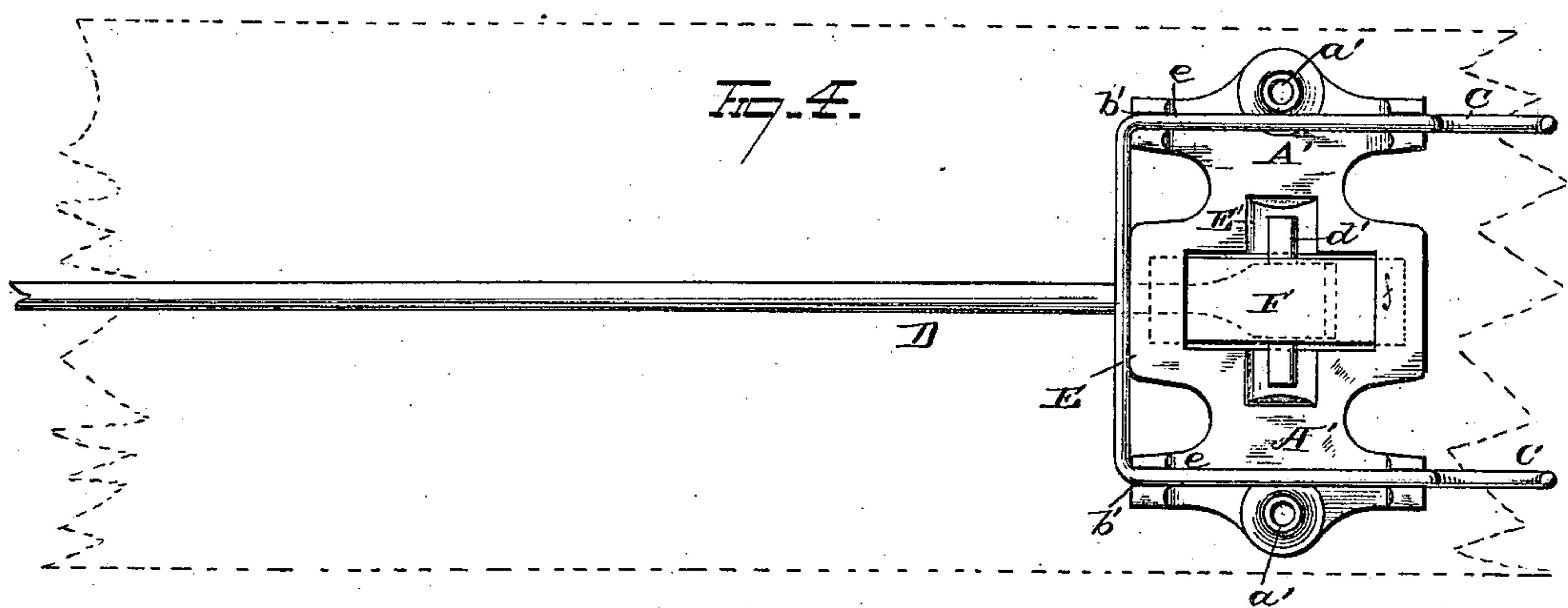
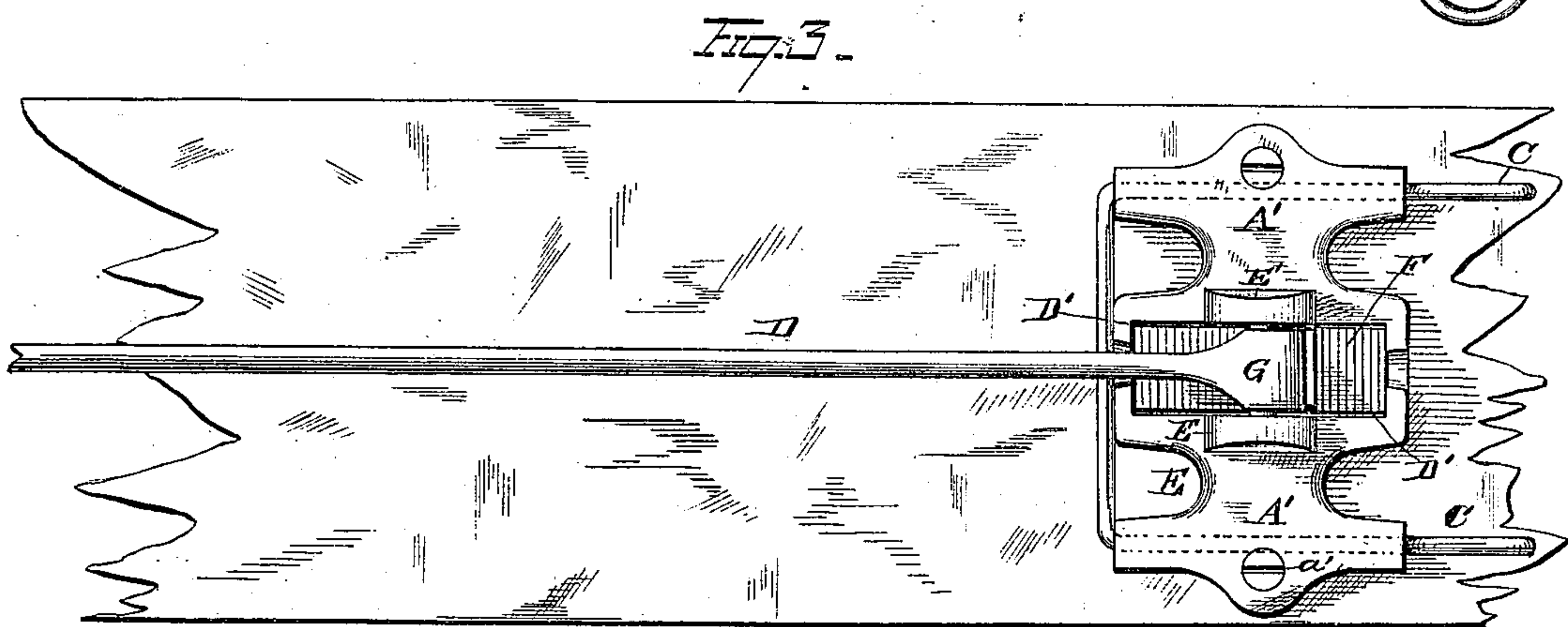
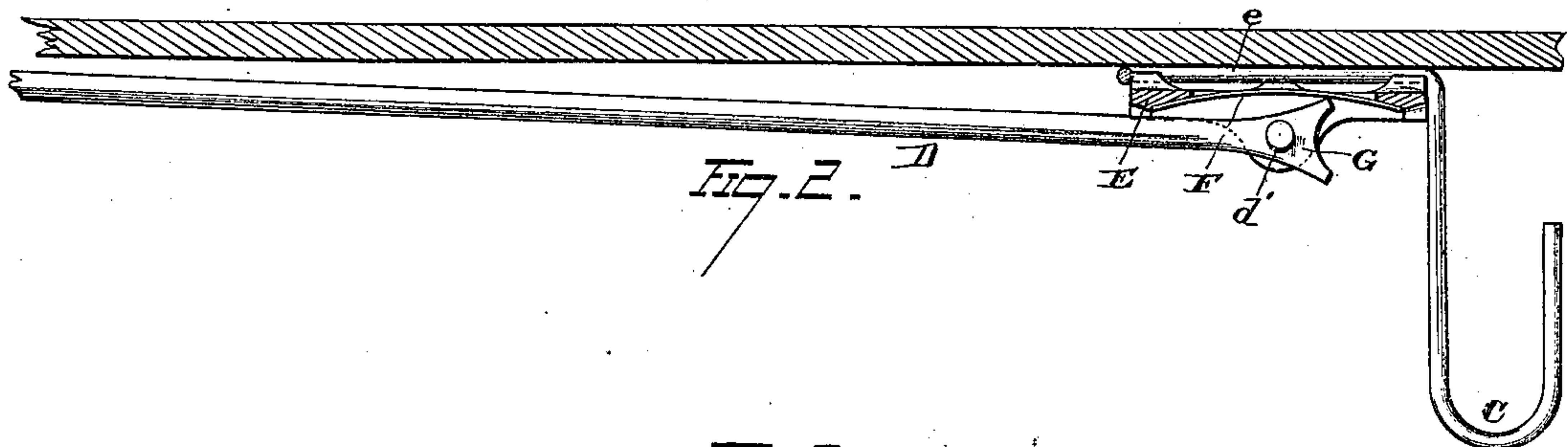
(No Model.)

W. B. COULTER.
Lantern Holder.

3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

No. 235,129.

Patented Dec. 7, 1880.



WITNESSES

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(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

W. B. COULTER.
Lantern Holder.

No. 235,129.

Patented Dec. 7, 1880.

Fig. 7.

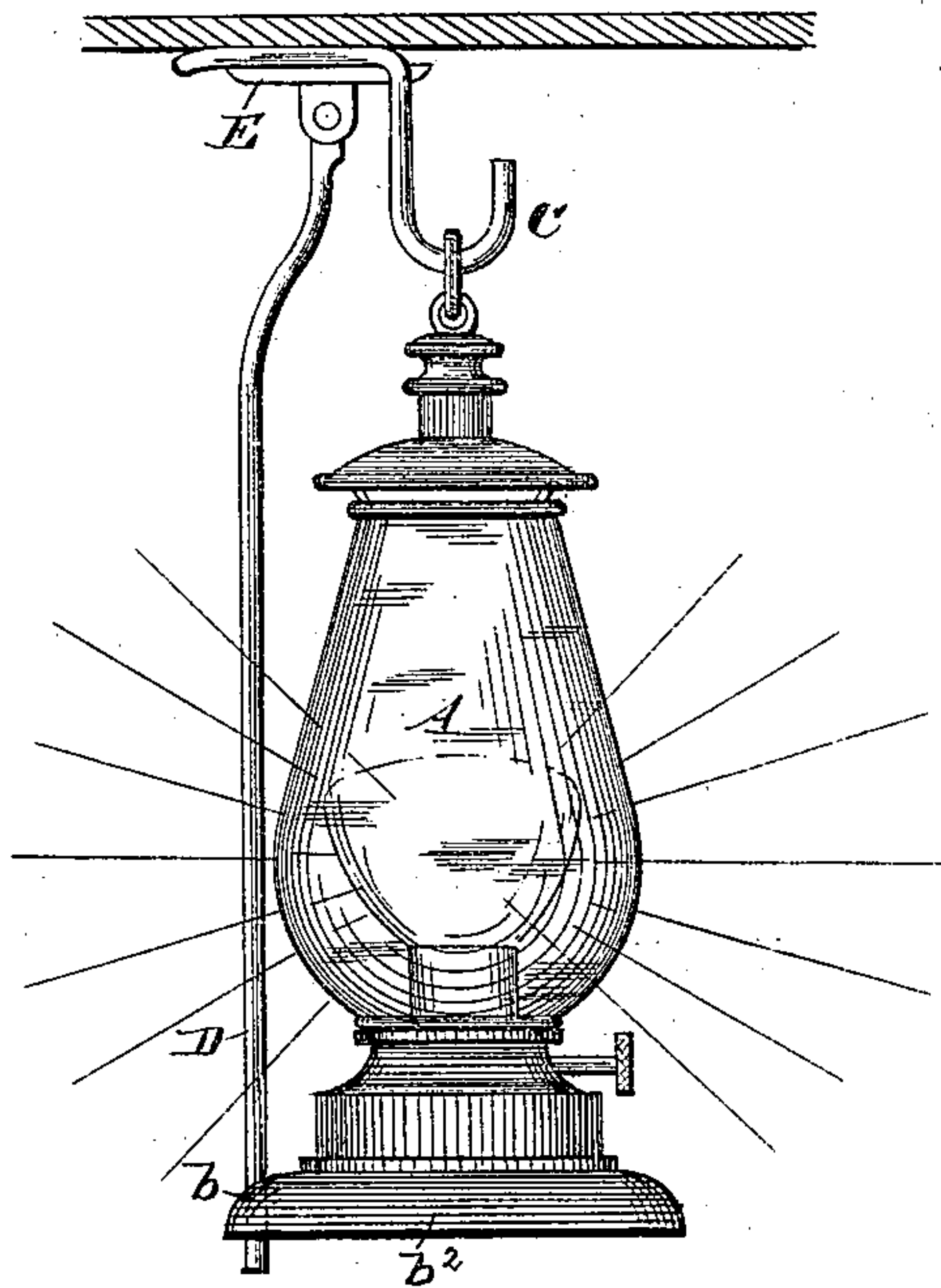
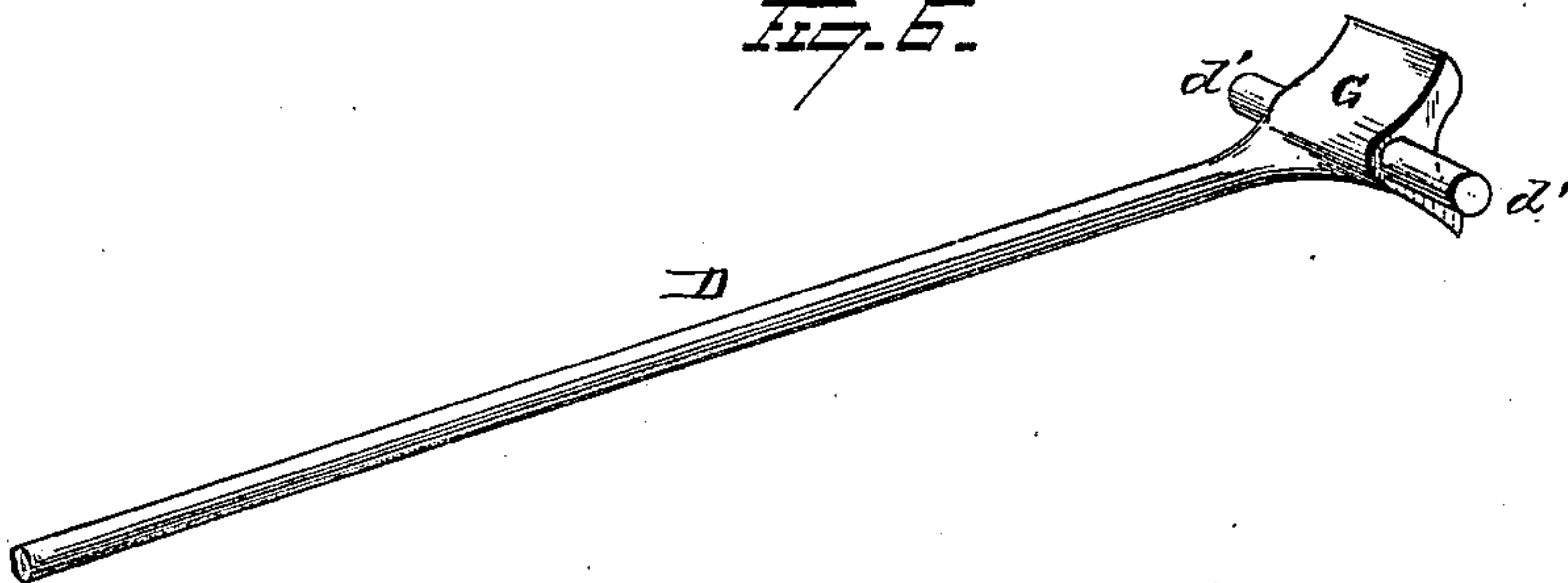


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. COULTER, OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT.

LANTERN-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 235,129, dated December 7, 1880.

Application filed August 12, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. COULTER, of Bristol, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lantern-Holders; 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.

My invention relates to an improvement in devices for attaching lanterns to carriages and other vehicles, and is designed to provide a lantern-holder of simple and durable construction, and of few parts, easily operated, and capable of being manufactured and supplied to the trade at a comparatively light cost.

With these ends in view, my invention consists, first, in the combination, with a hook for supporting a lantern, of a depending rod adapted to engage with the body of the lantern and retain it against lateral displacement.

My invention further consists in the combination, with a hook adapted to support a lantern, of a hinged or pivoted rod adapted to engage with the lower portion of the lantern.

My invention further consists in the combination, with a hook (one or more) for supporting a lantern, of a folding rod and a lantern provided with a perforated skirt, through which the free end of the rod is inserted, substantially as set forth.

My invention further consists in the combination, with a bracket having lantern-supporting hooks secured thereto, of a rod pivoted to the bracket, said rod being provided with an enlarged bearing at its upper end, and a spring arranged to engage with said enlarged head or bearing and retain the rod in its open or closed position.

My invention further consists in the combination, with a bracket constructed with seats and depending lugs, of a rod pivoted to said lugs, and a spring the ends of which are supported on the bracket-seats.

My invention further consists in certain details of construction and combinations of parts,

as will hereinafter be described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows an elevation of a globular lantern as suspended by its air-tubes from my holder. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross-section of my holder. Fig. 3 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 4 is a view showing the reverse or under side of the holder. Fig. 5 is a modification of the hinged rod in detached view. Fig. 7 is an elevation of a lantern as suspended by its bail or handle from my improved holder, and Fig. 6 shows a detached view of the hinged rod.

Let A designate a lantern suspended by its air-tube B from hook C of the lantern-holder, and secured against lateral displacement by the hinged rod D, which latter, in the construction shown, is adapted to extend through a perforation, *b*, in the skirt *b*², forming the lantern-standard.

E is a bracket, made preferably of malleable iron or of other suitable metal, according to the manner in which the device is to be finished, said bracket being adapted to fulfill the threefold function of providing means of securing the device to a carriage or other vehicle, of offering support for the detached hooks, and of forming suitable bearing for the hinged rod and its engaging-spring. T-shaped projections A', constituting a part of the bracket E, are formed both sides thereof, and are provided with perforations at *a'*, for the admission of screws which serve to secure the holder to the vehicle to which it is attached.

The hooks C, which, as here shown, consist of a single piece of wire bent to form two depending arms or hooks, are held between the surface to which the holder is attached and the holder by the arms *e*, which latter are provided on their under sides with grooved flanges *b'*, said grooved flanges being arranged to receive and clamp down upon the connecting portion or arm *c'* between the two hooks C, and also to raise the bracket E sufficiently high from the surface to which it is secured to allow the spring F to be depressed when the hinged rod D, with which it engages, is opened or closed.

A seat for the spring F is formed by flanges *f*, constructed at each end of the open slot D', formed in the center of bracket E.

Depending lugs E', formed on each side of and midway of the length of the slot D', receive in pivotal adjustment the bearings d', placed on each side of the enlarged head or bearing G of the rod D, said rod being retained in open or closed position, as desired, by the tensile power of spring F, exerted on the bearing-head G thereof. If it is wished to decrease the tension of the spring, it may be accomplished by laterally grooving the bearing-head G, and thereby lessening its engaging-surface with the spring F, as shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings.

When the lantern-holder is in use and has a lantern attached thereto, the rod will be in opened position, extending downward, and engaging with the cage or skirt of the lantern, to prevent it from lateral displacement. When, however, the holder is not being used, the rod may be put in its horizontal or closed position, in which it is retained by the tension of the spring, and where it is entirely out of sight and out of the way. With some forms of lantern it may be found necessary to bend the rod to conform to their shape.

The lantern-holder was primarily intended to be secured to the bottom of a carriage or other vehicle; but it is clear that without material changes in form or construction other than bending the hooks at different angles, it may be adapted to secure a lantern to the dash or other part of a vehicle, as may be found convenient and expeditious.

The difficulty heretofore met with of attaching lanterns to vehicles is the liability, if not permanently attached, of becoming disengaged and broken. Besides this, they are open to such swinging movement that they are often extinguished. I have entirely overcome these objections by producing a lantern-holder of such construction and operation as to allow a lantern of any ordinary construction to be easily and temporarily attached to any vehicle provided with my improvement, and yet be secure against displacement and against lateral or swinging movement. Moreover, when the holder is not in use it may be readjusted to be out of sight and annoyance.

I would have it understood that I do not limit myself to the exact construction shown and described, but hold myself at liberty to

make such slight changes and alterations as come within the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

1. The combination, with a hook for supporting a lantern, of a depending rod adapted to engage with the body of the lantern and retain it against lateral displacement, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a hook adapted to support a lantern, of a hinged or pivoted rod adapted to engage with the lower portion of the lantern, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with a hook for supporting a lantern, of a folding rod and a lantern provided with a perforated skirt, through which the free end of the rod is inserted, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with a bracket having lantern-supporting hooks secured thereto, of a rod pivoted to the bracket, said rod being provided with an enlarged bearing at its upper end, and a spring arranged to engage with said enlarged head and retain the rod in its open or closed position.

5. The combination, with a bracket constructed with seats and depending lugs, of a rod pivoted to said lugs, and a spring the ends of which are supported on the bracket-seats, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination, with a pair of hooks adapted to engage with the air-tubes of a lantern, of a depending rod adapted to engage with the body of the lantern and retain it against lateral displacement, substantially as set forth.

7. A lantern-holder adapted for attachment to the under side of a wagon-body, and provided with means for suspending a lantern by the air-tubes, and also with a depending device to engage the lantern and secure it against lateral displacement.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

WILLIAM B. COULTER.

Witnesses:

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BENJ. F. HAWLEY.