

(No Model.)

A. R. PRESCOTT.
LIGHTNING ARRESTER.

No. 256,046.

Patented Apr. 4, 1882.

FIG. 1.

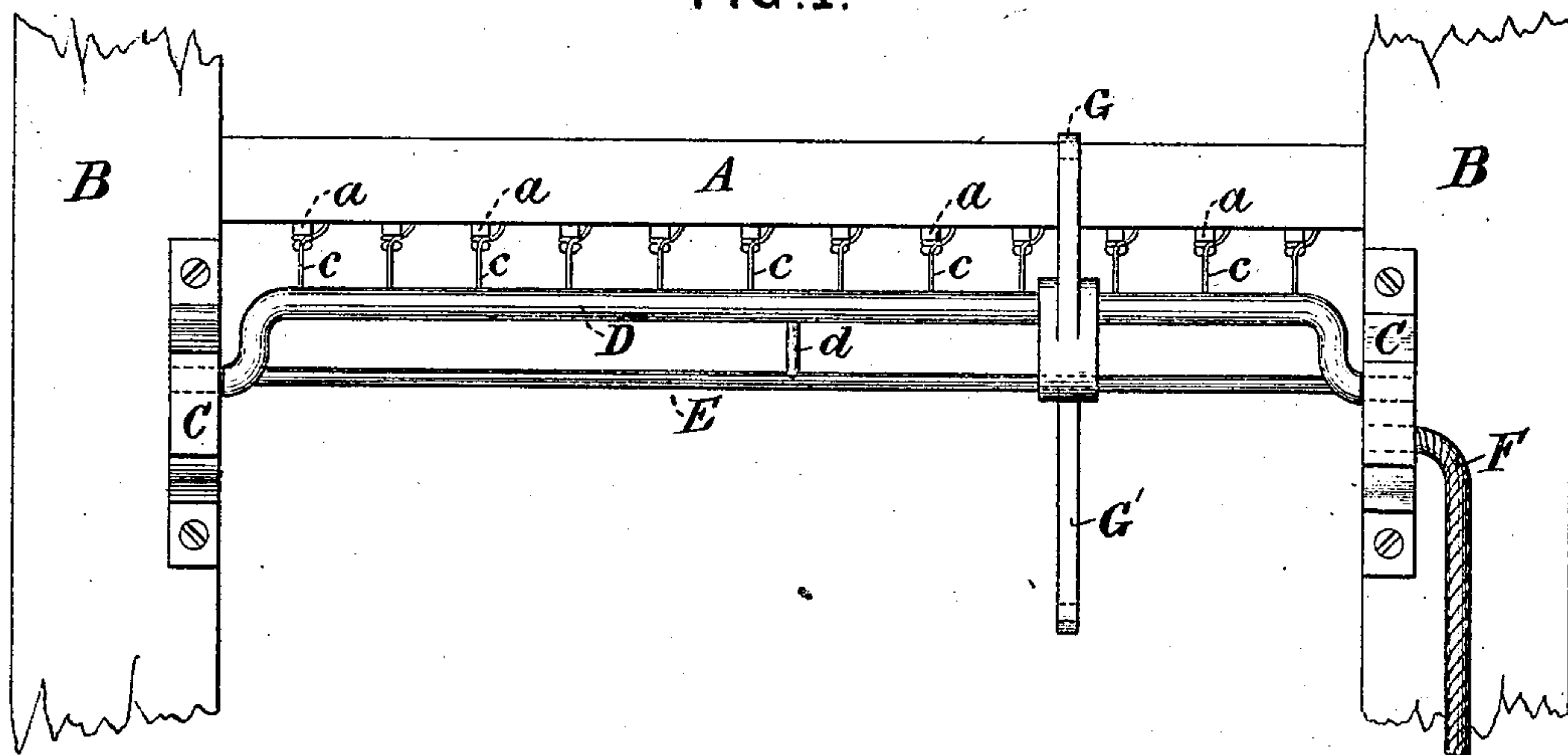
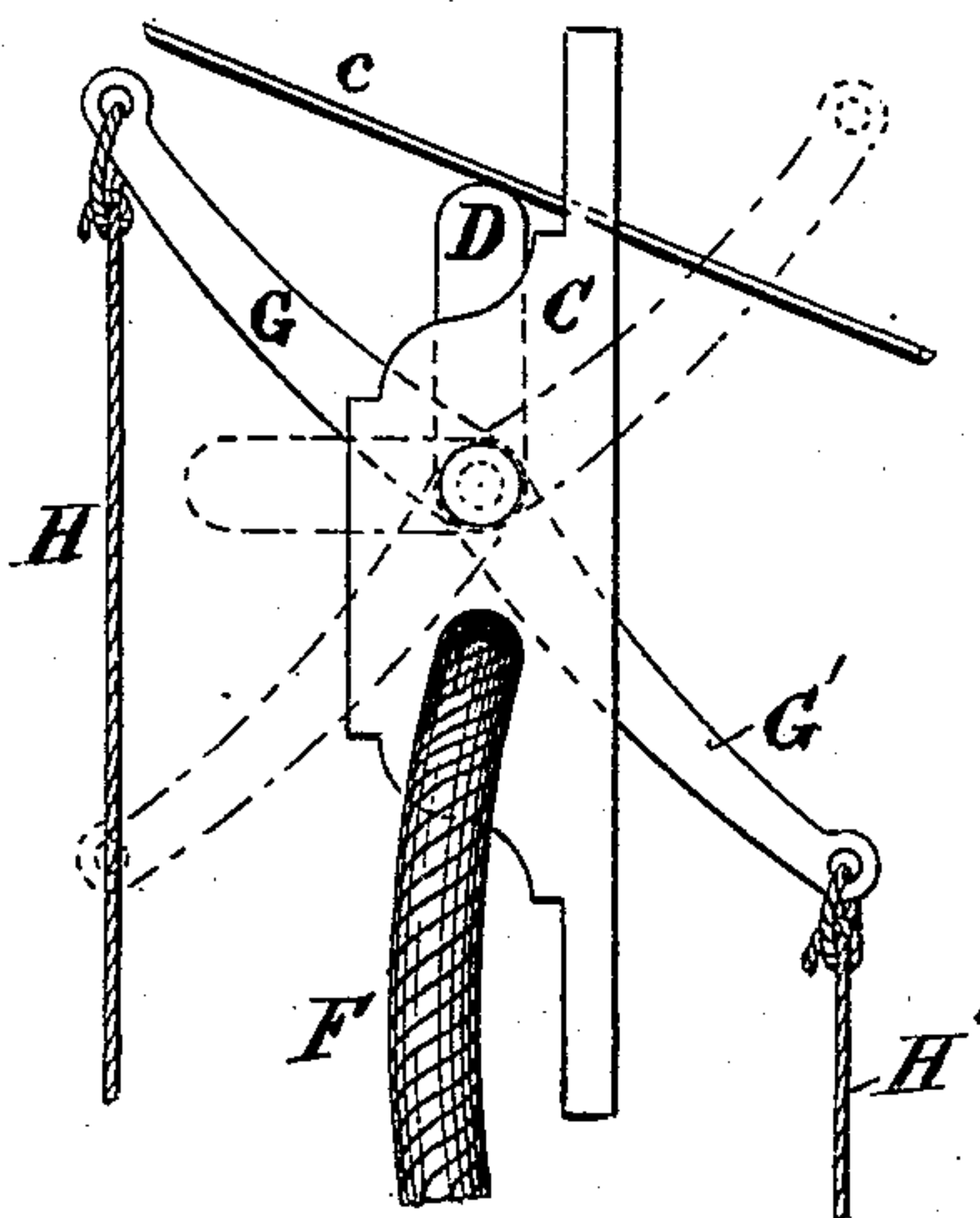


FIG. 2.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALMON R. PRESCOTT, OF NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS.

LIGHTNING-ARRESTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 256,046, dated April 4, 1882.

Application filed October 26, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALMON R. PRESCOTT, of Newburyport, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Lightning-Arresters for Telephone and Telegraphic Offices or Stations, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a means for preventing the electric fluid discharged from the clouds during a thunderstorm from entering the offices or stations of telegraphic and telephone operators.

The invention consists in the employment of a metal bar or conductor which can be brought into or out of contact with the wire or series of wires of a telegraph or telephone line at any moment when desired by the operator, the said bar communicating with rod or conductor leading to the ground-currents, or connecting with metal gas or water pipes laid in the ground.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of my invention, and Fig. 2 is an end view of the same somewhat enlarged.

A represents a frame or cross piece support in the side pieces or posts, B B. To the cross-piece A are attached the insulators *a*, carrying the wires *c*.

C C are metal brackets secured to the posts B B. In the brackets C C is hung a metal bar or rod, D, which is bent at each end, as shown, so as to allow the same to be brought in contact with the wires *c c*, as shown in full lines in Fig. 2, and to be turned back out of contact with said wires.

To the rod D are attached arms G G', extending in opposite directions, and to the end of each arm are attached cords H H', which extend to a point within reach of the operator of the telephone or telegraphic instrument, so that by pulling one or the other cord the bar D can be put into or out of contact with the line-wires, as desired.

To the bracket C, at one side, is attached a lightning rod or conductor, F, which extends downward to the ground-currents, or may connect with metal pipes in the ground.

The bar D may be strengthened by a rod, E, and cross-bar or strut *d*, if necessary. The bar D, with its connections, may be so arranged as to come in contact with the wires in a horizontal or vertical line or at any angle.

It will be seen that when the bar D is in contact with the wires *c* any atmospheric electricity passing over the wires of a telephone or telegraph line will be arrested at the point of contact and conducted through the bar D to the bracket C and the rod F to the ground, and thus prevent any injury to the instruments and operators.

The bar D may be held in an open or closed position by means of springs, if found necessary, and may, if desired, be operated by means of a lever and connecting-rods, instead of by cords, in which case one of the arms, G or G', might be dispensed with.

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

1. The swinging rod D, in combination with a wire or series of wires, *c*, of a telegraphic or telephone line and the ground-connection F, and adapted to be operated as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of the swinging rod D, provided with the arms G G', the wires *c c*, the bracket C, and the conducting-rod F, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALMON R. PRESCOTT.

Witnesses:

EDWIN P. HILL,

THOMAS H. APPLETON.