

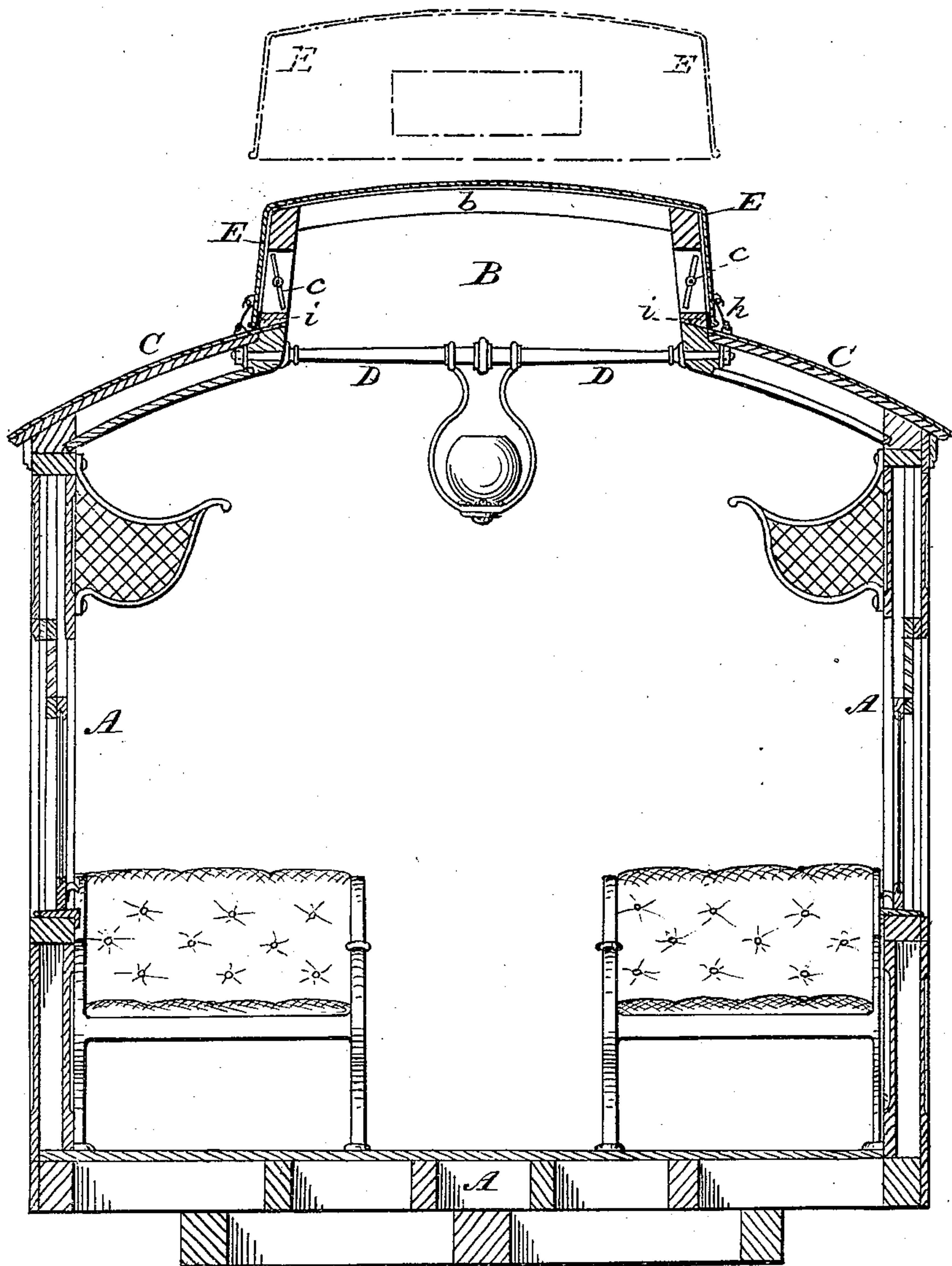
(No Model.)

J. PATTERSON.

RAILWAY CAR.

No. 258,594

Patented May 30, 1882.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES PATTERSON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

RAILWAY-CAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 258,594, dated May 30, 1882.

Application filed March 22, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES PATTERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Railroad-Cars; 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 appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in railroad-cars more especially intended for the transport of passengers, although applicable to other purposes; and the object is to provide a ready means of access to and egress from the interior of railroad-cars, which, as is well known, cannot be readily done under many circumstances as they are now constructed.

Numerous accidents have demonstrated that the lives of many passengers might have been saved if there had been any ready means for gaining access to the interior, the ordinary exits being clogged with debris, rendering necessary the use of axes, picks, saws, and other implements to gain an entrance to the damaged or wrecked cars, especially when they had caught on fire and passengers were held in place by some part of the wrecked car.

To overcome these objections and difficulties and gain a quick and easy access to and egress from the interior of the car, my invention consists in forming the ceiling or top of the car with an instantaneously-removable cover or roof, that can be readily lifted off the car and out of the way, so as to expose the interior, and thereby allow access to all parts thereof, so that wounded persons or those held or jammed in place can be readily removed, all of which will be more fully described hereinafter, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon.

In said drawing the figure represents a vertical cross-section of a car-body embodying my invention, with the removable top shown raised in dotted lines.

In the drawing, A is the main body of a passenger-car, having the usual ventilating-space, B, elevated above the main roof C of the car in the ordinary manner. The sides and ends of the elevated part B are made slightly inclined, and the ordinary joists, b,

may be made in this instance of iron, so as to act as braces in addition to the braces D, secured to the main part of the car, which serve to hold the upper part or ceiling of the car together and strengthen it. These braces are only arranged at certain intervals, so as to offer as little obstruction to the upper part of the car as possible, and to them the lamps or candles ordinarily employed may be secured. The braces may be made ornamental, if desired, by inclosing them in ornamental tubes or covers, and may be nickel-plated, galvanized, gilded, or silver-plated.

Over the elevated part B is arranged a loosely-fitting cover or removable roof, E, which is made preferably of sheet metal and in one piece, although it might be made of several pieces. Suitable holes are cut in the sides of this roof to correspond with the usual ventilating-openings, e, in the part B, so as not to obstruct ventilation or light.

If desired, suitable hooks, h, or other fastenings that can be easily and quickly operated, are secured to the sides of the cover E, by which it may be held in position on the elevated part B, and around the lower edge thereof may be placed suitable packing-strips, i, to prevent dust from getting under the edges of the cover E.

It will be readily seen that in case of accidents the cover E can be very quickly and easily removed from over the top of the car, and thus expose the entire interior and allow access to it for the removal of passengers, &c. The cars are just as strong as when the upper elevated part is made entire with the car, they can be made just as ornamental and light as now, and those in existence can be readily changed without any great expense or change.

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

1. In passenger-cars, a removable roof or cover, E, having sides and ends fitting over the elevated part B of a car, substantially as set forth.

2. In cars, a removable roof or cover, E, having inclined sides and ends fitting over the inclined elevated part B of the car, substantially as specified.

3. In cars, a removable roof or cover, E, hav-

ing sides and ends fitting over the elevated part B of the car, and provided with packing *i*, substantially as described.

4. In cars, a removable roof or cover, E, having sides and ends fitting over the elevated part B of the car and secured by hooks *h* or other suitable fastenings, substantially as set forth.

5. In cars, a removable roof or cover, E, having sides and ends fitting over the elevated part B, and having braces D to strengthen the upper part of the car, substantially as shown, and for the purpose specified.

6. The combination of a car-body with the elevated part B, removable cover E, a series of braces, D, and joints *b*, all arranged substantially as set forth. 15

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES PATTERSON.

Witnesses:

WM. F. STIDHAM,
LLOYD KELEHER.