

M. LA RUE HARRISON & F. UNDERHILL.

WICKET.

No. 270,309.

Patented Jan. 9, 1883.

Fig. 2.

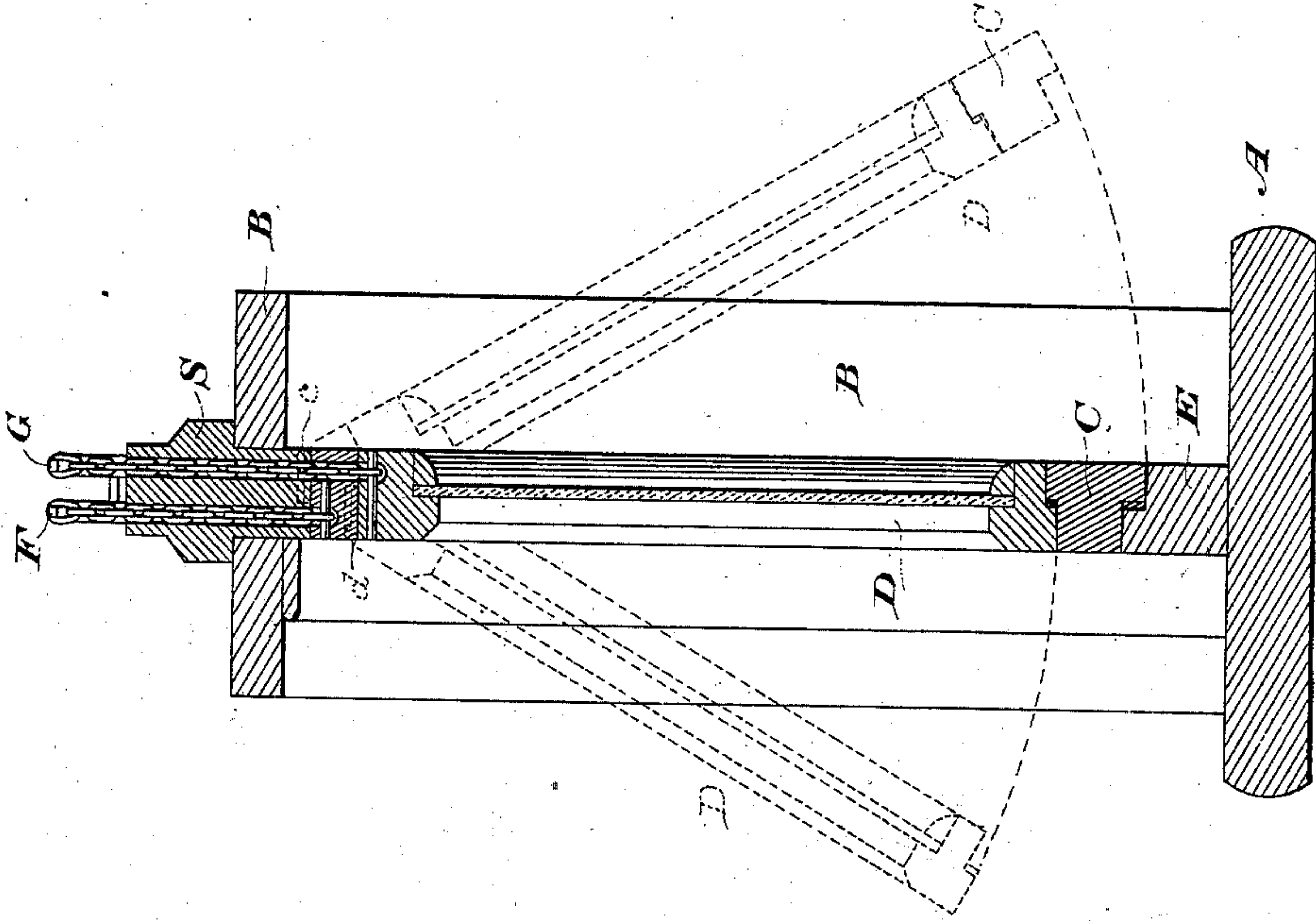
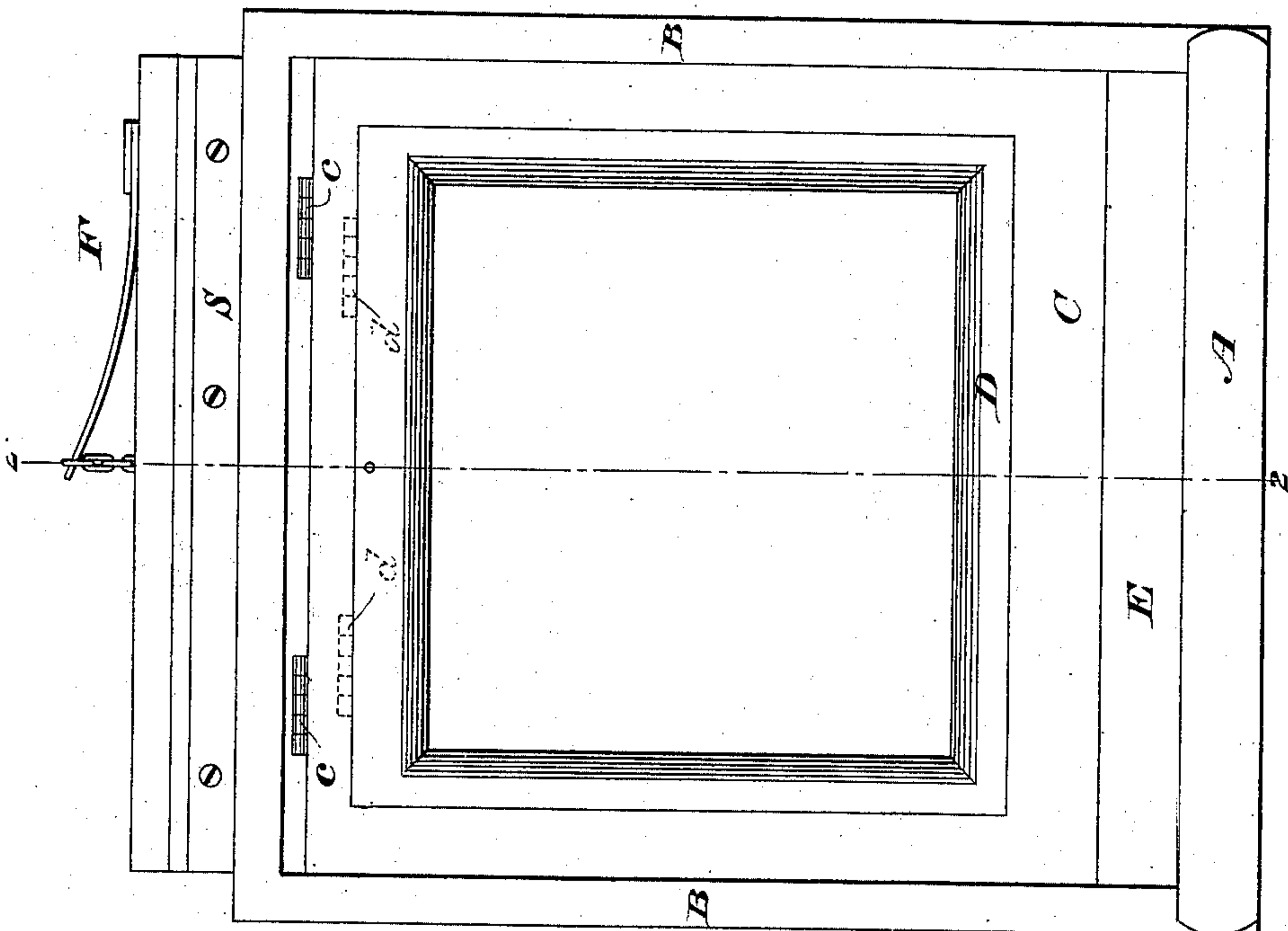


Fig. 1.



WITNESSES

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Geo. W. Greck.

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By their Attorneys

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Fig. 3.

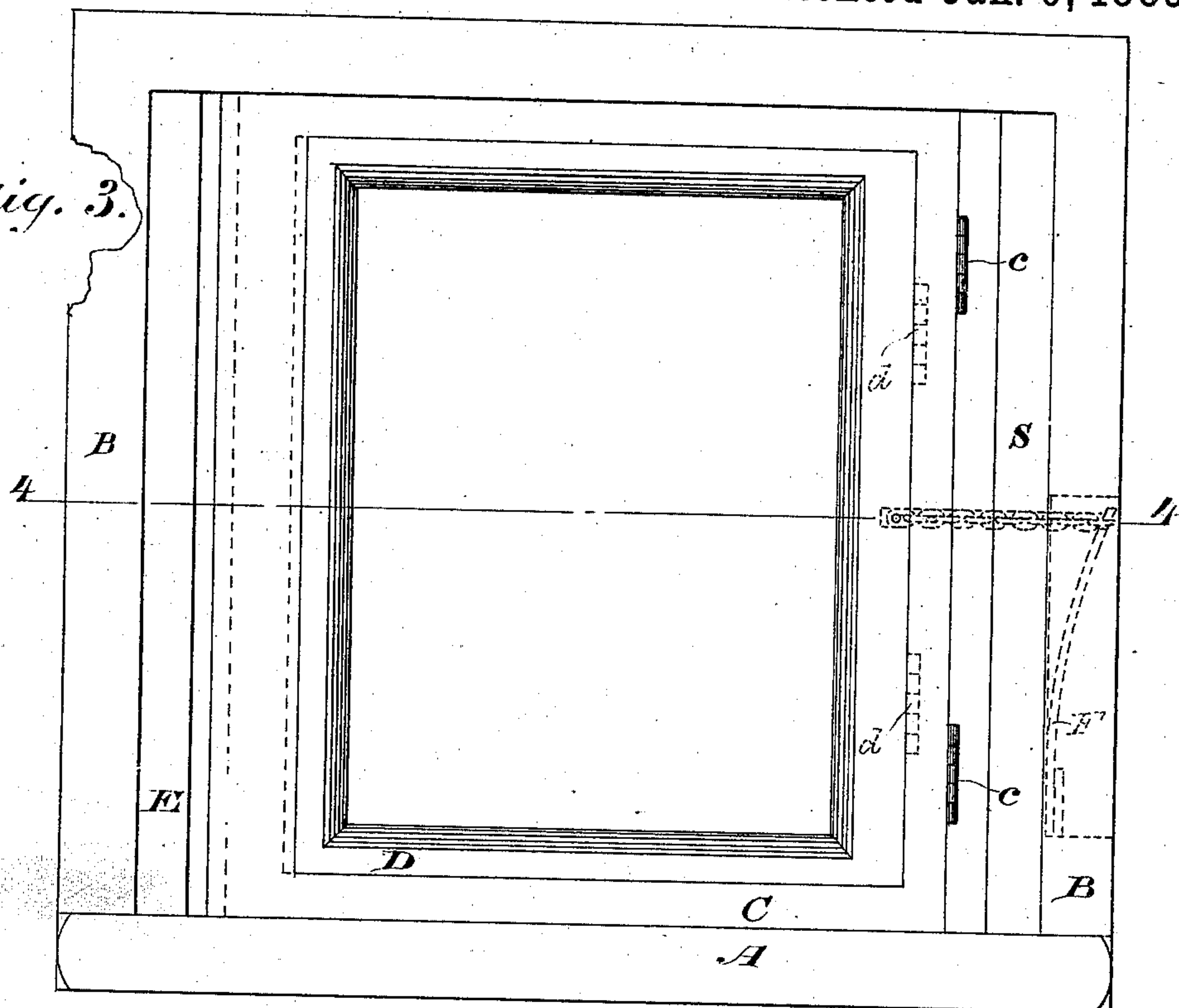
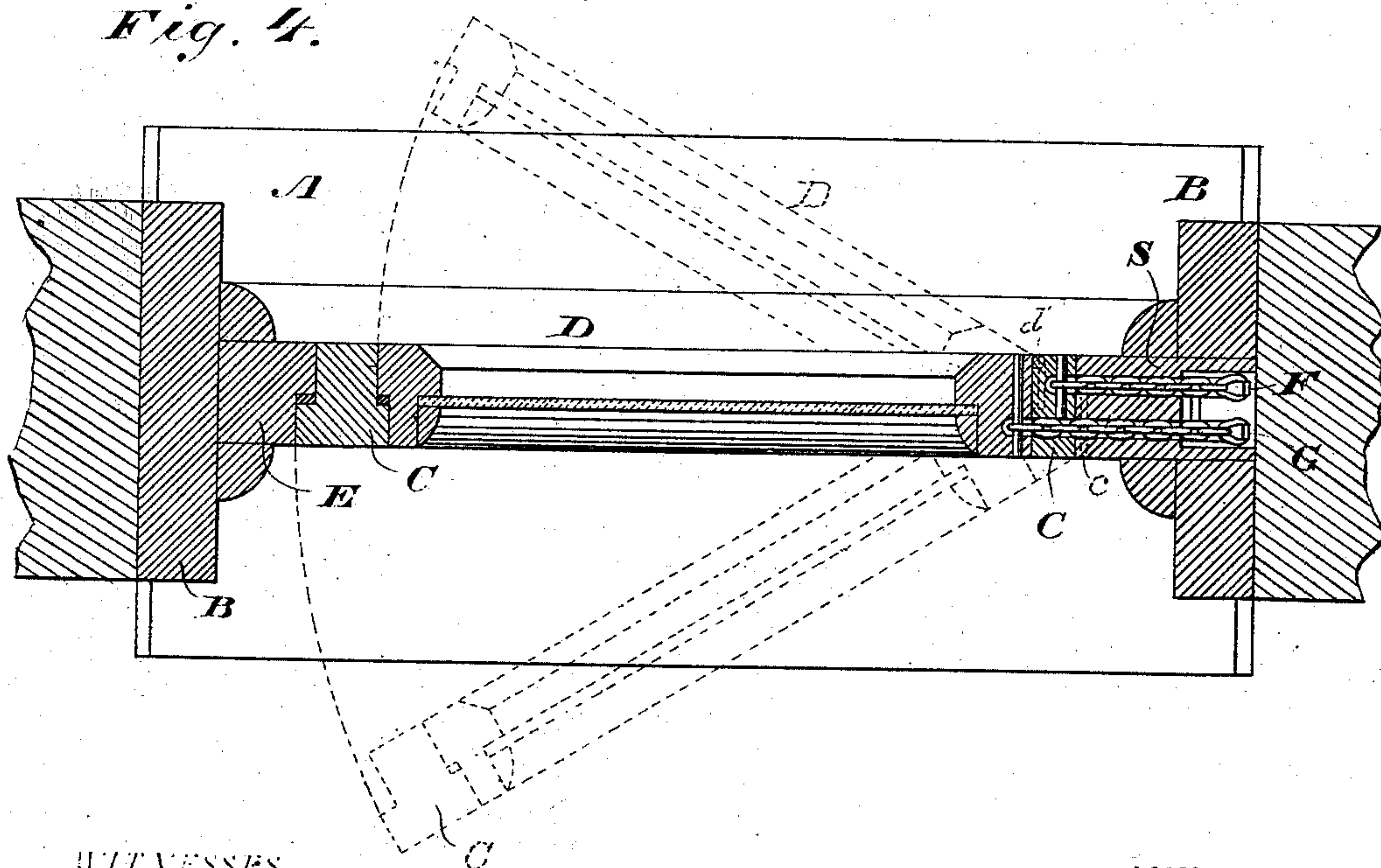


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FRANKLIN UNDERHILL, OF STAMFORD, CONN., ASSIGNORS TO THE  
YALE LOCK MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF STAMFORD, CONN.

## WICKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 270,309, dated January 9, 1883.

Application filed January 16, 1880.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, M. LA RUE HARRISON, of Washington, District of Columbia, and FRANKLIN UNDERHILL, of Stamford, Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wickets, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to an improved wicket for use in the delivery-windows of post-offices, in ticket-offices, and in other appropriate places.

Heretofore those who have worked behind wickets as ordinarily constructed have been subject to great discomfort and danger during the winter from exposure to drafts of cold air, which would blow through the wicket-aperture when opened for the transaction of business. Our improvement is designed to overcome this objection, while at the same time we preserve all the benefits arising from the construction of the wicket that has heretofore been in vogue. To accomplish this object we prefer to use a sliding and double automatic swinging frame, one portion of which is fastened to and swings upon the other. The arrangement is such that a person desiring to pass anything through the wicket from either side may push it inward or outward as may be required. To each part of the frame a spring is preferably connected in any convenient manner, which tends always to keep it closed, so that the wicket, having been pushed open in either direction for the purpose of allowing anything to be passed through from either side, will immediately close of itself as soon as the hand of the person is withdrawn.

We will now describe in detail what we conceive to be the most convenient and perfect means to accomplish the results arrived at by our invention; but we do not intend to limit ourselves to the precise method of construction shown and described in detail.

Referring to the drawings hereto appended, Figure 1 is a side elevation of our improved wicket, and Fig. 2 a vertical transverse section therethrough on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 represent a modification illustrating the wicket as swinging horizontally.

A indicates a wicket-shelf; B, a suitable

window-frame; C, a vertically-sliding external sash-frame, hinged to a sliding support, S, at *c c*; and D, an internal glazed sash, hinged at *d d*.

Midway between the front and back of the wicket-shelf, and in line with the wicket, is a raised ledge, E. The object of this is twofold: First, it permits a step to be made in which a corresponding step of the external frame, C, fits, so that when this frame is closed by its spring it fits closely against the ledge and upright guards placed in the vertical sides of the window-frame, and thus makes a practically air-tight joint all around the wicket. The second object of this ledge is to enable any one pushing open the door and passing anything through to have sufficient space for the purpose without pushing open the door so wide as would be necessary if the door swung close to the shelf of the wicket, and at the same time to prevent loose stamps or the like from being blown through. One end of a piece of flat spring-wire, F, is rigidly secured to the top of the support S, while its other end is free and tends always to spring upward. The free end of this spring is connected by a chain to that side of the frame C on which it must be pushed to open it. When the wicket is pushed open the spring is pulled down, and when it is let go again the spring flies up and shuts it. The hinges *d d* are placed so as to permit the sash D to swing in an opposite direction from that of the frame C. There is also preferably a step all around the inside of the frame C, into which a corresponding step of the sash D fits when the wicket is closed. We also provide a corresponding spring, G, at the top of the window-frame, connected by a chain to the side of the sash D which is opposite to the side on which the spring of the frame C is fastened, and this spring acts in like manner to keep the sash D closed.

It will be seen that by pushing on one side both the sash D and the frame C will swing open together, and by pushing on the other side only the sash D will open.

The doors, if desired, may be made to swing horizontally, and the passage of air may be



prevented by the interposition of rubber or other suitable material on the sides of the frame.

We are by these means enabled to obtain secure joints against the passage of a draft of air in either direction, while at the same time we have the great benefit of a wicket which can swing in either direction. As our wicket is hinged to a slide, it may during the summer months be raised and fastened at any desired height. To prevent noise, rubber or other suitable material may be placed upon the sides of the space against which the wicket swings in closing.

It will be possible to construct the ledge at the bottom, so that it can be raised with the sash, if it should be so desired; or it can be made otherwise removable.

Inside closing doors and any other of the ordinary appurtenances of wickets of this kind can of course be used in connection with our invention.

What we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A wicket composed of two sliding frames, one within the other, adapted to be swung open in opposite directions. 25

2. An improved post-office wicket, composed of a sliding frame having hinged to it a glass panel adapted to swing open in either direction, and provided with suitable means for excluding drafts of air when the panel is closed. 30

3. A double hinged sliding wicket having, when closed, air-tight joints, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names. 35

M. LA RUE HARRISON.  
FRANKLIN UNDERHILL.

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