

(No Model.)

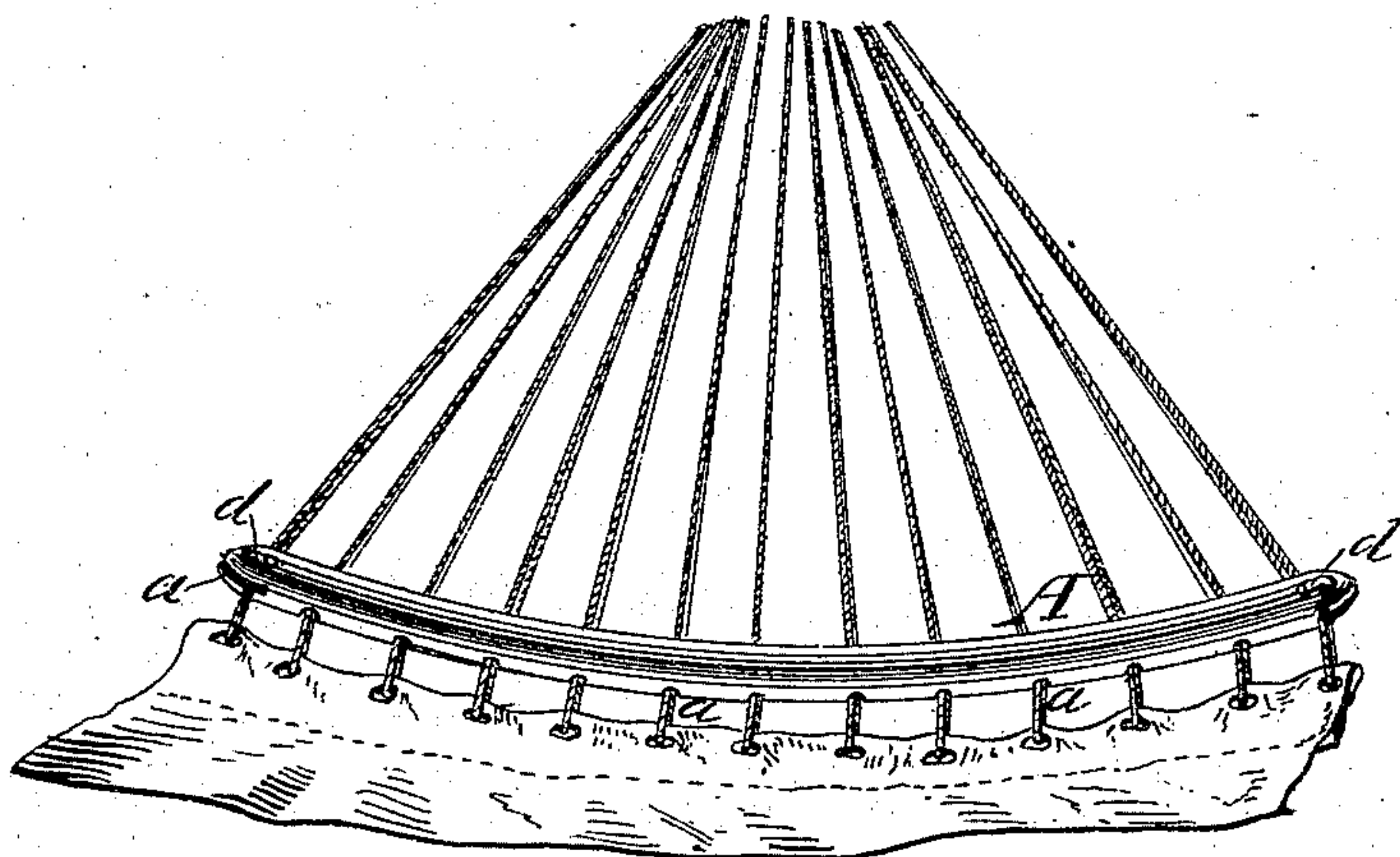
J. H. BATES.

SPREADING STICK FOR HAMMOCKS.

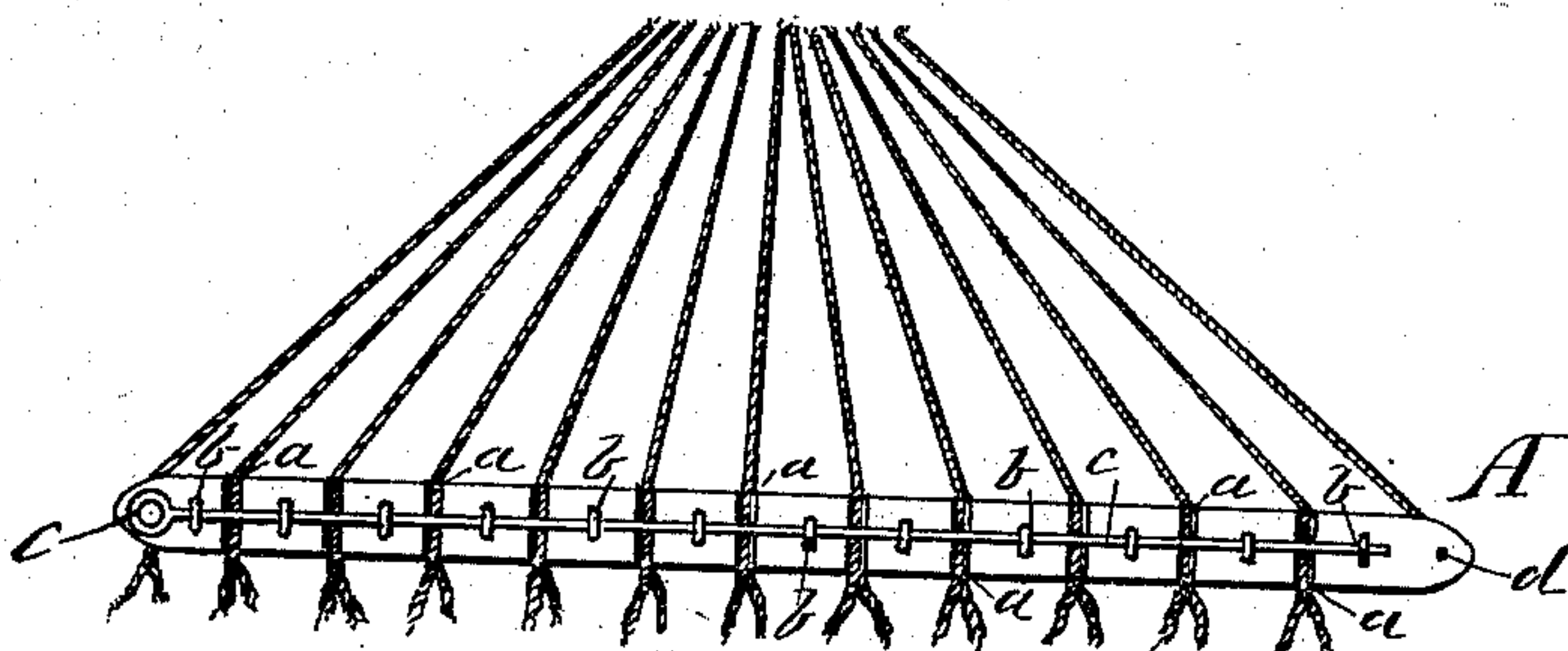
No. 271,767.

Patented Feb. 6, 1883.

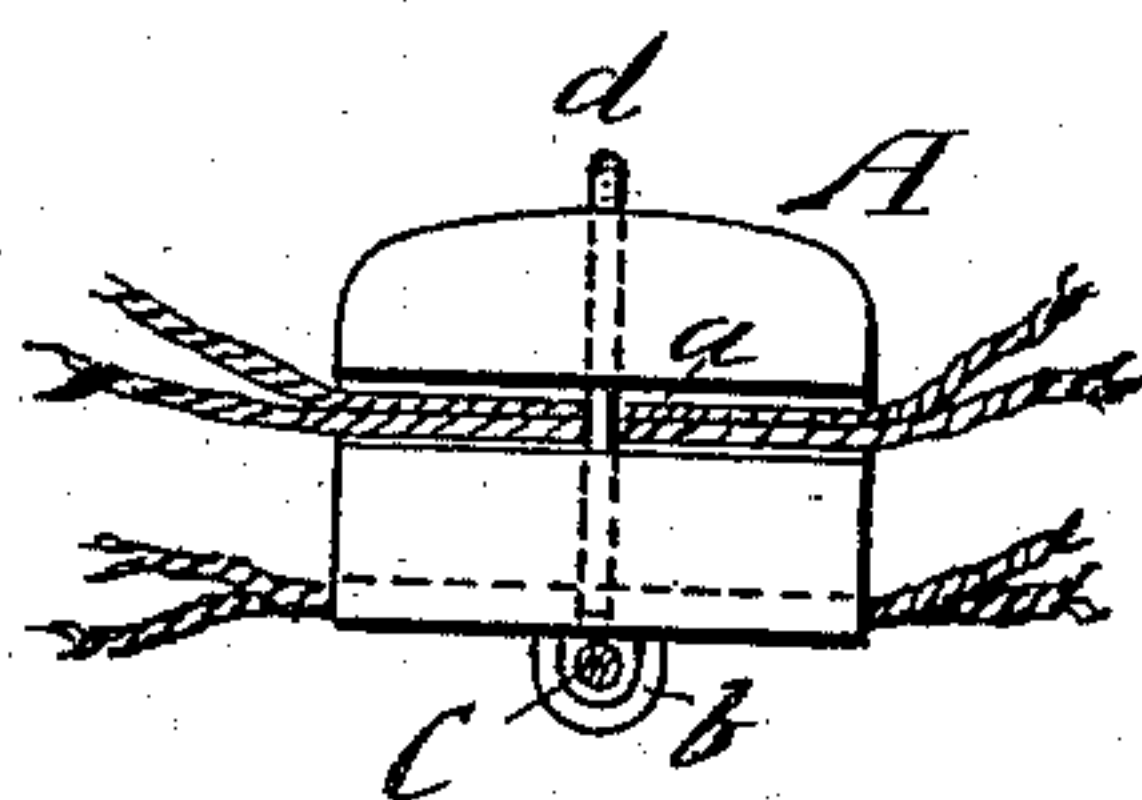
*fig 1,*



*fig 2,*



*fig 3,*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. BATES, OF WALTON, NEW YORK.

## SPREADING-STICK FOR HAMMOCKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,767, dated February 6, 1883.

Application filed September 9, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH H. BATES, of Walton, in the county of Delaware and State of New York, have invented a new and useful  
5 Improvement in Spreading-Sticks for Hammocks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide for the attachment of spreading-sticks to hammocks by means more convenient than those  
10 heretofore in use, and to insure equal strain on the cords of the hammock. To these ends I use a stick notched to receive the cords and fitted with a retaining-rod, as hereinafter described and claimed.  
15

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

20 Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing one end of a hammock with my improved stick applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view of the same parts, and Fig. 3 is an end view of the stick.

25 The stick A is of the ordinary curved form, and is provided in its under side with notches, *a*, corresponding in position and number with the suspension-cords of the hammock, the notch for the first cord at each side being, however,  
30 formed in the end of the stick. There are also on the under side of the stick staples or eyes *b*, which are attached to the stick at suitable distances apart, for receiving and holding the retaining-rod *c*, which extends from end to  
35 end of the stick.

The stick is applied by placing it upon the cords of the hammock with the cords in the notches *a*. The rod *c* is then pushed through the eyes *b*, so that it covers the notches and prevents escape of the cords therefrom. The  
40 end cords are retained by pins *d*, passed through holes in the ends of the stick, outside the cords. In this manner the cords are retained in proper position, thereby insuring uniformity in the spreading of the hammock and equality of  
45 strain upon the hammock and cords.

The stick may be made of wood or other suitable material.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—  
50

1. The notched spreading-stick for hammocks, made substantially as shown and described, provided with retaining-rod *c*, covering the notches.

2. The retaining-rod *c*, combined with the  
55 notched spreading-stick A, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination of notched stick A, eyes or staples *b*, and rod *c*, substantially as shown  
60 and described.

4. The pins *d*, in combination with the spreading-stick A, having end notches, substantially as described.

JOSEPH H. BATES.

Witnesses:

GEO. PATCHEN,  
CLARENCE STEELE.