

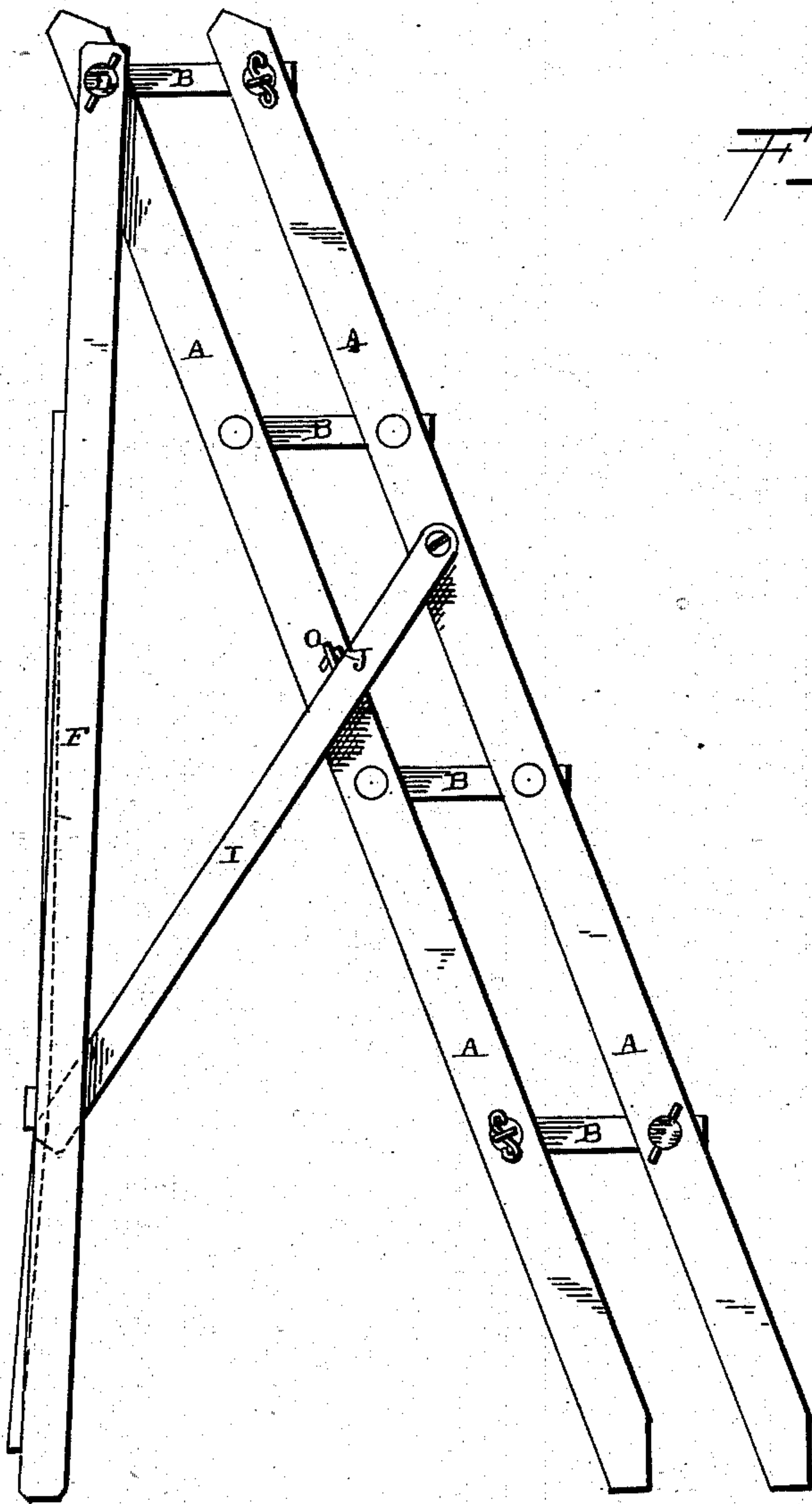
(No Model.)

G. BEISNER.  
FOLDING STEP LADDER.

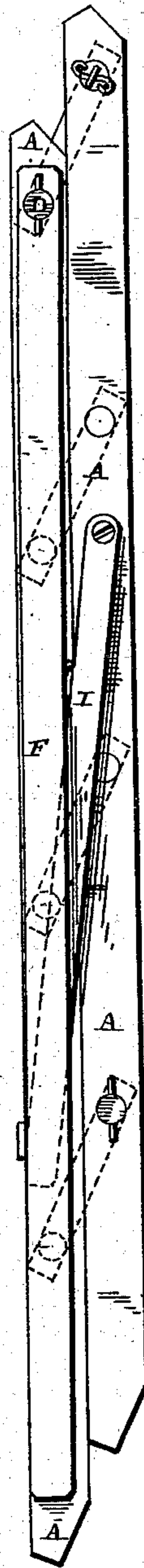
No. 276,339.

Patented Apr. 24, 1883.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



— Witnesses. —

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*C. L. York,*

— Inventor. —

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*Atty.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE BEISNER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## FOLDING STEP-LADDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 276,339, dated April 24, 1883.

Application filed January 23, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE BEISNER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Step-Ladders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to an improvement in folding step-ladders; and it consists in the combination of the four side bars or pieces, the steps which are pivoted between these pieces, the brace, the connecting-rods, and the stops connected with the rods and the side pieces, whereby the brace is prevented from being moved beyond a certain distance, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The object of my invention is to provide a step-ladder which can be closed up when not in use, and thus not take up any unnecessary room.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention open. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same closed.

A represents two parallel side pieces, and B the steps which are pivoted therein. These steps have their corners rounded, so as to pass through the side pieces, and suitable fastening devices are applied to the ends of the top and bottom steps for the purpose of holding the side pieces in contact with the ends of the steps. When the ladder is extended the steps assume a horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 1; but when the ladder is folded the side pieces have an endwise movement in an opposite

direction to the steps, and thus cause the steps to assume the angle shown in Fig. 2. The rear corners of the upper step are made slightly longer than any of the others, so that these ends D will form a pivot, upon which the brace F is pivoted. This brace is connected to the front side pieces by means of the connecting-rod I, which is pivoted at both of its ends, and which is provided with a hook or other suitable stop, J, which catches in the staple O, as shown. These staples O are placed upon the rear side pieces, and in such a position that as the ladder is being opened outward the hooks automatically catch in the staples and form stops to prevent the ladder from being opened out any farther. When the ladder is closed the brace closes outside of the rear side piece, as is shown in Fig. 2, and then the whole step-ladder is folded in such a narrow space as to take up very little room when not in use.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

In a step-ladder, the combination of the side pieces, the pivoted steps, the braces, the connecting-rods provided with suitable hooks, and the staples attached to the rear side pieces, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 15th day of January, 1883.

GEORGE BEISNER.

Witnesses:

THOMAS J. McGRATH,  
M. C. BURT.