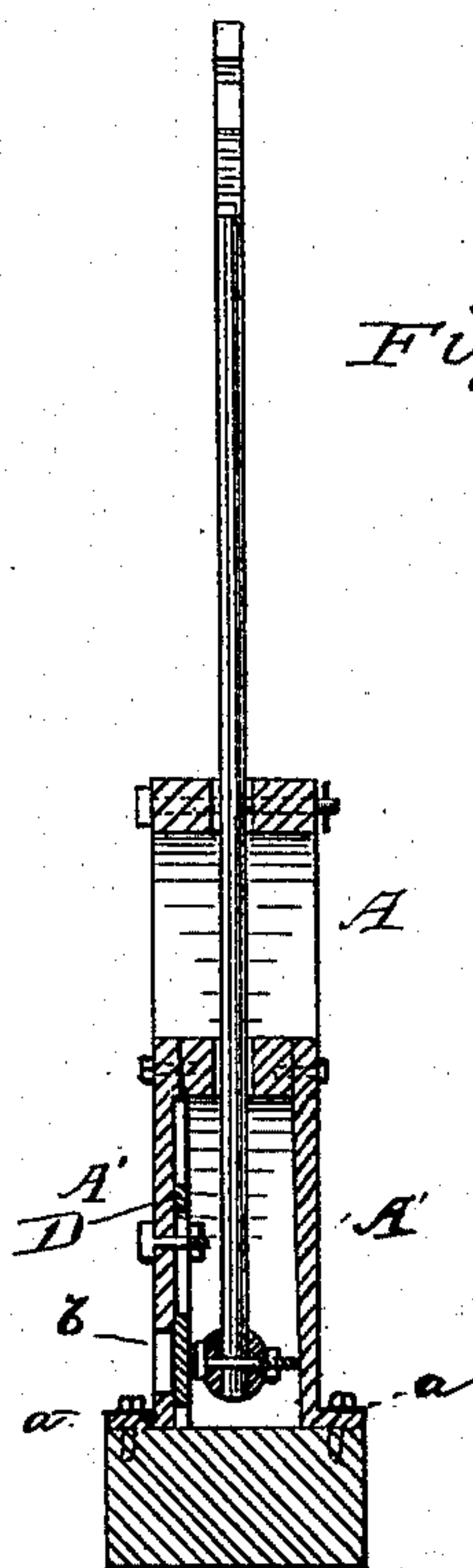
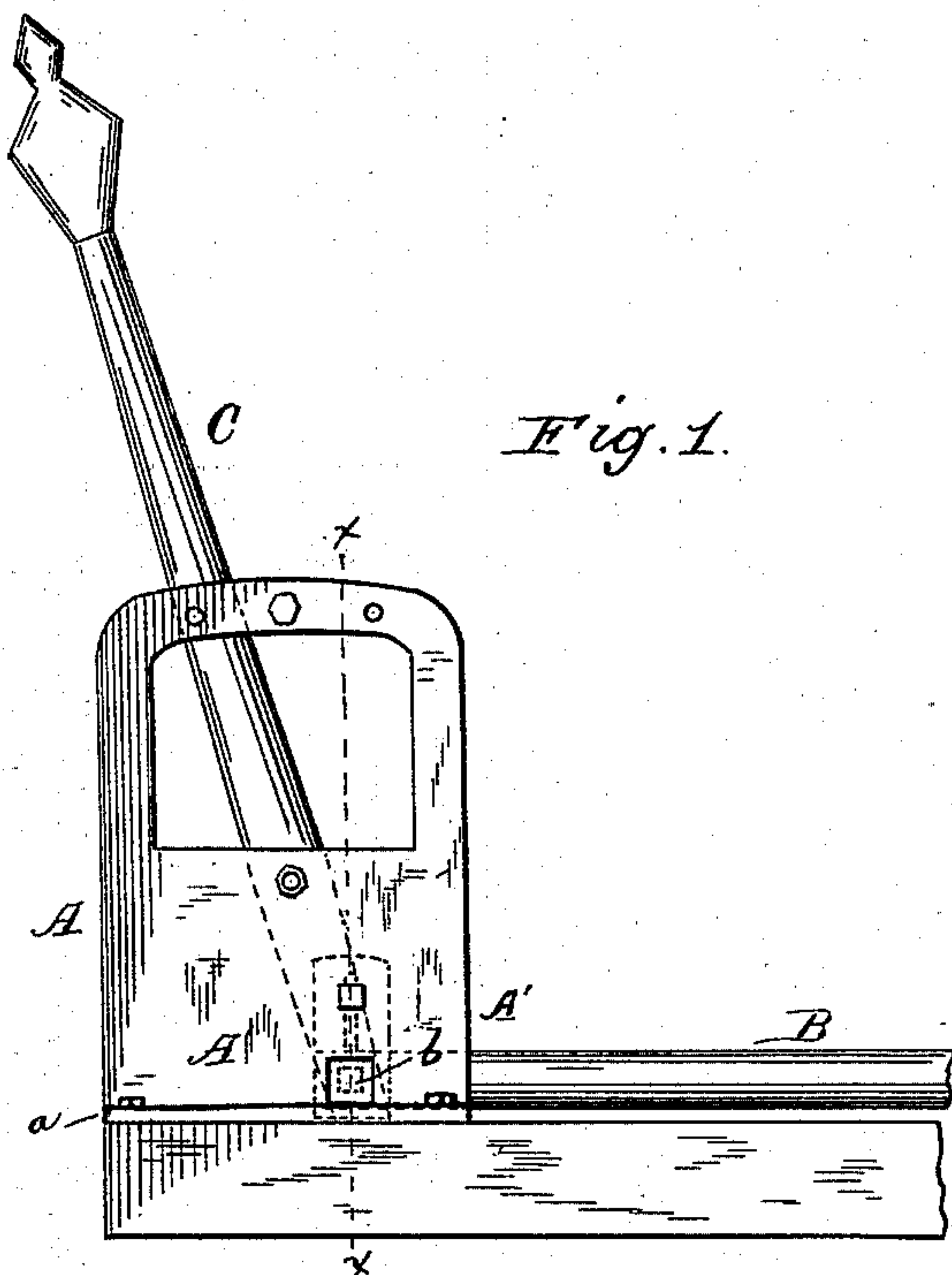


(No Model.)

P. O'HERN.  
RAILROAD SWITCH STAND.

No. 284,144.

Patented Aug. 28, 1883.



Witnesses:  
E. W. Johnson  
L. C. Hills

Inventor:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PATRICK O'HERN, OF CHAPMAN, NEBRASKA.

## RAILROAD-SWITCH STAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 284,144, dated August 28, 1883.

Application filed April 19, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PATRICK O'HERN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Chapman, in the county of Merrick and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Railroad-Switch Stands; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention consists in certain new and useful improvements in switch-stands, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

The object of this invention, which is applied to switch-stands having a closed base, is to afford a means whereby the bolt which connects the operating-lever and connecting-rod will be prevented from being displaced, if the same should break during the passage of a train, or at other times, and to provide a means whereby the bolt can be removed and a new one inserted without taking up or removing the frame of the switch-stand.

In the ordinary form of switch-stands, the bases of which are closed, it has been necessary to insert the bolt in the hole provided for it in the connecting-rod and operating-lever before the stand is secured in place, and when this connecting-bolt becomes worn or broken it is necessary to remove the frame of the stand in order to insert a new one. My invention is designed to overcome this difficulty.

In the annexed drawings, which illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a side view of an ordinary switch-stand, showing my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section taken through the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

A represents a switch-stand, B the connecting-rod, and C the operating hand-lever, which is pivoted to the center of the frame A, which is provided with locking means at its upper end. The lower portion of this switch-stand is made solid or closed, the only open-

ing being for the passage of the connecting-rod B and operating-lever C. The lower portion of this switch-stand is provided with side walls, A', which completely inclose the lower part of the same. These side walls may be provided at their lower portion with flanged bases *a a*. One of these side walls is provided with an opening, *b*, which registers with the lower end of the lever C at some point of its movement, which opening is provided with a sliding door, D, this sliding door being let into and secured to the side wall in a dovetailed slot, the sides of the door being wedge-shaped, or angular, to correspond with the dovetailed slot formed therein. At a suitable point above the opening *b* is a perforation through which passes a bolt, which also passes through a slot in the sliding door, by means of which bolt the door is secured against displacement. By this arrangement the inner sides of the side walls have a smooth surface, as the door does not project beyond the same, and the head and point of the bolt which connects the connecting-rod and operating-lever may bear against the same without impeding the operation of the lever. It will also be seen that if the bolt which connects the parts hereinbefore mentioned is broken the same cannot become displaced nor fall out of place, as the side walls will prevent such displacement, and as soon as the break is discovered the old bolt may be removed and a new one inserted through the opening in the side plates.

To a switch-stand not provided with closed sides a plate having an angular projecting at its base may be attached, or in position upon the base thereof, so as to bear upon the head of the connecting-bolt and prevent the same from being displaced, in which cases said auxiliary side is provided with an opening or door, as hereinbefore described.

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

1. In combination with a switch-stand having a closed base, the side wall, A', having an opening therein at a point to correspond with the connecting-point of the switch-rod and operating-lever, and a flanged base, *a*, sub-



stantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. As a means for preventing the displacement of the connecting-bolt of a switch-rod  
5 and operating-lever in a switch-stand, the side walls, A' A', having a smooth interior surface opposite the arc described by the lower end of the operating-lever, and an opening on a line with said arc, having a door let into and at-

tached to one of the side walls, substantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

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

PATRICK O'HERN.

Witnesses:

D. L. GREINER,  
A. J. BOWLE.