

(No Model.)

L. W. SEAVEY.

CHANGEABLE SCENERY FOR THEATERS.

No. 292,689.

Patented Jan. 29, 1884.

Fig. 1.

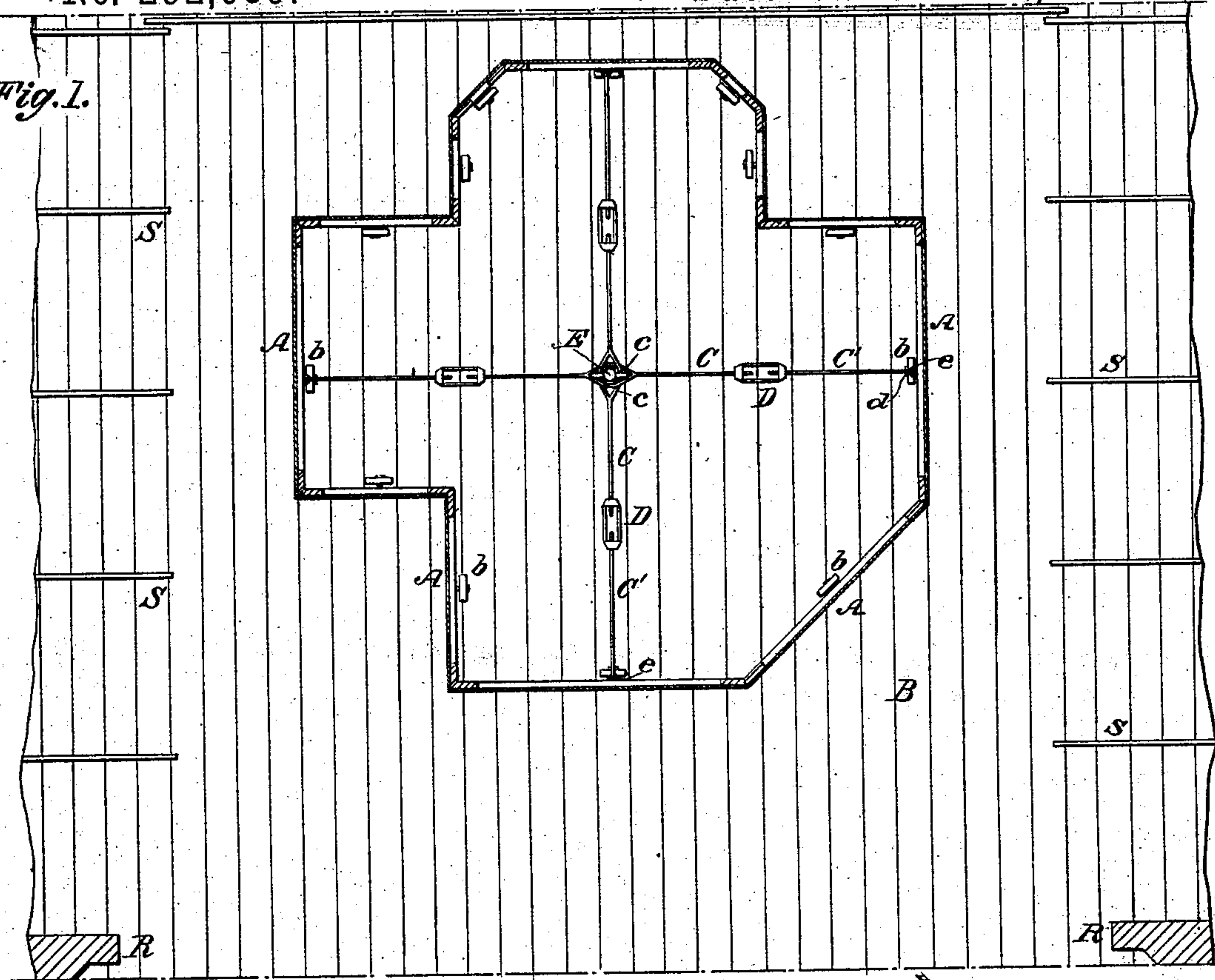
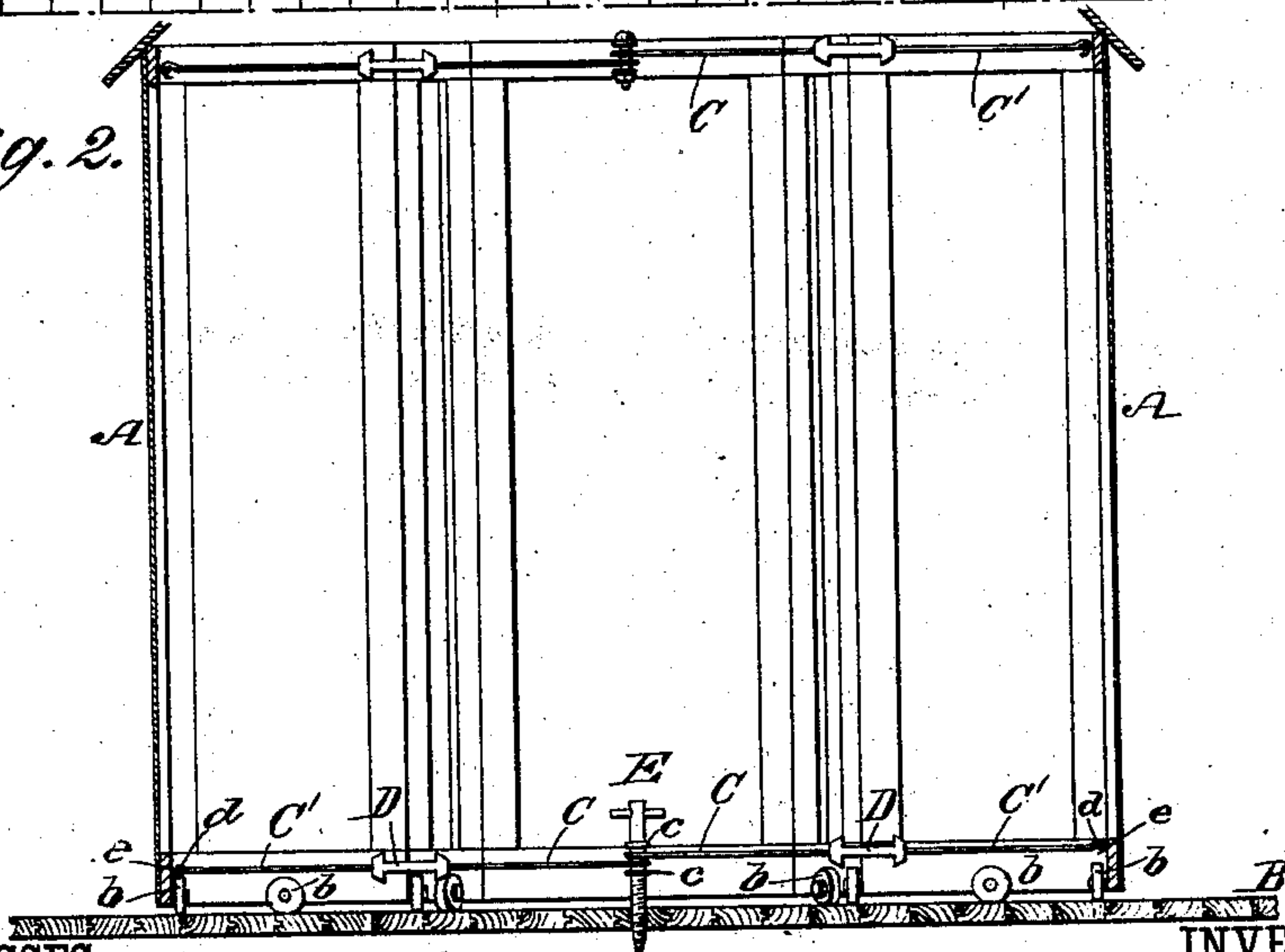


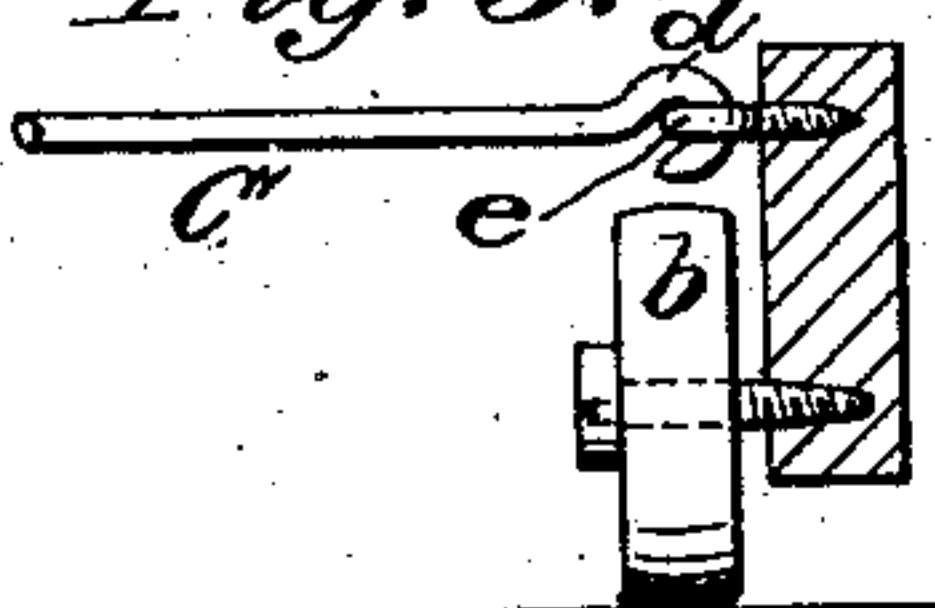
Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

John C. Deemer
C. Sedgwick

Fig. 3.



INVENTOR:

L. W. Seavey
BY *Munn & Co*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAFAYETTE W. SEAVEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
CHARLES BARNARD, OF SAME PLACE.

CHANGEABLE SCENERY FOR THEATERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 292,689, dated January 29, 1884.

Application filed August 25, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAFAYETTE W. SEAVEY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Changeable Scenery for Theaters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention more particularly relates to scenery or parts of the scenery of the stage of a theater, which may be made of a number of separate pieces placed together in such a way as to form a complete structure—representing, for instance, a house, castle, or other building—and that may be easily taken apart for convenience in transportation, said scene, when put together, forming a set-scene capable of standing alone on any part of the stage independently of any other scenes or any external means of support, and also being capable of turning completely around on a vertical axis in either direction for the purpose of exposing to the audience different sides of the set-scene as circumstances may require. To accomplish this rotation of the set-scene, each separate piece or portion of it is mounted on rollers arranged to rest upon the stage, so that on applying suitable power the entire structure is made to revolve upon the stage in either direction. To insure the rotation of the set-scene into any desired position on the stage, I also provide and combine with the set-scene metal tie-rods built up in sections, and each consisting of duplicate rods joined together by a screw-buckle, one of said duplicate rods having a hook at its outer end designed to engage with some portion of the set-scene, and the other of said rods having a loop at its end, which loop is passed over a hand-screw screwed into the stage at the center of the set-scene. It is designed to use four or more of these tie-rods, and to pass the loops on the inner ends of each over the central screw, which is the center of rotation of the structure, so that said rods both serve as guides for the rotation of the set-scene and as ties to hold the structure or set-scene firmly together. Other methods of tying or bracing the set-scene together, however, may be adopted, and I reserve the right to use any supplementary system of in-

terior bracing that the shape of the set-scene may require.

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.

Figure 1 represents a general partly-sectional plan, showing a set scene in position on a theater-stage, the proscenium-arch, and wings of the stage. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the center of the set-scene and stage in part. Fig. 3 is a detail view, showing the manner in which the roller-supports for the set-scene may be attached, and the manner of connecting the tie-rods with said scene.

The set-scene represented in the drawings is composed of any number of separate scenes or part scenes A A, each of which has attached to it and is supported by one or more rollers, b, arranged to rest and run upon the stage B, of which R indicates the proscenium-arch and S the wings.

C C' are the tie-rods of the set-scene, of which there are here shown four, but the number may be varied. Each of these tie-rods is composed of duplicate rods united by a screw or turn-buckle, D. The inner section or rod, C, of these tie-rods is constructed with a loop, c, which, so far as a lower series of said rods are concerned, is arranged to fit over a hand-screw, E, that screws into the stage at the center of the set-scene. The outer section, C', of said tie-rods is formed with a hook, d, which engages with a screw-eyebolt, e, that is screwed into the frame-work of the scene or part scene A, with which the tie-rod connects. There may be both upper and lower sets of these tie-rods, C C', as shown in Fig. 2, and the same serves both as guides for the rotation of the set-scene and as ties to hold the structure or set-scene firmly together. When an upper set of tie-rods is used, then, instead of the loops on said rods engaging with a hand-screw, they may simply fit over a center bolt arranged to pass through the loops. The adjustability of said rods by the screw or turn-buckles D, provides for regulating both the guiding and bracing functions of them, and the manner in which they are fitted to the center hand-screw and

to the part scenes which they connect provides for the rapid erection and dismemberment of the set-scene, which, being built up in sections, as described, affords every facility
5 for transportation.

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

1. Changeable theatrical scenery composed of a number of separate scenes or part scenes,
10 arranged and combined so as to form a complete set scene or structure, capable of standing alone or independent of any other scene or outside support, also capable of ready dismemberment, as described, to facilitate transportation, and provided with attached rollers under the scenes or part scenes, to admit of the
15 rotation in different directions about a common center of the set-scene when put together, and of rolling it from one part of the stage to another, for the purpose of exposing different
20 sides of the structure and for varying its position relatively to the other scenes on the stage, substantially as specified.

2. In changeable theatrical scenery composed of a number of separate scenes or part
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scenes, combined to form a complete set scene or structure, the combination, with a center hand-screw and rollers on the bottoms of the part scenes, of adjustable tie-rods arranged to connect the part scenes or certain of them with
30 the hand-screw, and constructed to provide both for the binding of the set-scene together, and to admit of its rotation around the center hand-screw which screws into the stage, essentially as specified.

3. The combination, with the scenes or part
35 scenes A of a set scene or structure, of the rollers b on the bottoms of said scenes or part scenes, the center hand-screw, E, the sectionally-constructed tie-bolts C C', formed with a
40 loop, c, at their one end and a hook, d, for engagement with the scene or part scene at their opposite end, and the screw or turn-buckles D, uniting the sections of said rods, essentially as shown and described, and for the
45 purposes herein set forth.

LAFAYETTE W. SEAVEY.

Witnesses:

JAS. F. CROSSEN,

CHARLES W. TREMBLEY.