

(No Model.)

H. HIGGIN.
CARRIAGE TOP.

No. 300,971.

Patented June 24, 1884.

Fig. 1.

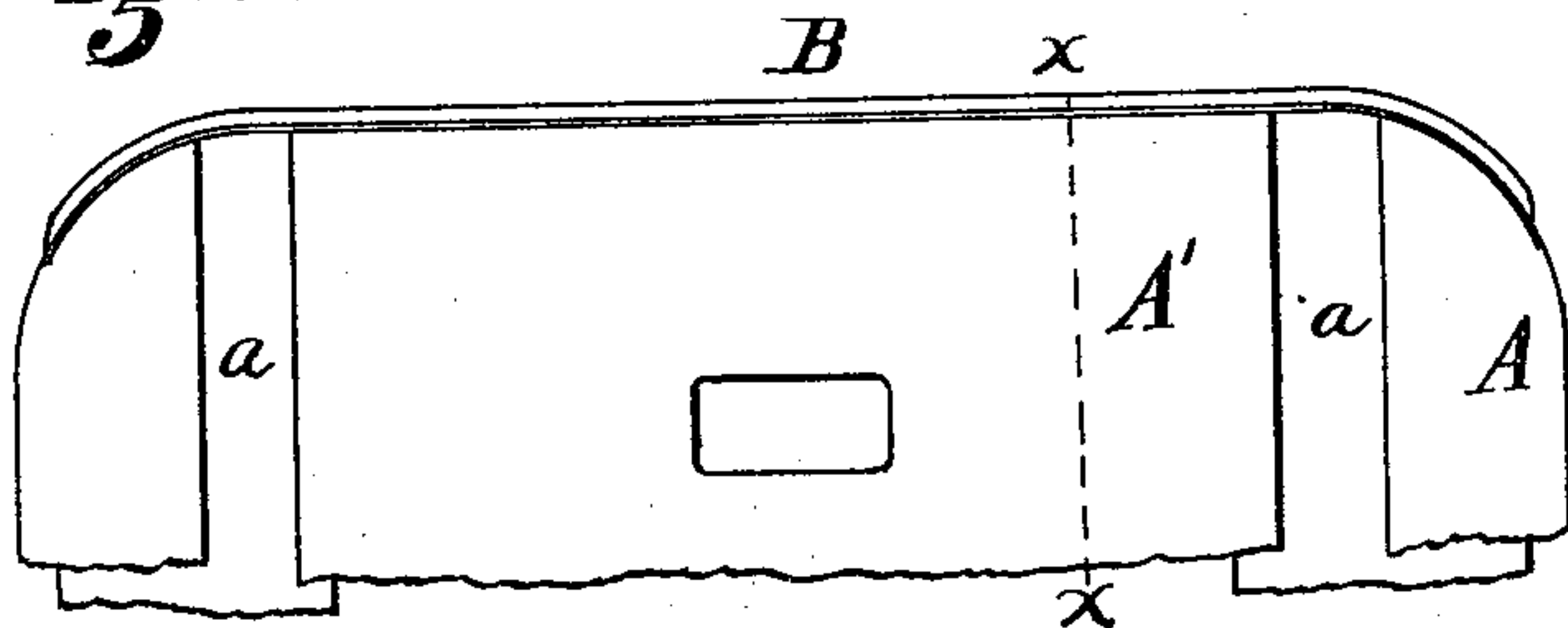


Fig. 2.

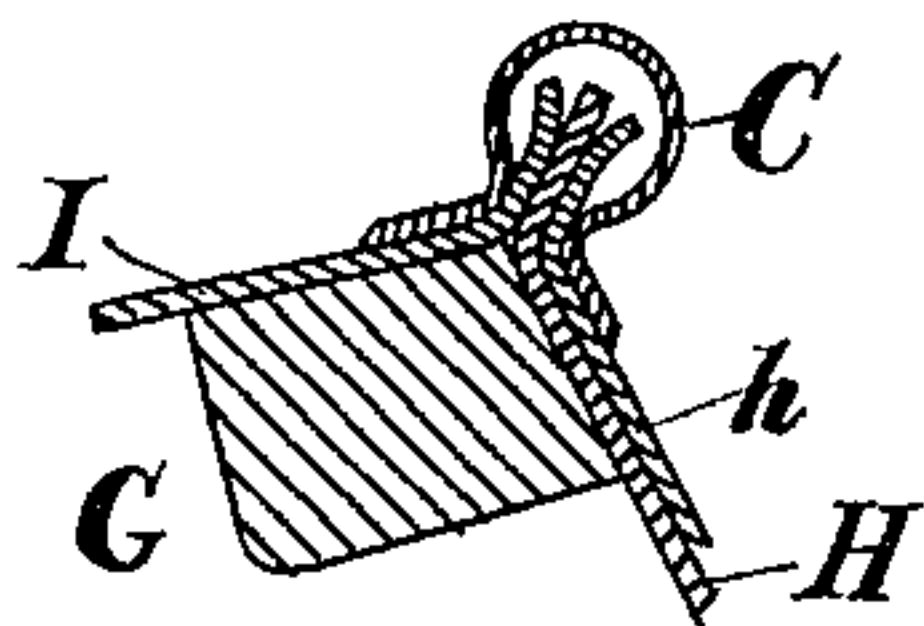


Fig. 3.

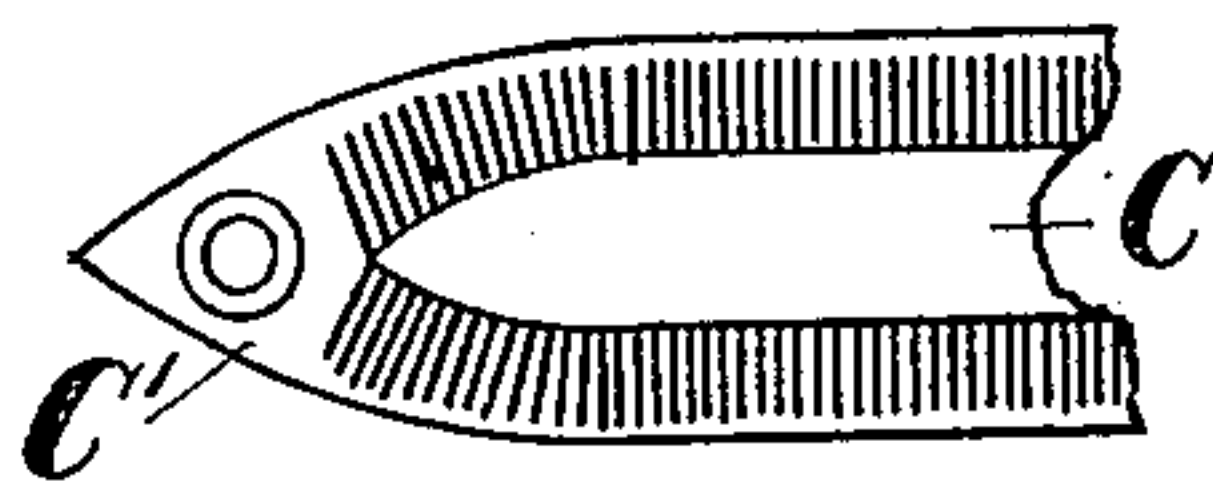


Fig. 4.

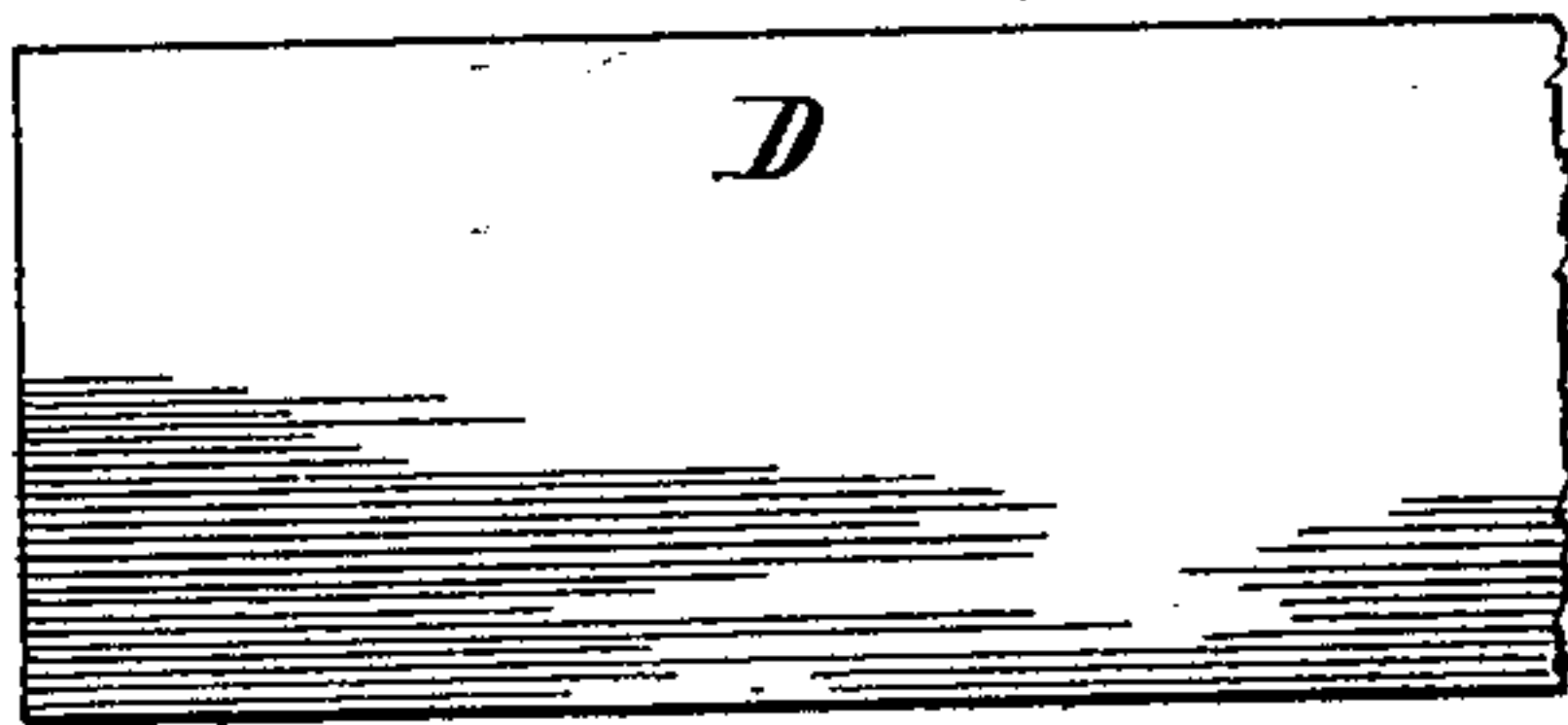


Fig. 5.

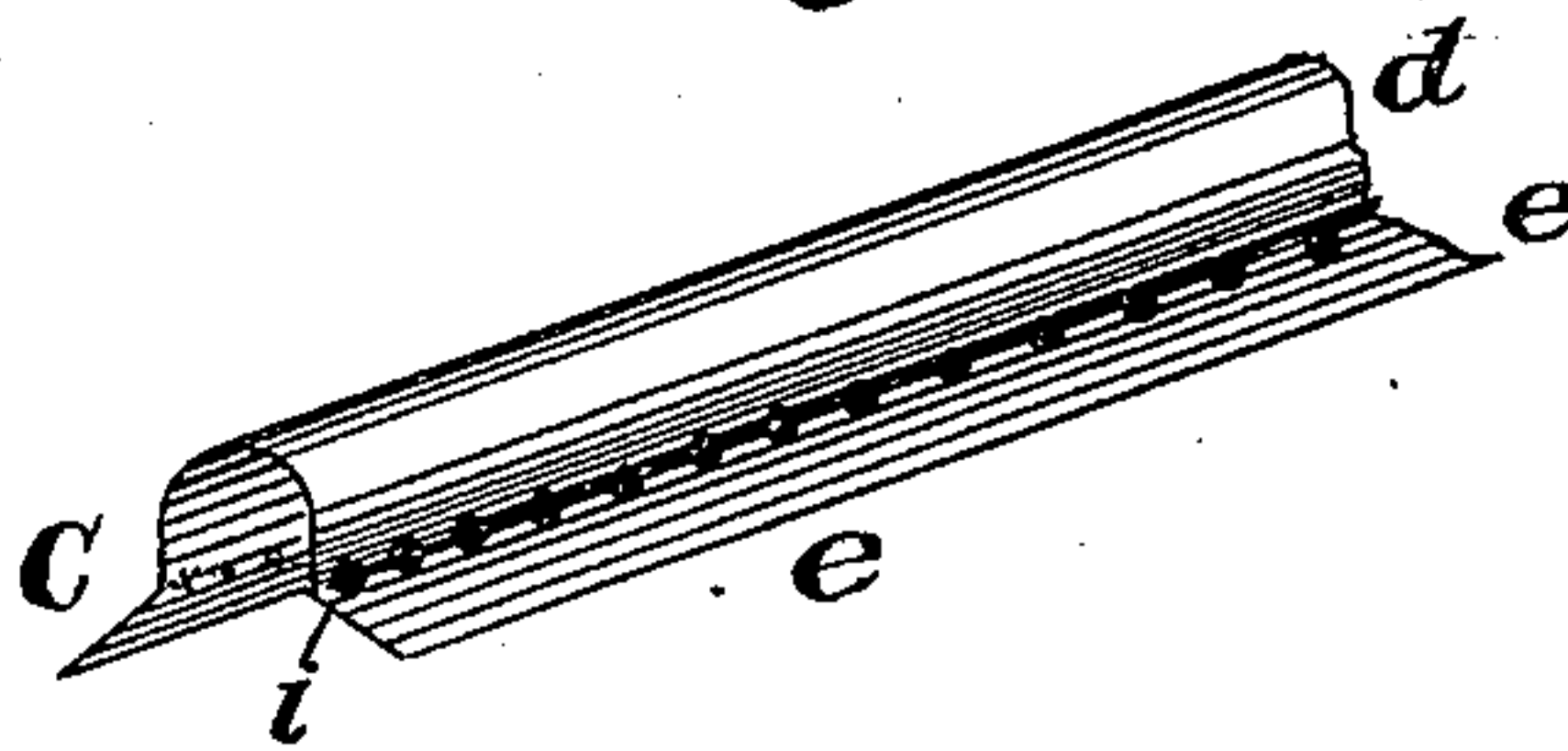
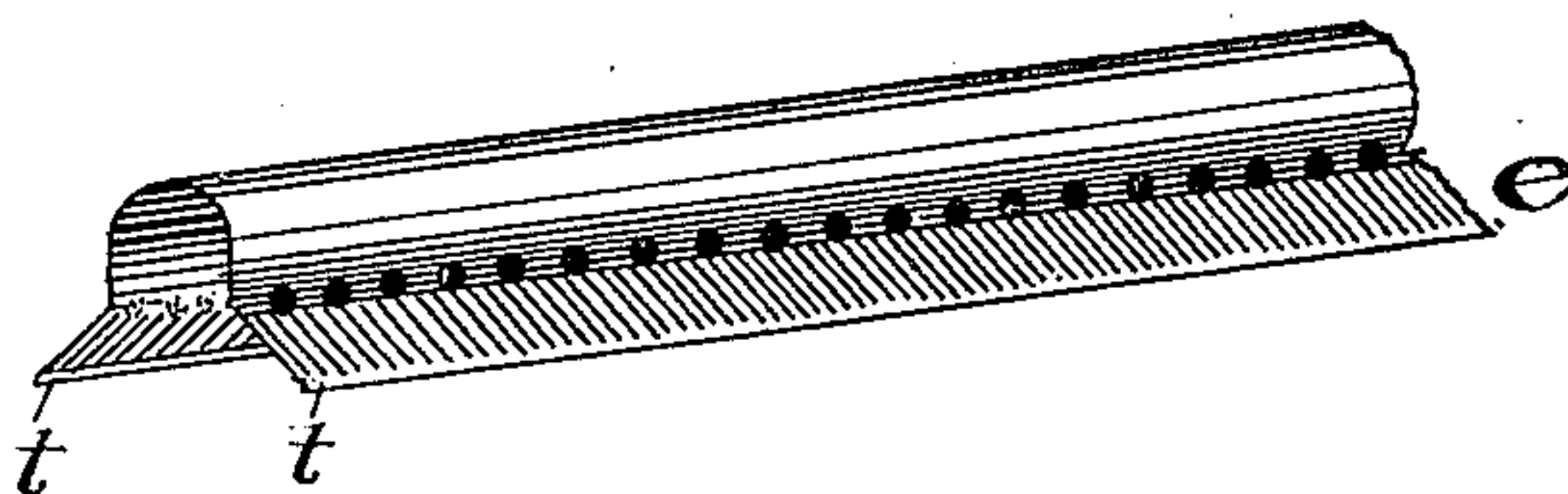


Fig. 6.



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HENRY HIGGIN, OF NEWPORT, KENTUCKY.

CARRIAGE-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,971, dated June 24, 1884.

Application filed April 3, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY HIGGIN, a citizen of the United States, of Newport, in the county of Campbell and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Back Valances for Carriage-Tops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved back valance used upon the covering of the top of the back bow of carriages or buggies as a binding or finish.

The object of my invention is, first, to cheapen the cost or labor of finishing the valance, and, second, to provide a more durable and ornamental valance, all of which will be fully set forth in the description of the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents the ordinary back valance of a buggy-top. Fig. 2 is a cross-section on line *xx*, Fig. 1, showing my improved valance in position. Fig. 3 is a sectional top plan view of the same. Fig. 4 represents the metal blank for forming a valance. Fig. 5 represents the first step of forming the valance. Fig. 6 represents the valance as completed ready to be applied to carriage-tops.

A represents a section of a buggy-top; *a a*, the back-stay; A', the curtain.

B represents the ordinary back valance.

C represents my improved valance. It is formed from the metal blank D in the following manner: Dies of the right shape strike up the blank into the form shown in Fig. 5.

C' represents the ornamental finish at the end of the metal valance. It may be secured by a tack, if desired.

d shows an arch or crown, in which the leather seam lies when placed upon a carriage.

E represents flanges.

i represents a series of grooves and indentations formed in the neck of the metal upon the sides thereof in imitation of stitches, and, besides being ornamental and furnishing an imitation of a leather valance, the burrs formed by forming the grooves or indentations in being made form projections or teats *c*, upon the inner sides of the neck of the metal at the point where the valance grasps the seam, and serves as a fastening device to secure the valance to the leather seam.

In order to stiffen the valance and prevent it from being easily bent, after it has been struck up in the form shown in Fig. 5, the flanges *e* are corrugated, as shown in Fig. 6, thereby enabling very thin metal to be em-

ployed, having sufficient stiffness to serve the purpose intended. I prefer to leave a smooth edge, *t*, as shown in Fig. 6, below the corrugations, to form a finish. This edge *t* may be bent slightly downward, so as to hug the leather close, forming a water-tight joint, and is the preferred form of construction.

The valance is applied in the following manner: H represents the top of the back-stay. *h* represents the back or side quarter of the covering forming the carriage-top. F represents the top of the cover. G represents a carriage-bow. The cover I *h* and back-stay H are placed together and sewed and tacked to the bow in the usual manner. The valance C is then placed over the seam formed by the union of these strips, and a tool corresponding in shape to the arch and teats and grooves is placed over the arch of the valance and compressed, so as to bring the parts *c i* firmly down to grasp the seam, as shown in Fig. 2, and also to press the flanges *e* firmly down upon the leather surfaces I *h*. The burrs or projections *c* are forced into the leather and securely hold the valance in position.

I do not wish to limit my invention to the use for the back valance of a carriage, as it may also be used to form the top rail of the carriage-dash, or as a molding to cover other leather seam-joints.

The molding can be finished by plating or japanning, as desired.

The valance may be formed of one or more sections of the general shape, as shown in Fig. 6.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A metallic valance or molding formed from a metal blank, and having the arch *d*, teats and grooves *c i*, and corrugated flanges *e*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In combination with a buggy-top, the valance C, secured upon the seam of the covering strips I *h*, substantially as specified.

3. A valance or molding-strip having the arched groove *d*, corrugated flanges *e*, and a series of imitation stitches, *i*, formed of a piece of metal, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

HENRY HIGGIN.

Witnesses:

A. GLUCHOWSKY,
E. E. WOOD.