

(No Model.)

E. E. WITHAM.

CARRIAGE TOP.

No. 314,903.

Patented Mar. 31, 1885.

Fig. 3.

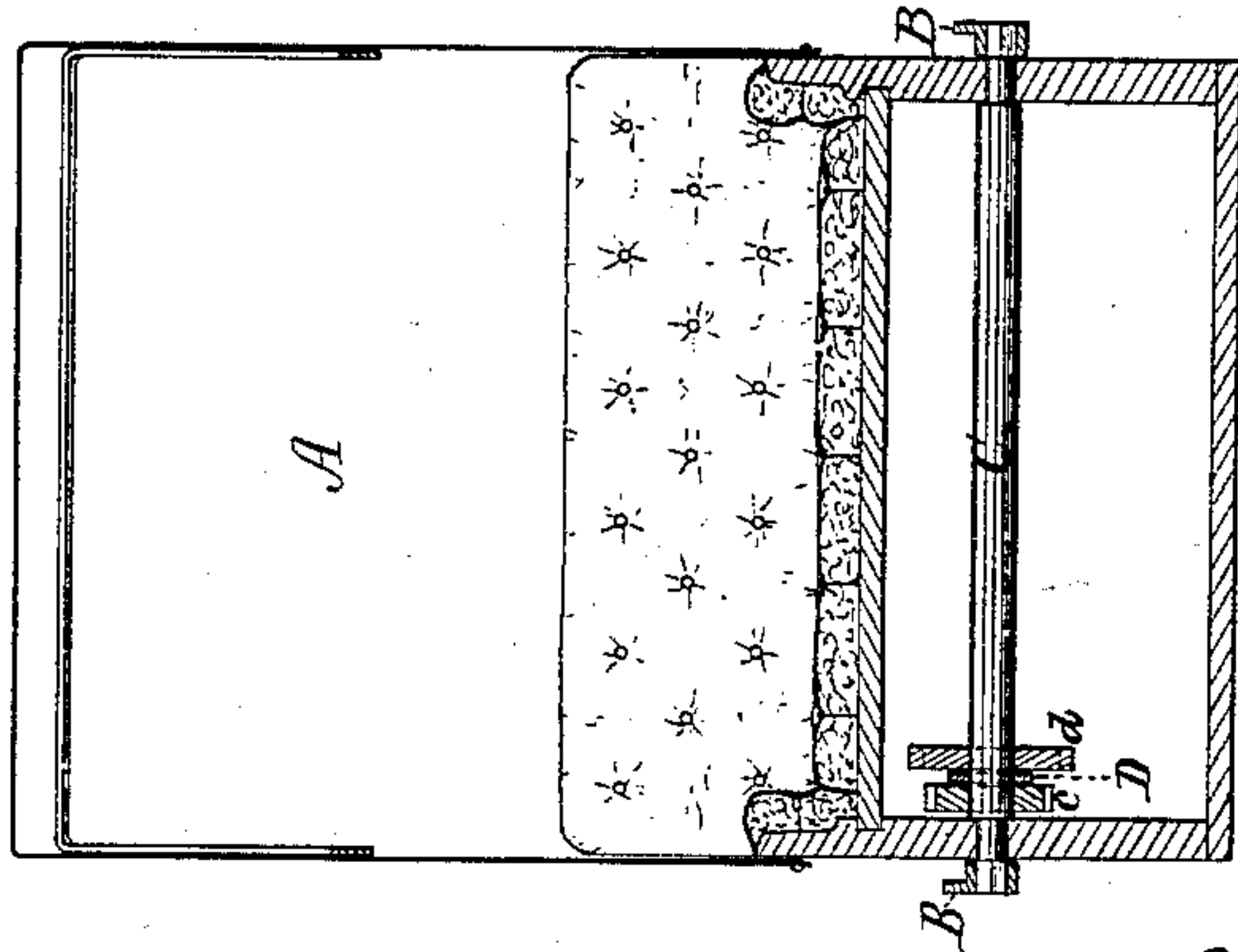


Fig. 2.

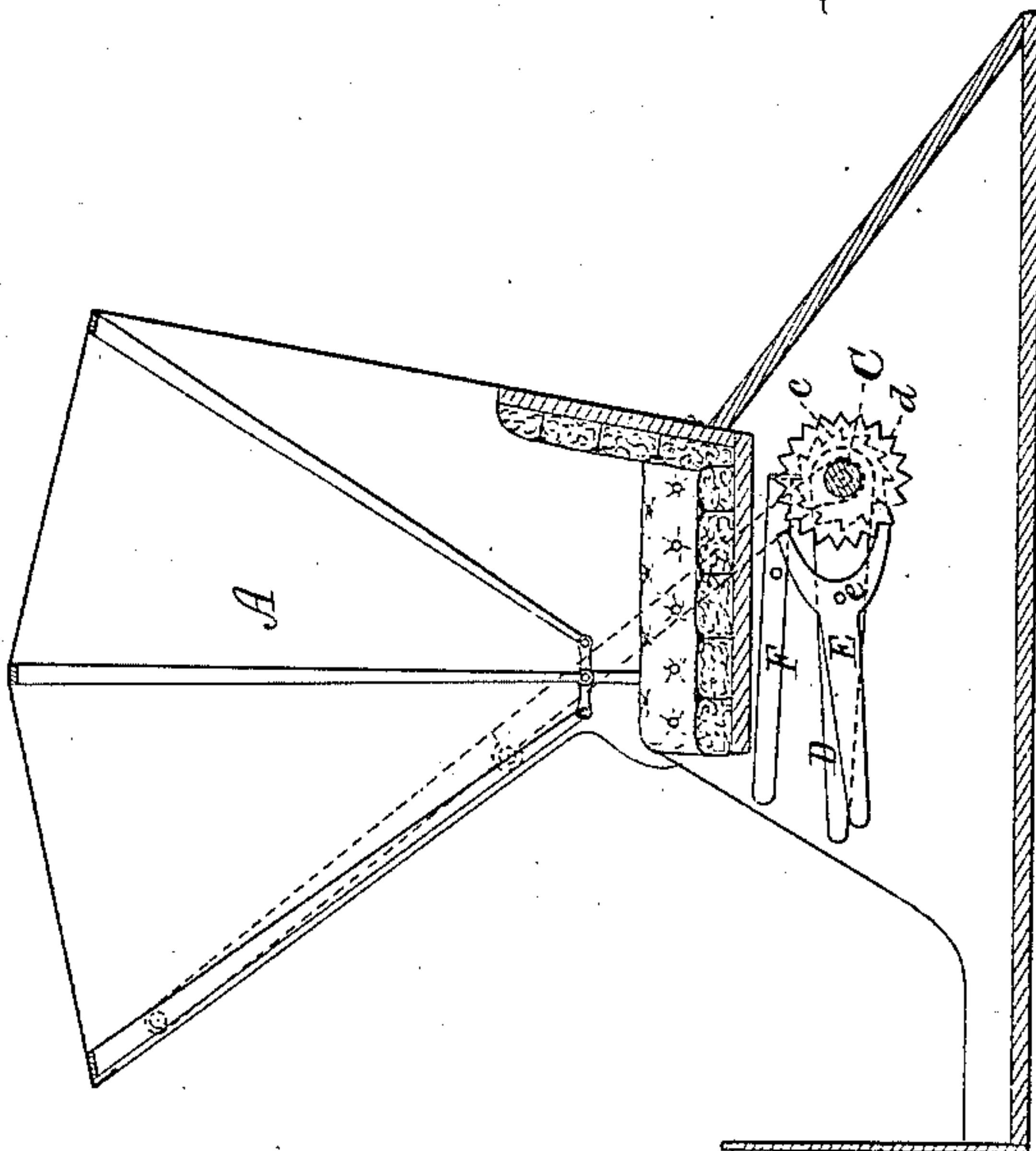
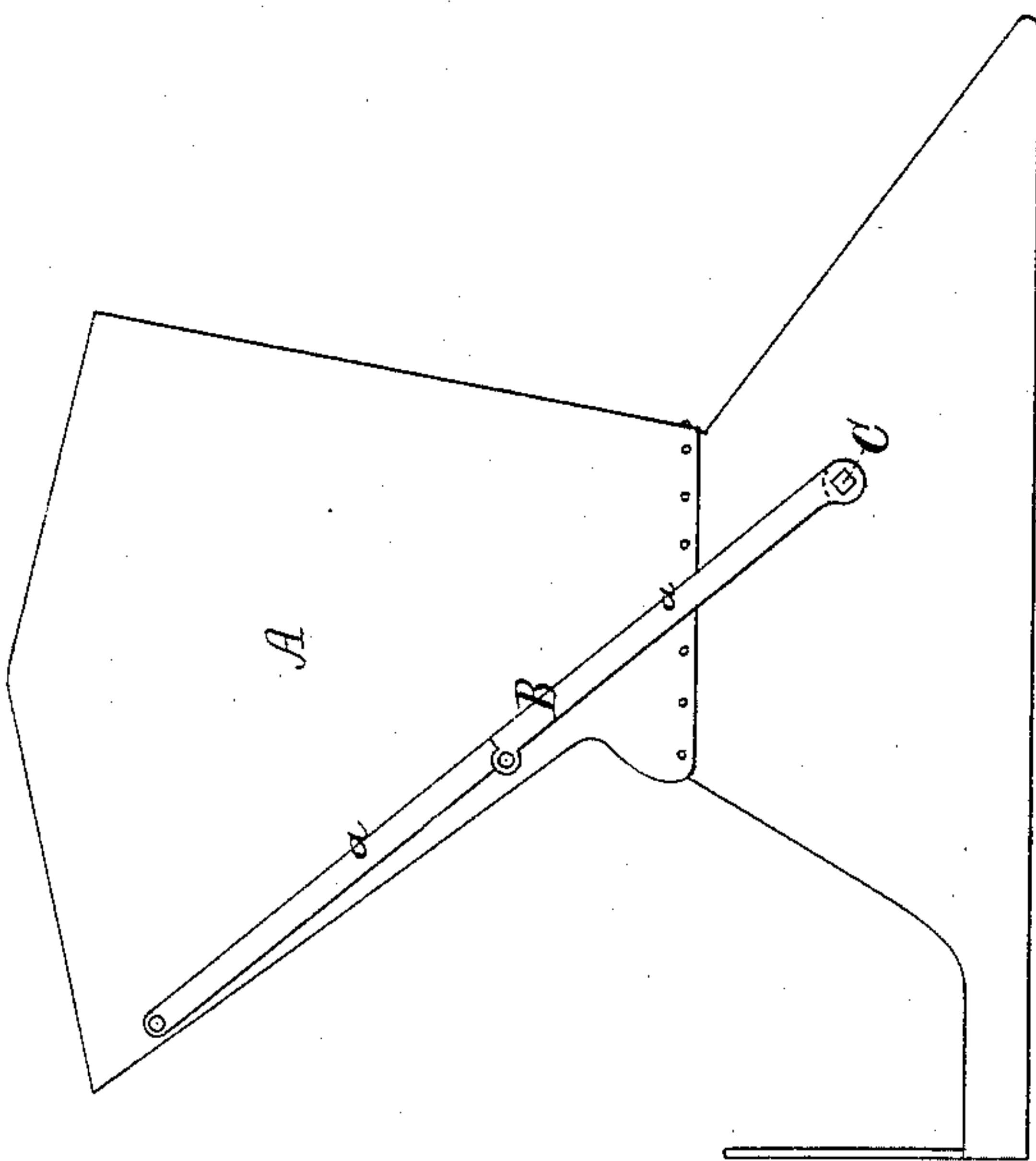


Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

*S. N. Piper*

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Inventor.

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*by R. H. Eddy atty*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN ERASTUS WITHAM, OF STARK, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

## CARRIAGE-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 314,903, dated March 31, 1885.

Application filed August 5, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN ERASTUS WITHAM, of Stark, in the county of Coos, of the State of New Hampshire, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wheeled Carriages Provided with Turn-Down Hoods; and I do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a side view, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal section, of the body and hood of a buggy as provided with my invention, the nature of which is defined in the claim hereinafter presented. Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same.

My said invention is to enable the turn-down hood of a buggy or wheeled carriage to be wholly or partially raised or lowered by a person within the carriage-body by mechanism applied to the latter. By means of it the hood can also be retained in a partially-raised position. For this purpose I have, as usual, to the hood A, on each side thereof, a prop, B, composed of two toggles or bars, *a a*, rule-jointed together at their inner ends, the upper one being pivoted to the front bow of the hood. The two lower bars of the two props are connected by and firmly fixed to a shaft, C, extended from one to the other of them, and journaled in bearings in the opposite sides of the body, such shaft being beneath the seat. On the said shaft there is fixed within the body and close to one side thereof two ratchet-wheels, *c d*, having teeth formed as shown. Between these wheels is a lever, D, which is fulcrumed on the shaft, and has fulcrumed to it a furcated lever, E, whose fulcrum is shown at *e*. A pawl or catch lever, F, pivoted to the side of the body and arranged with the ratchet-wheel *c*, as represented, serves when in engagement with such wheel to hold it from revolving.

A person while sitting upon the seat can either raise or depress the hood without taking

hold of it. To effect the raising of it he will only have to take hold of the lever D and reciprocate it vertically, so as to cause the furcated lever in descending to engage with the ratchet-wheel *d*, and in rising to slip thereon, the retaining pawl-lever sufficing, with the ratchet-wheel *c*, to hold the hood from falling backward after each of its movements upward. To depress the hood the person has only to throw the retaining-pawl out of action with the ratchet-wheel *c* and take hold of both levers and to move them, so as to cause the upper tooth or prong of the furcated one to engage with the ratchet-wheel *d* in a manner to turn it backward.

Instead of having under the seat the mechanism for revolving the shaft or rod connecting the two props, such shaft or rod may have a beveled gear on it to engage with another such gear on a shaft extending forward toward and under the dasher. To this shaft and the dasher, mechanism, substantially as described, may be applied for turning such shaft either way transversely of it.

I claim—

The combination of a carriage-body, its turn-down hood, and the two side props of the latter with a shaft connecting such props at their lower ends, mechanism for imparting to such shaft rotary motion in either direction transversely of it, and mechanism for retaining the hood in a raised or partially-elevated position, the mechanism hereinbefore described for turning the shaft being the ratchet-wheel *d*, the lever D, and furcated lever E, and the mechanism for preventing such shaft from being "back-turned" being the ratchet-wheel *c* and the retaining-pawl or catch-lever F, all being substantially and to operate as set forth.

EDWIN ERASTUS WITHAM.

Witnesses:

ALFRED R. EVANS,  
DANIEL LEACH.