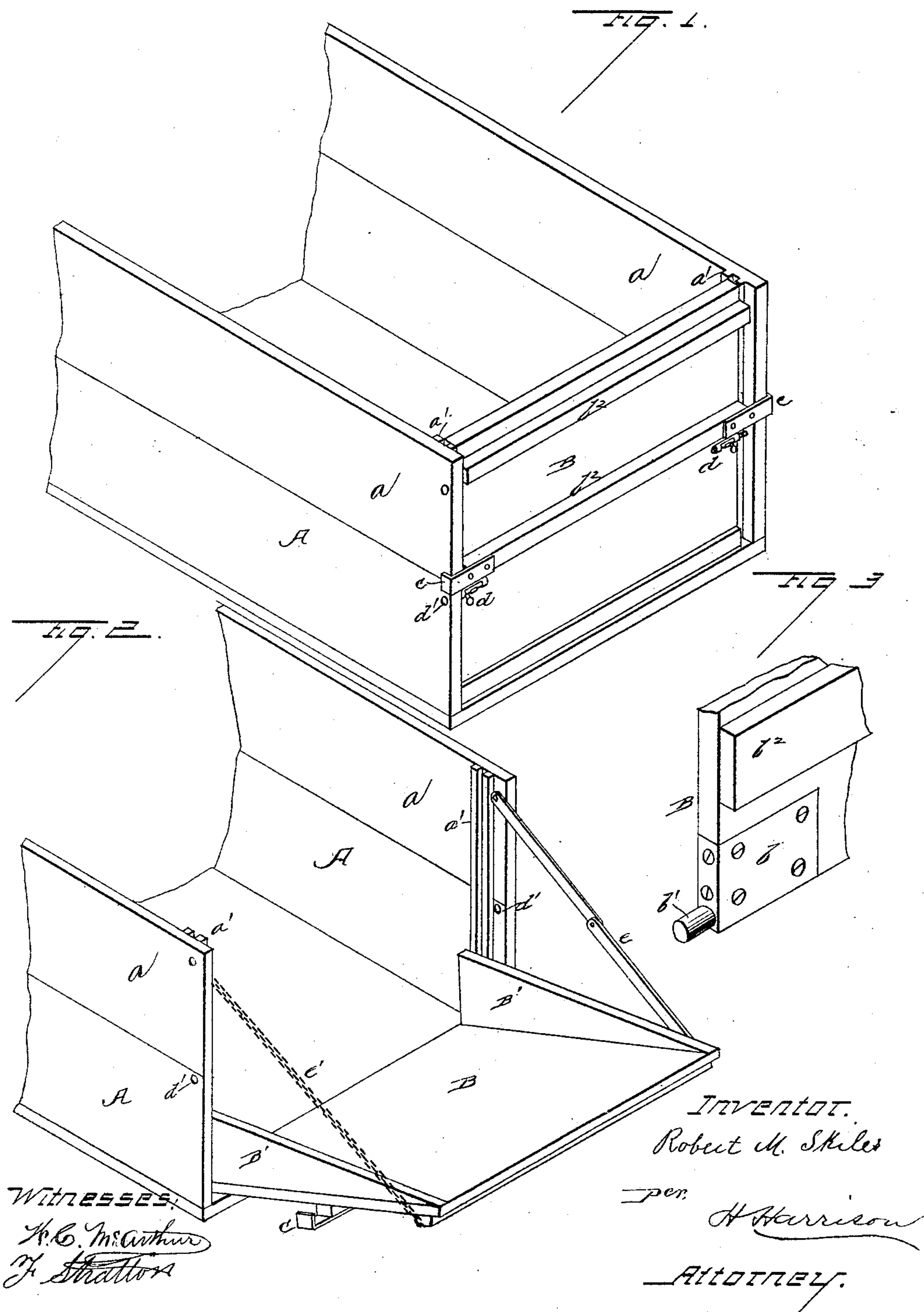


(No Model.)

R. M. SKILES.
WAGON END GATE.

No. 327,830.

Patented Oct. 6, 1885.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT M. SKILES, OF VAN ORIN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
WILLIAM H. JOHN, OF SAME PLACE.

WAGON END-GATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,830, dated October 6, 1885.

Application filed April 16, 1885. Serial No. 162,447. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. SKILES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Van Orin, in the county of Bureau and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wagon-Bodies, of which the following is a specification, to wit:

This invention relates to an improvement in wagon-bodies; and it consists in certain peculiarities of the construction and arrangement of the same, substantially as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention pertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the rear end of a wagon-body with my invention applied. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same in a different position, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the pivot-iron.

A represents the body of a farm-wagon of any desired size and kind. This body is deepened by the addition of top boards, *a*, to the sides in the usual way, which are provided with cleats *a'* *a'* to retain the end-boards, as shown. In all farm-wagons it is often desirable to use an inclined extension or end-gate at the rear end of the body for shoveling the load out to better advantage, and it is to make such a device, that may be applied to any body without being built for the purpose, that I design this invention.

D represents what I term a "shoveling-board," which takes the place of the rear end-gate commonly used, and has at each lower corner an angle-plate, *b*, on which is cast a lug, *b'*, forming a pivot on which the device is turned up or down. This board is strengthened by several cleats or cross-bars, *b²*, and is provided on each side with one or more hooked irons,

c, which, when the device is lifted, engage the ends of the wagon-body and prevent spreading, as in Fig. 1. The sides of the board B are provided with beveled side pieces, *B'*, to direct the load in shoveling over it.

In using this device the usual sliding end-gate in common use is removed and the lugs *b'* of this board allowed to slide down between the guide-cleats *a'* *a'* of the body. The stay-rods which are commonly found in wagon-bodies are removed, and this device can then be raised or lowered at will upon its pivots, and when lifted it is held in position by a bolt, *d*, on each side, which engages the hole *d'*, made for the stay-rod, and thereby saves additional perforation of the sides. When lowered, the shoveling-board is supported in position by a pair of jointed arms or braces, *e*, or by chains *e'*, both of which are shown in the drawings. These firmly brace the device; but are readily folded out of the way when closed, as in Fig. 1. I secure these braces to the body through the holes made for the upper stay-rod, as before, and it will be seen that the device is thus readily attached to any ordinary wagon-body without the necessity for any change or the use of tools.

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

The board B, with its side pieces, *B'*, in combination with the angular plates *b*, having lugs *b'*, the bolts *d*, hooked irons *c*, and braces *e* *e'*, all constructed and arranged for operation, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

ROBERT M. SKILES.

Witnesses:

W. C. McARTHUR,
CHAS. KRESSMANN.