

(No Model.)

J. M. PERKINS.

SLAT IRON FOR VEHICLE TOPS.

No. 333,885.

Patented Jan. 5, 1886.

Fig. 1.

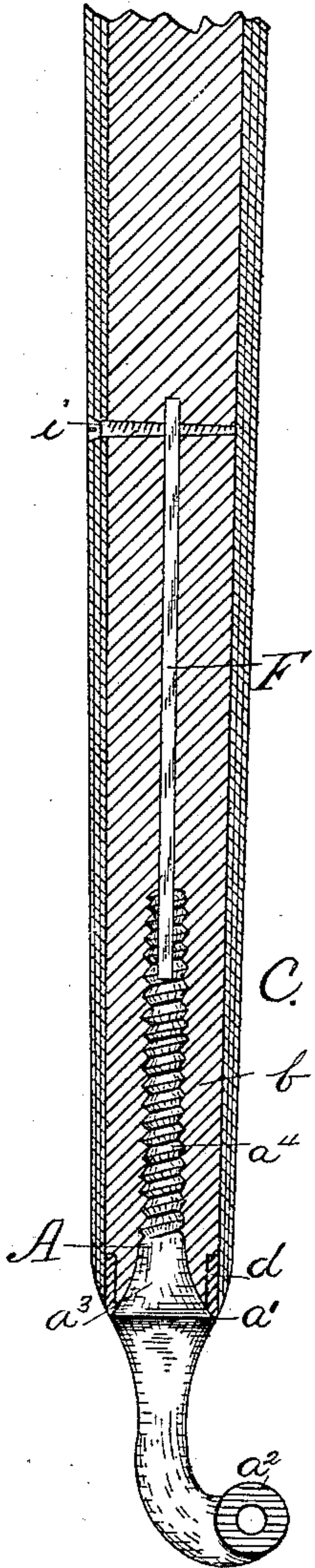
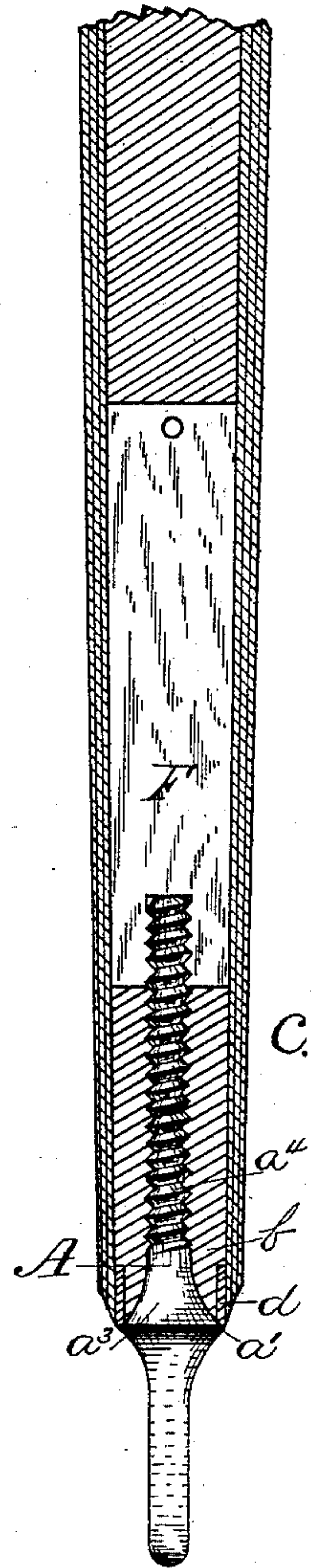


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SLAT-IRON FOR VEHICLE-TOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 333,885, dated January 5, 1886.

Application filed November 2, 1885. Serial No. 181,607. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN M. PERKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Bend, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Slat-Irons for Vehicle-Tops; 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.

My invention relates to an improvement in slat-irons for the standards and bows of vehicle-tops; and it consists of an improved construction of the same, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

It is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a side sectional view of a vehicle-bow with my improvements applied thereto, and Figs. 2 and 3 detail views of the same.

In the drawings, A is a slat-iron provided with a central projecting shoulder,  $a'$ , and from this shoulder the slat-iron tapers each way, terminating at the lower end in the eye  $a^2$ , by which it is secured to the goose-neck or bow-iron, and at the upper portion in a screw-threaded spindle,  $a^1$ , of such length as may be desired, and adapted to screw into the center of the core  $b$  of a bow, C. That portion of the slat-iron which tapers toward the screw-thread constitutes a full fillet,  $a^3$ .

The bow or standard may be made of solid wood, or of built-up wood, in the form of laminæ, with a veneer covering and japanned. Heretofore slat-irons have at this point where the slat and slat-iron are united been provided with sharp, flat, square shoulders, or double shoulders, on which the slat rests, which arrangement does not prevent the slat from lateral vibration and displacement, and, being subject to great strain, the bows have a tendency to break at that point. I remedy this difficulty not only by providing the iron with the fillet, but also by the use of a ferrule,  $d$ . The core of the standard or bow is bored out to receive the spindle, and so as to permit it to come over the fillet  $a^3$  and rest upon the shoulder  $a'$ , and then the ferrule  $d$  is placed on the core, so as to be flush with its face, and thus leaving some of the wood of the core between the fillet and the ferrule. The bow or standard, which may be made of solid wood or of laminæ of wood, with a veneer covering

and japanned, being thus bored out to receive the spindle, and the ferrule being applied to the end of the core, the core is wound with veneer or other covering, and the slat-iron is then screwed in, which draws the iron and its fillet into the wood, pressing the wood at the point between the fillet and the ferrule solidly and laterally, as well as lengthwise, making a firm, solid, and almost homogeneous joint.

In addition to the above features, and more especially for use in strengthening very delicate bows or standards, I employ a strengthener consisting of a flat metal bar, F, provided at one end with a slot,  $g$ , which is screw-threaded. I insert this strengthener into the standard through a slot formed in the standard on either side and at a point where the end of the spindle of the slat-iron will reach, and hold the bar at that point by means of a screw or rivet,  $i$ . Then when the slat-iron is screwed into the standard the spindle will engage with the metal bar, thus forming a long, firm, and solid connection. Such an arrangement will be found useful not only with the most delicate bows, but particularly when the standards are made of soft wood.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In combination with a standard or carriage-bow, the slat-iron provided with the projecting shoulder, the tapering fillet, the screw-threaded spindle, the strengthener inserted in the bow and engaging with the said spindle, and the ferrule in the end of the core, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The slat-iron provided with a screw-threaded spindle and a projecting shoulder, the iron tapering both ways from said shoulder and having the fillet  $a^3$  between said shoulder and the said spindle, substantially as described.

3. The strengthener consisting of a flat metallic bar provided with a slot and screw-threaded, whereby the same is adapted to engage with the spindle of a slat-iron, substantially as described.

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

JOHN M. PERKINS.

Witnesses:

J. L. TAYLOR,  
A. D. MOORE.