

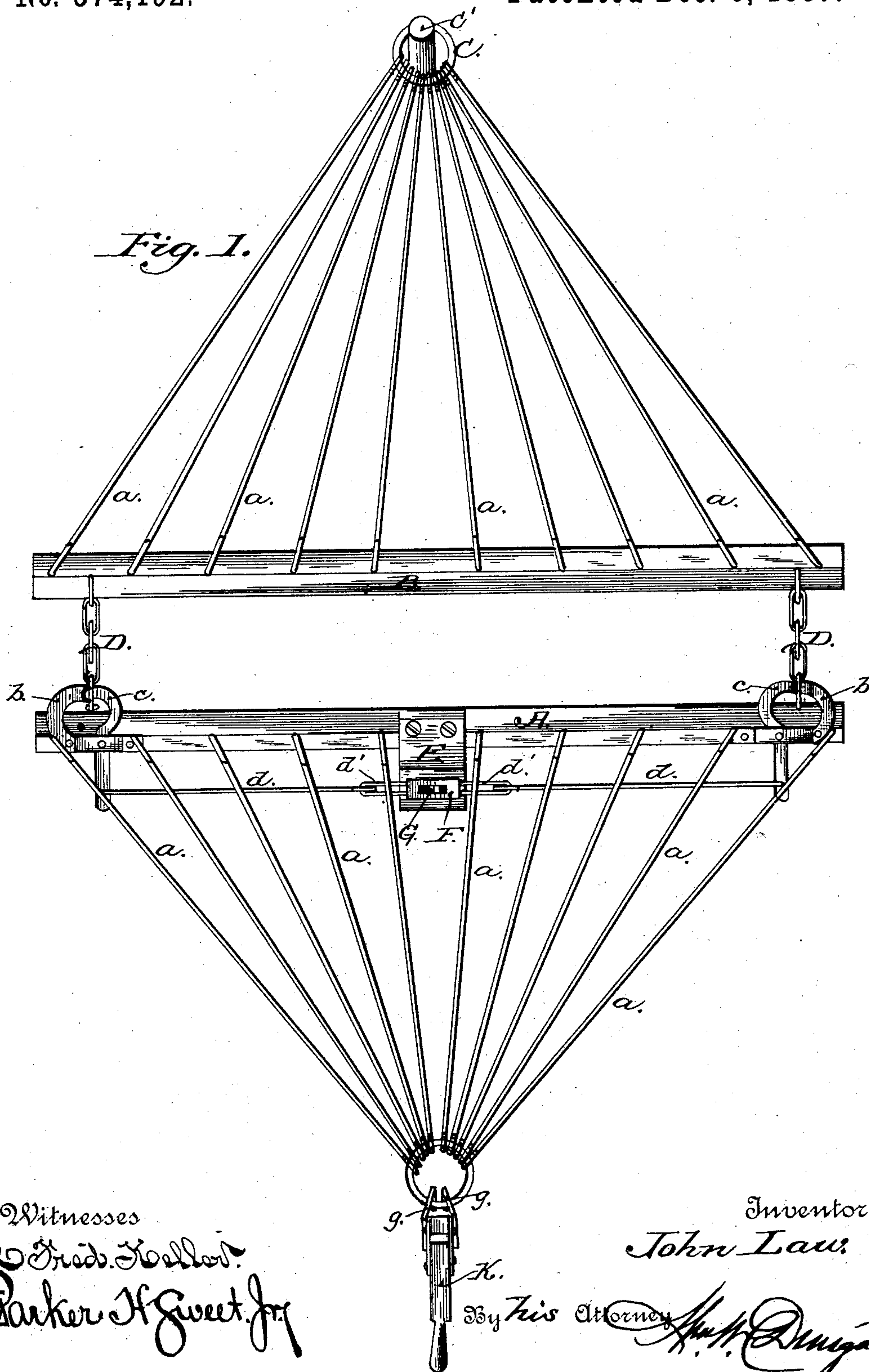
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. LAW.
HAY SLING.

No. 374,192.

Patented Dec. 6, 1887.



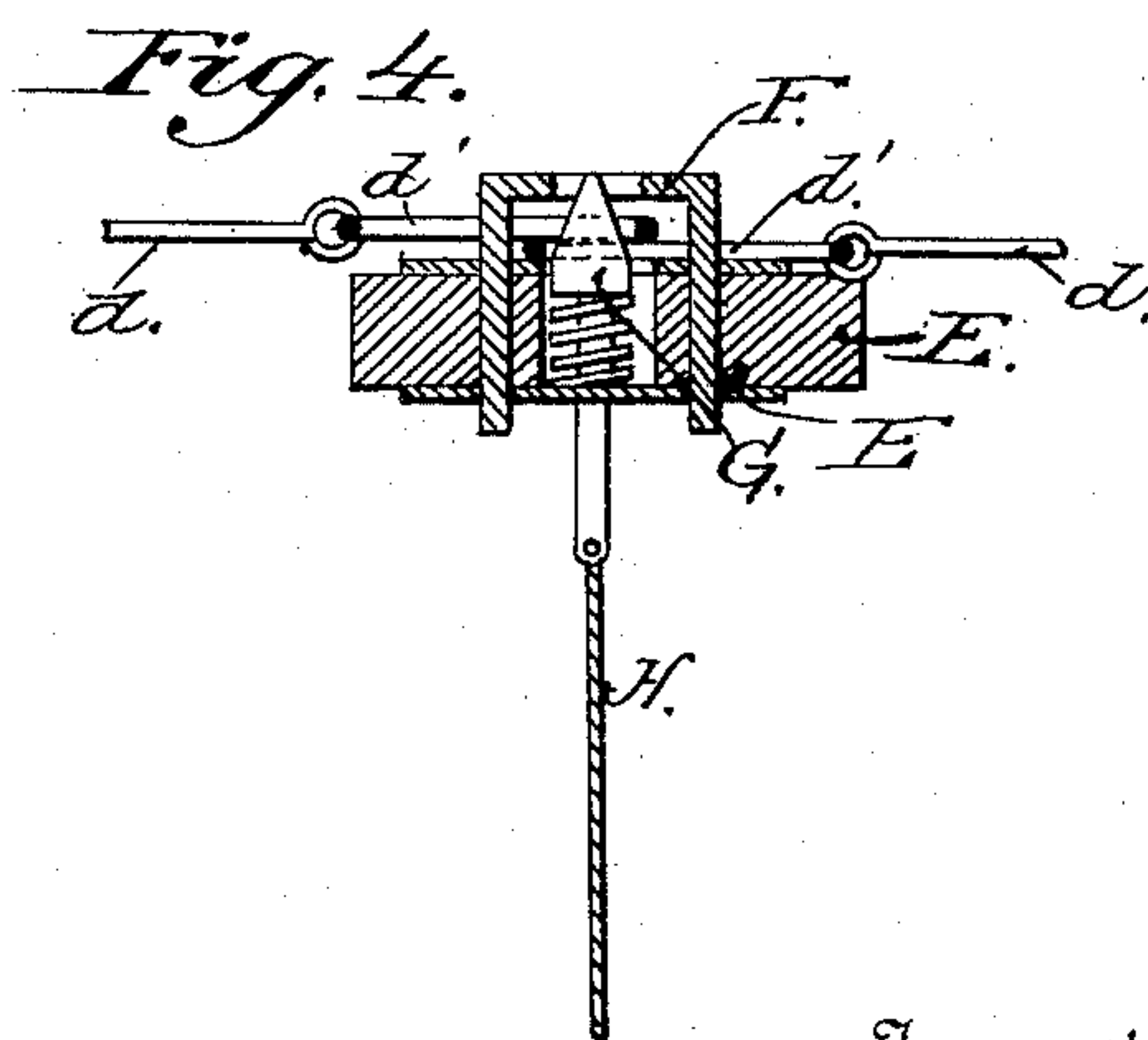
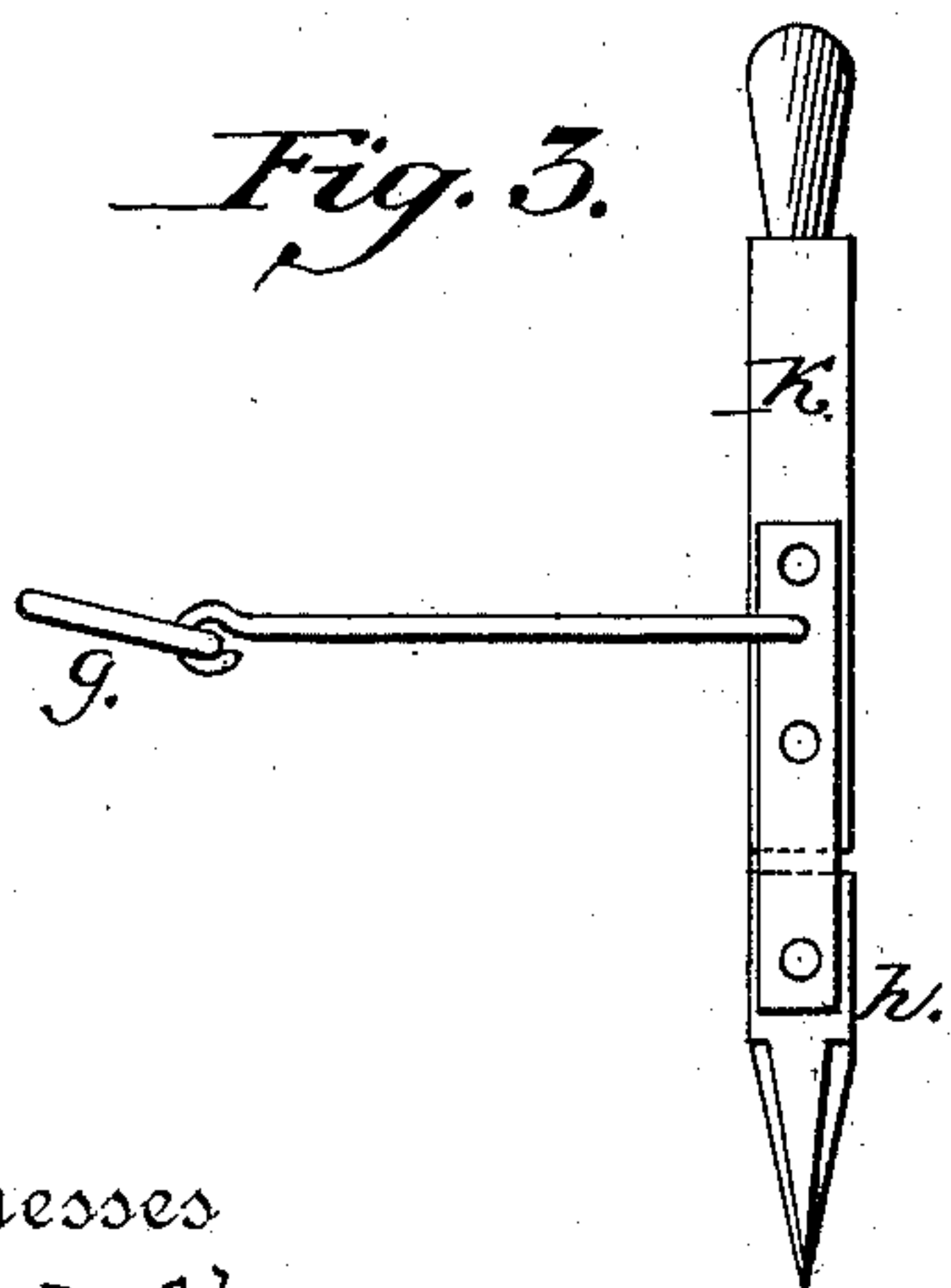
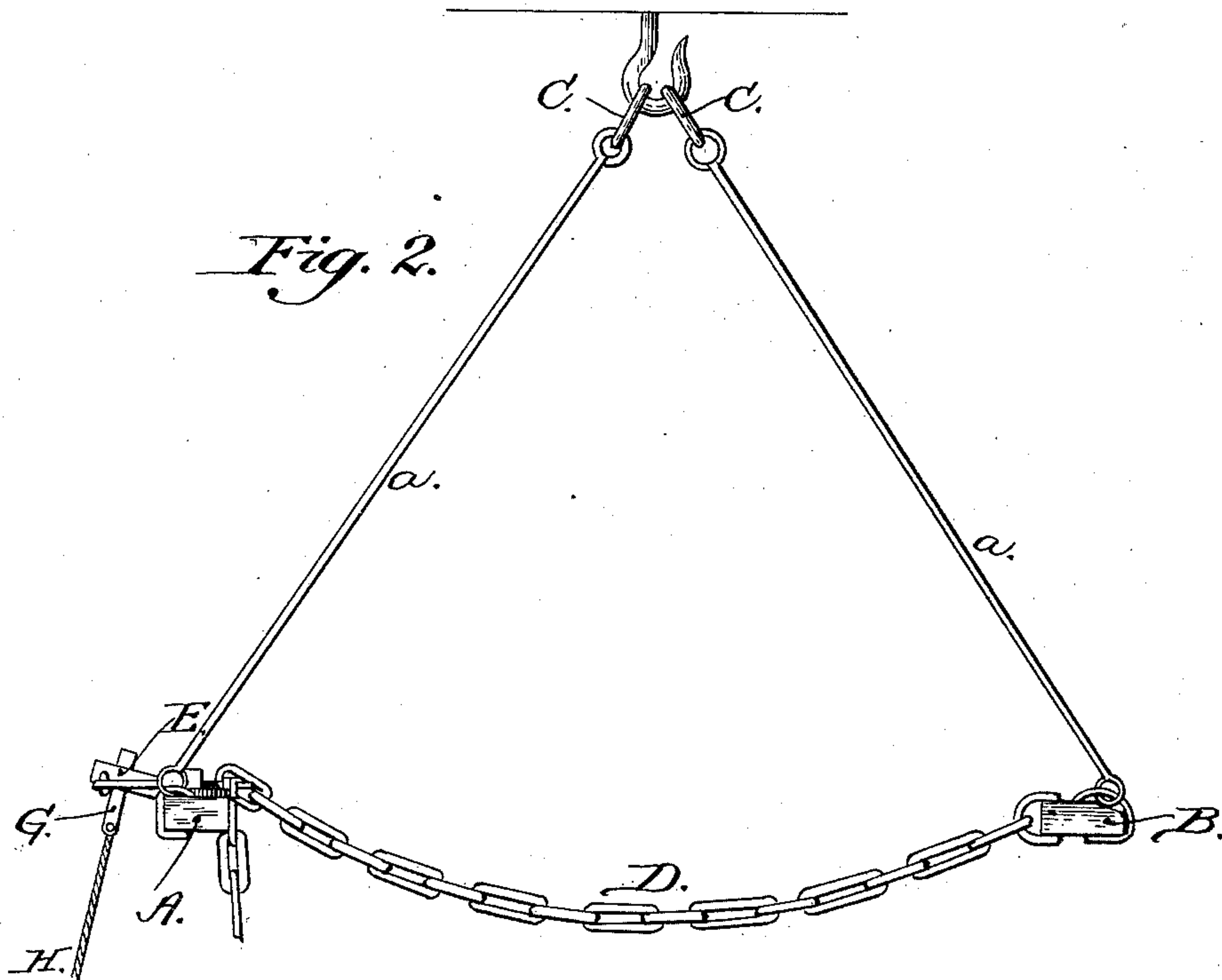
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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HAY SLING.

No. 374,192.

Patented Dec. 6, 1887.



Witnesses
O. Fred. Keller
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Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN LAW, OF MADELIA, MINNESOTA.

HAY-SLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 374,192, dated December 6, 1887.

Application filed April 13, 1887. Serial No. 234,579. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN LAW, of Madelia, in the county of Watonwan and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Hay-Slings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it ap-
10 pertain to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in hay-slings, the object being to provide an im-
15 proved, novel, and simplified device whereby the hay may be elevated on a stack or stored in the barn in the most convenient manner and without liability of the hay being scat-
20 tered or wasted during the operation.

To these ends my improvements consist, es-
25 sentially, of a cradle or frame arranged in two parts or sections and provided with mechanism for separating the two parts or sections to discharge the load.

It further consists of certain novel details
30 of construction and general arrangement of parts, all as will be hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 rep-
35 resents a top plan view of my complete de-
vice; Fig. 2, a side elevation thereof, and Figs. 3 and 4 detail views of the locking mech-
anism.

Similar letters of reference occurring on the
35 several figures indicate like parts.

In carrying out my invention the frame of the
40 hay-sling is formed in two parts or sections, A, B, each being composed, essentially, of a bar of wood or metal having a number of wires or
45 chains, *a*, secured at their one ends at suitable distances apart upon said bars, and the opposite ends of the wires being connected to a ring, C, as fully shown in the drawings. The two
50 parts or sections A B are arranged at a suit-
able distance apart from each other and con-
nected by the chains D, the one ends of which are secured to the part B, while their opposite
ends are adapted to engage with snap-hooks
55 actuated by locking mechanism upon the op-
posite part or section, A. The snap-hooks are
each preferably composed of a stationary jaw,
b, secured upon the ends and other suitable

points of the bar of the part or section A, and
having pivoted thereto a movable curved jaw,
c, the inner curved end of which is adapted to
55 pass through one of the links of the chain and
rest under the raised projecting end of the sta-
tionary jaw, to hold the said chain in place
until released by the trip of the locking mech-
anism. The outer ends of each of the pivoted
60 jaws *c* are connected to the said trip of the
locking mechanism by wires or chains *d*, as
shown.

The locking mechanism is attached to the
65 bracket E, projecting from the central part of
the bar of the section A, and is composed of
a staple-shaped frame, F, the legs of which
pass through the bracket E and are held in
place by suitable means. The ends of the
70 wires *d* are formed with loops *d'*, which have
a free play upon and embrace the legs of the
staple. Midway between the legs of the said
staple-shaped frame, and projecting through
the bracket E, is provided a spring-actuated
75 dart or rod, G, having an arrow-shaped head,
the point of which rests in a slot in the central
part of the staple-shaped frame when the parts
are in their normal position.

It will be seen by reference to the drawings
80 that the jaws of the snap-hooks may be held
in a closed position by passing the loops of
the connecting wires or chains *d* over the ar-
row-shaped head of the spring-actuated dart
G, and said jaws may be thrown open by draw-
85 ing upon the rope H, attached to the outer
end of the dart G, which draws downward to
release the loops of the connecting-wires from
the arrow-shaped head.

In the operation of my invention in the har-
90 vest-field the frame is spread upon the ground,
the sections being connected by the chains D,
and the ring C at the end of the section B
placed over the stake C', which is driven in the
ground, while the ring C upon the opposite sec-
95 tion, A, is caught in the hooks *g* of the lever
K, the lower pivoted end, *h*, of which is also
driven in the ground. Now, by depressing
the handle of the lever K the frame is stretched
100 taut upon the ground, and the hay may be
drawn in upon the same by a horse hay-rake
or other suitable means until the desired load
is upon the frame. The handle of the lever
K is now raised, and the rings C of the sec-
tions, being released from the stakes, are at-

attached to the hook of a hoisting-rope to elevate the hay to a stack or upon a wagon. When in the desired position for unloading, the rope H is drawn to operate the trip of the locking mechanism, which throws open the jaws of the snap-hooks to release the ends of the chains D to cause the sections to separate to drop the load.

The frame is equally adapted to be used upon a wagon to transport hay to the barn, and in either case serves to keep the hay in a compact bale until deposited in the desired place, obviating all waste or scattering of the hay during the operation of loading or stacking.

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

1. In a hay-sling formed of two parts or sections, the section A, having wires *a* and ring

C, and provided with snap-hooks *c b*, adapted to be operated by the trip mechanism secured to the bracket E, in combination with the section B, provided with chains D, wires *a*, and ring C, substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

2. In a hay-sling, the trip mechanism composed of the staple-shaped frame F, secured to the bracket on the section A, and provided with the spring-actuated dart G, connecting-wires *d*, links *d'*, and cord H, in combination with the movable jaws *c* of the snap-hooks, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN LAW.

Witnesses:

A. M. RUTAN,
W. H. SHAVER.