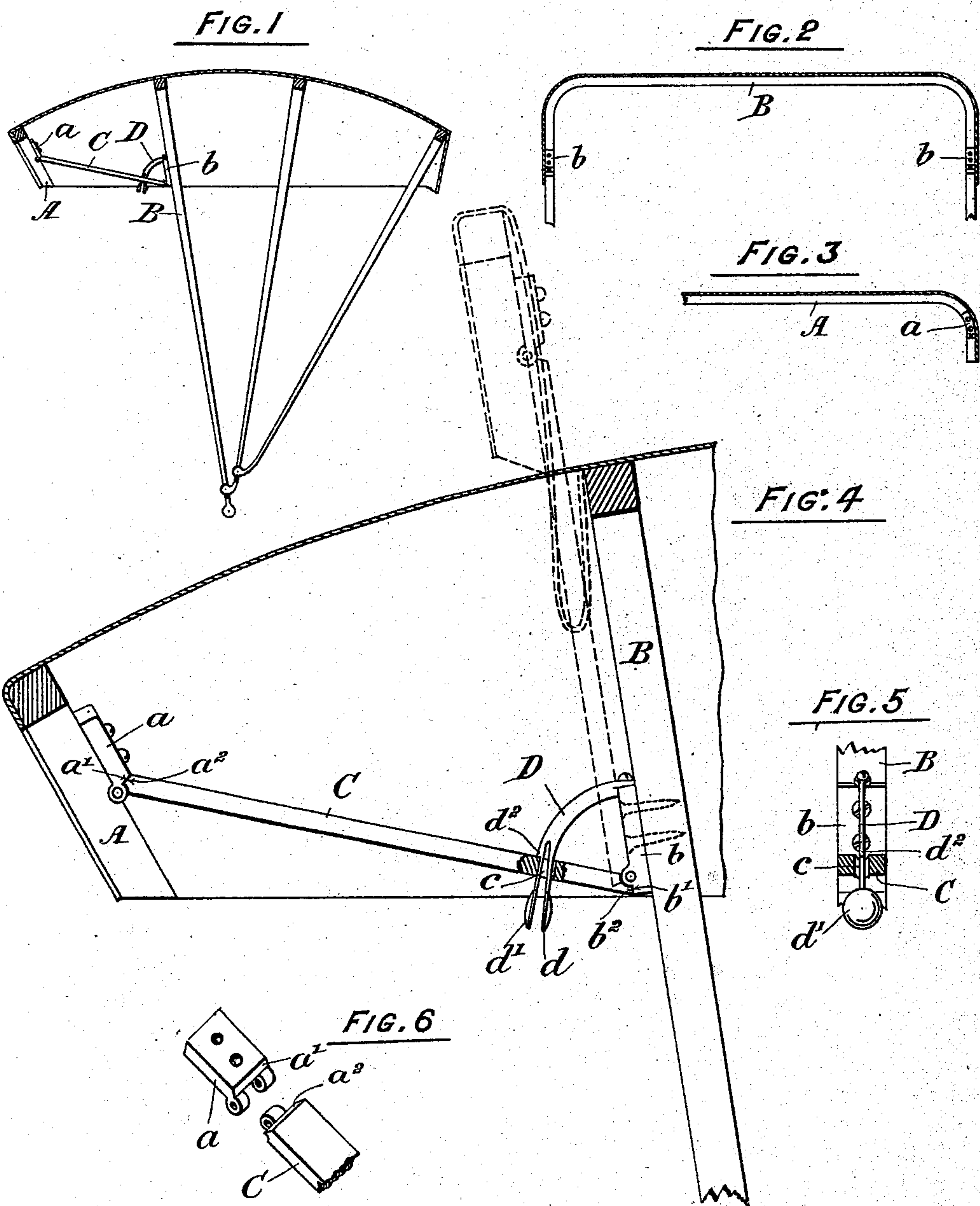


(No Model.)

W. DAVIS.  
BUGGY TOP.

No. 377,604.

Patented Feb. 7, 1888.



Witnesses:  
O. B. M. Evans  
W. P. M. East.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM DAVIS, OF MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA.

## BUGGY-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 377,604, dated February 7, 1888.

Application filed January 31, 1887. Serial No. 226,048. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DAVIS, of the city of Montreal, in the district of Montreal and Province of Quebec, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buggy-Tops; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention has reference to those buggy-tops in which the leather cover is carried upon a number of radial bows and stayed or held extended when up by side irons or braces which bend on joints to allow it to be folded back. These tops are usually supported by four bows, and when the top is stretched out the forward bow is found to be very much in the way of persons getting in and out of the buggy. To obviate this difficulty the objectionable portion of this front bow—i. e., from the point at which the side edge of the cover is secured to it to its end—has been cut away or dispensed with and two rigid braces from the second bow made to carry the remaining portion of front bow, to which the cover is attached in a fixed position, thus preventing the collapse of the front or first fold upon the second bow when it is desired to close or turn down the top.

The object of my invention is to enable the whole top to fold when let down as well as when the ordinary front bow is used.

The invention consists, broadly speaking, of stays secured to the second bow and to the upper portion of the front bow before mentioned, at a point which will not interfere with persons getting in or out of the buggy, such stays carrying the front bow and enabling it to be swung in and be parallel with the second, thus allowing the entire top to fold up. These stays are preferably braced, when the bows are extended or the top up, by a spring-stop designed for the purpose, and not by the usual side irons or braces, these being only needed then to brace the second, third, and fourth bows. For full comprehension, however, of the invention reference must be had to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of a four-bowed buggy-top, extended or put up, embodying my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are respectively part front views of second and first bows, showing point at which I prefer to pivot or hinge the stay. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail view of portion of Fig. 1, showing in dotted lines the position of the front bow when top is folded up. Fig. 5 is a front detail view of spring-stop, and Fig. 6 a detail of form of plate which I prefer to use to hinge the stay upon.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

A is the front or first bow, to which are secured hinge-plates *a*, with butting edges *a'*.

B is the second bow, to which are also secured hinge-plates *b*, with butting edges *b'*, and the stays C are hinged to these plates *a* and *b* and have butting edges *a'' b''*. These butting edges *a' a'' b' b''* hold the stay C and front bow, A, at the desired angle to each other.

D D are curved strips of metal, secured at one end to the hinge-plates *b*, and terminating in spring-jaws *d d'*, a shoulder, *d''*, being formed on the upper edge of *d'*. Both these jaws *d d'*, as shown in Fig. 4, pass through the slot *c*, and the stop *d''* engages with the edge of this slot, thus locking the stay C.

All that is necessary, when it is desired to fold in the front part of the cover, is to compress the jaws *d d'*, by which the stay C is released, and with the front bow, A, is folded back against the second bow in the position shown in the dotted lines, Fig. 4.

I am aware that in Patent No. 270,195, granted on January 2, 1883, to David G. Wyeth, a cut-away front bow is shown; but the connection of this with the second bow is by means of stiff brace-rods rigidly attached to both, so that the relative position of these two bows can never be changed, nor the part of the top covering between them be folded up, and I therefore disclaim this construction.

What I claim is as follows:

1. In a folding buggy-top, the combination of the following elements, viz: the front bow cut away below cover and always radial to

pivot-point of second bow, and rigid stay pivoted both to first and second bow, all as herein set forth.

2. The combination of the front bows, A, second bows, B, and rigid stays C, hinged to plates *a* and *b* on first and second bows, all as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a buggy-top, the combination, with

the second bow and cut-away first bow and stay connecting same, of curved locking-strip, to with spring-jaws passing through slot in stay, all as and for the purposes set forth.

WILLIAM DAVIS.

Witnesses:

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