

(No Model.)

S. E. KIEROLF.
CARRIAGE TOP.

No. 388,689.

Patented Aug. 28, 1888.

Fig. 1

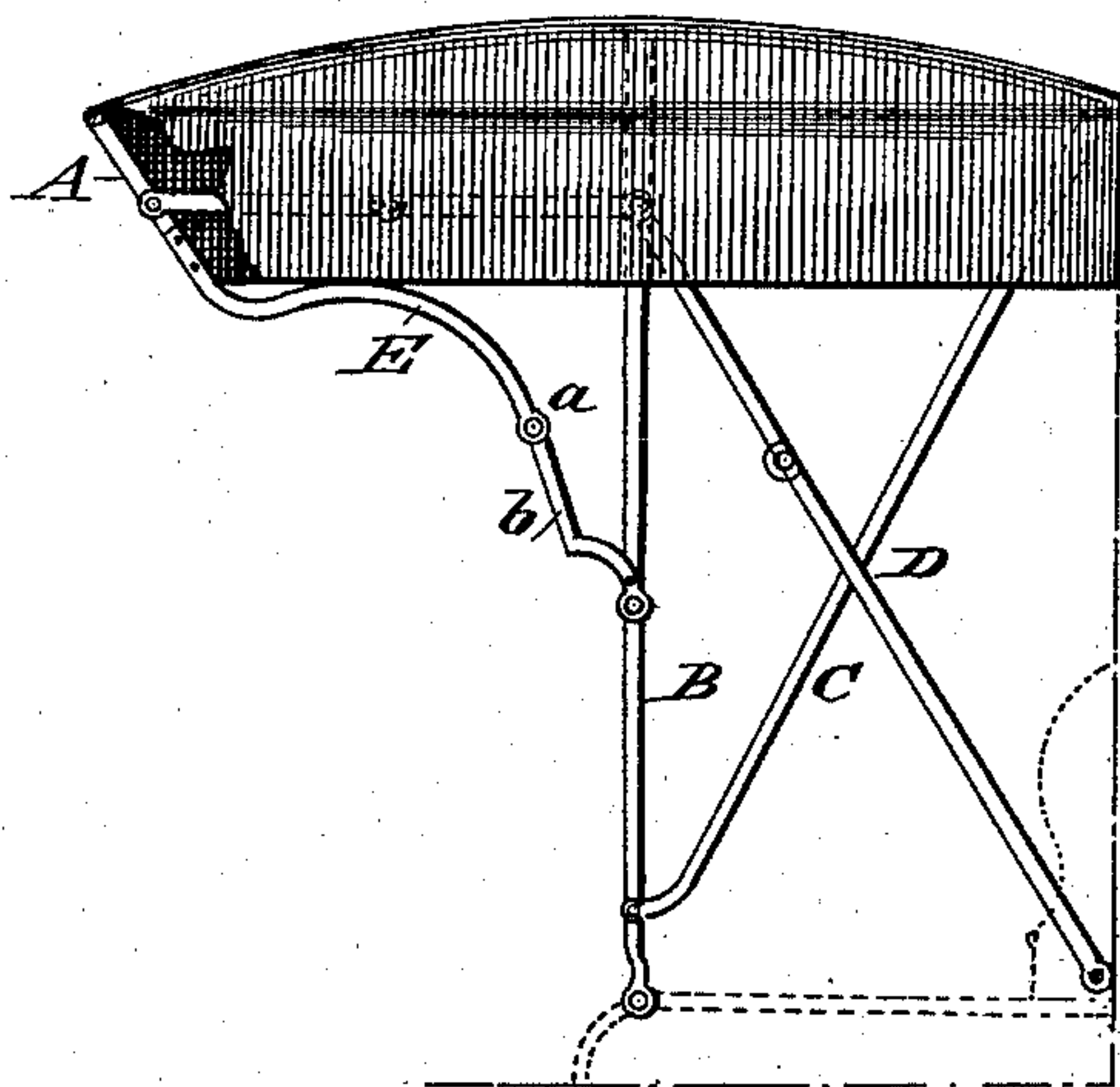


Fig. 2

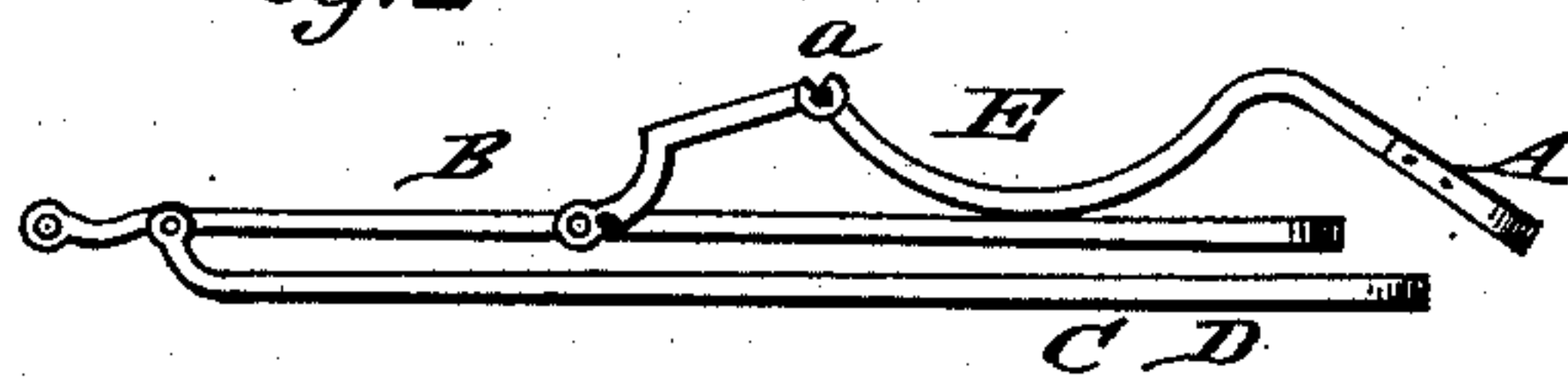
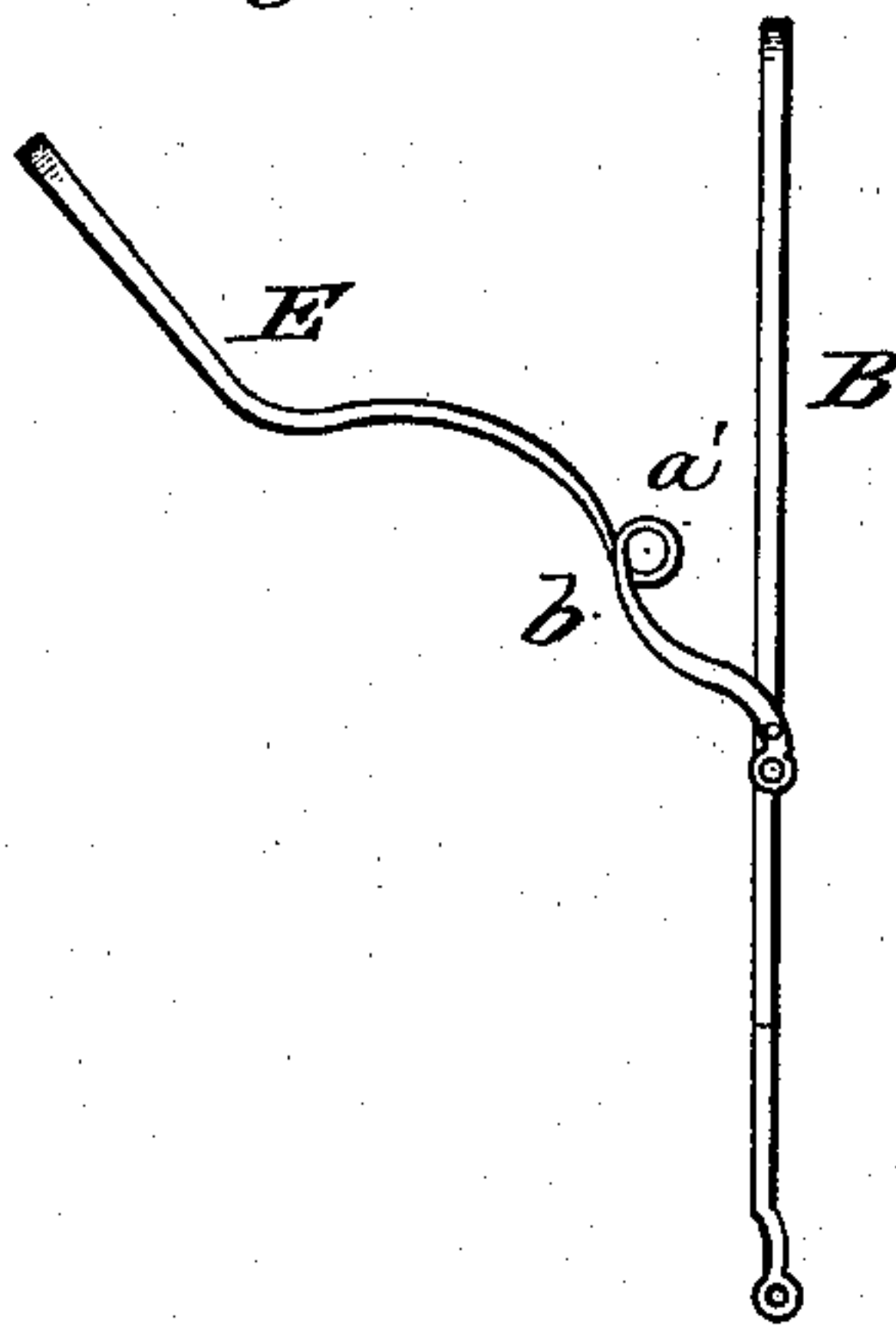


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Fred G. Dieterich.
J. W. Winter.

INVENTOR.

S. E. Kierolf.
BY *Munn & Co.*

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SALEM EMANUEL KIEROLF, OF JACKSON, TENNESSEE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FRANCIS ASBURY WILLIAMS, OF SAME PLACE.

CARRIAGE-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,689, dated August 28, 1888.

Application filed January 18, 1888. Serial No. 261,147. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SALEM EMANUEL KIEROLF, of Jackson, in the county of Madison and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Carriage-Tops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved carriage-top. Fig. 2 is a similar view thereof, showing it folded; and Fig. 3 is a view of the brace in modified form, the knuckle-joint being substituted by a spring.

This invention contemplates improvements in carriage tops, having for its object to more especially provide for convenience and facility in getting in and out of the carriage or vehicle, and to these ends the nature of the invention consists of the combination of parts, including their construction, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the embodiment of my invention I employ, in the ordinary form of carriage top, in lieu of the common front bow, a bow, A, restricted in its limits to the canopy or cover. This bow, together with the middle bow, B, and back bow, C, is connected to and held in its normal elevated position by means of the usual form of braces or stays, D D'.

E E are additional braces or stays, which serve in the capacity formerly filled by the lower portions of the ordinary front bow, and which are bolted or otherwise connected at their upper forward ends to the sides of the bow A, while their lower inner ends are suitably connected to the middle bow, B, well up out of the way. The stays or braces E are each formed in two parts which are connected together by a knuckle-joint, as at *a*; or they may each be formed with a spring to take the

place of said knuckle-joint, as at *a'*, in the modification embraced in Fig. 3, in the present instance a coiled spring being shown, to permit of the inward folding of the braces as required in lowering the top. The lower portions of the stays or braces E are offset, as at *b*, from the middle braces, B, while above their joints or flexible points they are inwardly curved, so as to effect the holding of the top in an elevated position and to sustain the top in its lowered position, the upper or outer portions of said braces resting, when the top is in the latter position, upon the middle bow, as shown in Fig. 2.

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

1. In a carriage top, the combination, with the front bow restricted to the canopy or cover, and the middle bow, of the additional braces connected to said front and middle bows, and, in addition, to yielding or flexing inward, each having an offset near its lower end and inwardly curved above its flexing or yielding point or joint, permitting the braces, as the top folds down, to rest upon the middle bow and sustain the top in the lowered position, substantially as set forth.

2. In a carriage-top, the combination, with the front bow restricted to the canopy or cover, and the middle bow, of the additional braces connected to said front and middle bows, and each being formed with a spring and an offset near its lower end and inwardly curved above said spring, substantially as set forth.

SALEM EMANUEL KIEROLF.

Witnesses:

W. D. KIEROLF,
T. L. ADAMS.