

(No Model.)

J. E. SHEEHAN.  
AUTOMATIC SPRING SAFETY HOOK.

No. 437,253.

Patented Sept. 30, 1890.

Fig. 1.

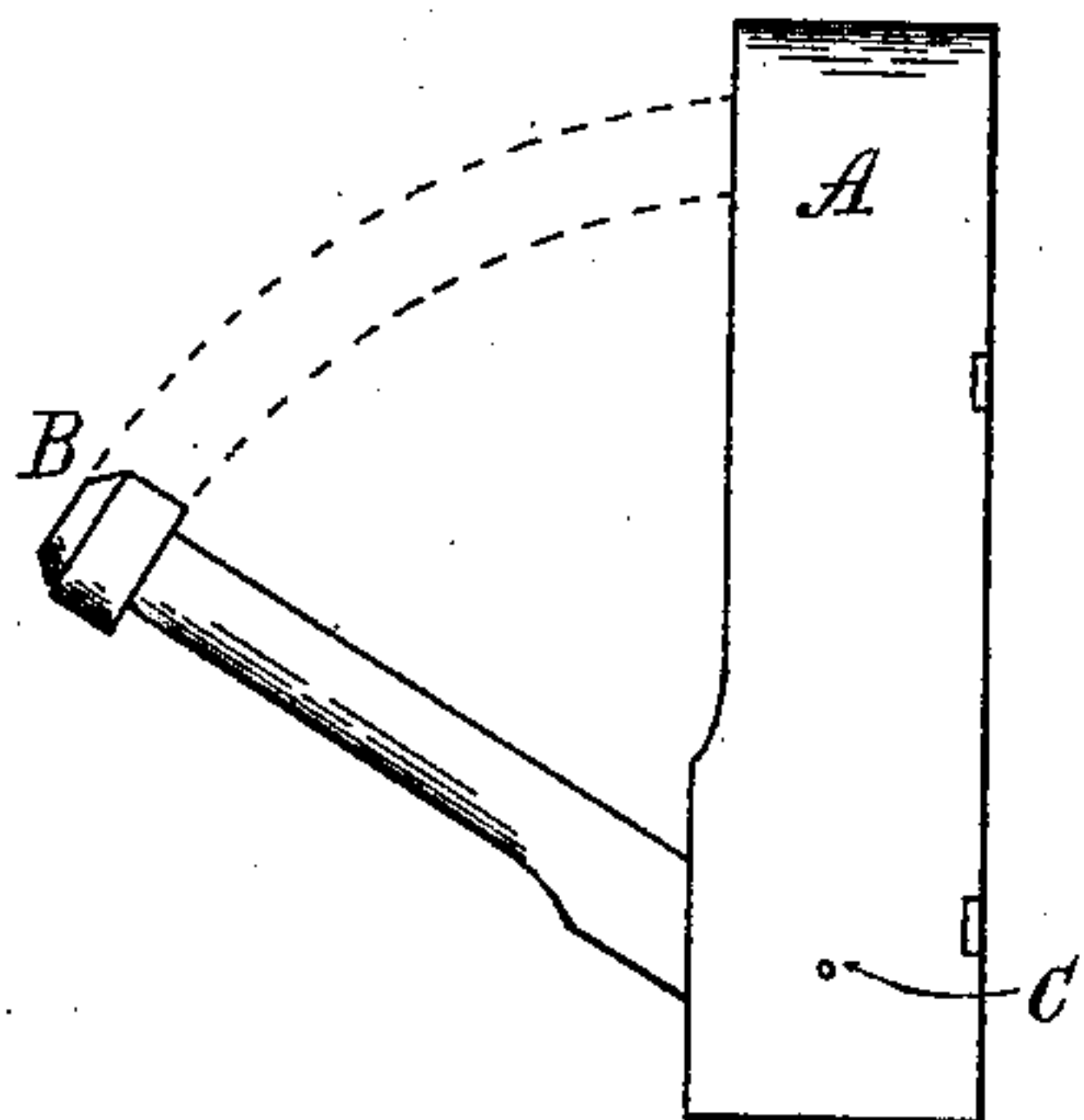


Fig. 2.

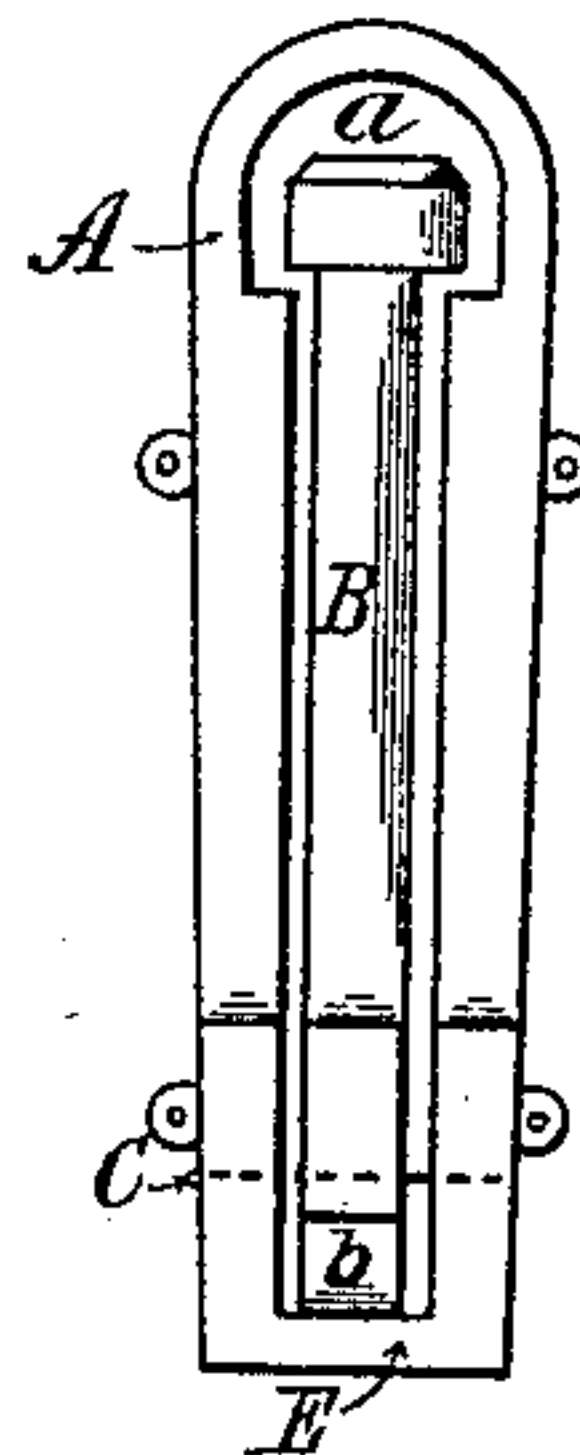


Fig. 3.

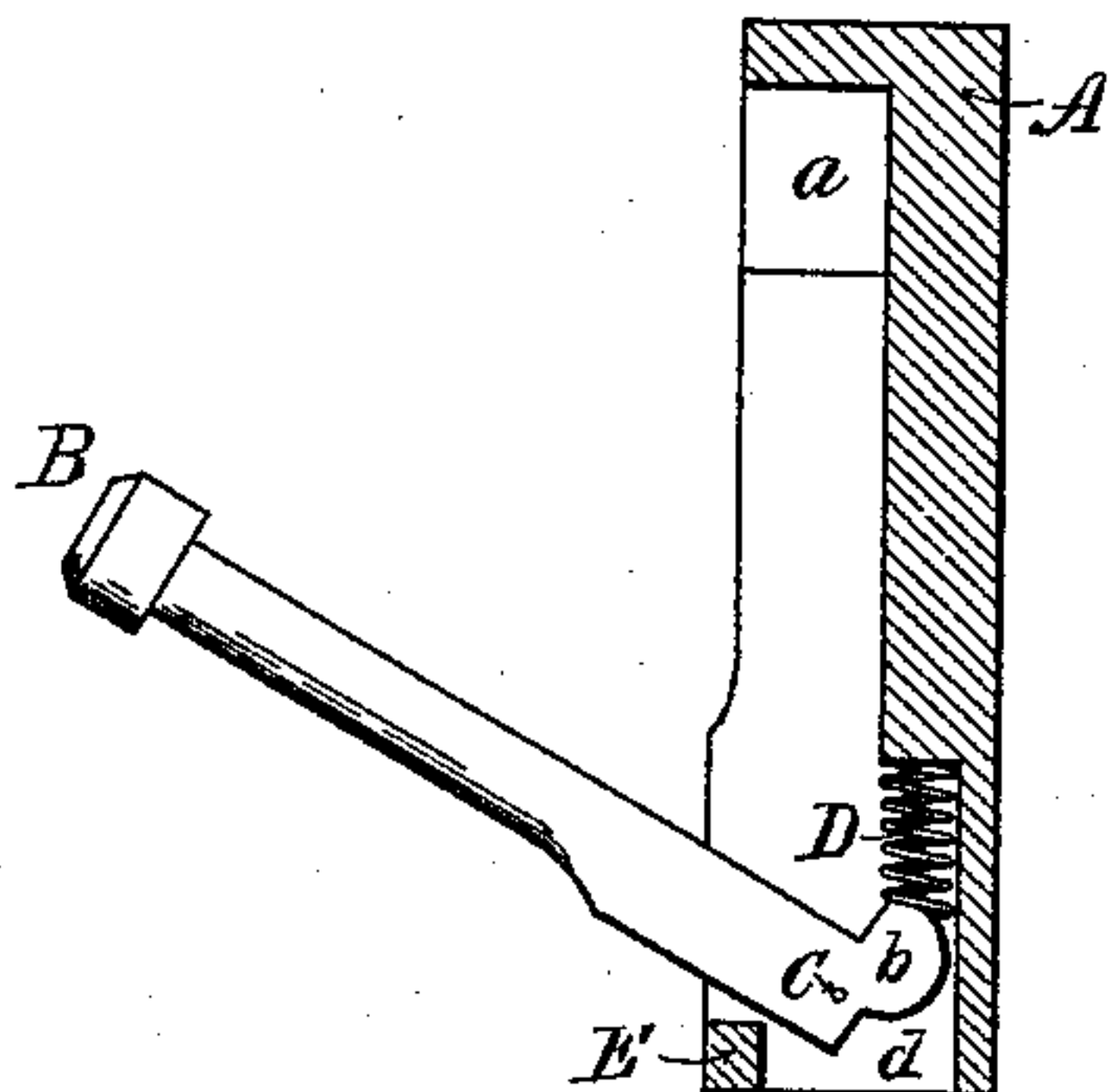
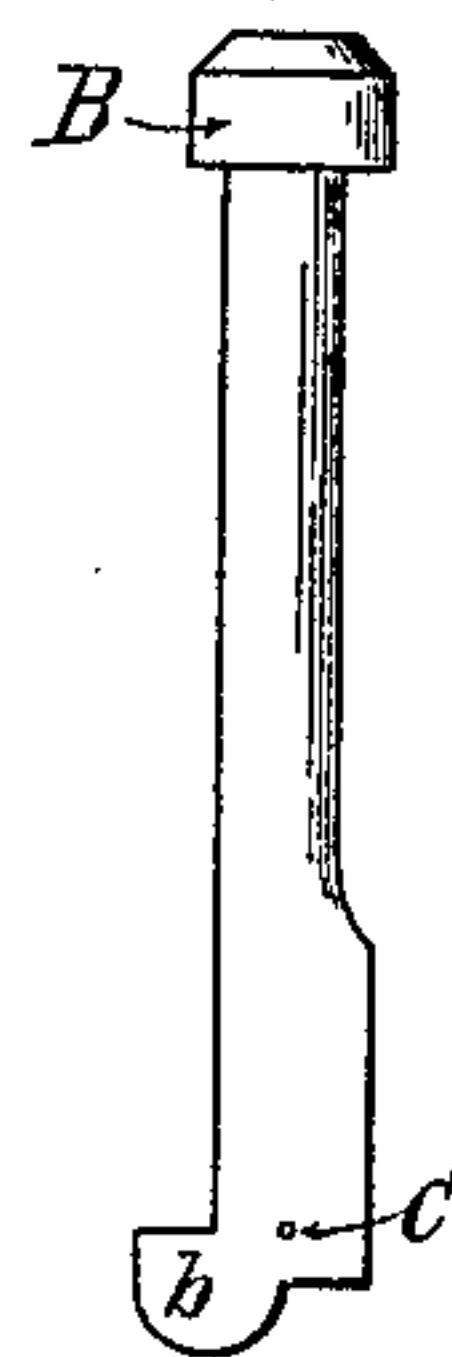


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## AUTOMATIC SPRING SAFETY-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 437,253, dated September 30, 1890.

Application filed April 21, 1890. Serial No. 348,794. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN E. SHEEHAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Skowhegan, in the county of Somerset and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Automatic Spring Safety-Hooks; 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 improved automatic spring safety-hook, and is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation with hook down as when in use. Fig. 2 is a front elevation with hook folded as when not in use. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of frame through the center from front to back, showing spring and hook not in section. Fig. 4 is a detail of hook.

Similar letters refer to corresponding parts throughout the figures.

The object of my invention is to provide a hook which may instantly be brought into position for use, and shall automatically return to a position flush with its frame, or nearly so, or with the wall when not in use, so as not to project from the wall or catch the garments of persons passing. It will be found a great convenience in all the ordinary cases where hooks are used in houses, and is especially desirable for application to the backs of seats in theaters and all public buildings.

In construction I provide a frame A, slotted at *a* with a slot of such shape as to receive the hook-arm B, the lower end of which is hinged or pivoted in the jaws of the slot *a* in the frame A at C. Upon the back side of the hook-arm B, I form a shoulder *b*, upon which

rests the bottom of the spring D, fitted into a recess *d* in the slot *a* in the frame A. I have also provided a stop E so placed as to prevent the too great descent of the hook-arm when in use, as shown in Fig. 1, although the device may be so constructed as to dispense with the stop.

In operation the hook-arm, being in the position shown in Fig. 2, is grasped by the fingers and swung downward against the resistance of the spring to the position shown in Fig. 1, and the article intended to be hung up is placed upon it, the hook being kept in its downward position by the weight of the article suspended. When the weight is removed from the hook, the hook is instantly returned automatically to its first position by the action of the spring.

Various simple modifications of my device depending upon the style of spring and relative location of the parts are possible; but I believe that shown in the drawings to be the simplest and most practicable.

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

The herein-described automatically-closing spring safety-hook, consisting of a frame adapted to receive and support the hook-arm, and provided with a stop therefor and means for securing it to a bracket or wall, a hook-arm pivoted thereon, and a spring engaging said arm and exerting a constant pressure to close the same and to hold it closed, substantially as set forth.

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