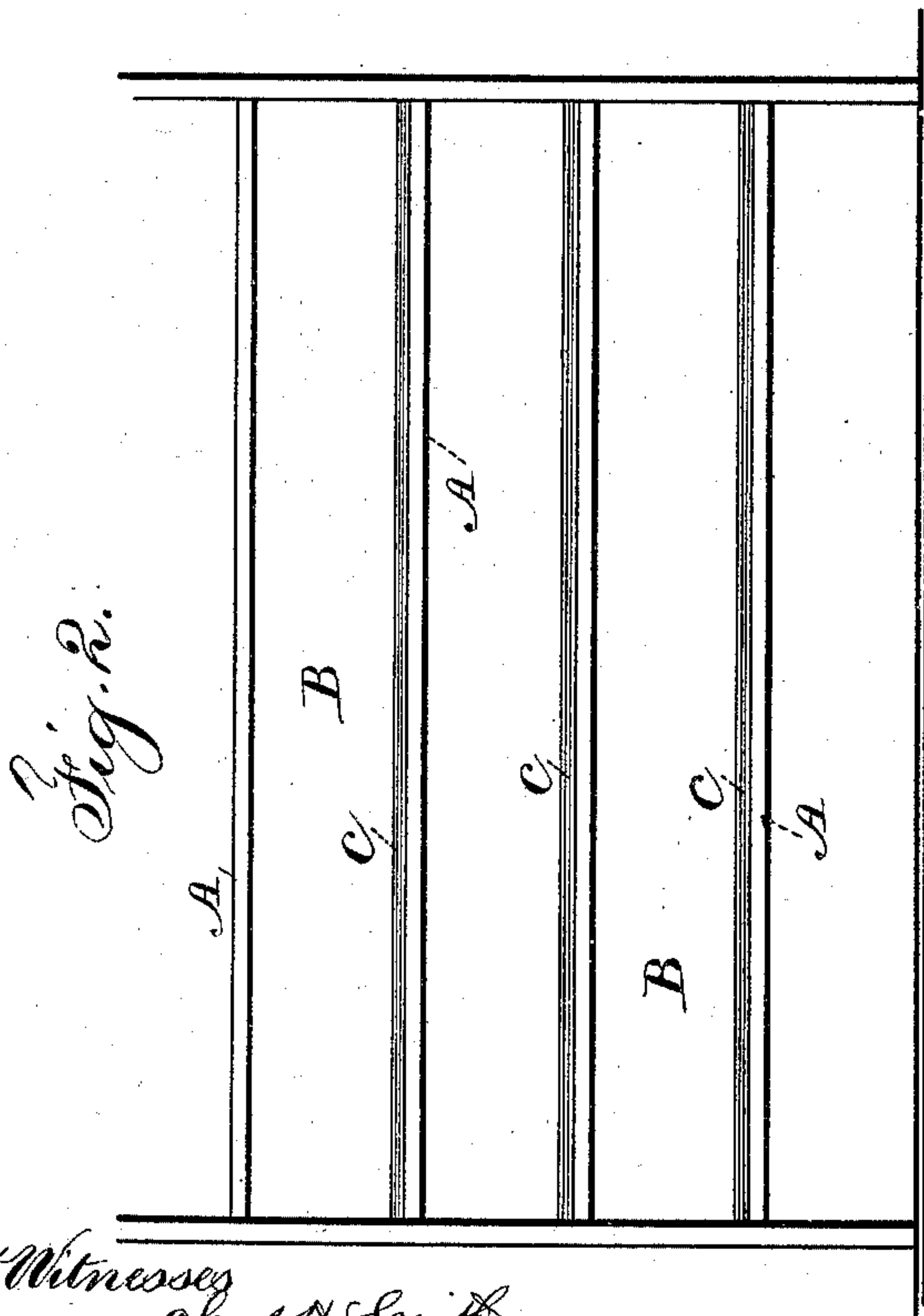
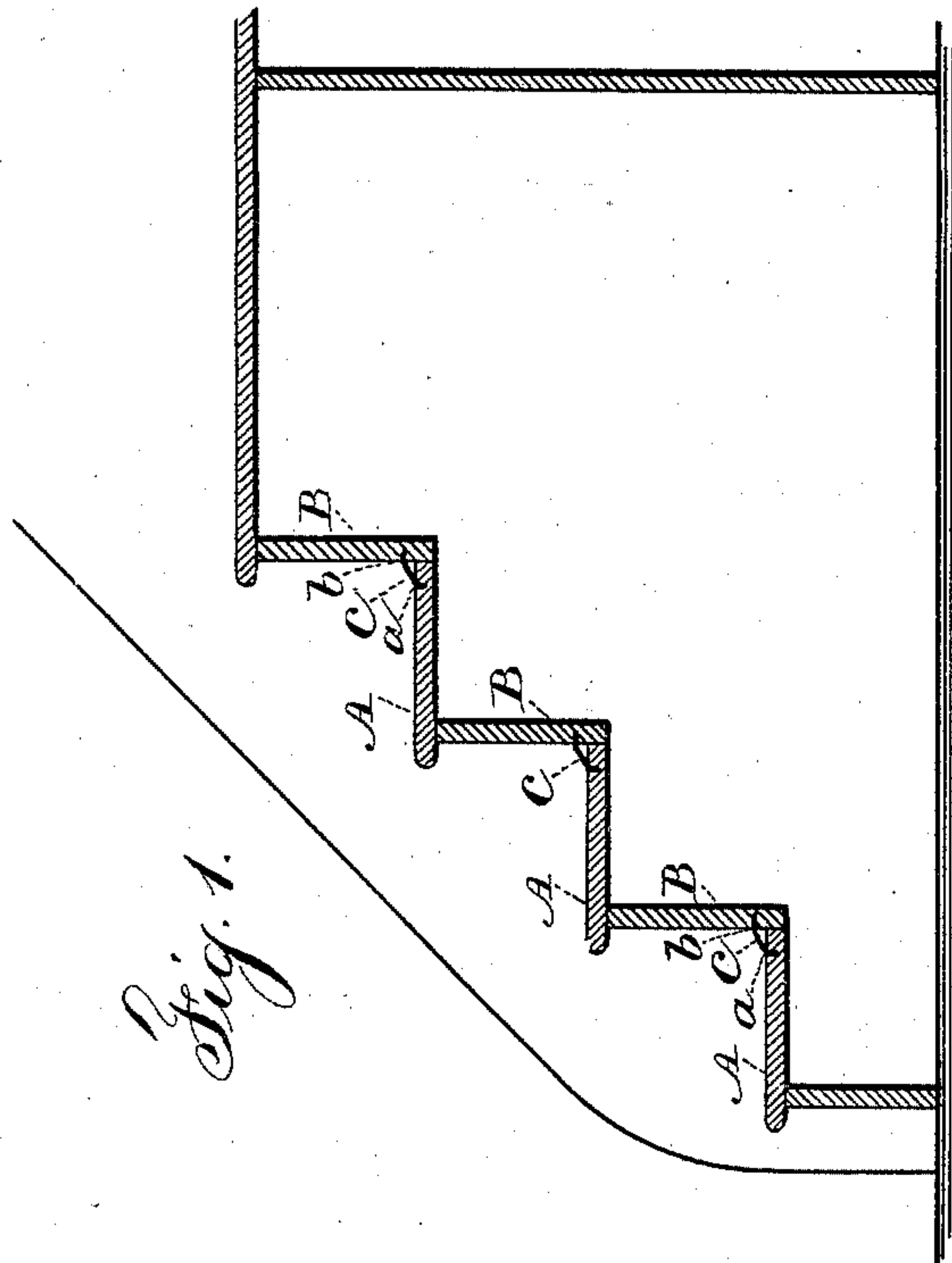


(No Model.)

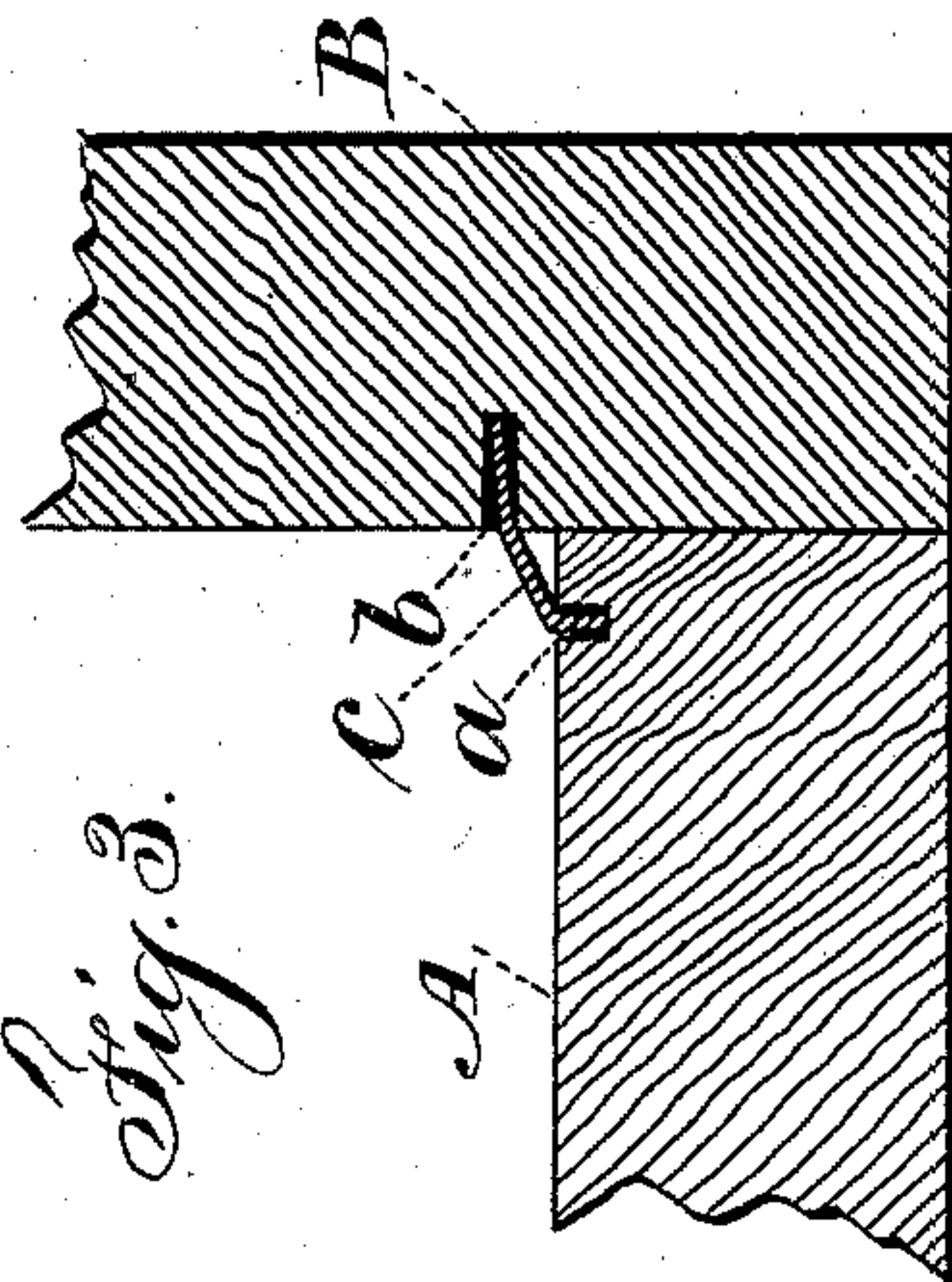
G. BRINKERHOFF.
JOINT FOR WOODWORK.

No. 475,997.

Patented May 31, 1892.



Witnesses
Charles Smith
J. Staib



Inventor
George Brinkerhoff
per Lemuel W. Terrell
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE BRINKERHOFF, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

JOINT FOR WOODWORK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 475,997, dated May 31, 1892.

Application filed November 19, 1891. Serial No. 412,350. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE BRINKERHOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Joints for Woodwork, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is especially available with wooden steps, both old and new, and is intended for preventing leakage between the tread and riser in steps that are out of doors, such as the front or back steps of houses, and the device may be used at window-sills and other parts of buildings. In many dwellings the spaces below the steps are used as closets, and milk, bread, and other articles of food are often left in the early morning in such closets beneath the front steps. Hence if water leaks through these steps, especially in rainy weather, inconvenience is experienced by the occupants.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a section, and Fig. 2 is an elevation, illustrating some steps with my device applied thereto; and Fig. 3 is a section in larger size showing the improvement more clearly.

The wooden steps either before or after being put together are channeled or grooved with a sawcut, the sawcut *a* being in the top surface of the tread *A* near the back edge thereof and the sawcut *b* being in the riser *B* slightly above the top surface of the tread *A*. If these sawcuts are made before the steps or other wooden parts are nailed together, it is advantageous to make the sawcut *b* at a slight upward inclination.

The strip *c* of sheet metal is of the proper

width, and it is bent so as to be slid endwise into the sawcuts *a* and *b* in steps previously constructed or driven into such sawcuts when the new tread and riser or other wooden parts are being put together. In either instance the wood is preferably covered with paint or white lead that passes into the respective channels or sawcuts, so that the edges of the strip *c* are made tight in the channels or sawcuts. It is advantageous to drive the strip *c* firmly down into the groove or channel *a*, so that the upper surface of such strip *c* is at an inclination to shed off water, and it will be apparent that this device makes the steps water-tight at the junction of the treads and risers and obviates the inconvenience heretofore experienced from leaks at these places, and the parts are not liable to become leaky by ordinary expansion and contraction, and the joint being kept dry the wood is preserved from rot.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, with the treads and risers or other wooden parts, of a strip of metal introduced at its edges into a channel in the horizontal surface near the back edge and into a channel in the lower part of the riser or vertical portion above the junction, with the horizontal part or tread for rendering the joint water-tight, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 7th day of November, 1891.

GEORGE BRINKERHOFF.

Witnesses:

AUGUST M. GRAUE,
ARTHUR J. FROEHLICH.