

(No Model.)

T. M. OWEN.
LOCKING ROD FOR END GATES.

No. 487,766.

Patented Dec. 13, 1892.

Fig. 1.

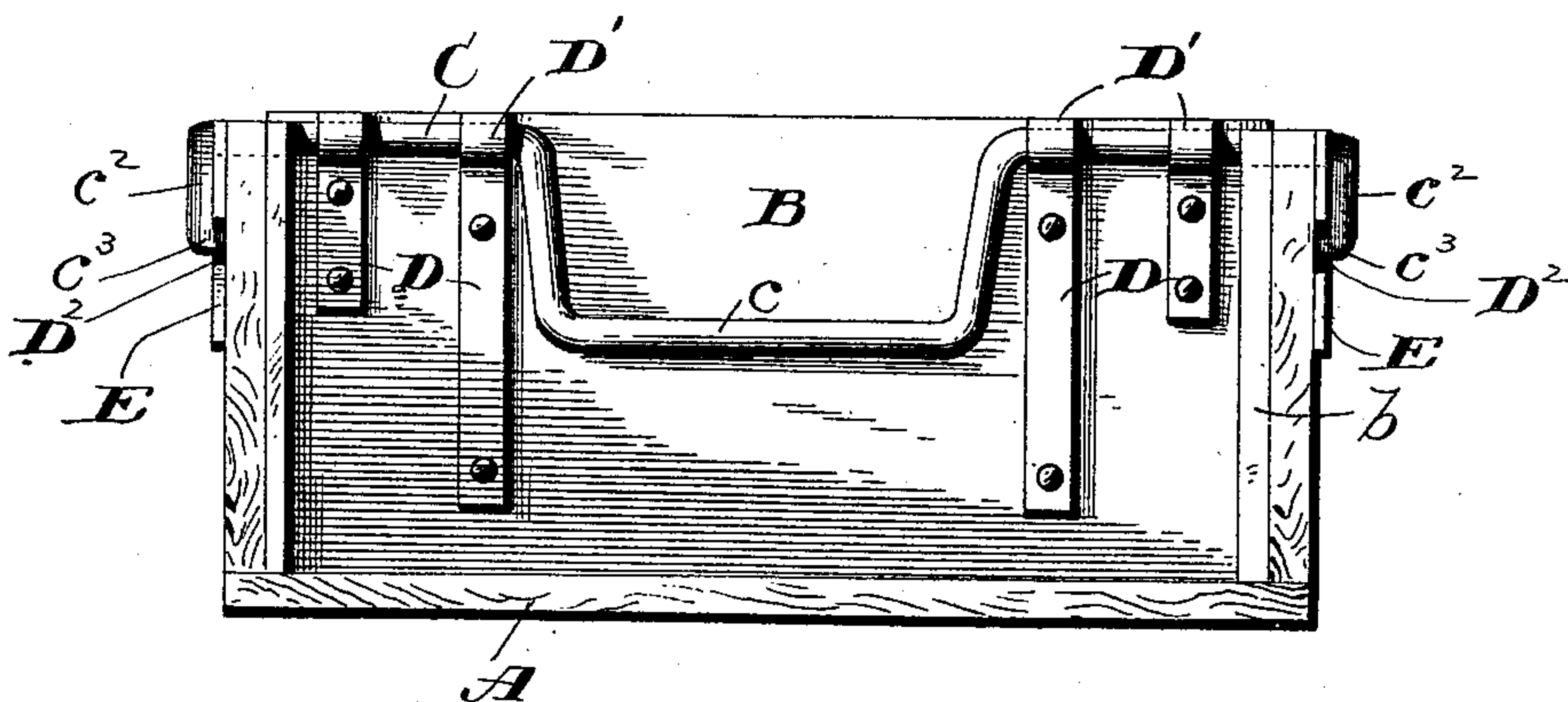


Fig. 2.

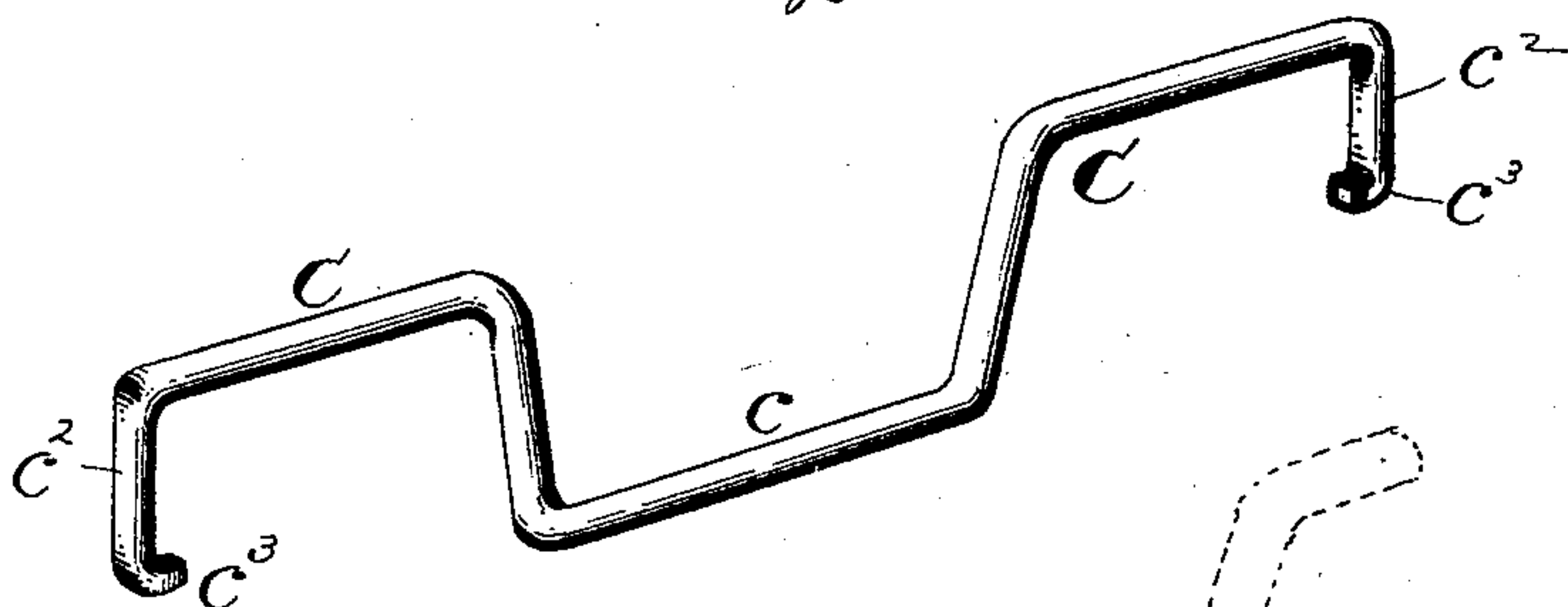
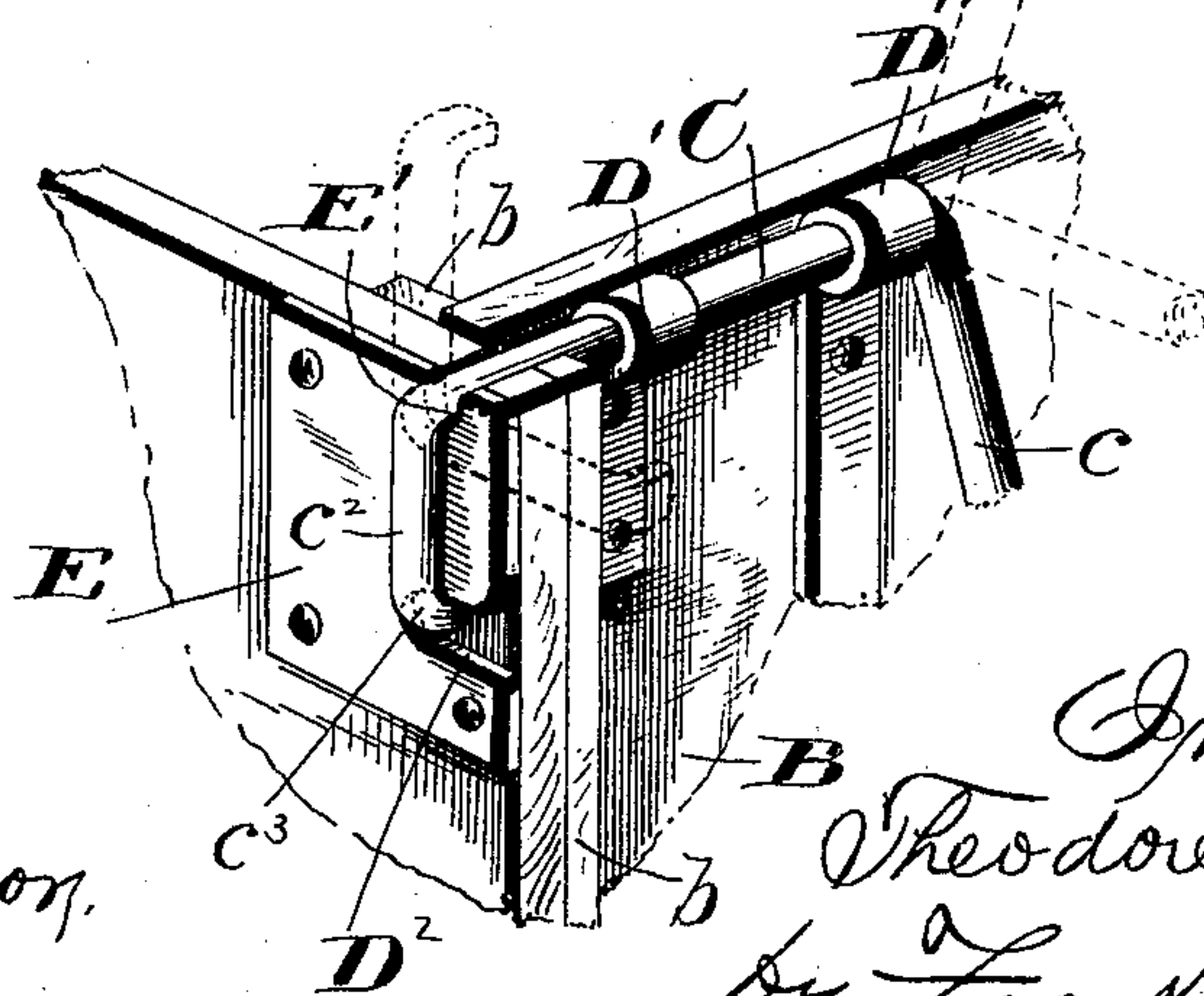


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LOCKING-ROD FOR END-GATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 487,766, dated December 13, 1892.

Application filed August 26, 1892. Serial No. 444,193. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE M. OWEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Alexandria, in the county of Licking and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locking-Rods for End-Gates; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in locking-rods for the end-gates of wagons or vehicles of any kind; and it has for its object to provide a simple and inexpensive rod of this description, which will serve both to lock the end-gate securely in place and also will serve to effectually strengthen the wagon-box and prevent the rear end of the box from spreading.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain, the same consists in the peculiar construction and in the novel combination, arrangement, and adaptation of parts, all as more fully hereinafter described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and then specifically defined in the appended claim.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, like letters of reference indicating the same parts throughout the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is an end view of a wagon-box, showing the end-gate secured in place by a locking-rod embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view in perspective of the rod detached. Fig. 3 is a detail in perspective of one of the rear corners of the wagon-box, showing the end-gate as locked, with the position of the end of the locking-rod when the end-gate is released shown in dotted lines.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates the wagon-box provided with the usual form of sliding end-gate B, said gate moving vertically be-

tween vertical strips *b b*, which are secured to the inner faces of the side-boards of the box near their rear ends.

C designates the rod, which is constructed with the centrally-located U-shaped handle *c* for the purpose of operating the rod and conveniently handling the end-gate when removed from the wagon-box or in attaching and detaching the same. This rod C is sleeved within eyes or keepers *D'* at the upper ends of the vertical strips of metal D, the body portions of the rod upon each side of the handle portion being when thus journaled in the eyes *D'* substantially flush with the upper edge of the end-gate, as shown. The ends of the said rod extend over the upper edges of the side-boards of the wagon-box and at points flush with the outer faces of said side-boards are bent at right angles to form the arms *c'*, the extreme ends of the said arms being bent inward at right angles to the arms, thus forming the lugs *c''*.

The side-boards of the box are provided upon their outer faces and at their upper rear corners with metallic plates E, said plates being provided at their upper edges with notches *E'* for the reception of the body portion of the rod C, and at their rear edge each of said plates is provided with a horizontal recess or slot *D''*.

The operation of the device is simple and readily understood. In securing the end-gate in place it is simply necessary to turn the rod C by means of its operating-handle, so as to cause the lugs *c''* at the ends of the rod to enter the horizontal recesses *D''* in the plates E. It will be seen that when thus locked the end-gate will be securely held in place, and that the arms *c'* of the rod, folding or turning as they do down over the outer faces of the side-board of the box, will effectually hold the upper rear corners of the box against possible spreading.

While I have shown my locking-rod as applied to a sliding or lifting end-gate, I do not desire to limit myself to such application, as it is at once evident that it is equally well adapted for use in connection with the ordinary forms of hinged gates.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In combination, the end-gate, the locking-rod having central U-shaped handle and arms
5 C², provided with lugs c³, the eyes or keepers upon the end-gate within which the said rod is sleeved, the side-boards of the box, plates upon the outer faces of the side-boards, and notches or slots in said plates for engagement

with the ends of the locking-rod, all arranged to and operating as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THEODORE M. OWEN.

Witnesses:

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