

(No Model.)

S. BOUGIE.  
SPRING SUPPORT FOR BUGGY TOPS.

No. 502,606.

Patented Aug. 1, 1893.

FIG. 1.

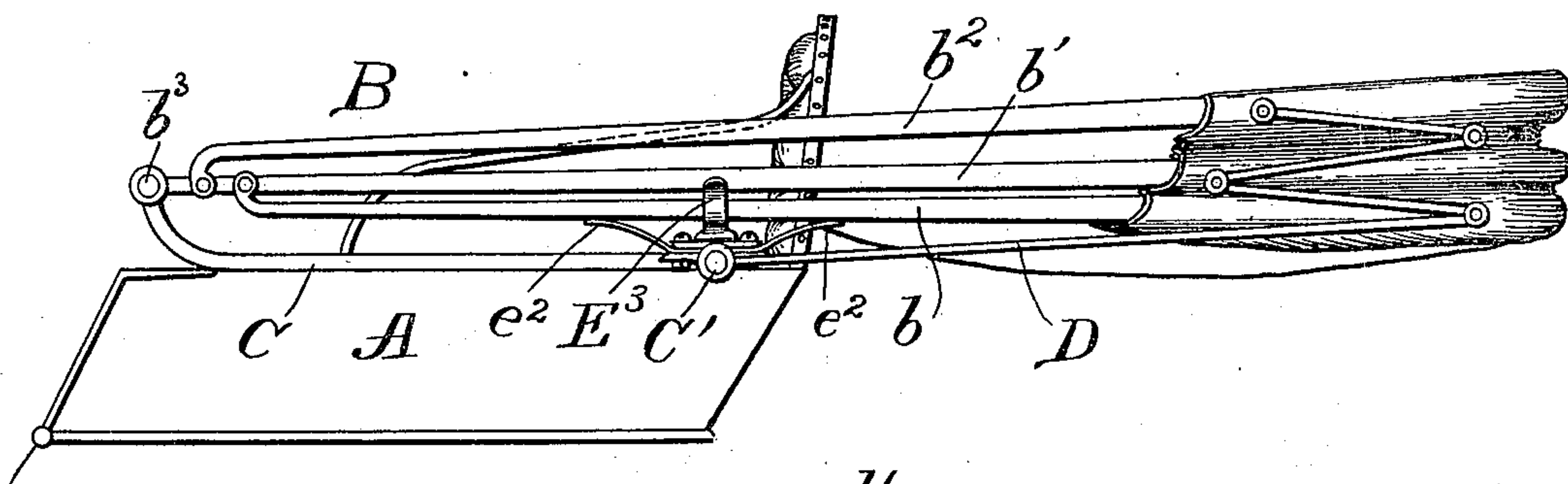


FIG. 2.

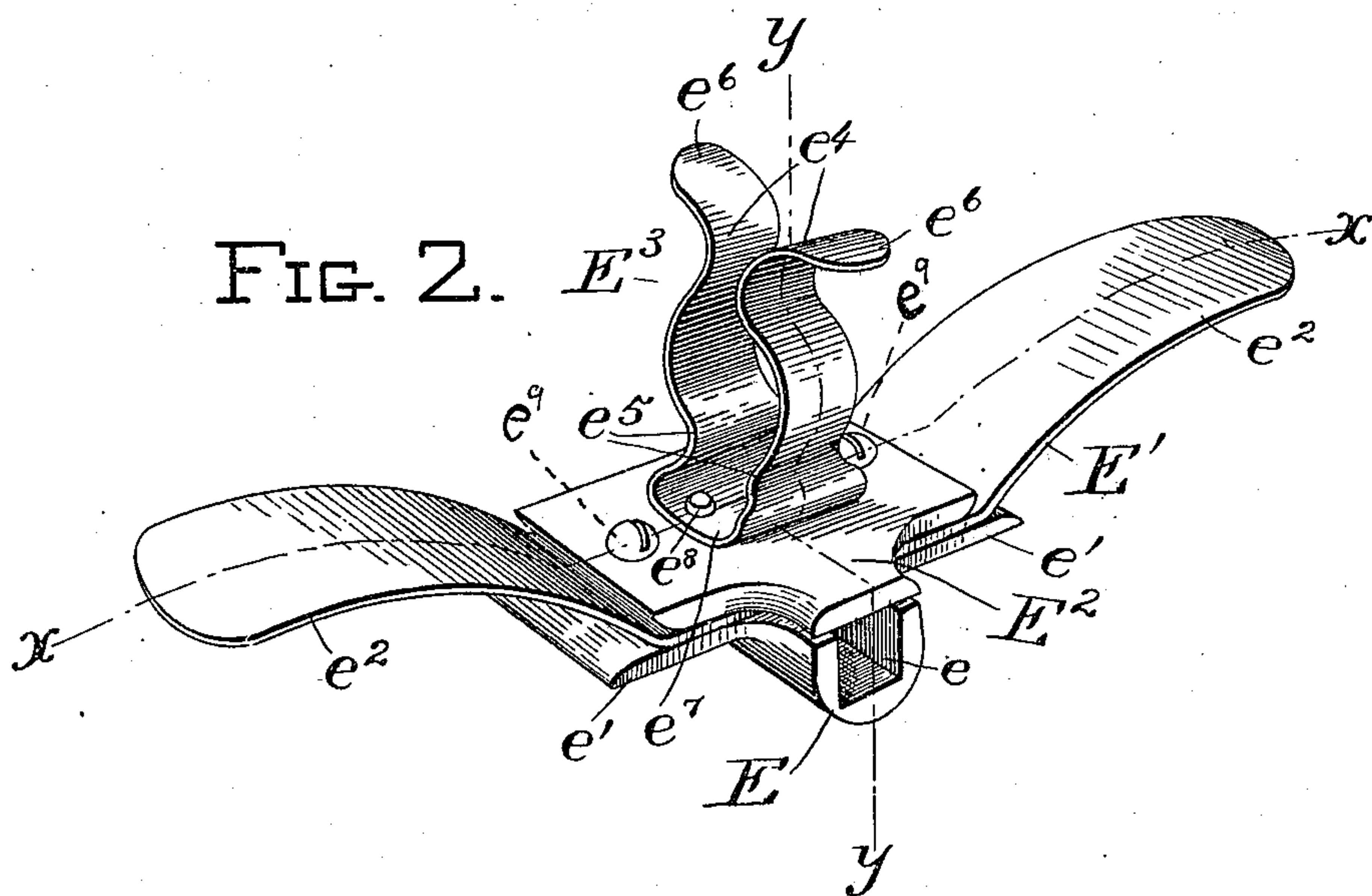


FIG. 3.

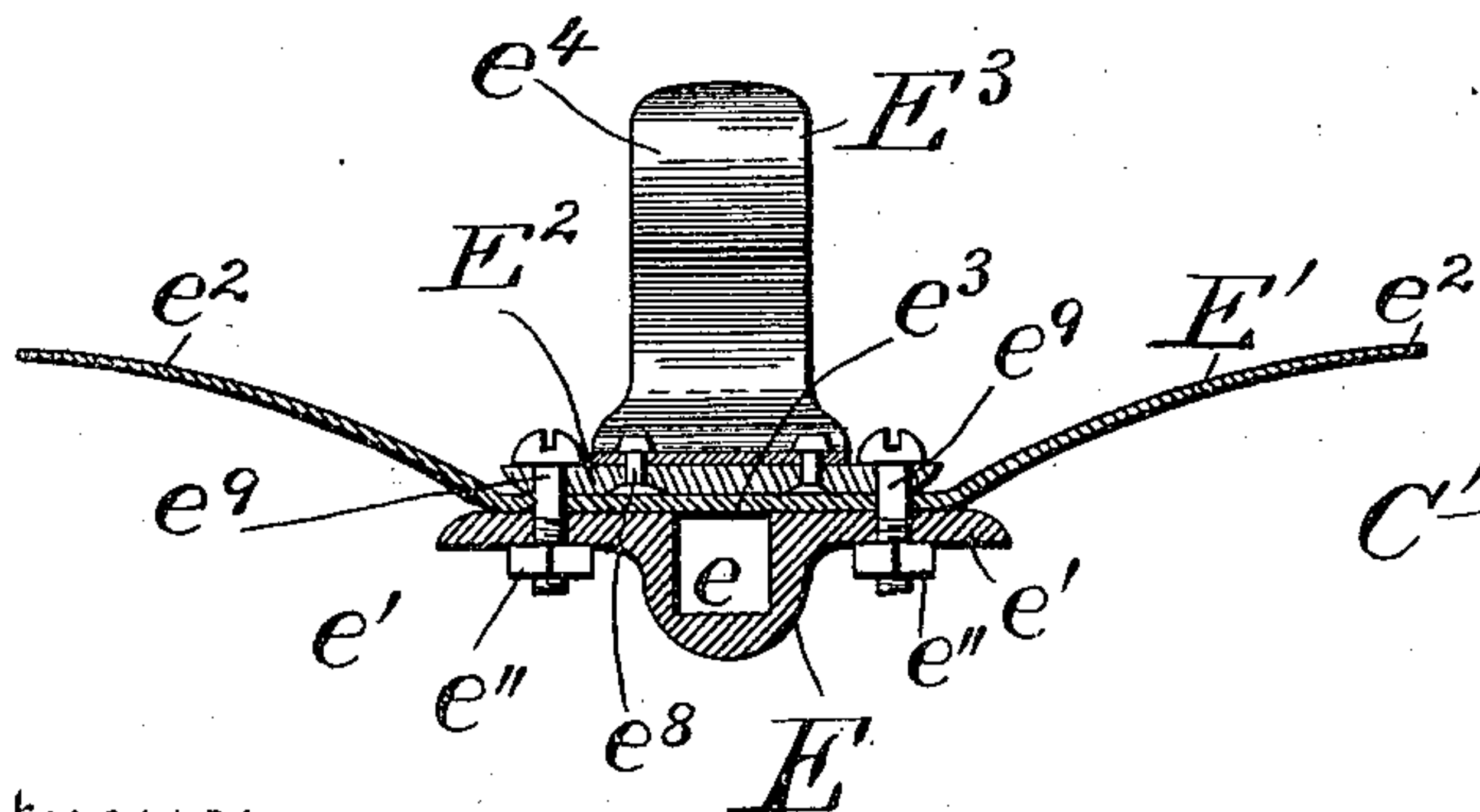
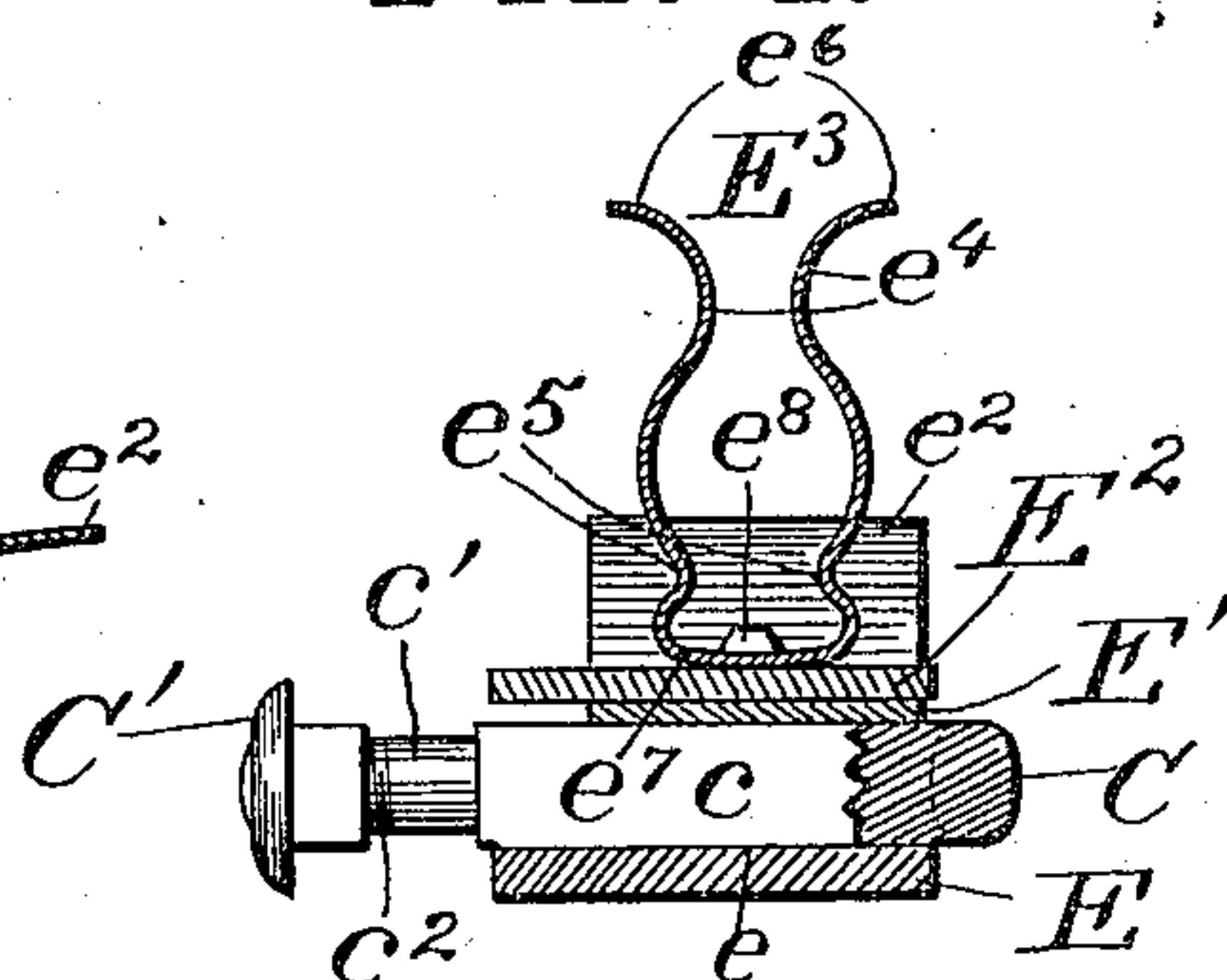


FIG. 4.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SPRING-SUPPORT FOR BUGGY-TOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 502,606, dated August 1, 1893.

Application filed February 27, 1893. Serial No. 463,932. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, STEPHEN BOUGIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marinette, in the county of Marinette and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring-Supports for Buggy-Tops; 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 improvements in supports for buggy tops, and it consists of certain novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

In the support or prop most commonly in use for supporting the tops of buggies when folded down, there is a tendency for the rear bow of the buggy top to buckle or bend, owing to the narrowness of the support therefor, and at the same time there is a tendency for the folded top to shake up and down over said support to the injury of the lower bow, and the general wear and tear on the buggy-top. Also, as the prop is sometimes attached to the back of the seat, the blow caused by folding the top, and the jarring over rough roads, is frequently the cause of cracking and splitting the back of the seat, or bending and breaking the rail, according to which way the prop is attached to the seat. My invention is intended to obviate these defects by providing a broad support for the rear bow when down, and an automatic gripping device for holding the said bow and the superimposed parts against vertical or lateral vibrations. The severity of the blows to which the prop and seat are subjected is materially reduced by the action of the springs.

My invention will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein the same parts are indicated by the same letters throughout the several views.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a part of a buggy fitted with my improved device. Fig. 2 represents a perspective view of the combined support and holder. Fig. 3 represents a section of Fig. 2, along the line *xx* of the said figure. Fig. 4 represents a section of the device shown in Fig. 2, along the line *yy* of the said figure, the bolt *c* being shown in place.

A represents the side of the buggy seat, and B represents the buggy-top, provided with bows *b*, *b'*, and *b<sup>2</sup>* pivoted at *b<sup>3</sup>* as shown in Fig. 1.

C represents the bent metal piece curved up to the pivot *b<sup>3</sup>*, and provided near its end with a square bolt *c*, having a collar *c'*, and screw threads *c<sup>2</sup>*, on which latter the nut *C'* is secured.

D represents the holding rod for keeping the buggy-top up, which is connected to the buggy-top in the usual way, and the lower end of which is pivoted on the said collar *c'*, being held thereon by the said nut *C'*.

E represents a metal plate or casting which is provided with a rectangular slot *e* therein, and arms *e'* which latter rest partly on the sides of the box of the buggy. Mounted over these arms *e'* is the spring *E'* having wings *e<sup>2</sup>* and flat central portion *e<sup>3</sup>*. Over this flat central portion, *e<sup>3</sup>*, a holding and stiffening plate *E<sup>2</sup>* is mounted, and secured to the upper portion of this is a holding device *E<sup>3</sup>*. This consists of two curved springs, or preferably one spring curved at *e<sup>4</sup>* and *e<sup>5</sup>* as shown, and having outward flaring lips *e<sup>6</sup>*, and flat base *e<sup>7</sup>*, which is connected to the plate *E<sup>2</sup>* by screws *e<sup>8</sup>*. The plates *E* and *E<sup>2</sup>*, and the spring *E'* are clamped together by the bolts *e<sup>9</sup>* and nuts *e''*.

The operation of the device is as follows:—As the buggy-top is lowered, the rear bow *b* is guided by the lips *e<sup>6</sup>* into the enlarged space between the curves *e<sup>4</sup>* and *e<sup>5</sup>* of the holding spring *E<sup>3</sup>*. Here the bow is held against vibrations upward or laterally. The weight of the buggy-top is supported on the wings *e<sup>2</sup>* of the spring *E'* which furnish a broad support for the lower bow, and the weight of the top resting thereon, and thus the bow is given a strong but yielding support. Owing to the fact that the springs *E'* and *E<sup>3</sup>* yield to sudden jars or jolts the device is peculiarly adapted for supporting and holding the buggy-top when down, without injuring the bow on which the principal weight of the said top ordinarily falls.

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

1. In a folding top buggy, a yielding device for supporting and steadying the top



when lowered, comprising a spring projecting upward from the side of the buggy, and a resilient holding device mounted above said spring, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. In a folding-top buggy, a yielding device for supporting and steadying the top when lowered, comprising the spring E' secured to the side of the buggy and provided with wings  $e^2$ , and a resilient holding device mounted transversely over said spring and between said wings, substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. In a folding top buggy, a yielding device for supporting and steadying the top when lowered, comprising a spring projecting upward from the side of the buggy and adapted to bear beneath the bows of the top and a spring clutch adapted to engage the lower bow and to hold it firmly but to yield to jars or jolts, substantially as and for the purposes described.

4. In a folding top buggy, a yielding de-

vice for supporting and steadying the top when lowered comprising the spring E' secured to the side of the buggy and provided with wings  $e^2$  and the spring clutch E<sup>3</sup> mounted over said spring E' and between said wings  $e^2$ , the said clutch E being provided with resilient upwardly projecting arms flaring outward as at  $e^6$  and curved as at  $e^4$  and  $e^5$  to form a holder for the rear bow of the buggy top, substantially as and for the purposes described.

5. The device for supporting the rear bow of a folding buggy top when lowered, comprising the arm  $e'$  projecting from the buggy, the plate E, the spring E' having wings  $e^2$ , the holding plate E<sup>2</sup>, and the spring clutch E<sup>3</sup>, substantially as described.

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

STEPHEN BOUGIE.

Witnesses:

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HATTIE E. TAYLOR.