

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. A. SINCLAIR.
BOOK HOLDER.

No. 538,604.

Patented Apr. 30, 1895.

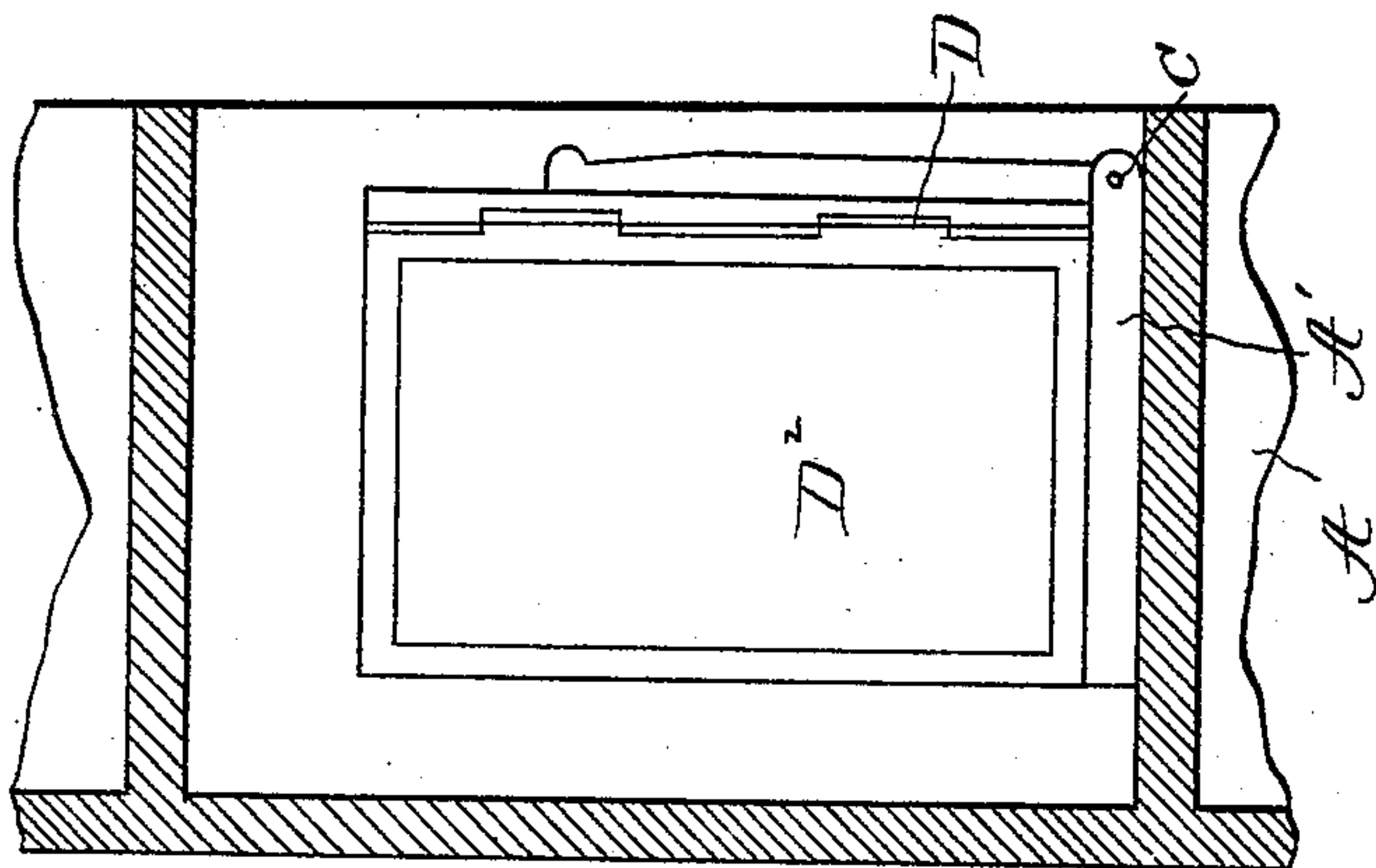


Fig. 1.

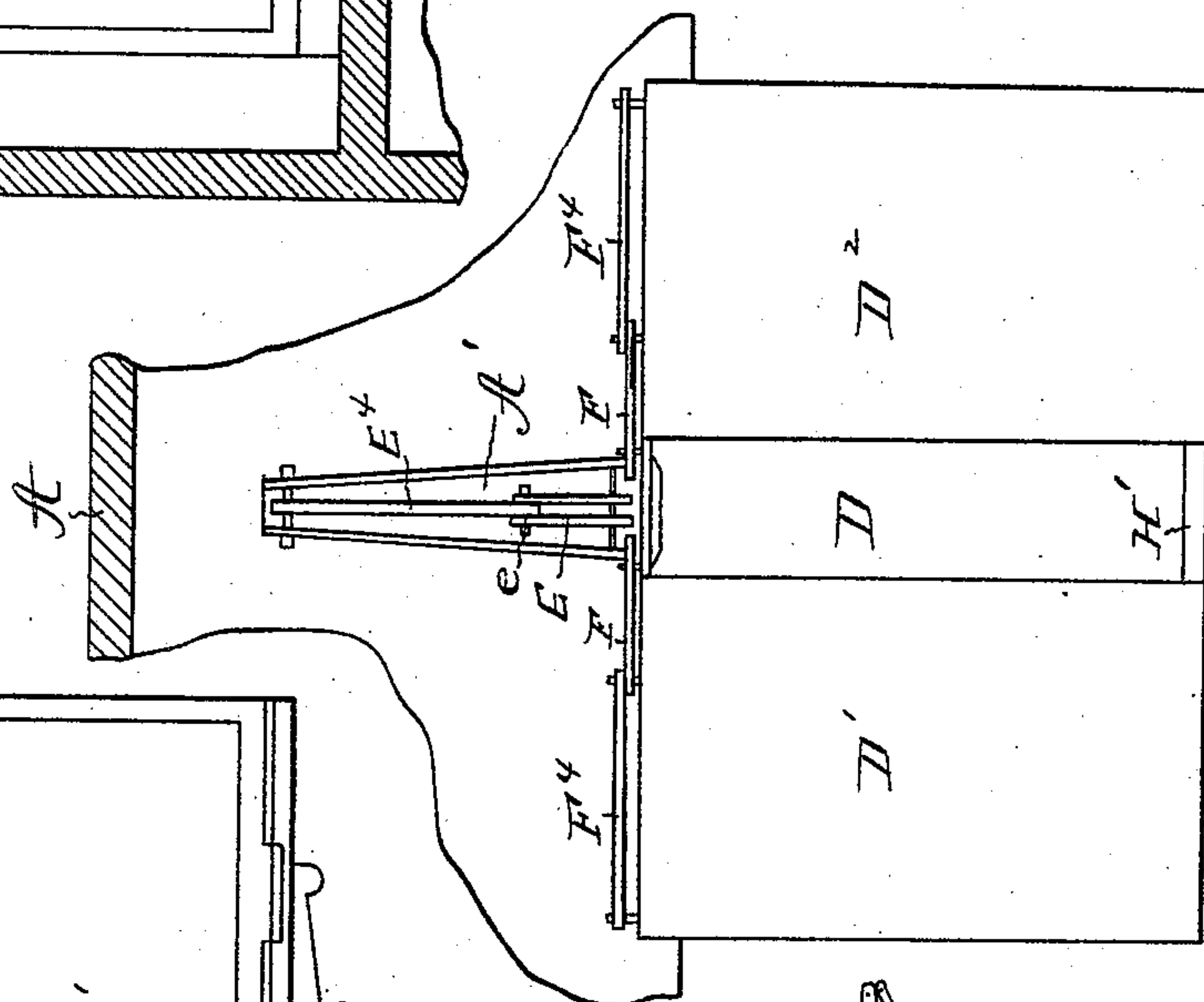


Fig. 3.

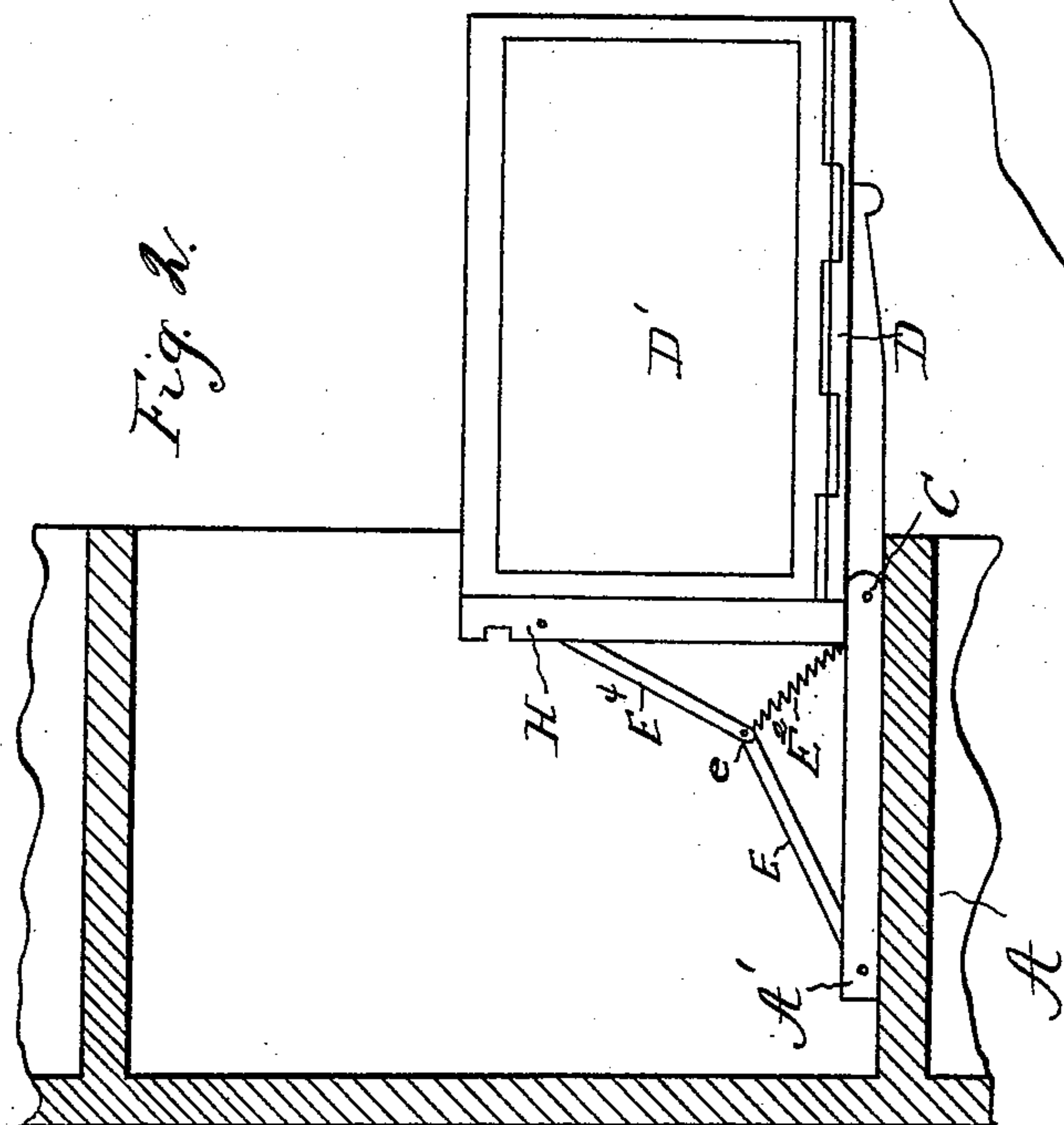


Fig. 2.

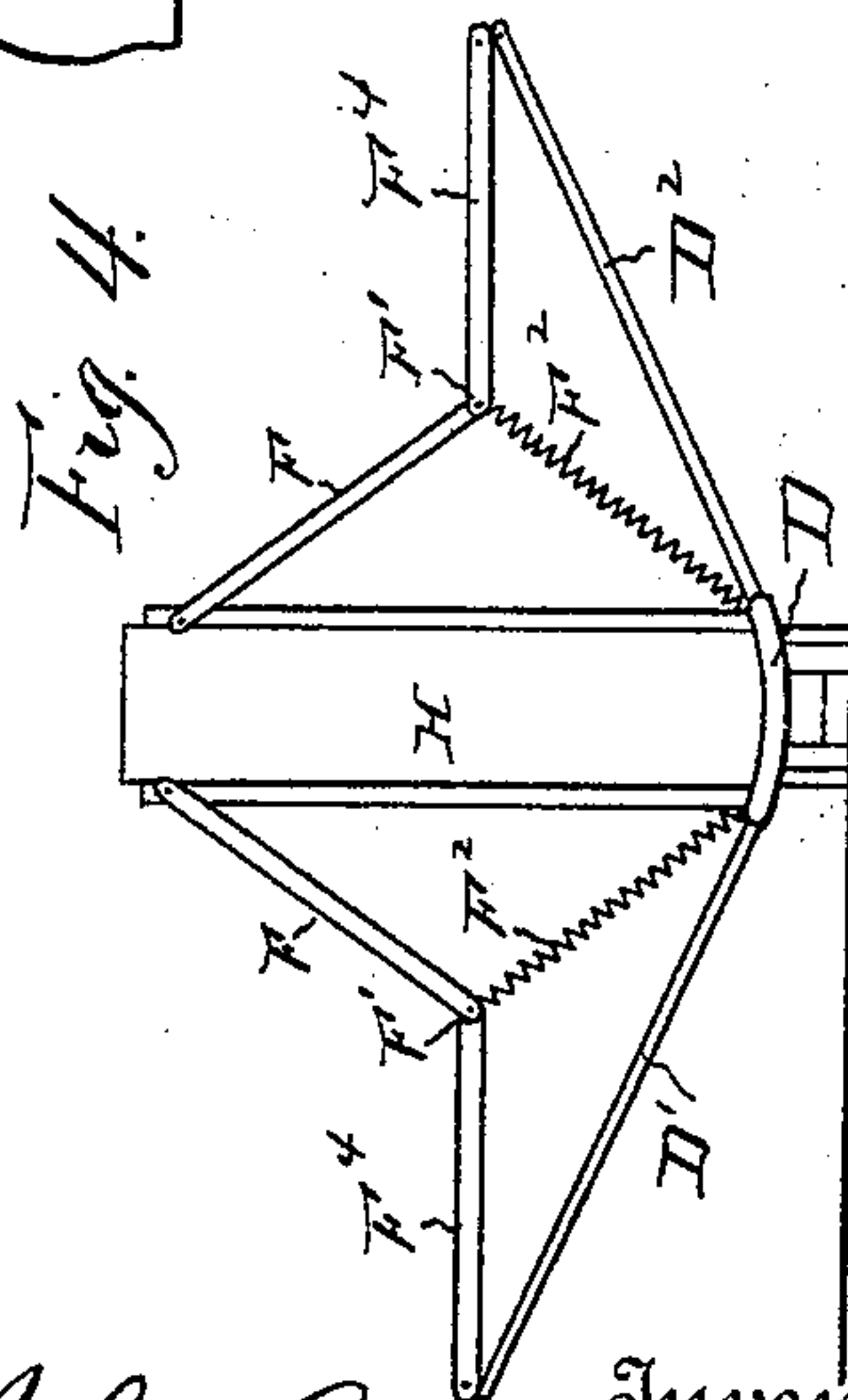


Fig. 4.

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John A. Sinclair
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Fig. 5.

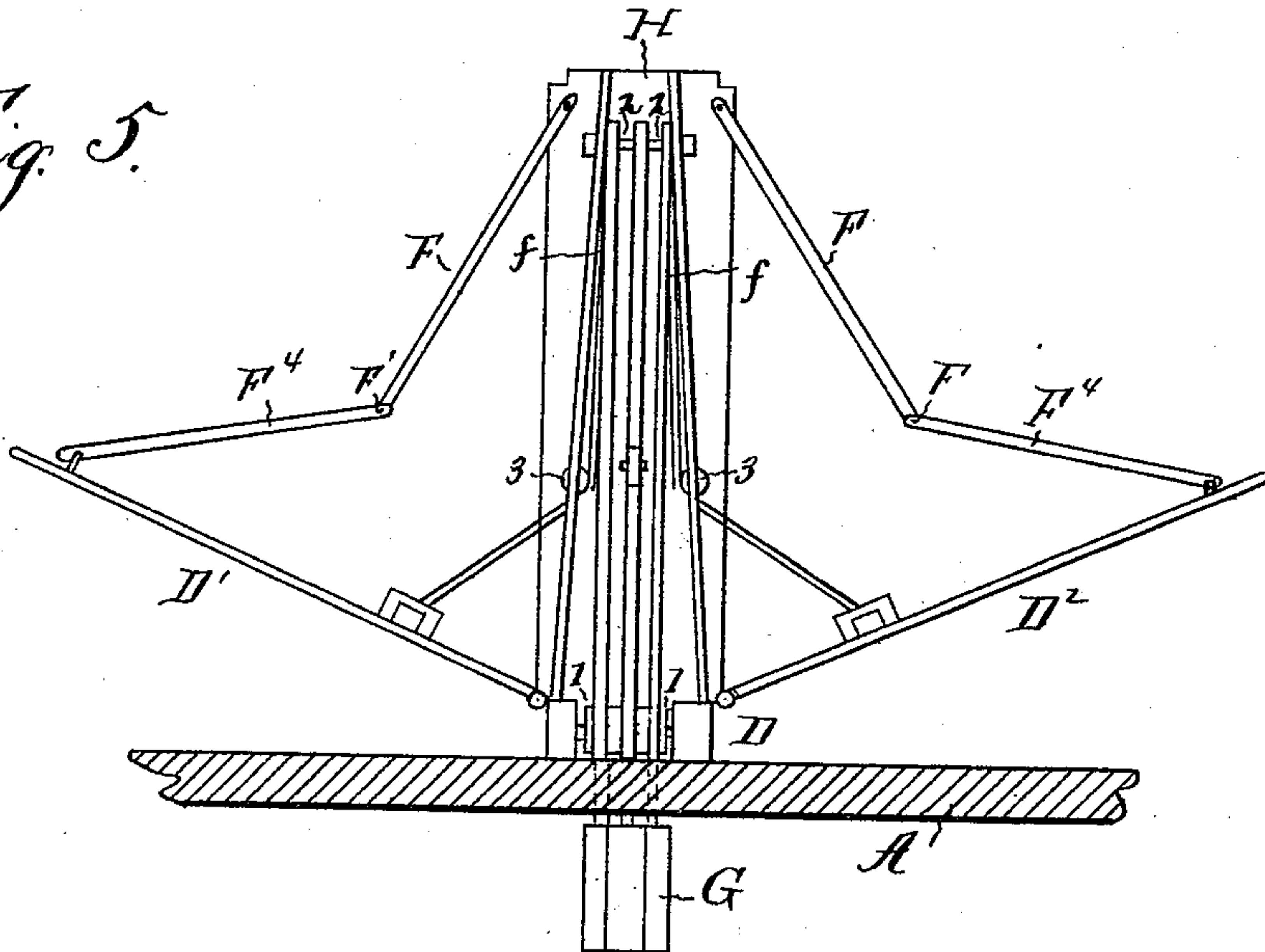
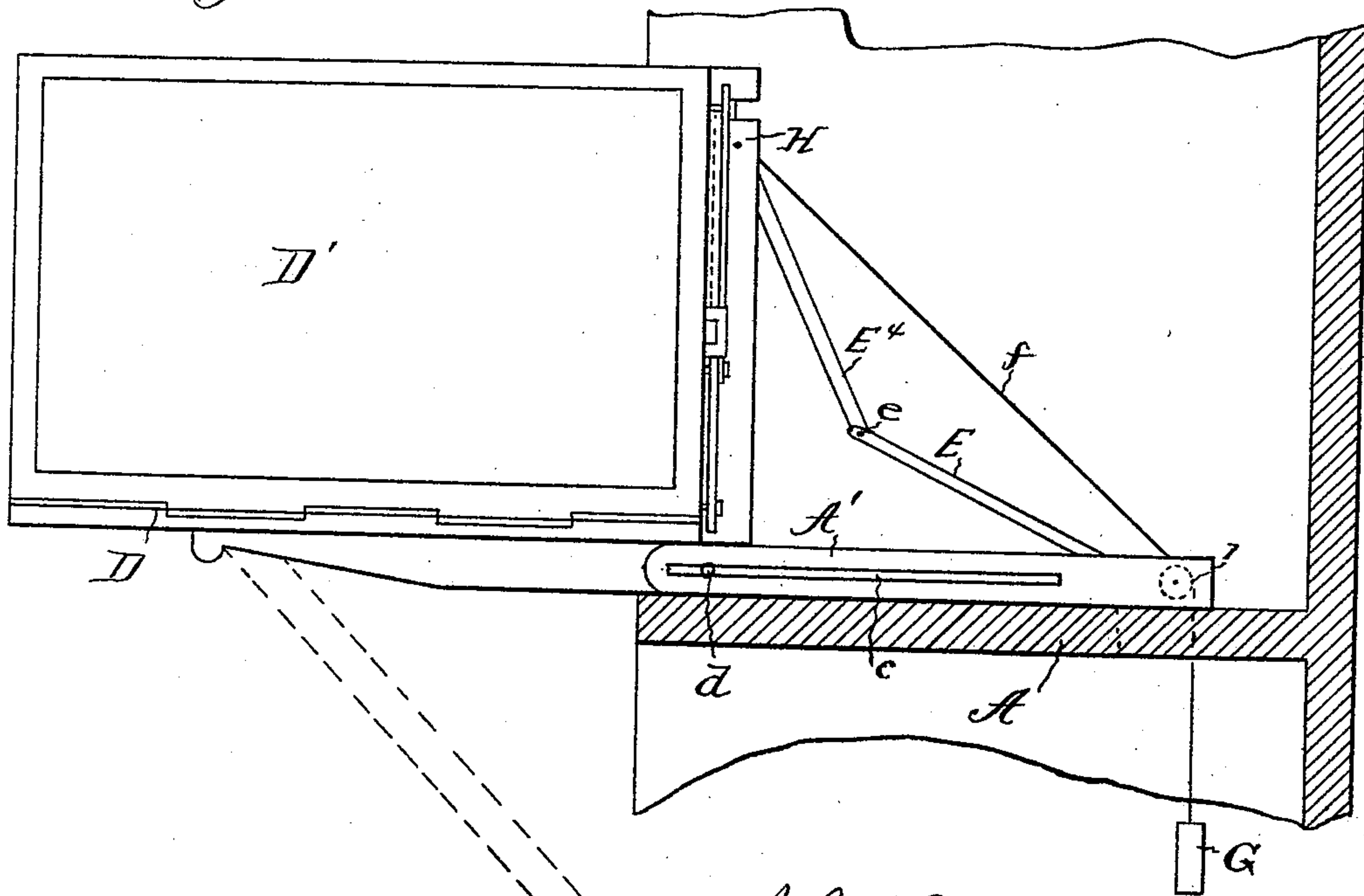


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. SINCLAIR, OF KINGSTON, CANADA.

BOOK-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,604, dated April 30, 1895.

Application filed March 6, 1893. Serial No. 464,809. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. SINCLAIR, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Kingston, in the Province of Ontario and Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Book-Holders; 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 book holders and is intended to facilitate the use of heavy volumes such as books of reference and the like. My holder consists essentially of a case substantially the shape of the book to be supported and a little larger than the same. I prefer having a case for each volume, but if found more convenient two or more books might be kept in the same case.

The objects of my invention are to provide an easy and convenient means for referring to books of great size as well as the protection of their bindings.

The nature of the invention therefore consists of certain combinations and arrangements of the various parts as will be fully described in the specification and pointed out in the claims reference being made to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation showing the holder in position on a book-shelf. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the holder drawn out from its position on the shelf so that the book it contains may be opened for reference. Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the holder opened. Fig. 4 is an end view showing the sides of the holder opened. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a modification, and Fig. 6 is an end view of the same.

Referring to the drawings A represents the shelf which supports the book holder. A' is a metallic bar or frame securely fastened to said shelf.

D, D' and D² represent respectively the back and sides or covers of the holder which are made similar to the cover of a book. Rigidly secured to the rear of the back D of the holder and at right angles to it, is the strip H, which is at least the length of the end of the book to be inclosed and for which it forms a rest when the holder is in the posi-

tion shown in Fig. 1. The back D is pivoted to the bar A' at C, and is provided at its opposite end with the projecting stop H', which serves to prevent the volume from slipping out when the holder is opened.

To prevent the back D from turning too far over or down when the holder is pulled forward, to open the volume, I provide the links E, E⁴, one pivoted to the rear end of the bar A' and the other to the upper end of the strip H, their free ends being brought together and pivoted at e. (See Fig. 2.) In order to insure the inward folding of these links when the holder is returned to the shelf, I connect a spring E² at the joint e and to the bar A'.

To prevent the sides D', D² from bending back too far when the holder is opened I connect two sets of links F, F', to the strip H one pivoted to a link F⁴ that is secured to the side D' and the other pivoted to a link F⁴ that is secured to the side D². To insure the inward folding of these links when the device is to be closed, and to ease the fall of the covers when it is opened, I desire to secure a spring F² to the point where each pair of links is pivoted together mainly at F' and secure said spring to some convenient point on bar A'.

In Figs. 5 and 6 I have shown a slightly modified form of construction. Instead of employing the springs E² and F² I balance the holder and its sides by means of the weight G which is suspended by the cords f, f. These cords pass up through the shelf and frame A' over the pulleys 1, 1, journaled in said frame A', around the pulleys 2, 2 on the strip H and from there over the pulleys 3, 3 to the sides D' and D² to which they are secured in any convenient or suitable manner. When the cords and weight are used they take the place of the springs as the cords are secured to the covers D' D² and also control the movement of the links E, E⁴, by reason of their contact with the strip H. Instead of pivoting the back D to the bar A' at point C a slot c is cut in said bar, so that the book and holder can be pulled out before being brought over as shown in Fig. 2. By means of this slot it is clear that when it is desired to refer to the book inclosed in the holder, said holder will be pulled forward until the pivot

d either reaches the end of the slot or some convenient point when the holder will be brought over to the position shown in Fig. 6. The advantage of this construction is, that
 5 the book is not turned down until it reaches the edge of the shelf, and consequently the shelf above need not be made so high as is necessary when the point C is permanent. If
 10 the book is very large and heavy and projects a long way beyond the shelf it may be found convenient to brace the back by a bar extending from the outer end of D to the shelf below as shown in dotted lines Fig. 6.

What I claim as new is—

15 1. In a book holder, the combination of a back having a bar pivoted at one end and a stop H' at the other; a strip H secured to and projecting up at right angles from said back; links E and E⁴ pivoted together and to the
 20 bar and strip respectively; sides D' and D² pivoted to the back; links F and F⁴ pivoted together as shown and having one end of the jointed links pivoted to the strip and the other end to the sides; and means, substan-

tially as described for holding the pivoted 25 links at an angle when the sides are open and the back in a horizontal position for the purpose described.

2. In a book holder, the combination of a slotted bar adapted to be secured to a shelf; 30 a back having strip H, and sides D' and D², and pivoted in the slot of said bar; the links E, E⁴ and F, F⁴; and the weighted cords secured to the sides and arranged to operate upon said sides and strip.

3. In a book holder, the combination of a 35 bar to be secured to a shelf and having a slot and rollers 1, 1; the back having strip H and rollers 2, 2, and 3, 3; sides D' and D² hinged to the back; links E, E⁴ and F, F⁴; and the 40 weighted cords secured to the sides D' and D² and passing over said rollers.

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

JOHN A. SINCLAIR.

Witnesses:

R. C. H. SINCLAIR,
 JOHN MILLAR.