(No Model.)

G. A. COLTON.

TRANSOM LIFTER.

No. 546,379. Patented Sept. 17, 1895.

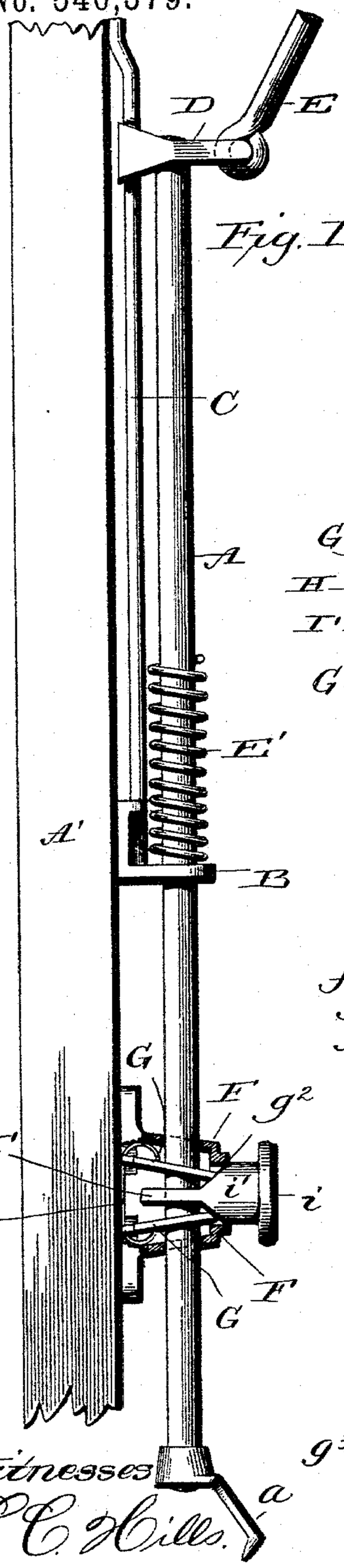

Fig. 1.

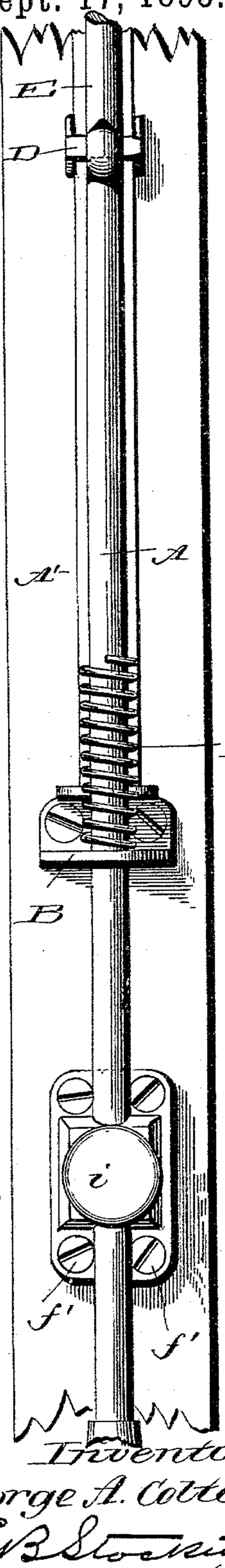

Fig. 2.

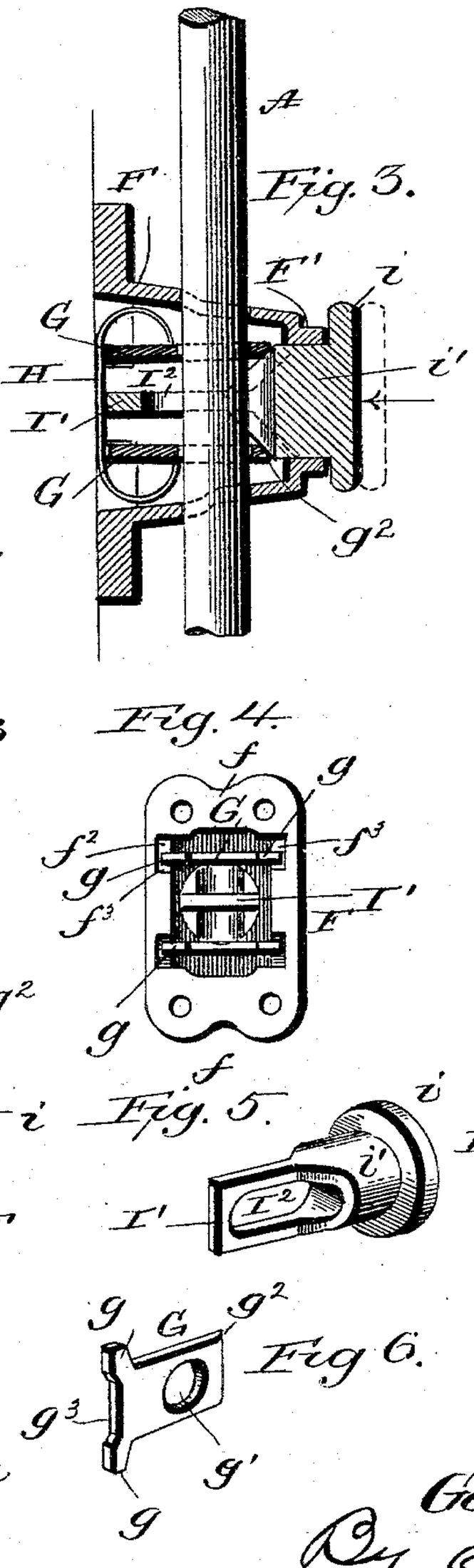

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Witnesses
L. C. Hills.
E. A. Bond

Inventor:
George A. Colton,
By E. B. Stocking
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. COLTON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

TRANSOM-LIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 546,379, dated September 17, 1895.

Application filed March 28, 1895. Serial No. 543,516. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. COLTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Transom-Lifters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in transom-lifts, and more particularly to the lock or grip device by which the lift-rod is held in its adjusted position. The lock or grip device is of that class in which gripping-plates are provided which normally stand at an angle other than a right angle with relation to the lift-rod, and having means for moving them so as to allow the rod to slip through when it is desired to raise or lower the transom, the gripping-plates automatically returning to their normal position when force is removed from their actuating means.

It has for its objects, among others, to provide a simple and improved and cheap transom-lift, in which the gripping device is constructed to be easily operated by direct pressure instead of by a screw, which makes it more rapid in its action.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features thereof will be specifically defined by the appended claims.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved transom-lift affixed in position with portions broken away. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view of the gripping device and its case. Fig. 4 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the push-rod detached from the other parts. Fig. 6 is a similar view of one of the gripping-plates also removed.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring now to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates the lift-rod having a finger-piece or analogous device *a* at its lower end and guided near its upper end through the guide-plate B, which is secured in position on the casing A′, and which guide-plate carries the guide-rod C, upon which is slidingly mounted the plate D, to which is pivotally connected the link or rod E, all of these parts being of any well-known or approved construction. A spring E′ is arranged upon the rod A between the plates B and D, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, to cushion the parts in a manner which will be readily understood.

F is the lock-casing having an apertured flange *f* for the reception of the securing means *f′*, as seen in Figs. 2 and 4. This casing has upon its back face the oppositely-disposed notches f^2, as seen in Fig. 4, forming the shoulders f^3, as is also best seen in said view, and in these notches and bearing upon the said shoulders are the side extensions or lugs *g* of the gripper-plates G, one of which is shown detached in Fig. 6. It has an opening *g′* somewhat larger than the lift-rod upon which it is loosely sleeved or through which opening the lift-rod loosely passes. The outer end of the plate is beveled, as seen at g^2, and the inner end is provided with a notch g^3 to receive the spring H, as shown best in Fig. 3. This spring is substantially in the shape of the letter C, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and is confined between the casing A′ and the rear ends of the gripper-plates, resting in the notches g^3 of the gripper-plates with its ends bearing against the outer faces of the said plates, as shown best in Figs. 1 and 3, to normally press the outer ends of the plates toward each other, as seen in Fig. 1, to grip the lift-rod and hold it in its position.

I is the push-rod having a head *i* and a tubular portion *i′* fitted to a correspondingly-shaped opening in the neck F′ of the casing F, and further provided with a flat portion I′ parallel, or substantially so, with the gripper-plates, as seen in Fig. 3, and having an elongated opening I^2, as seen in Figs. 3 and 5, for the passage of the lift-rod and permitting of the necessary endwise movement of the push-rod. The inner end of the tubular portion *i′* is oppositely beveled inward, as seen in Figs. 1 and 5.

The parts being constructed and arranged substantially as above set forth, the operation is as follows: Normally the parts will be in the position in which they are shown in Fig.

1, the push-rod being at its outermost limit and the gripper-plates inclined toward each other to grip the rod in the usual way, the said plates being thus held by the spring H. When it is desired to raise or lower the transom, the push-rod is pressed in when its inclined faces engaging the beveled ends of the gripper-plates force the same outward into the position shown in Fig. 3, so that the lift-rod may be moved with ease up or down until the transom is in the proper position, when by removing the pressure from the push-rod the spring returns the parts to their normal position and the gripper-plates grip the lift-rod and firmly hold the same against movement. The gripping device is simple, the parts are readily assembled, and the plates are more quickly and easily actuated. The device as a whole may be made and applied to transom-lifters now in use.

Modifications in detail may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What I claim as new is—

1. The combination with the spring actuated grip plates pivotally held at their inner ends and the lift-rod, passed loosely through openings in said plates, of the push rod through which the lift-rod loosely passes said push rod being mounted to move endwise between the plates to separate them, substantially as specified.

2. The combination with the lock-casing and the gripper plates pivotally mounted therein and having openings for the passage of the lift-rod, of the spring held behind the ends of the plates at right angles thereto and having its ends acting upon said plates, and the endwise-movable push-rod having beveled portion to move between said plates, as set forth.

3. The combination with the lock-casing, the gripper plates pivotally mounted therein and having beveled outer ends and notched inner ends, the spring having its ends bent to engage the outer faces of the said plates, and the push-rod mounted to slide in the casing and having a portion with elongated opening and a tubular portion with beveled faces, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

GEORGE A. COLTON.

Witnesses:
HENRY H. MUNGER,
J. EDWARD MILLER.