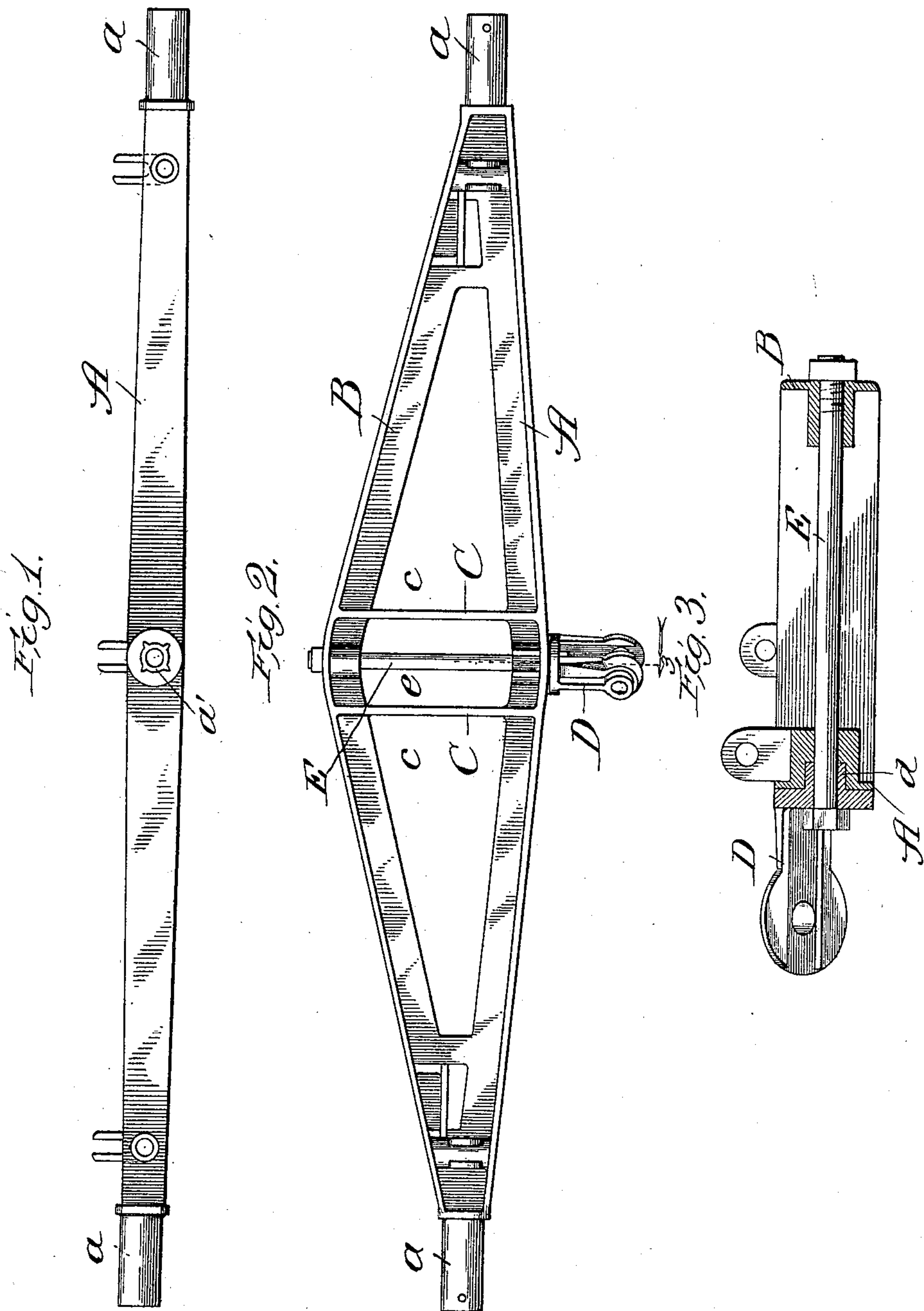


(No Model.)

J. PLAYER.  
BRAKE BEAM.

No. 589,270.

Patented Aug. 31, 1897.



Witnesses:  
Chas. E. Gaylord,  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN PLAYER, OF TOPEKA, KANSAS.

## BRAKE-BEAM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,270, dated August 31, 1897.

Application filed October 26, 1896. Serial No. 610,108. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN PLAYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Topeka, Kansas, have invented certain new and useful  
5 Improvements in Brake-Beams, of which the following is a specification.

The principal object of my invention is to provide a simple, economical, and efficient brake-beam, formed, preferably, of malleable  
10 cast-iron and made in one integral structure.

A further object of my invention is to provide a brake-beam with a lever-block adapted to be rotated from right to left to form a  
15 brake-beam of "right" or "left" construction.

The invention consists principally in constructing a brake-beam comprising a main or compression member, an angular tie or tension member, and a strut portion, all formed  
20 in one integral casting, with a removable lever-block secured to the compression member and extending in a direction outward therefrom and adapted to be rotated to form a brake-beam of right or left hand position.

25 The invention consists, further and finally, in the features, combinations, and details of construction hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved brake-beam, looking at it from the side, with the lever-block removed; Fig. 2, a plan view of the same with the lever-block in one of its positions, and Fig. 3 an enlarged sectional view  
35 taken on line 3 of Fig. 2.

In constructing a brake-beam in accordance with my improvements I make a beam having a main or tension member A, extending at a slight angle to a straight plane or in a  
40 manner convex in appearance and preferably T-shaped in cross-section. I provide it with a compression member B, extending at an angle opposite to the tension member but more acute, and also preferably formed T-  
45 shaped in cross-section. I interpose between these members a strut portion C, formed, preferably, of two parts, so that the strut in connection with the tension and compression members performs spaces c. The brake-  
50 beam is further provided with bearing portions a at each end, to which the usual heads and shoes may be attached. These parts, with the exception of the strut, all join or

connect at a point adjacent to the bearing portions and are formed of cast malleable iron. 55

To provide a lever-block so that the beam may be used in either a right or left hand position, I make the lever-block D and rotatably secure it to the tension member on the outside, so that the free end of the lever-  
60 block extends away from the brake-beam. The brake-beam is provided with an irregular-shaped recess a' and the lever-block with an irregular-shaped projecting hub or boss d, adapted to fit therein and prevent the rota-  
65 tion of the lever-block while it is located therein. The lever-block may be removed from the recess, rotated at an angle of ninety degrees, and reinserted in the recess to allow of its being used in either a right or left hand  
70 position.

The lever-block and tension member of the brake-beam are provided with perforations or holes through which a bolt E may be passed to tie the parts together. This bolt preferably  
75 extends through the compression member of the brake-beam as well and acts as a tie-rod to tie the members together as well as hold the lever-block in position.

I claim— 80

1. A brake-beam provided with tension and compression members formed in one integral casting, the outer side of the tension member having an irregular-shaped portion, a rotatable lever-block provided with an irregular-  
85 shaped portion fitting the irregular-shaped portion d of the tension member, and means for securing the rotatable lever-block to the tension member, substantially as described.

2. A brake-beam provided with compression and tension members formed in one integral casting, the tension member having an irregular-shaped recess in its outer side or surface, a rotatable lever-block provided with an irregular-shaped projection adapted to fit  
90 the recess of the tension member and be used in either a right or left hand position, and bolt mechanism arranged to pass through the lever-block and the truss members of the brake-beam to securely hold and tie the  
100 parts together, substantially as described.

JOHN PLAYER.

Witnesses:

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