

No. 724,910.

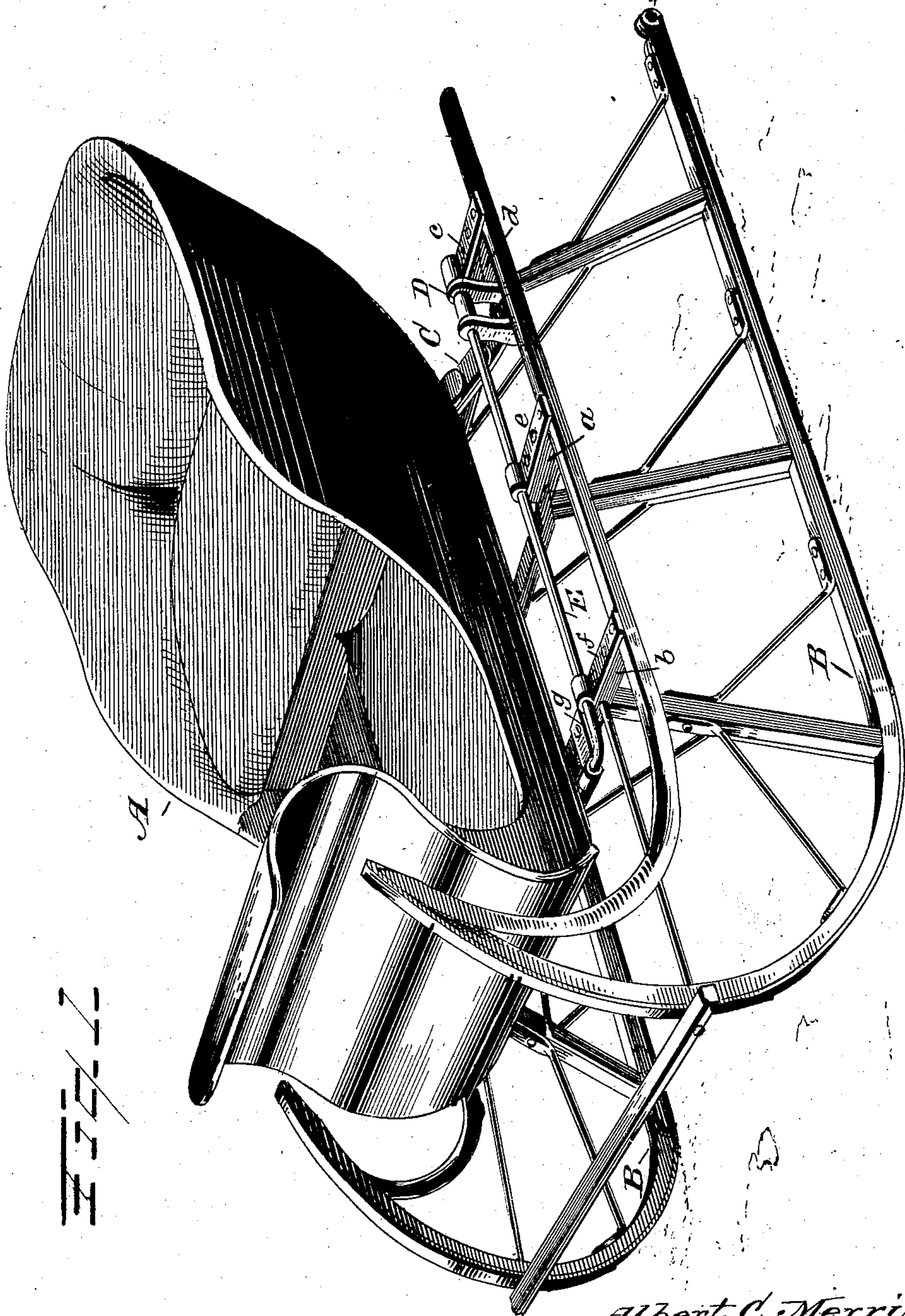
PATENTED APR. 7, 1903.

A. C. MERRILL & A. J. BELTON.
SLEIGH.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 27, 1903.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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W. Williamson
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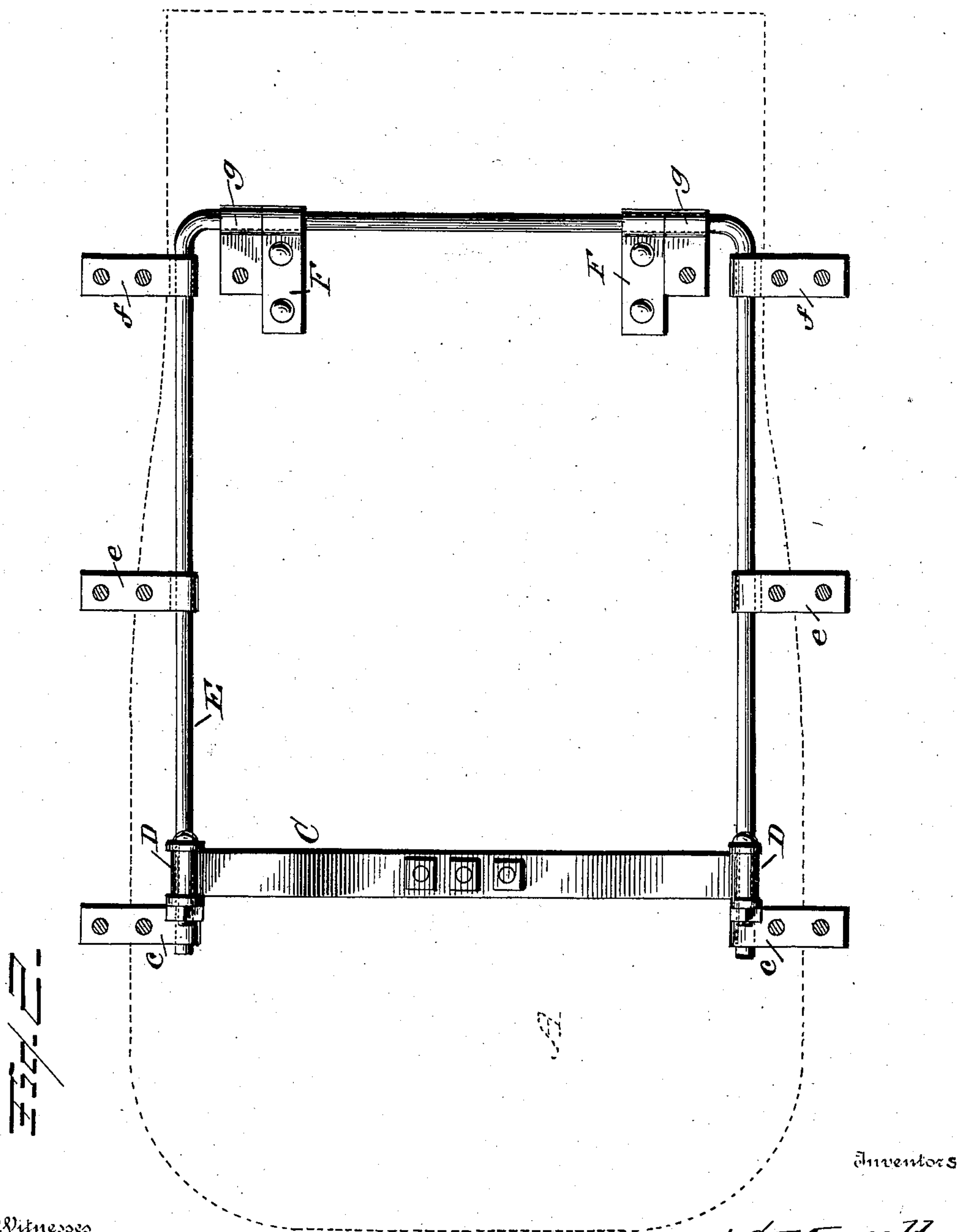
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Witnesses

W. J. Williamson
M. E. Moore

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT C. MERRILL, OF GRAND JUNCTION, AND ARTHUR J. BELTON, OF
BLOOMINGDALE, MICHIGAN.

SLEIGH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 724,910, dated April 7, 1903.

Application filed February 27, 1903. Serial No. 145,332. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALBERT C. MERRILL, residing at Grand Junction, and ARTHUR J. BELTON, residing at Bloomingdale, in the county of Van Buren and State of Michigan, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sleighs; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has for its object to provide a cutter or sleigh with a suitable spring upon the under side of the body of the sleigh and at the rear end thereof and suitable means connecting the spring with said body and the runners of the sleigh, whereby a perfectly easy and comfortable riding vehicle is secured that will give comfort to the occupant and remove the danger of any sudden jars caused by the sleigh coming in contact with an obstruction or the horse stopping or starting suddenly; and the invention consists in a sleigh constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a sleigh embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is an under side plan view showing the outline of the sleigh-body in dotted lines and the spring, the U-shaped truss-frame, and connections in full lines.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the body of the cutter or sleigh, which may be of any suitable form and construction, as may also the usual runners B, said runners having the cross-bars *a b*, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

The spring C, which may be of any suitable construction, is located transversely and at the rear of the sleigh-body A and has its ends engaging the hangers D, which hangers are loosely connected to a U-shaped truss-frame E.

The free ends of the truss-frame E engage eye-clips *c*, which are secured to blocks *d*, projecting from the upper portion of the sleigh-runners, which eye-clips form bearings for the ends of the truss-frame, the truss-frame also engaging similar eye-clips *e f*, se-

cured, respectively, to the cross-bars *a b*. A second pair of eye-clips *g* are disposed at right angles to the former clips and are suitably connected to the cross-bar *b*, the several eye-clips forming bearings for the U-shaped truss-frame, so that it will be properly sustained throughout its length and at its curved end, thereby giving rigidity to the truss-frame and with the transverse spring C providing a simple and practical means for supporting the sleigh-body above the runners and allowing the truss-frame to yield to the weight of the body.

The truss-frame E is connected to the under side of the sleigh-body by the brackets F, which are similar in construction to the eye-clips, this being the only connection of the truss-frame to the sleigh-body and, as will be seen, at the forward end thereof.

The truss-frame E is constructed of a single rod of metal, and as the sleigh-body is only connected at one end thereof the body will be suspended in such manner that perfect ease for the occupant of the sleigh is secured.

It is evident that any form or construction of spring may be used in connection with the means shown for securing it to the sleigh-body and runners, and therefore we do not wish to be understood as limiting the invention to the special form of spring shown.

Having now fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination with a sleigh-body and the runners thereof, of a U-shaped truss-frame having its parallel arms connecting with the runners by eye-clips which form bearing for the truss-frame, and eye-clips connecting the cross-arm of the truss-frame with the runners, suitable brackets connecting the cross-arm with the body of the sleigh, and a suitable spring and hangers connecting the spring with the free ends of the truss-frame, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT C. MERRILL.
ARTHUR J. BELTON.

Witnesses:
E. H. SMITH,
RALPH HAVEN.