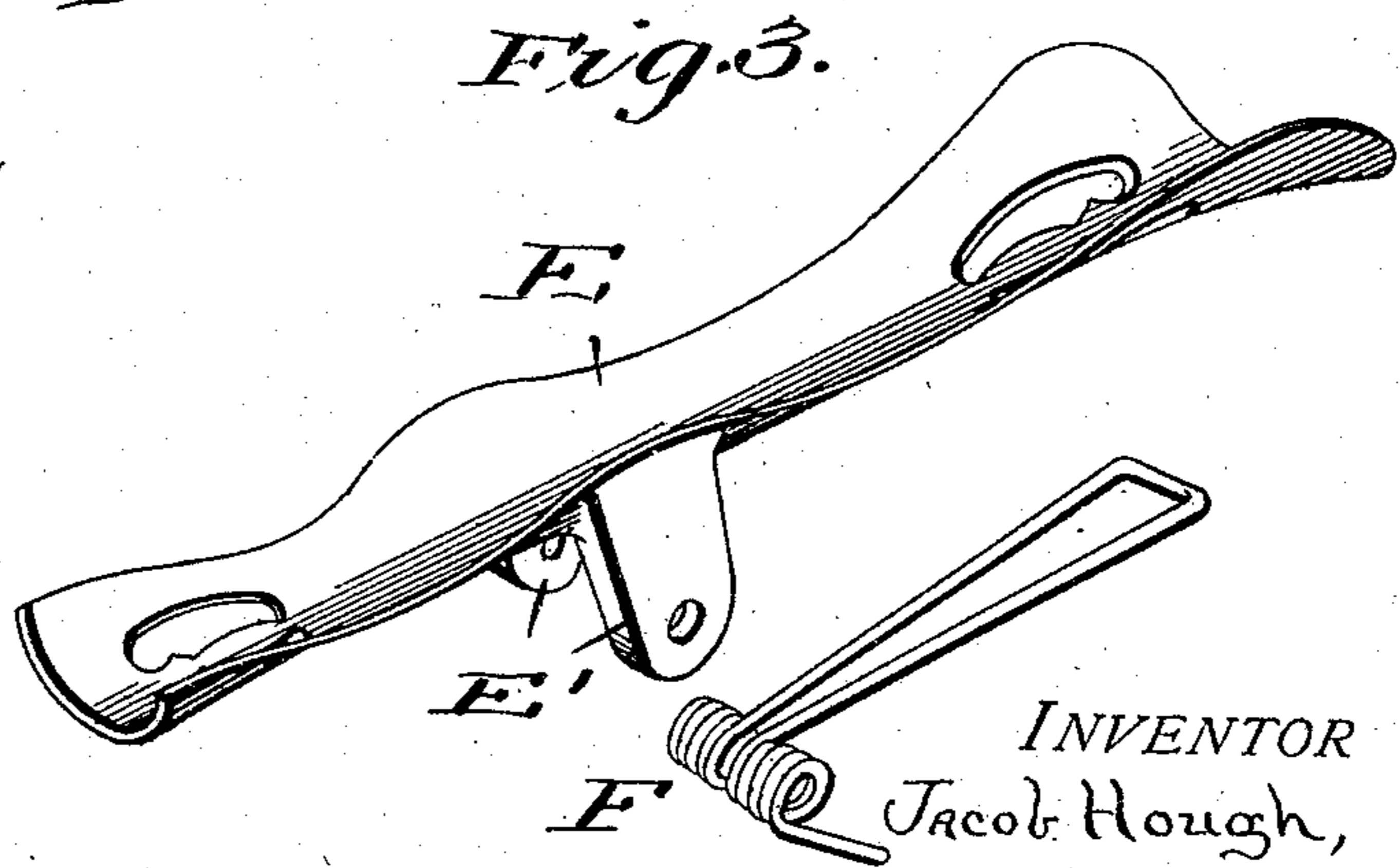
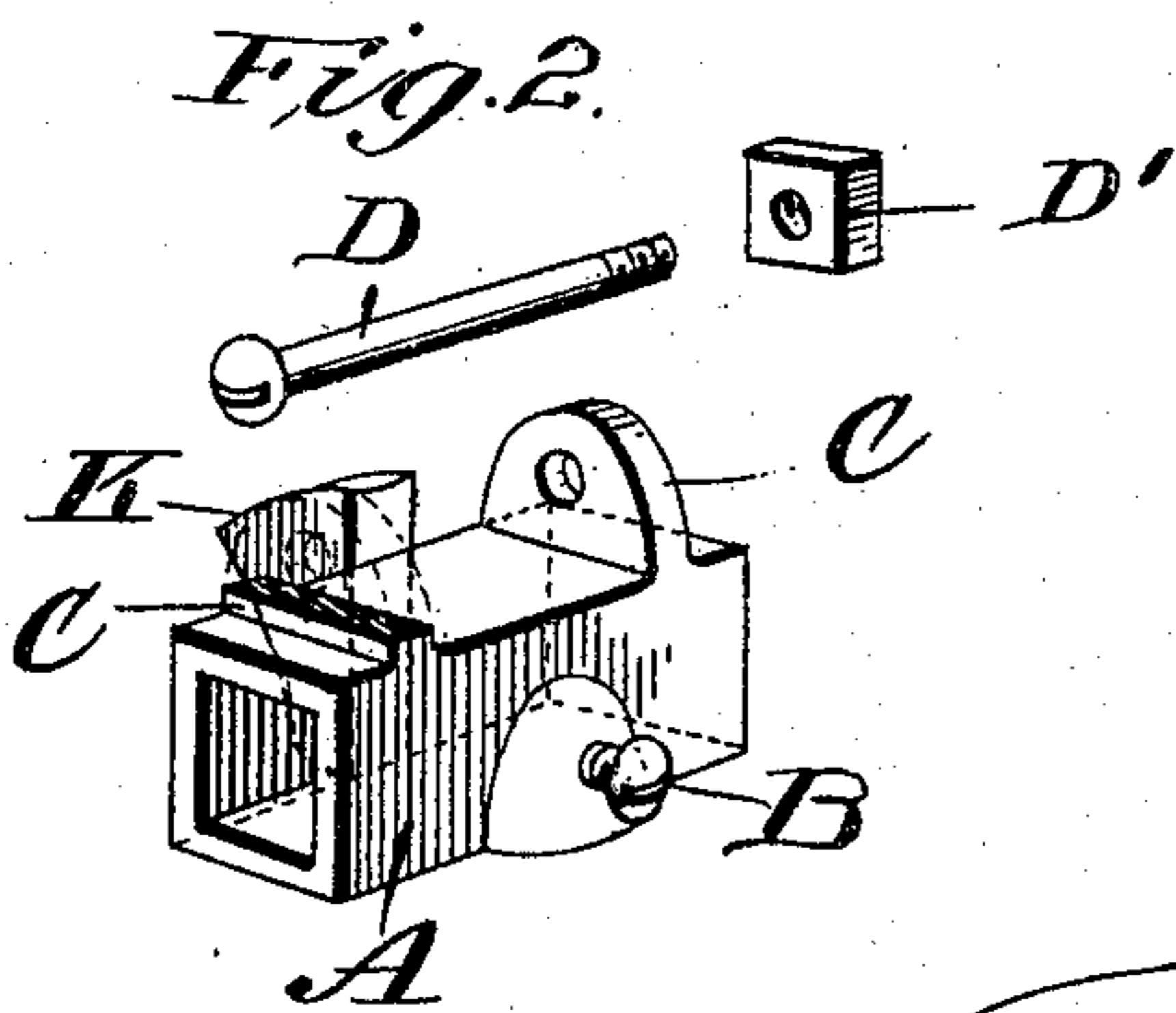
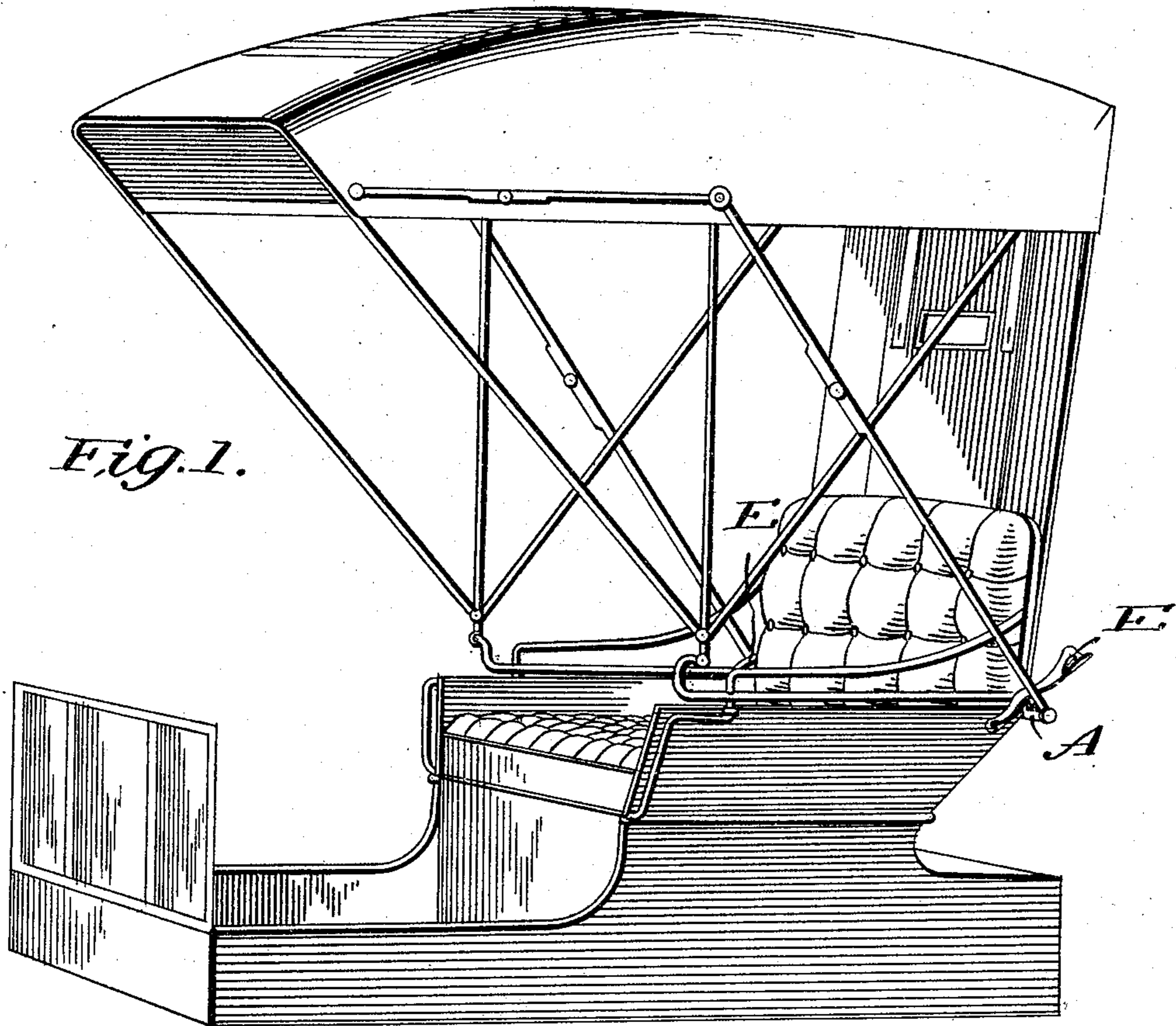


No. 782,504.

PATENTED FEB. 14, 1905.

J. HOUGH.  
SUPPORT FOR CARRIAGE TOPS.  
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 8, 1904.



WITNESSES:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB HOUGH, OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN.

## SUPPORT FOR CARRIAGE-TOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 782,504, dated February 14, 1905.

Application filed September 8, 1904. Serial No. 223,758.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JACOB HOUGH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Platteville, in the county of Grant and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supports for Carriage-Tops; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in carriage-top supports; and the object of the invention is to produce a simple and efficient means of this character which may be fastened to the frame of a carriage-top and affording means whereby the bows of the top may contact with a spring-actuated curved plate to break the force of the fall of the top and prevent sudden jar in case the top is lowered quickly.

The invention consists in various details of construction and in combinations and arrangements of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

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

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my device as applied to a carriage-top. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view showing a stop to limit the throw of the spring-pressed plate in one direction, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the concaved plate upon which the bow of the top rests.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letters, A designates a boxing substantially square in cross-section and is adapted to be held upon a portion of the frame of a carriage-top in the manner shown clearly in the drawings, and B designates a screw mounted in the threaded aperture in the boxing and designed to hold the latter securely to the frame.

C C designate lugs integral with the boxing and rising from the top thereof, and D designates a bolt passing through apertures in said lugs, and D' is a nut fitted upon the threaded end of the bolt. The concaved plates E, in which a bow of the top is adapted to rest, have integral lugs E' projecting from the opposite edges thereof and are perforated to receive the bolt upon which they are pivotally mounted. F designates a spring which is bent upon itself and is adapted to be held against the under surface of said plate at one side of the pivotal point thereof, while the ends of the spring bear against said boxing. The purpose of said spring is to normally hold the plate at an angle of substantially forty-five degrees to the horizontal plane of said boxing and to yield under pressure, the greater the tilting down of the plate under the weight of the top or of any sudden impact against the plate by the sudden dropping of the top the greater will be the tension upon the spring, which serves to break the force of the falling top. Projecting from one face of said boxing opposite the face carrying said screw is a lug K, which projects above the top of the boxing, and the upper edge thereof is inclined, as shown, at an angle preferably equal to the angle at which said plate normally rests, and said lug serves as a stop to limit the forward throw of the plate. The ends of said concaved plate, which have apertures therein, are slightly flared for the purpose of guiding the bow into the plate in the event of its having a slight lateral swinging movement, thus always insuring the bow coming in contact with the plate.

By the provision of a device of the character described it will be observed that a simple and efficient means is provided which will take up the jar upon a carriage-top in the event of the same falling with full force or being thrown back suddenly under pressure. As the bows of the top strike the plate the latter will yield under the tension of the spring and take up the jar, which would otherwise cause the top to soon become damaged or broken.

While I have shown a particular construction of apparatus illustrating my support for carriage-tops, it will be understood that I may vary the detailed construction of the same, if desired, without in any way departing from the spirit of the invention.

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Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A support for carriage-tops comprising  
5 a boxing with lugs thereon, means for fitting the same to the frame of a carriage-top, a concaved plate pivotally mounted upon the lugs of said boxing, a spring for normally holding  
10 said plate at an inclination, and means for limiting the forward throw of said plate, as set forth.

2. A support for carriage-tops comprising  
15 a boxing adapted to be fitted to the frame of a top and having lugs projecting from one face thereof, a plate provided with lugs, a pintle passing through registering apertures in said lugs and upon which said plate is pivotally  
20 mounted, a spring bent upon itself and bearing against said plate, the shank portion of the spring passing about said pintle and its ends bearing against said boxing, and means for limiting the forward throw of said plate, as set forth.

3. A support for carriage-tops comprising

a boxing, a screw adapted to hold the same  
25 upon the frame of the top, the forward face of said boxing having a lug with inclined top, a concaved plate pivotally mounted upon said boxing, a spring for normally holding the  
30 plate against the top of said lug, as set forth.

4. A support for carriage-tops comprising  
35 a boxing, a screw adapted to hold the same upon the frame of the top, the forward face of said boxing having a lug with inclined top, a pin carried by said boxing, a concaved plate pivotally mounted upon said pin, a spring  
40 mounted upon said pin and adapted to hold said plate against the inclined top of said lug, the ends of said plate flaring and adapted to guide a bow of the top into said plate, as set forth.

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

JACOB HOUGH.

Witnesses:

MANFRED S. BLOCK,  
LILY A. LONG.