

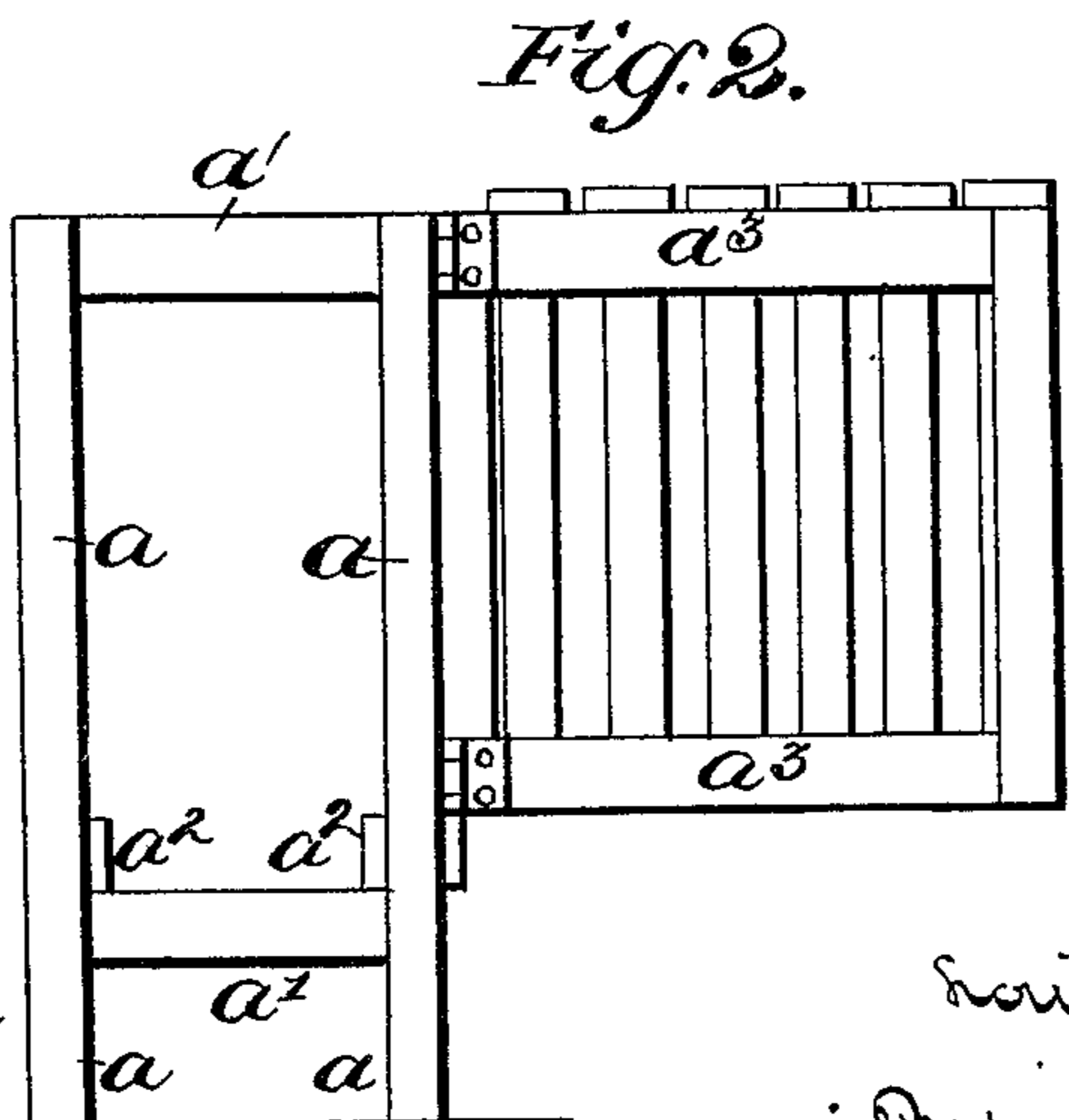
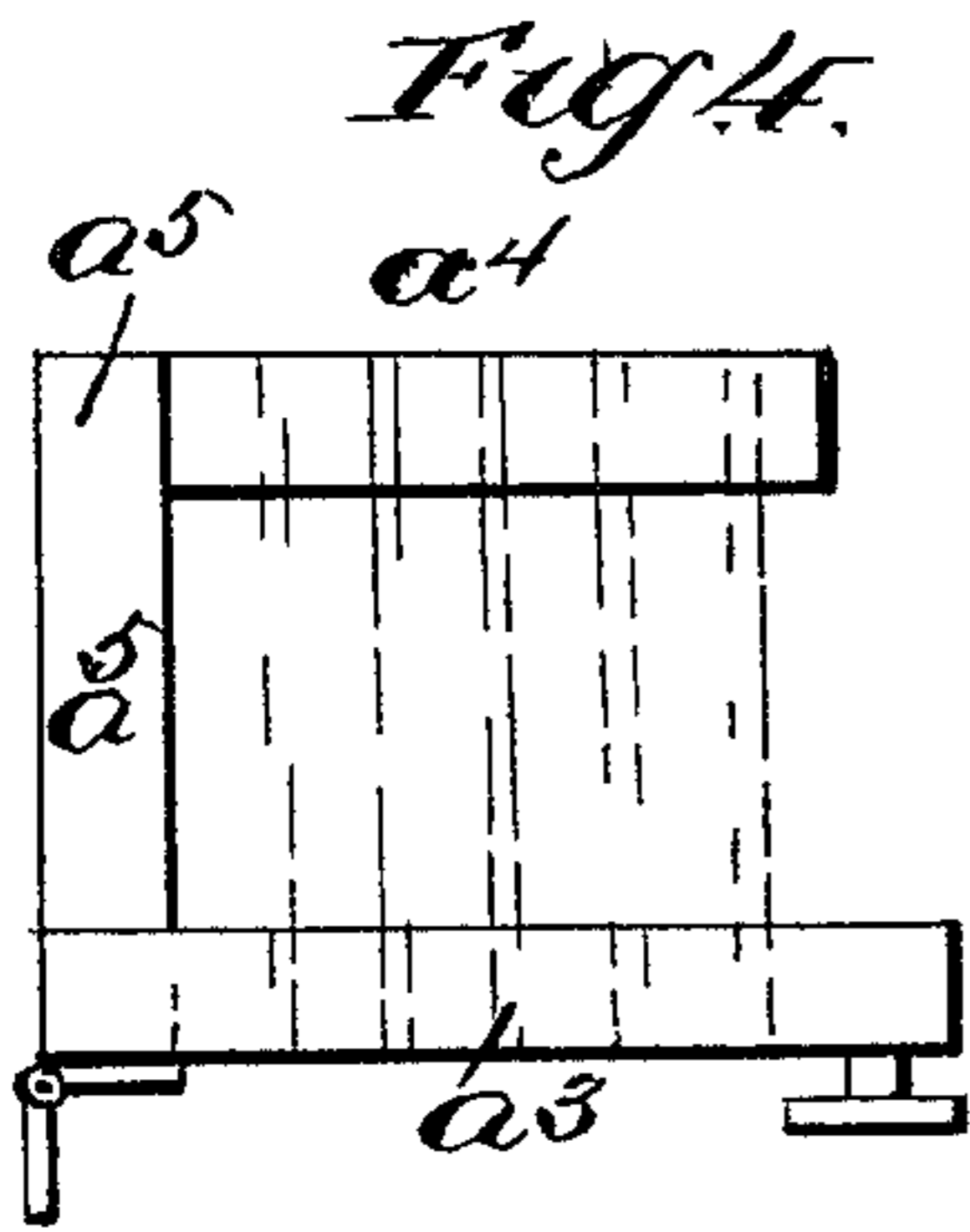
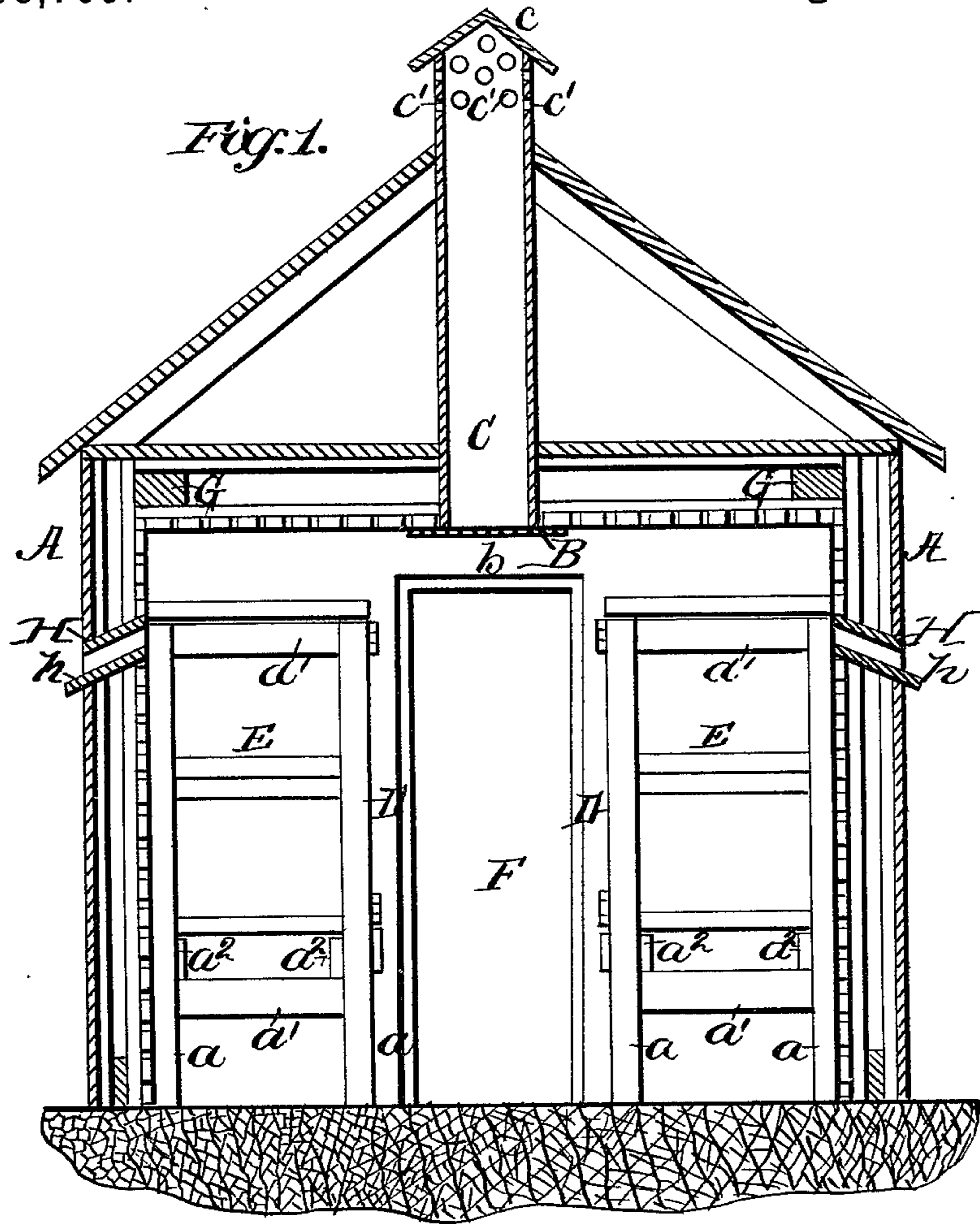
(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

L. W. SPRADLIN. BEE HOUSE.

No. 408,763.

Patented Aug. 13, 1889.



Witnesses
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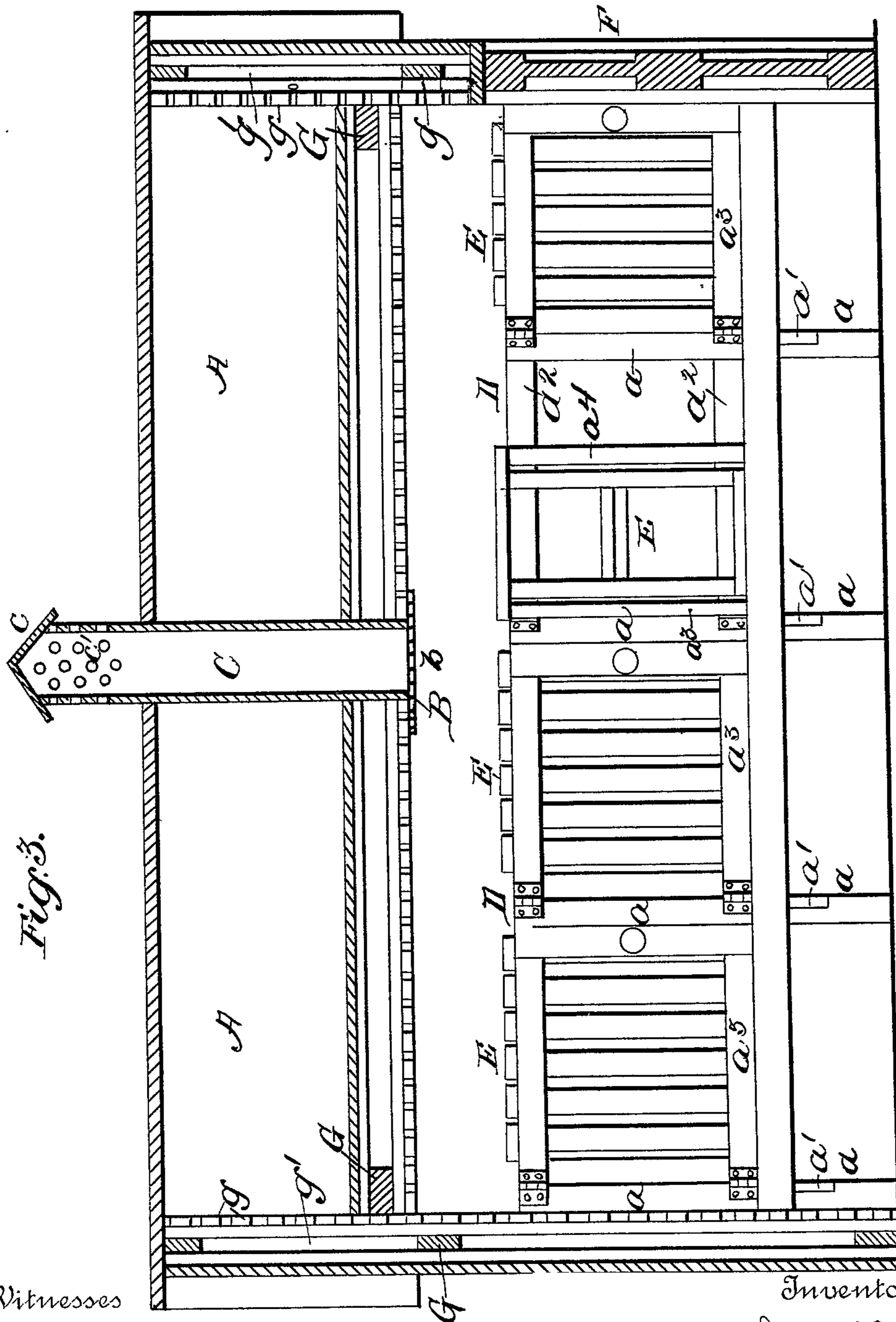


Fig. 3.

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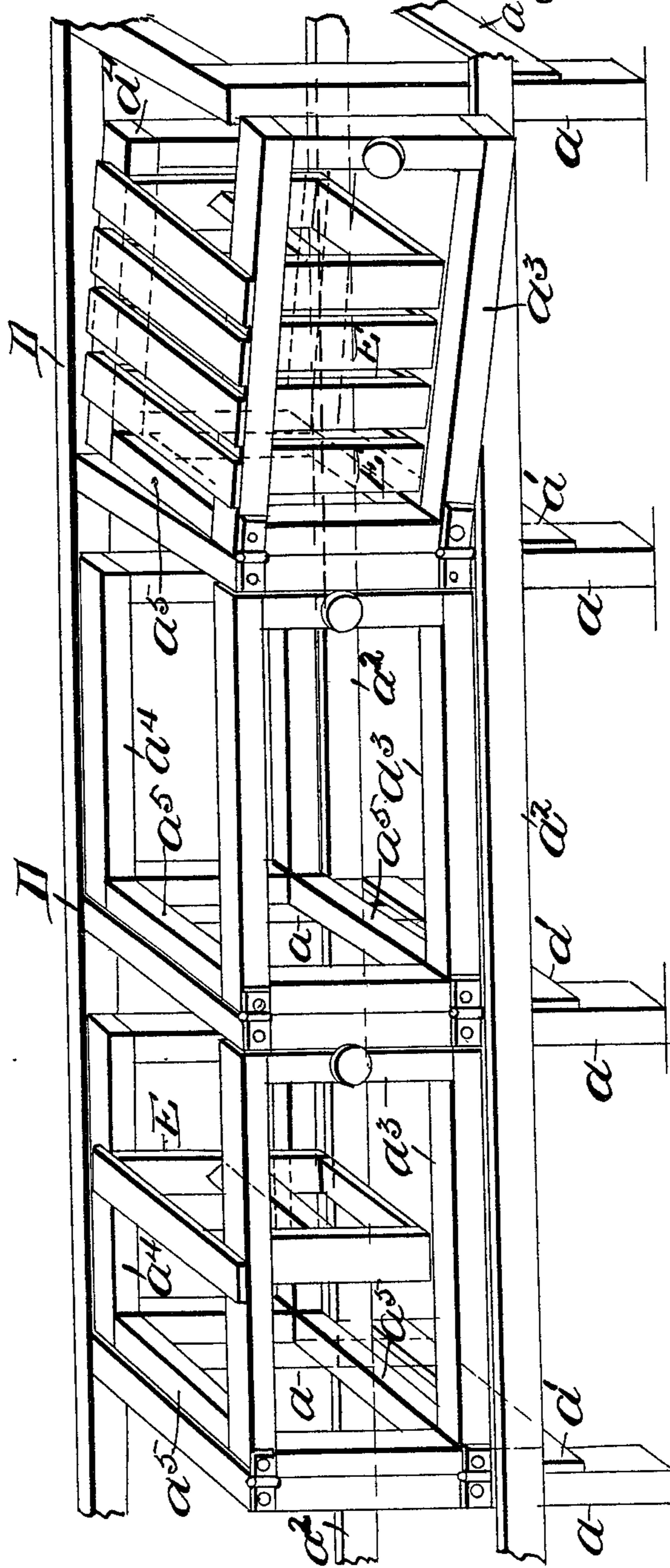
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Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS W. SPRADLIN, OF GARNETT, KANSAS.

BEE-HOUSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 408,763, dated August 13, 1889.

Application filed April 6, 1888 Serial No. 269,842. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS W. SPRADLIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Garnett, in the county of Anderson and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bee-Houses; 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 and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple and convenient construction in bee houses; and it consists of a house of ordinary construction having an internal stationary rack consisting of uprights, longitudinal parts, and cross-pieces fastened together, in combination with supporting-frames provided with two parallel upper bars of unequal length disconnected at their outer ends, said supporting-frames being hinged to the stationary rack, carrying removable comb-frames, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, in which corresponding parts are designated by similar letters, Figure 1 is a vertical cross-section of my invention. Fig. 2 is an end view of one of the stationary racks with a hinged supporting-frame attached thereto. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of my house, having one of the hinged frames thrown open. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of one of the hinged frames, with the honey-frames shown in dotted lines; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the stationary racks with the swinging or hinged frames attached thereto.

In the drawings, A represents the bee house, which is built of ordinary construction, having suitable studding G for supporting the same. The inside *g* of the house is lathed and plastered in the usual manner and the intermediate space *g'* filled with sawdust, in order that the house may be dry and cool in summer and warm in winter, which is considered of valuable importance in bee-culture. The composite flooring is made of rock well cemented together or entirely concrete to prevent dampness and exclude animals that usu-

ally burrow into hives or bee-houses. Through the ceiling is cut a hole B, covered with wire-gauze *b*, and leading therefrom is a box-shaped ventilator C, extending through the roof of the house and provided with a cover *c*. Holes *c* are formed in the ventilator above the roof for giving sufficient ventilation for the bees.

Two stationary racks D are built one upon each side of the house—to which are hinged swinging frames *a*³ for receiving the honey frames E, access being had to them through the door F of the house. The stationary frames D are securely fastened to the sides of the house, and each is constructed of uprights *a*, at equal distances apart, and having fastened thereto longitudinal pieces *a*², resting upon cross-pieces *a*¹ and securely fastened thereto. To the uprights *a* are hinged swinging frames *a*³, which are open at their ends opposite the hinges, and which are adapted, when open or pulled out from the stationary racks D, to admit the honey-frames E.

The supporting-frames are provided with two parallel upper bars of unequal length, and are connected by pieces *a*⁵ at one end and disconnected at their outer ends. By this construction the swinging frames *a*³, when open, allow the honey-frames E to be drawn out and replaced in a convenient manner.

Through the sides of the house A are cut holes H, in which are placed alighting-platforms *h*, through which the bees enter to the honey frames E, which are in close communication with them.

Care should be taken to place the said honey-frames a sufficient distance apart to allow the bees between them, the said openings H being opposite said spaces. The openings H for the bees may be cut at any suitable places through the sides of the house. By this construction the bees do not die from the cold in winter or suffer from the heat in summer, as they do in hives, and having free access one can always know the condition of the bees without disturbing them.

Heretofore it has been the general practice to provide means for separating the swarms of bees by means of partitions or otherwise; but I find them unnecessary.

When a swarm of bees have hatched young ones, it is only necessary to place in some new

frames by the side of the old ones, and they will immediately take the new ones without delay. I have also found by experience that it is not necessary to have independent brood
5 frames, as are generally used.

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

10 A bee-house having an internal stationary rack consisting of uprights, longitudinal parts, and cross pieces fastened together, in combination with supporting frames provided

with two parallel upper bars of uneven length, which are disconnected at their outer ends, and said supporting frames being hinged to
15 the stationary rack and carrying removable comb-frames, as and for the purpose described.

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

LOUIS W. SPRADLIN.

Witnesses:

JOHN J. HOFFMAN,
J. U. VAUGHN.