C. GORDON.

BUGGY TOP.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 3, 1910.

983,992. Patented Feb. 14, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

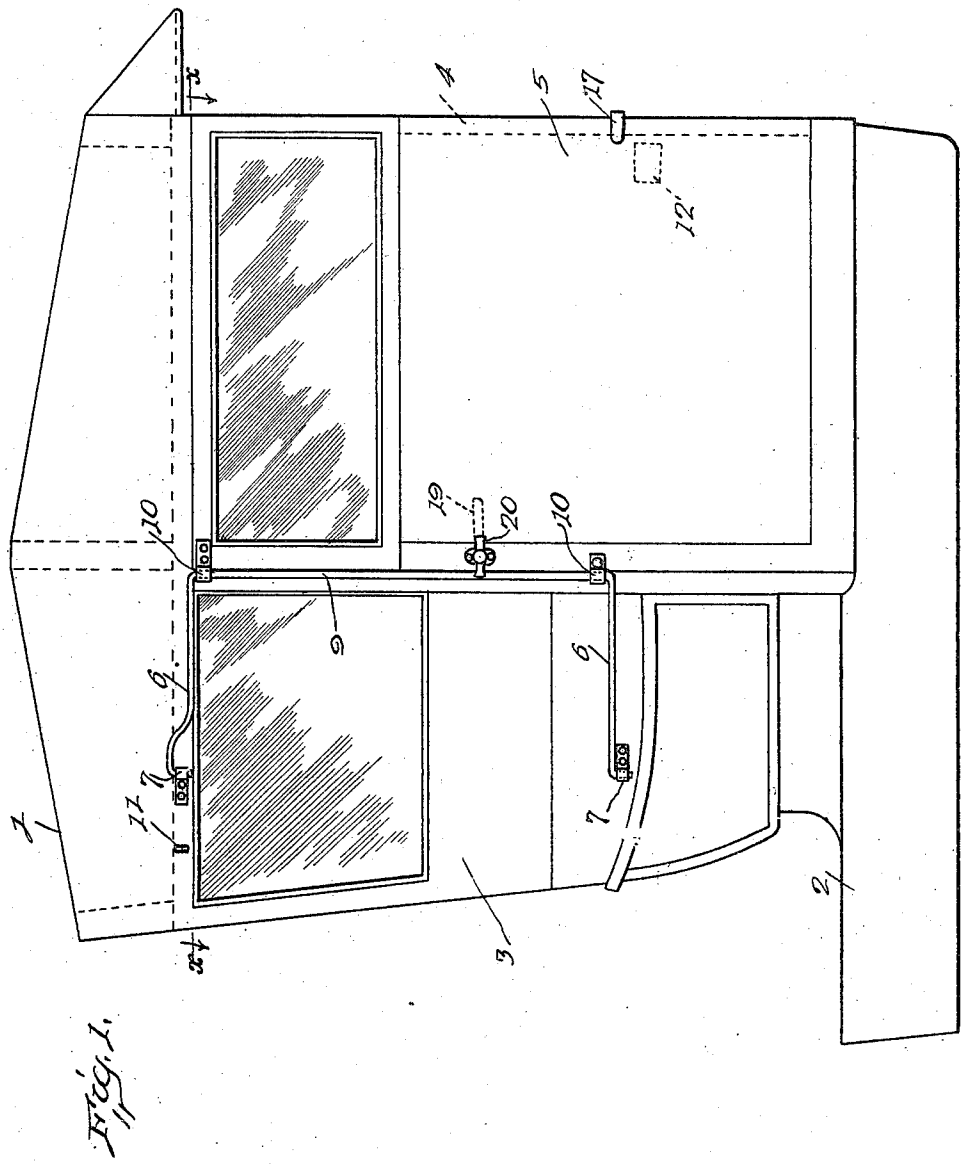

Fig. 1.

Witnesses

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Inventor

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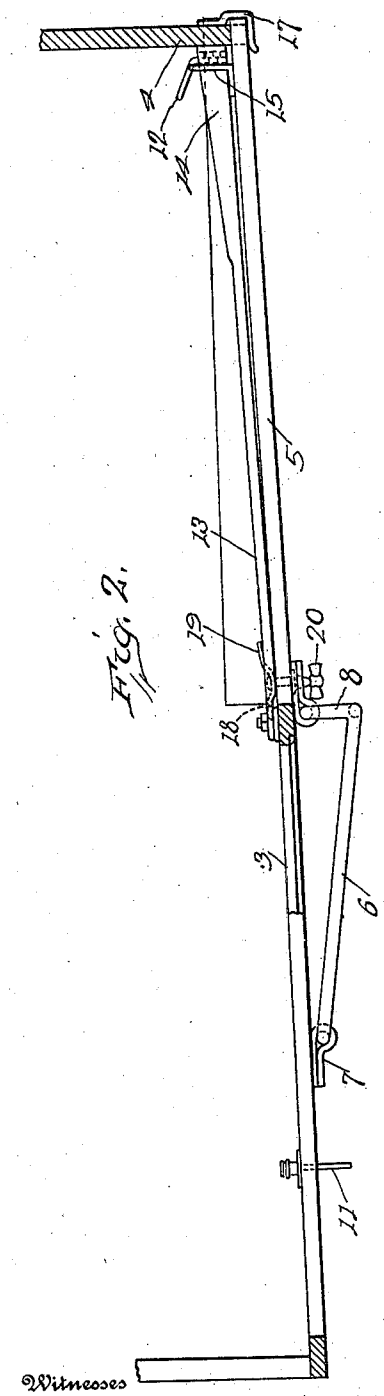

Fig. 2.

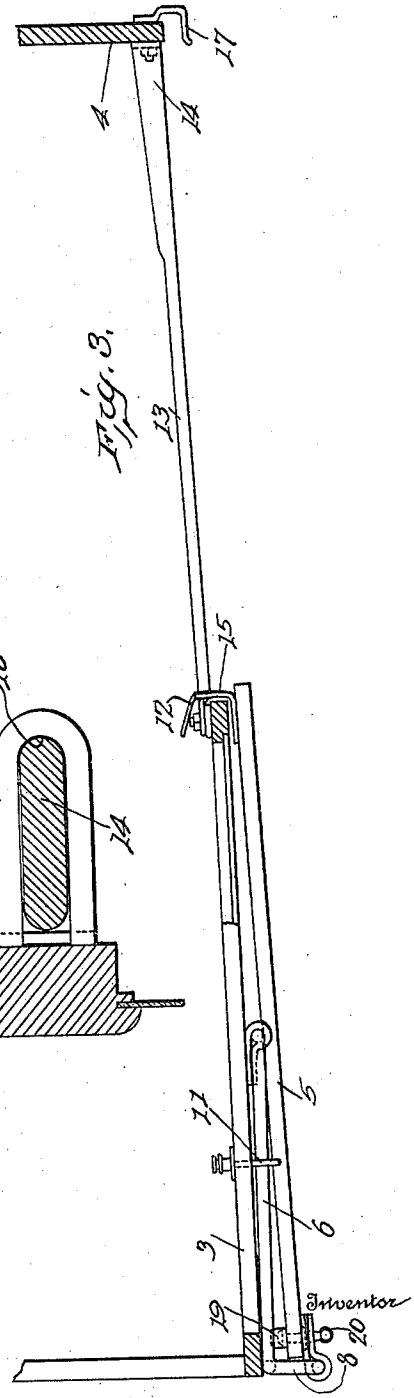

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BUGGY-TOP.

983,992.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 14, 1911.

Application filed March 3, 1910. Serial No. 546,994.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLAY GORDON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenfield, in the county of Highland and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buggy-Tops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to buggy-tops and more particularly to what are known as storm-tops.

The object of the invention is to provide means for so connecting the door of a storm-top to the fixed parts thereof that it can be readily moved into either its open or its closed position, and, when in either position, will fit snugly against the supporting parts and will be firmly held against movement relatively thereto; and further, to so construct the connecting devices that the door may be easily and quickly moved from one position to the other and will at all times during its movement occupy a position substantially parallel with the side of the top.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a buggy-top embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a horizontal, sectional view, taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows and showing the door in its closed position; Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the door in its open position; and Fig. 4 is a sectional, detail view showing the slotted lug for connecting the door to the guide.

In these drawings I have illustrated one embodiment of my invention and have shown the same as applied to a storm-top comprising an upper portion or canopy 1 supported above the body 2 of a buggy and connected thereto at its rear end by fixed side portions 3 extending from the rear of the storm-top to points near the forward edge of the seat, and at its forward end by a front wall or frame 4. The space between the forward edge of the fixed side member 3 and the front wall 4 is preferably open and constitutes a doorway. A door 5 is provided to close this doorway, and, when in its closed position, is arranged in substantial alinement with the fixed side portion 3. The door 5 is connected to the fixed side portion 3 by means of two connecting members or rods 6 which are pivotally connected at their rear ends to the fixed side member at points removed some distance from the forward edge thereof, as shown at 7. The forward end portions of the connecting rods 6 are turned inward at points near the forward edge of the fixed side members, as shown at 8, and are pivotally connected to the adjacent portion of the door 5. In the present instance the inturned end portions of the connecting rods are connected one to the other by a substantially vertical rod 9 which extends through apertured lugs or hinge-members 10 secured to the rear portion of the door 5, and preferably extending beyond the rear edge thereof. I have here shown the connecting rods 6 and vertical rod 9 as formed of a single piece of metal bent into the desired shape. It will be apparent that when the door is moved to its foremost position it will be moved into substantial alinement with the fixed side portion 3 of the top and at its forward edge will engage the adjacent edge of the front wall or frame 4. When it is desired to open the door it is moved outwardly and rearwardly about the pivotal center 7 of the connecting rods 6 until these rods reach their rearmost position, as shown in Fig. 3. During this movement the door 5 will at all times occupy a position substantially parallel with the fixed side portion of the top. During a portion of the movement the door will be at more or less of an angle to the length of the top, but will not turn about a fixed pivot but will have a sliding movement which is controlled by the connecting rods. When the connecting rods and the door have reached the rearmost limit of their movement the rods will be engaged by a catch 11 secured to the fixed side member 3 of the top and will be held securely in this position and the door 5 will lie within the outer ends of the inturned portions 8 of the rods, thus forming a compact, snug arrangement. The catch

11 will prevent any movement or rattling on the part of the connecting rods 6, and, consequently, on the part of the door 5, and the forward edge of the door will be held snugly against the forward portion of the fixed side portions by means of a clip or hook 12 secured to the forward edge of the door near the lower end thereof and adapted to engage the forward edge of the fixed side portion. The inner wall of the clip 12 is preferably inclined so as to draw the door tightly against the edge of the fixed side portion of the top.

A suitable guide, such as a rod 13, extends lengthwise of the top near the upper end of the doorway and is arranged to be engaged by a part rigidly secured to the door. This guide or rod 13 has its forward end flat and the inner edge thereof diverging from the outer edge and from the door 5 when the latter is in its closed position, as shown at 14. A fixed part, such as an apertured lug 15, is rigidly secured to the door 5 and serves to connect the upper end of the door to the guide. The aperture in the part 15 is preferably in the form of an elongated slot 16 of a length substantially equal to the greatest width of the flattened portion 14 of the rod 13. This fixed part or apertured lug 16 is so arranged relative to the door 5 and the guide 13 that, when the door is moved toward its foremost position the innermost wall of the slot will engage the inner edge of the flattened portion 14 of the guide and will draw the door inwardly, and, when it has reached its foremost position, will hold the same firmly in engagement with the adjacent edge of the front wall 4 of the top. A clip 17 secured to the front wall 4 engages the door near the lower end thereof and tends to hold this portion of the door firmly in engagement with this portion of the top and prevent any rattling of the door. A suitable catch, such as a pivoted finger 18, is secured to the inner side of the door near the rear edge thereof and is adapted to be moved into a position to engage the inner edge of the fixed side portion of the top and thus lock the door in its closed position. This pivoted finger is provided with handles 19 and 20 arranged on the inner and outer sides, respectively, of the door.

The operation of the device will be readily understood from the foregoing description and it will be apparent that the door can be quickly and easily moved from one position to another, and that, when in either position, it will be held snugly against the fixed parts of the top and that it will be held against vibration and rattling. Further, it will be apparent that the mechanism is of such a simple construction that it is not liable to become broken or disarranged so as to interfere with the operation thereof; and that the construction is such that it can be built at a small cost and will be of a very durable character.

While I have shown but one side of a buggy top as equipped with the invention, it will be readily understood that the same may be applied to one or both sides of the top, and further that the construction could be very materially altered without departing from the spirit of my invention. I, therefore, wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

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

1. The combination, with a buggy top having a fixed side portion, a doorway in front of said fixed side portion, a door, connecting members pivotally connected to the outer side of said door and to said fixed side portion, of a guide extending lengthwise to said buggy top near said doorway and on the inner side thereof and having its forward portion diverging away from said doorway, and a part carried by said door and arranged to engage said guide.

2. The combination, with a buggy top having a fixed side portion, a doorway in front of said fixed side portion, an outwardly opening door and links connecting said door to said fixed side portion, of a rod extending lengthwise to said buggy-top near the upper end of said doorway and on the inner side thereof and having its forward portion flat and provided with forwardly diverging lateral edges, and a slotted member carried by said door and extending about said rod.

3. In a buggy-top, the combination, with a fixed side portion, and a door arranged normally in front of said fixed side portion, a connecting member pivotally connected at one end to said fixed side portion at a point in the rear of the forward edge thereof and pivotally connected at its front end to said door, of a guide extending lengthwise of said buggy-top near said door, a part carried by said door and adapted to engage said guide, and a clip secured to the forward edge of said door, having its inner wall inclined and arranged to engage the forward edge of said fixed side portion.

4. In a buggy-top, the combination, with a fixed side portion, and a door arranged normally in front of said fixed side portion, two connecting rods arranged one above the other and pivotally connected at their rear ends to said fixed side portion at points in the rear of the forward edge thereof, said rods having their forward ends turned inward near the forward edge of said fixed

portion, a substantially vertical rod connecting the inturned portions of said connecting rods and apertured members secured to the rear portion of said door and adapted to receive said vertical rod, of a guide rod extending lengthwise to said buggy-top near the upper end of said door and having its lateral edges diverging forwardly, and a slotted member carried by said door and extending about said rod.

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

CLAY GORDON.

Witnesses:
M. O. PETTIFORD,
W. M. PARTLOW.