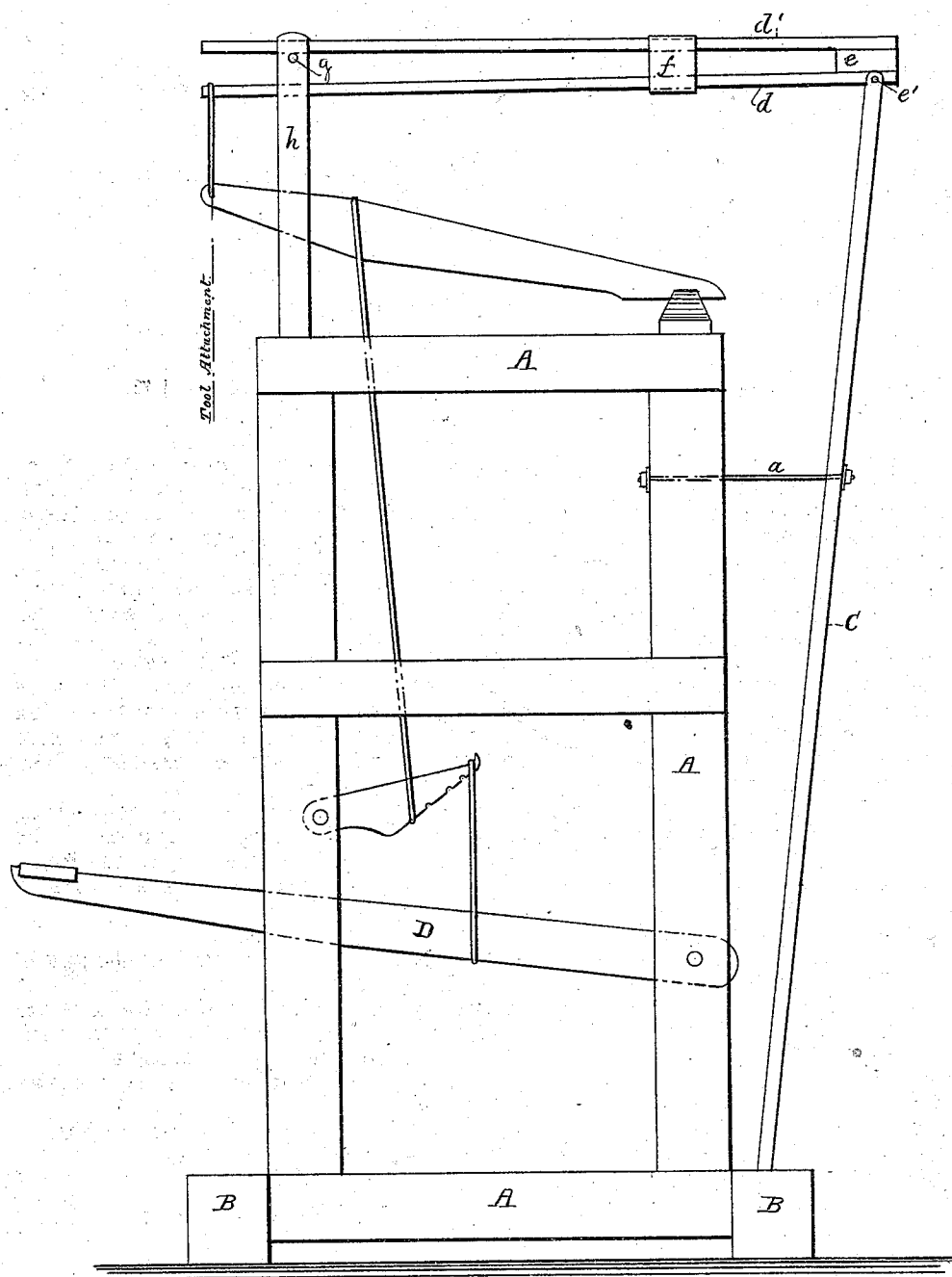


E. J. HOUSTON.
Mortising-Machines.

No. 135,917.

Patented Feb. 18, 1873.



—WITNESSES:—

Geo. H. Howard

Wm. C. Brooks

—INVENTOR:—

Edward J. Houston

*By his Attorney
J. H. Perkins*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. HOUSTON, OF NACOOCHEE, GEORGIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
HIS RIGHT TO E. F. STARR, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN MORTISING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 135,917, dated February 18, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. HOUSTON, of Nacoochee, in White county and State of Georgia, have invented certain Improvements in Mortising-Machines, (or other machines of a similar character requiring overhead springs to cause the upward or return movement of the tool,) by which improvements such machines are rendered strictly portable; and I do hereby declare that in the following specification is contained a full, clear, and exact description of my said invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

In the said drawing, forming a part of this specification, and which is a front elevation of my invention, A represents the frame of the machine. B are feet or stands, of sufficient length to give a firm foundation to the machine without bracing or otherwise fastening it. C is a plank or light post, inserted within the rear foot B, and further secured to the frame by an iron rod at *a*. The plank C extends above the frame of the machine to a convenient height, and acts as a rest or support for the spring. This consists of two wooden pieces, the lower one of which, *d*, is separated from the upper one, *d'*, by the intervening piece *e*. The whole, as connected, is pivoted at *e'* to the plank C. The lower piece *d* forms the spring proper, the upper piece *d'* acting as

a stiffener to the lower, the resilience of the spring being regulated as the shackle or link *f* is slipped toward or from the rear end thereof. The upper piece rests securely upon a pin, *g*, held between two posts, *h*, projecting from the frame of the machine, and which form a stirrup or guide to the piece *d* as it is depressed by the action of the foot upon the treadle D and in its return movement.

The spring, as described, bears the same relations to this portable machine as the spring ordinarily attached to the ceiling of the room does to a similar machine necessarily fixed therein.

I make no claim to the invention of anything relating to the mortising mechanism, to the mode of operating the same, or to the frame of the machine, excepting to those features thereupon herein described.

I claim as my invention—

The combination of the plank C, spring *d d'*, shackle *f*, and stirrup *h g*, and treadle D and its connecting parts, with the frame of the machine A, when all are arranged substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name.

E. J. HOUSTON.

Witnesses:

ELIJAH GILBERT,
ELIJAH CRAIG.