D. Fitzgerald.

Portable House.

No. 14,355. Patented Mar. 4, 1856.

Fig. 1.

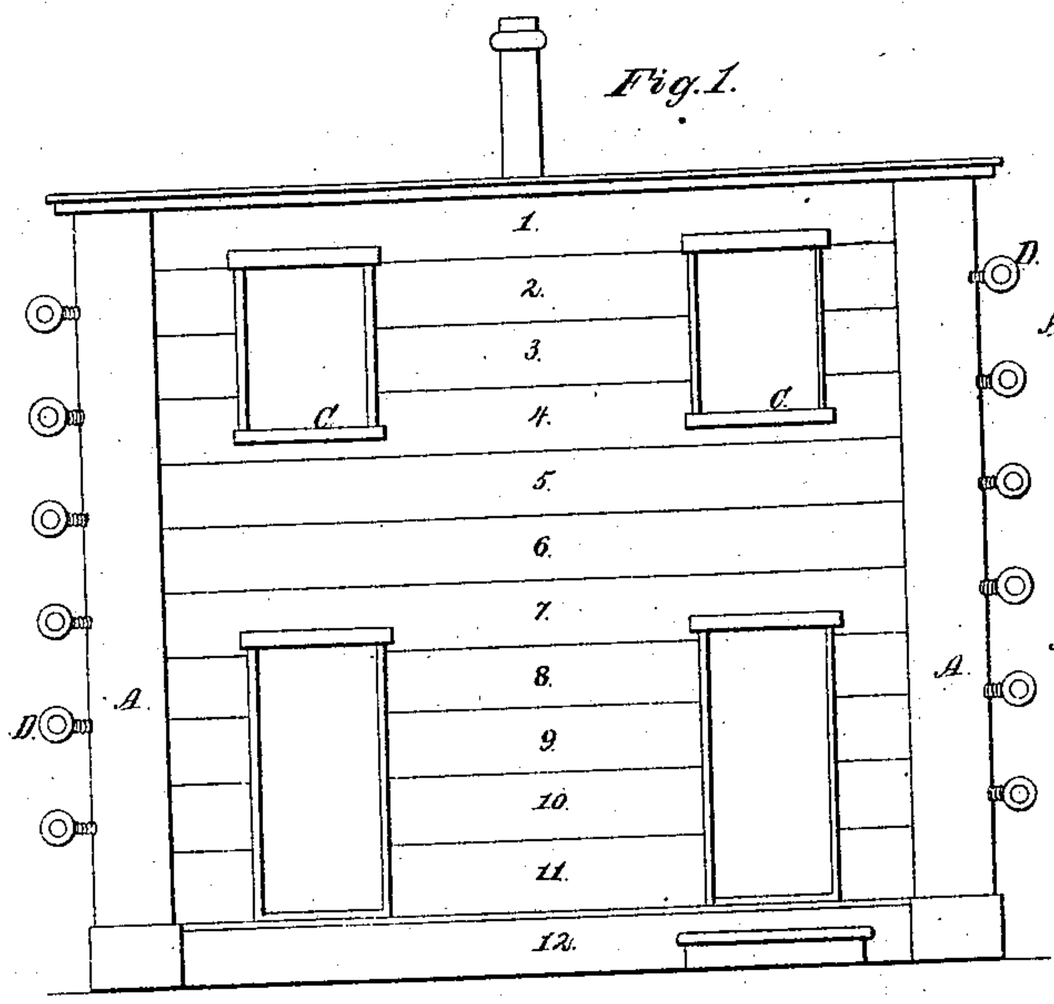


Fig. 2.

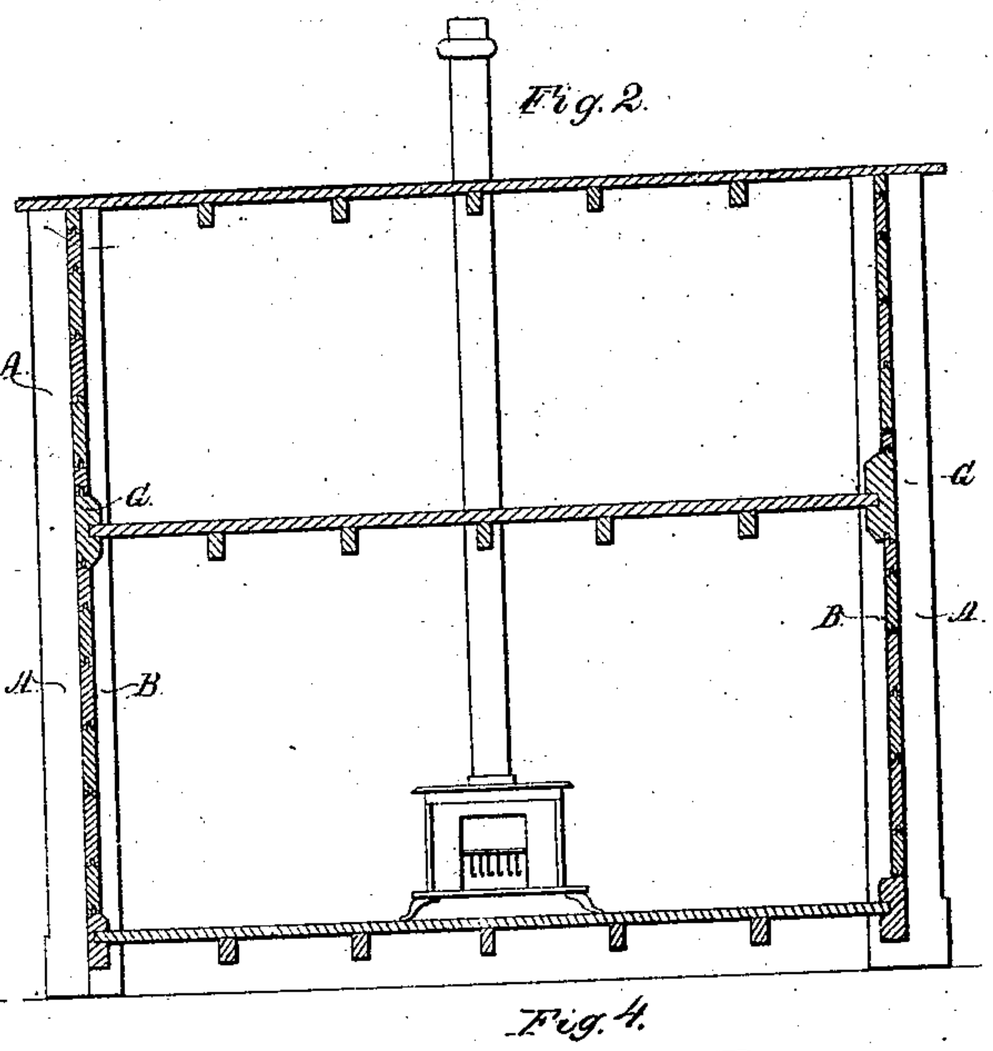


Fig. 3.

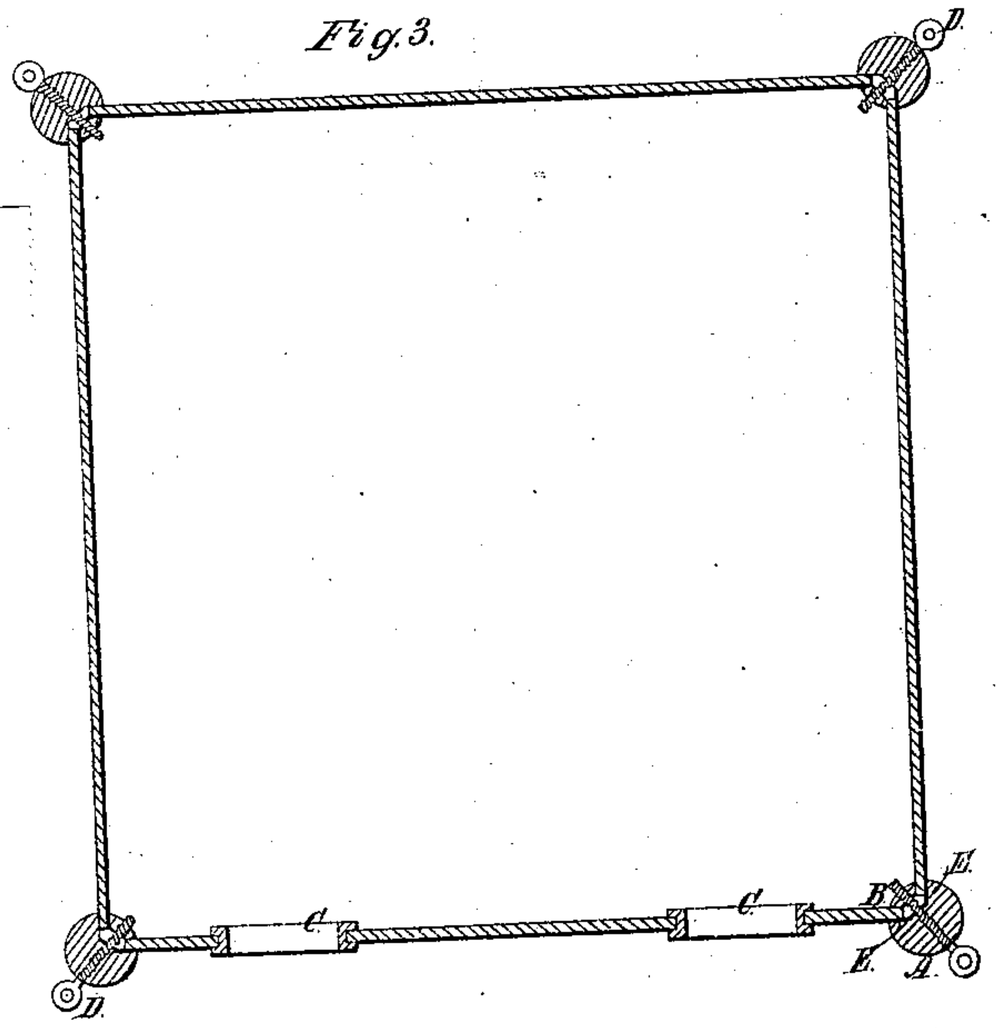


Fig. 4.

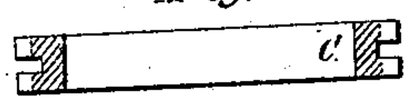
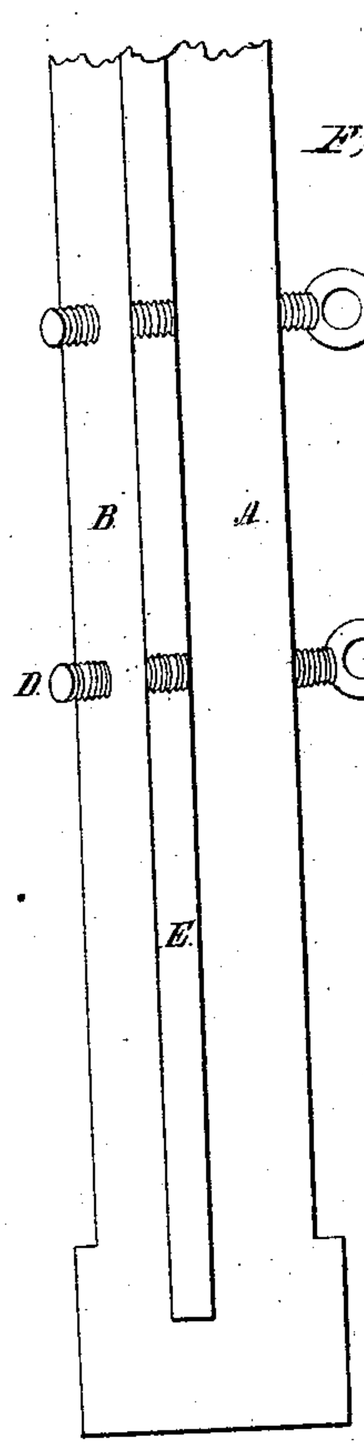


Fig. 5.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANL. FITZGERALD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

PORTABLE HOUSE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 14,355, dated March 4, 1856.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL FITZGERALD, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Construction of Portable Houses; and I hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description.

To enable others to make and use my invention I proceed to describe its construction and arrangement, reference being had to the annexed drawings which make part of this specification.

I call it the pioneer's cabin, as it is especially designed to be conveyed, ready constructed, into the forest or wilderness, and there be put up, by the labor of one or two men.

The drawings referred to are as follows: Figure 1, an elevation of the front; the dimensions are supposed to be twelve feet by twelve for the base; Fig. 2, vertical section of the same; Fig. 3, plan; Fig. 4, window sill, enlarged; Fig. 5, corner post, enlarged.

I prepare all the materials for the building, so that no nails are required to put it together. I have the weather boarding dressed ($\frac{3}{4}$ in. boards) on both sides, and grooved and tongued. The boards are set with the tongues up. I first make the posts, say for a two story house, 12 ft. square; the rooms—8 ft. the first story—7 feet the second story, in the clear. The posts will be 17 feet long. I then cut out a portion of the timber so as to leave the cross section shaped thus:

Or I spike one piece upon another, thus:

I then prepare the inner strip B so that when put into its place the section of the whole will appear thus:

There would then be a slot or channel on two sides, to receive the ends of the weather boarding. This channel is clear from top to bottom. The screw is in the corner. I then make the door and window frames in the ordinary manner and cut a channel down the sides, and at top and bottom, to receive the weather boarding. I then prepare the two opposite girders with mortises or "gains" to receive the tenons of the flooring joists. The girders for the other sides have channels to receive the floor plank.

To erect the house I set up the four posts and put in the four sills, which are constructed the same as the girders which support the upper floor. These sills have at each end a tongue which fits into the channel, E, in the post. I lay the flooring joists in the gains or mortises and then lay the floor without nails but with tongues and grooves. The flooring plank is inserted into the four girders. Or, I make the girders, each in two pieces, and when the floor is laid upon the lower half of the girder I put on the upper half. I now set the weather boarding with the ends in the channels of the posts, E, and match them together. The window and door frames are set in their places and the weather boarding adjoining also set in grooves in their sides. The top and bottom of the frames are grooved so that there will be a good connection with the weather boarding. When the weather boarding has reached the height of one story I put in the lower half of the four girders. I set in the flooring joists and lay the floor. Then I put on the other half of the girders and then put in the residue of the weather boarding. The plate at top is merely a thicker weather board and one side being made a little higher than the other gives the pitch to the roof. Thus the weight of the roof the upper floor and all rests on the weather boarding and continually presses the joints together. The girders being thicker than the inclosing boards, make the bases of the room by their projection

The different pieces of weather boarding are numbered or lettered so that when once fitted the house can be taken to pieces and put together again in the same manner.

When the house is entirely erected and the weight of the roof, &c., has pressed together the weather boarding, I screw together the parts of the posts, either at the corner as represented in the drawings, by a set of screws or nails for each side

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. Constructing a house by inserting the weather boarding ends into a channel, E, at the corner posts, A, B, substantially as above described.

2. The drawing together the parts of the posts A and B to secure the weather boarding, it being held up against, A, by nails or screws.

3. The inserting the ends or tenons of the girders G, into the channel, E, in such a manner that the weight of the chamber floor, roof, &c., may bear on the weather boarding and press the joints together, as it may shrink, or allow it to rise when it swells.

4. The setting the girder in the same slot with the weather boarding.

5. I claim setting the floor plank ends in a channel in the girders or between the two halves of the girders so that no nails are required, and so that the upper part of the girder will be the base of the room.

6. The channeling the sides of the door and window frames so that the weather boarding can be inserted or taken out, without the use of fastenings.

DANIEL FITZGERALD.

Witnesses:

GREEN G. WARREN,

CHARLES STURTEVANT.