

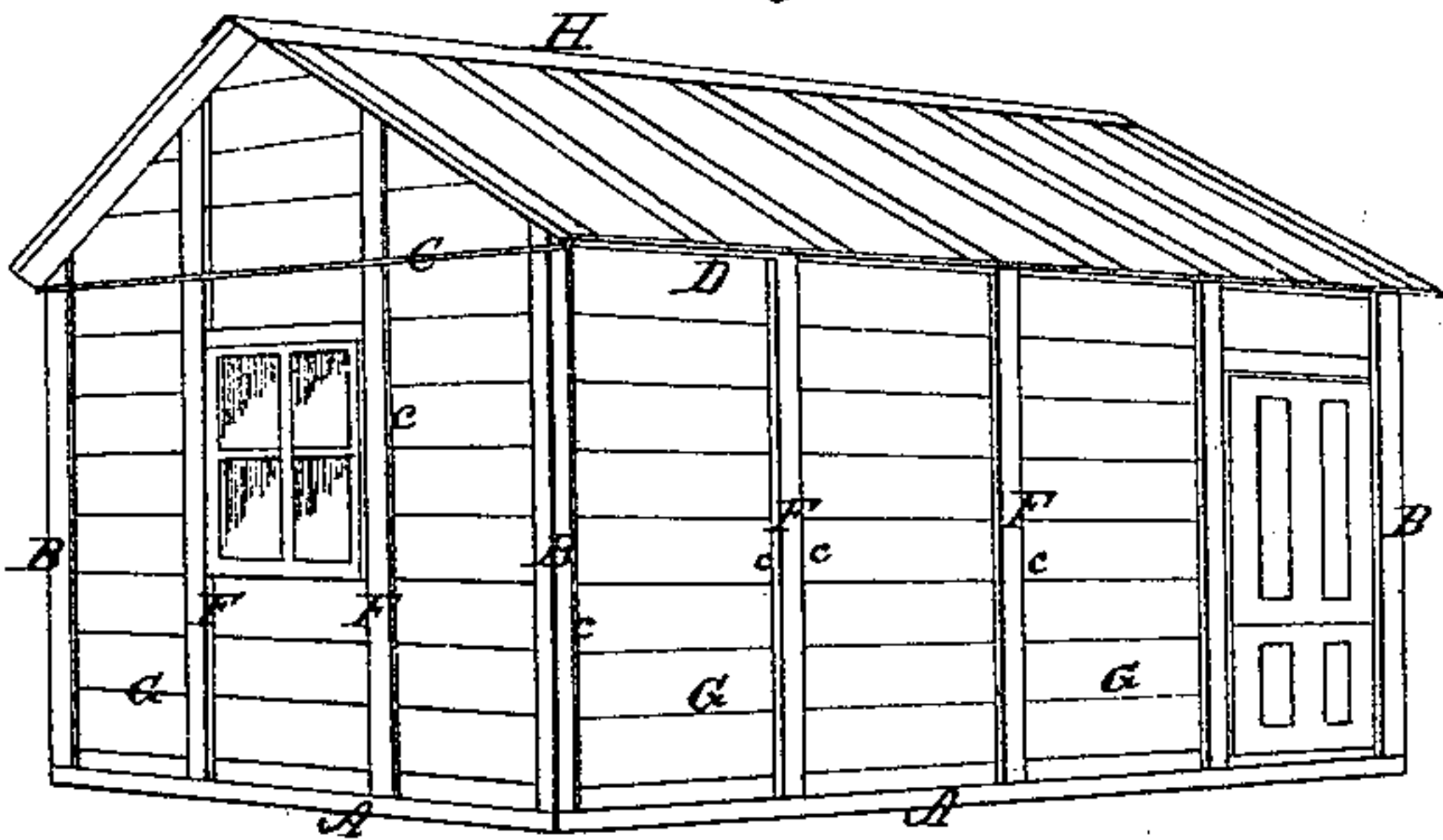
*D. N. Skillings.*

*Portable House.*

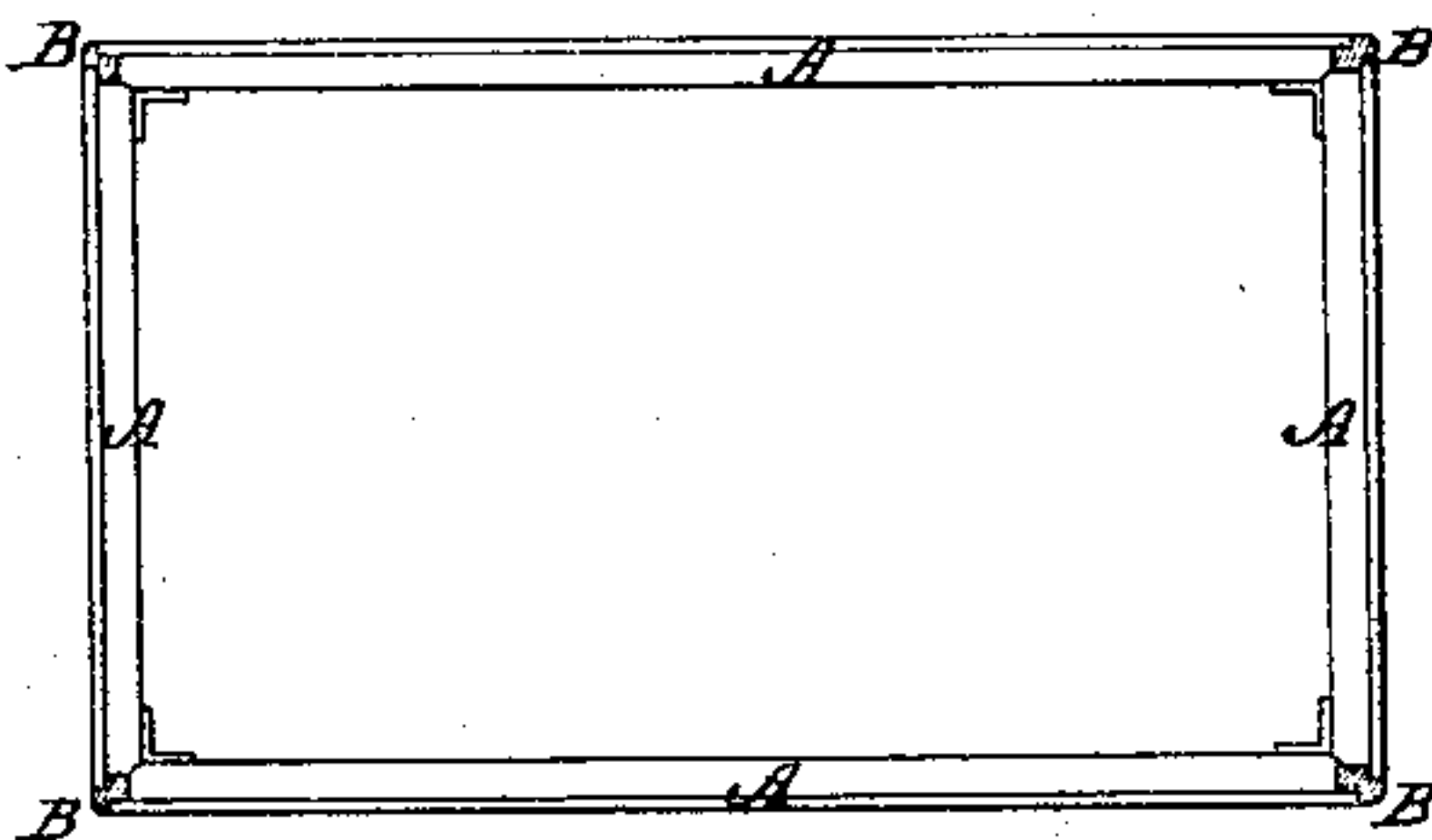
*N<sup>o</sup> 2,764.  
33,768.*

*Patented Nov. 19, 1861.*

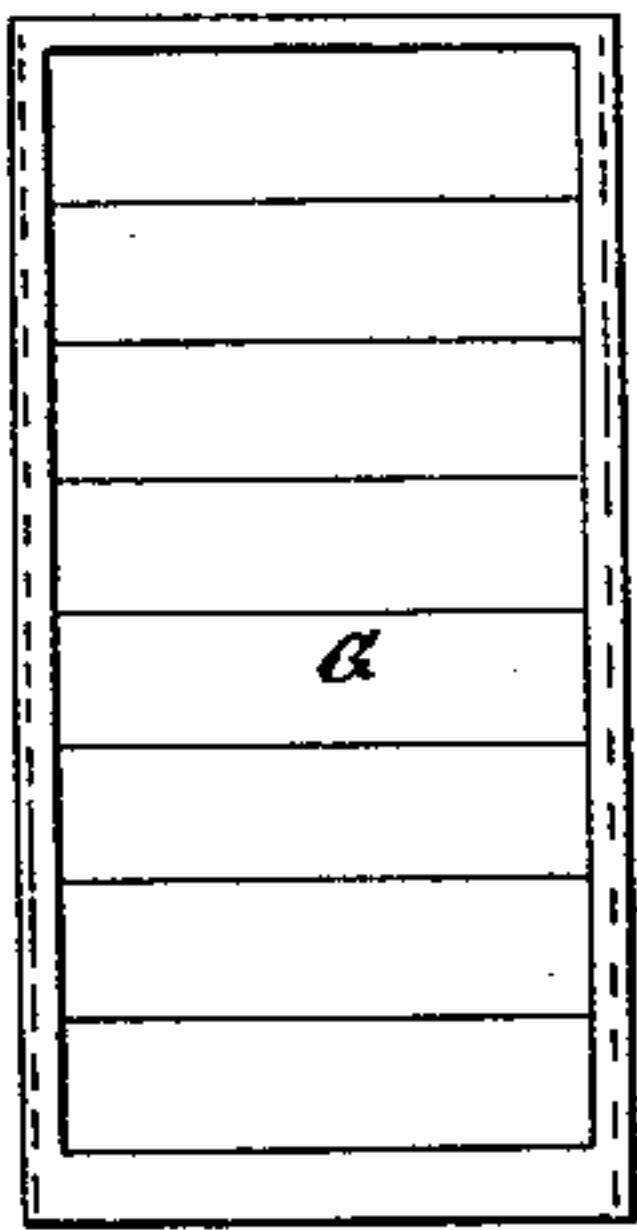
*Fig. 1.*



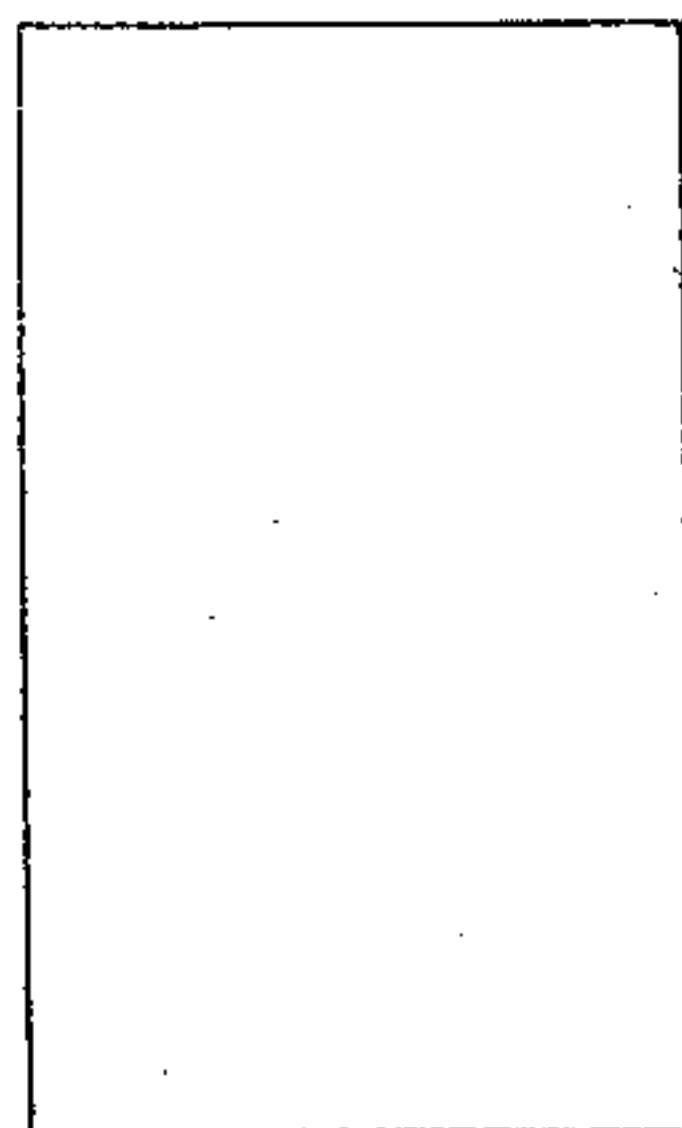
*Fig. 2.*



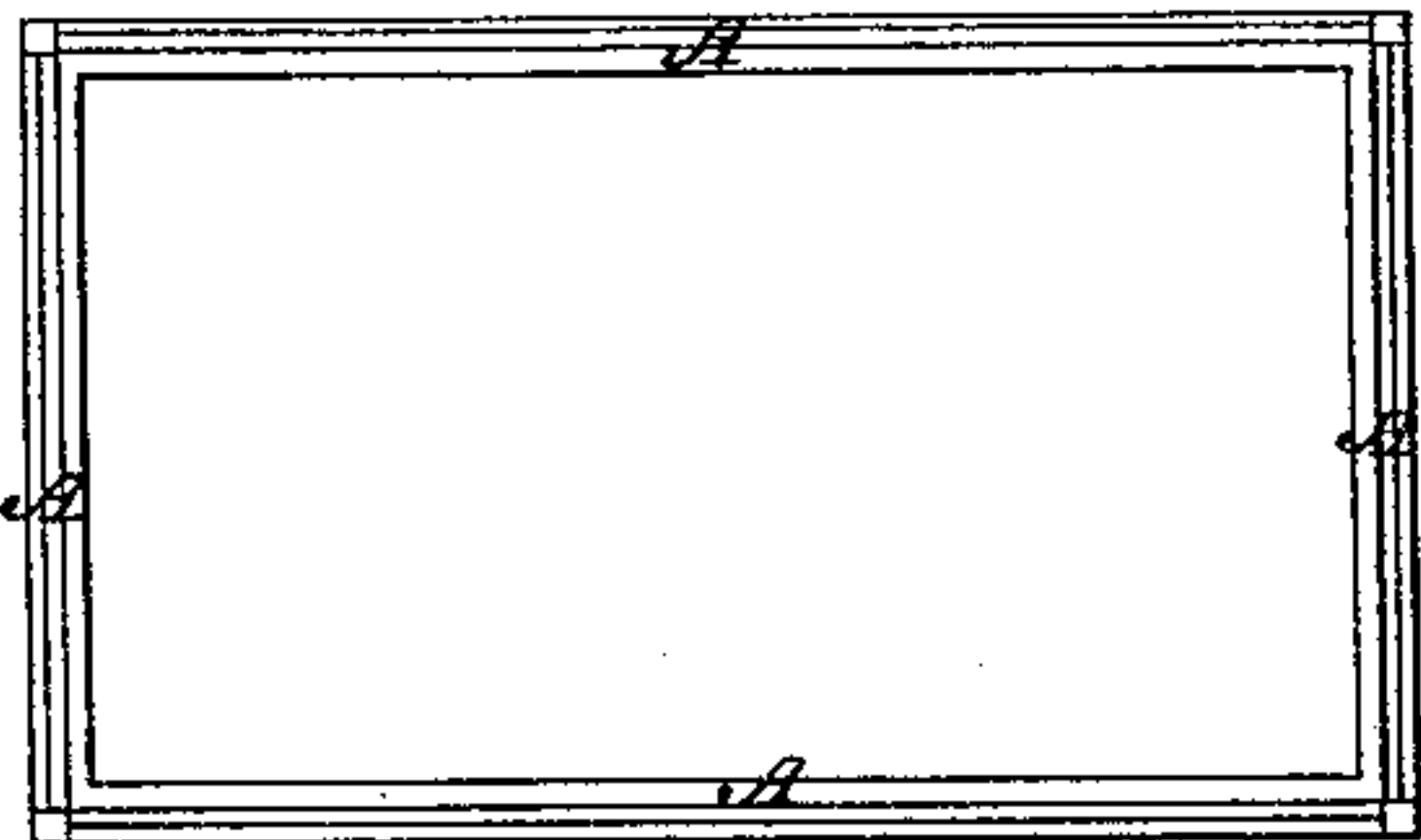
*Fig. 9.*



*Fig. 11.*



*Fig. 3.*



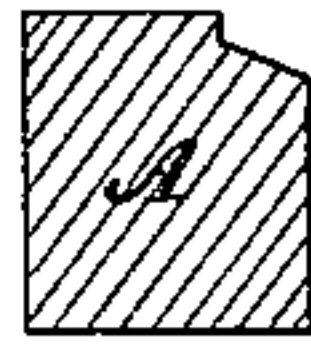
*Fig. 10.*



*Fig. 4.*



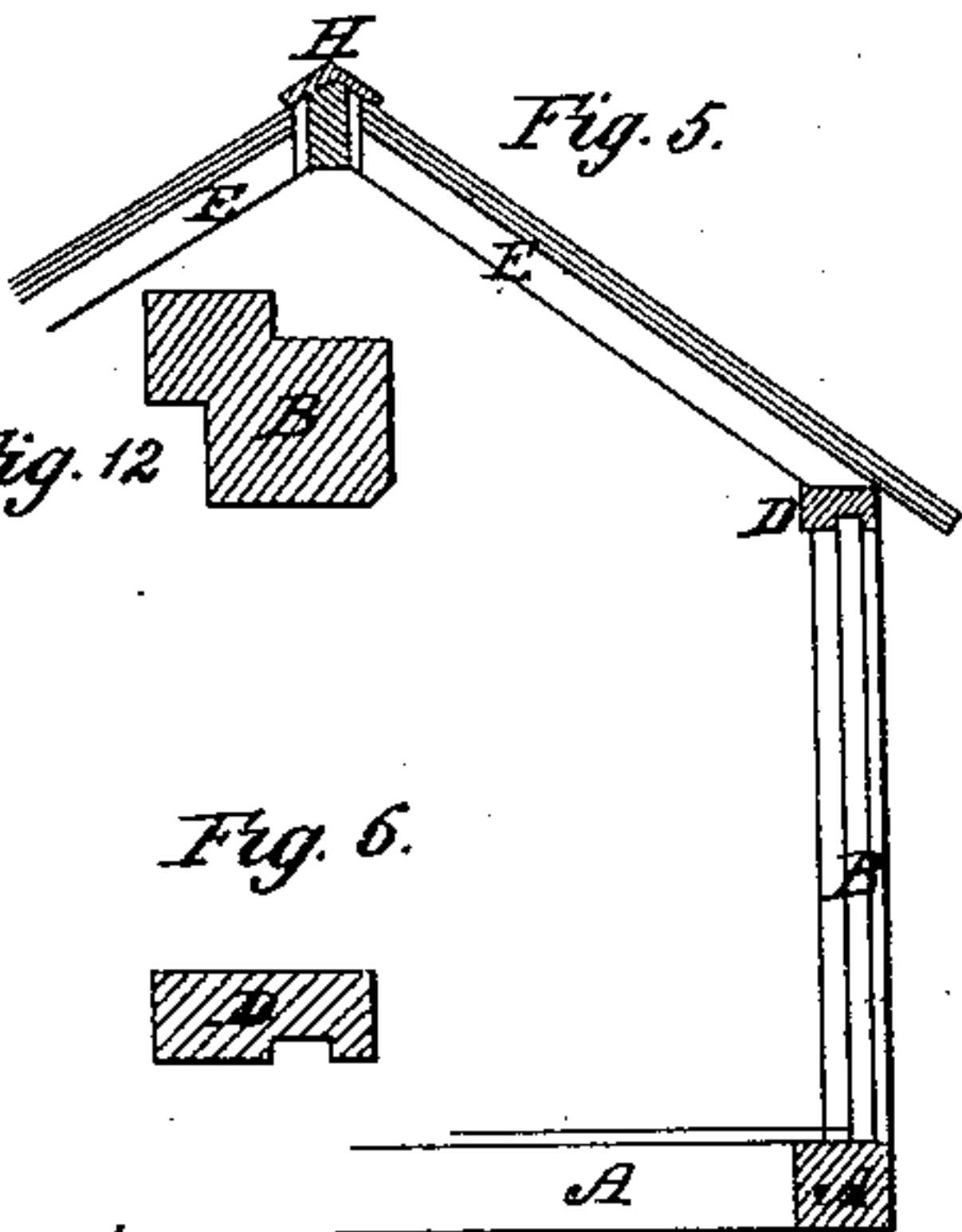
*Fig. 7.*



*Fig. 8.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 12.*



*Fig. 6.*



*Witnesses:  
H. P. Hale Jr.  
Arthur Rice.*

*Inventor:*

*D. N. Skillings*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID N. SKILLINGS, OF BOSTON, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, AND DAVID B. FLINT, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE HOUSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 33,758, dated November 19, 1861.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DAVID N. SKILLINGS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Portable House; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a house constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a top view of the sills, showing a horizontal section of the corner-posts. Fig. 3 is an under side view of the four cap-plates as connected together. Fig. 4 is an elevation of one of the corner-posts. Fig. 5 is a transverse section taken through the corner-posts of the building. Figs. 6, 7, and 8 are respectively transverse sections of one of the plates, one of the sills, and one of the side posts. Fig. 9 denotes a section as removed from the side or end of the house. Fig. 10 is a transverse section of the same. Fig. 11 shows an elevation of one of the sections of the roof, and Fig. 12 a section of one of the corner-posts.

The object of my invention is to provide a neat, durable, cheap, and portable house—one which can readily be put up and taken down in a short period of time by any person of ordinary intelligence.

The nature of my invention consists not only in a novel mode of constructing the frame of a house, but in a new method of constructing and applying the sides, ends, and roof to the framing, the same being as hereinafter described, and as represented in the accompanying drawings.

A A A A denote the sills, which are mitered at their corners and connected together by metallic braces, as seen in Fig. 2.

B B B B are the corner-posts, which are of the form shown in Fig. 4, and each is respectively jointed with an end and cap plate C C' D D' and firmly secured by means of two metallic braces.

E E, &c., are the rafters, whose lower ends are scored or mitered to fit the cap-plates properly, while their upper ends are formed with shoulders to fit into corresponding recesses formed in the ridge-pole.

F F, &c., are a series of vertical supports

or posts, which are arranged between the corner-posts and at equal distances apart and are jointed at their tops and bottoms, respectively, to the sills and cap-plates. Each of these said posts is formed in horizontal section, as shown in Fig. 8.

G denotes a section of the paneling of either of the sides or ends.

One of the peculiar features of my invention consists in making the boarding of the sides and ends of the house in sections or frames and so chamfering or grooving the inner edges of the vertical posts and the edges of the cap-plates and sills that each frame will fit promiscuously between any two of the said posts like a pane of glass into a proper-shaped section of a window-sash.

Another important feature of my invention is found in making the roof in sections, all of which are of the same size, except the end ones, which are somewhat wider, in order to project over the ends of the building, as seen in the drawings. Each two sections are jointed or come together directly over one of the rafters, and over each joint a batten or plane convex piece of wood is secured, as seen in the drawings, while over the joint formed by the meeting of the upper sections of the roofing I dispose a hollow angular ridge-pole plate H, made of one piece of wood or other proper material.

In carrying out my invention I construct each of the side sills and each of the end sills, as well as each of the cap-plates, as counterparts of each other. Each of the vertical side and end posts is constructed of the same form, with two bevels on its outer vertical face for reception of the frame of one of the sections or panels G. These sections are all of the same size and may be composed of wood put together in any of the known ways; and, furthermore, if desirable, these sections (one or more of them) may be constructed like a Venetian turning blind, which, in the summer season, especially in the Southern States, would be very convenient.

In constructing houses on my improved plan all the parts—sills, posts, plates, doors, windows, &c.—are cut and fitted by machinery to one size, so that any piece marked "No. 1" will fit and may be used in any other



number, although all the parts of the whole building are numbered. Should any piece get displaced in putting up the framing no damage can accrue, as another of like character will fit its place equally well. After the sections G have been inserted in the sides and ends they are secured in place by means of battens c c, &c., screwed or nailed into the vertical posts.

A house constructed in my improved manner can not only be constructed at a small expense, but the parts of it are light and can readily be transported from one place to another and speedily taken down and set up, and constructed on a small scale would be very serviceable to the army as a hospital, being preferable to a tent made of canvas.

It will also be very advantageous as a temporary or permanent habitation for parties who desire a neat, cheap, and comfortable house, and, besides, it can be made of any size and form, as may be desirable.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

My improved portable house, having its framing constructed substantially as described, and the sides, ends, and roof constructed in sections, as set forth, and applied to the framing in the manner specified.

D. N. SKILLINGS.

Witnesses:

F. P. HALE, Jr.,  
ARTHUR NEILL.