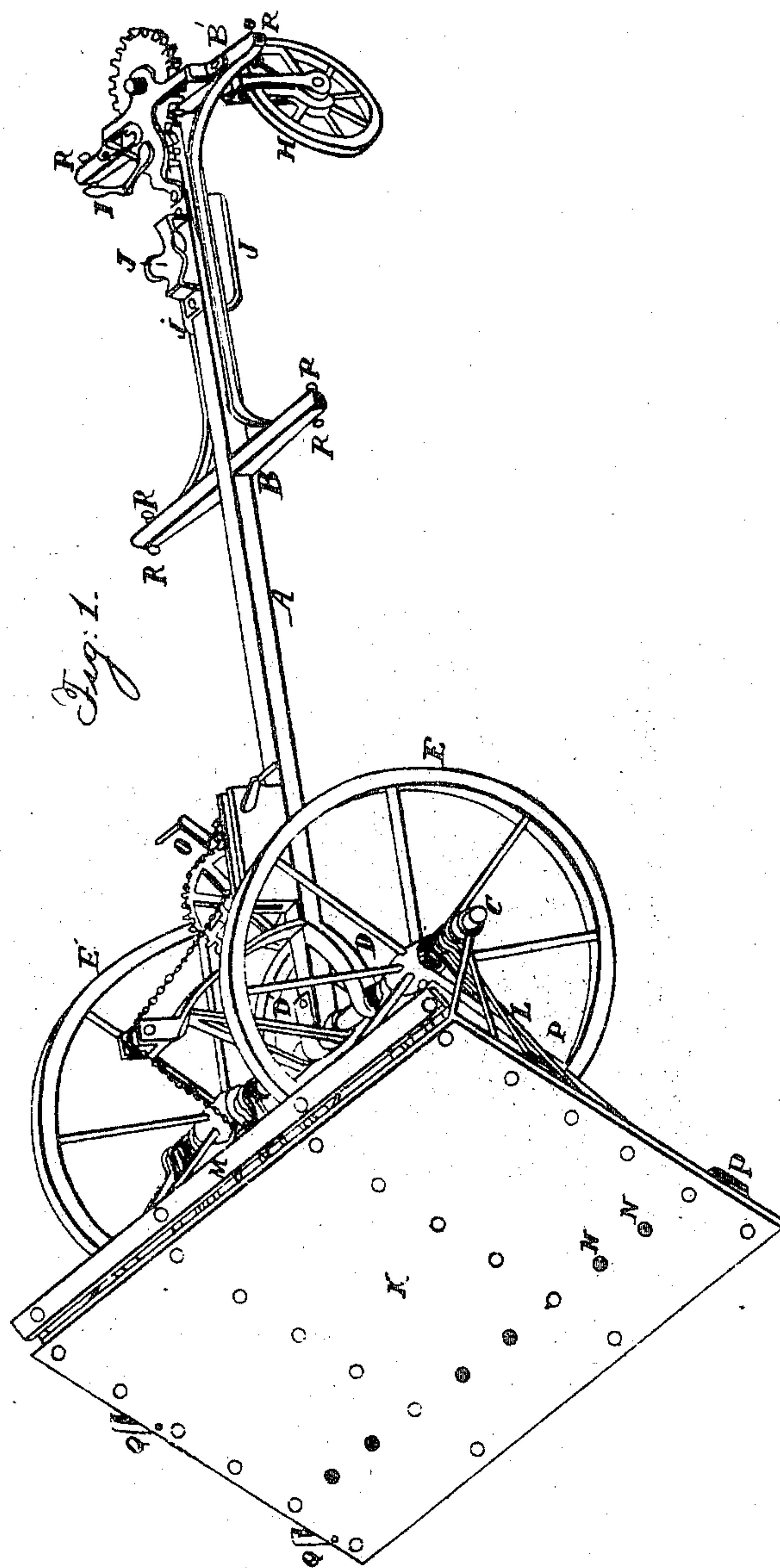


M. SAVIERS.

Portable Shield for Troops.

No. 38,845.

Patented June 9, 1863.



Witnesses.

Frederick Seymour
 Mr D Anderson

Inventor.

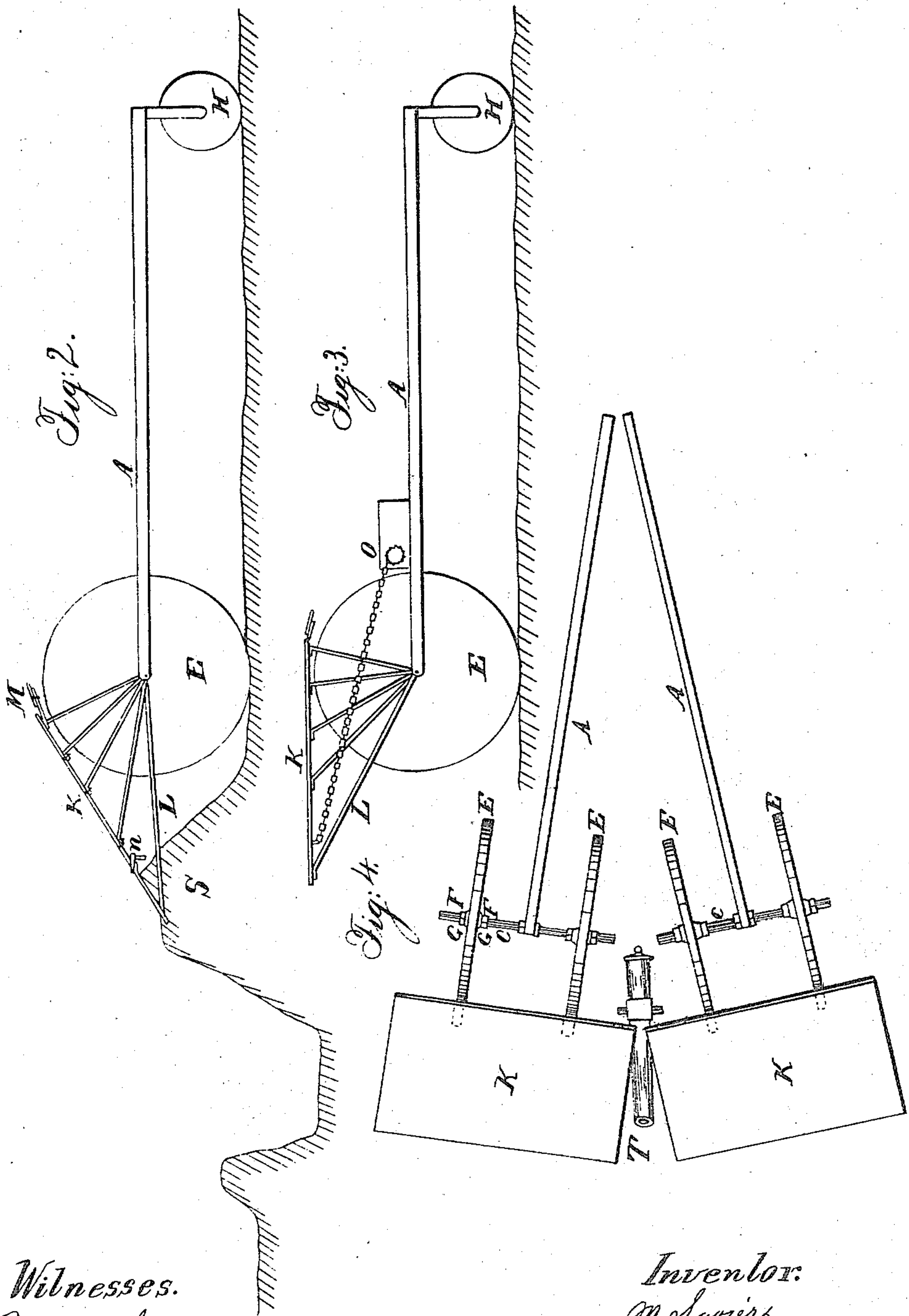
Inventor.
M. Laouirs
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M Saviers
per Knight Bros Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILTON SAVIERS, OF SHAWNEETOWN, KANSAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE SHIELDS FOR INFANTRY OR ARTILLERY.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 38,845, dated June 9, 1863; antedated January 25, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILTON SAVIERS, of Shawneetown, Johnson county, Kansas, have invented a new and useful Portable Breast-Work; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention relates to the provision of a large metallic shield supported upon wheels, and adapted for immediate use under sudden surprise or in a hostile district; and the improvement particularly consists in the use of an adjustable head-guard, constructed and applied as hereinafter explained.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement. Figs. 2 and 3 are side views, and Fig. 4 a top view, showing different applications of the invention.

The tongue A, cross-trees B B', axle-tree C, hounds D D', and wheels E E' may be substantially similar to the same parts of a common wagon; but I prefer to make my axle-tree in the represented cylindrical form, and to secure the wheels and tongue upon it by collars F and set-screws G, for convenience of package for shipment or otherwise. The point of the tongue A is supported by a single pilot-wheel, H, placed under control of the driver by means of a wrench, I.

J j are seat and foot-rests for the driver.

The team may be hitched at the points R to pull either way.

The shield or breast is formed as follows:

K is a rectangular plate of stout boiler-iron, which plate rests by one edge upon the ground, and is supported at a suitable inclination by means of rods L, hinged to axle A.

M is a head-guard hinged to upper part of plate K, so as to be elevated to any desired extent for the discharge of musketry.

N are loop-holes, which may be closable by screw-plugs *n* or otherwise.

O is a winch and tackle for elevation of the shield.

P Q are catches for securing two or more shields together. When desired, the foot of the shield may be supported upon a slight embankment, S.

Operation: On the march, the shield K is brought to a horizontal position, (see Fig. 3,) and may be used to carry men or baggage. One or more spans of horses are hitched at places R, and the machine is drawn forward, the pilot-wheel preceding. On the march, a number of portable breast-works may be advanced *en echelon*, and on the word of command the whole may be wheeled a quarter round and united together in a few seconds by the catches P Q, so as to form a continuous breast-work. One hundred and sixty breast-works one pole wide will inclose a space of ten acres. Whenever time permits, great additional advantage will arise by supporting the shield upon a slight embankment, S.

For cannon-firing, a temporary port-hole, T, may be made by a slight traverse of two contiguous shields, (see Fig. 4,) and the opening may be quickly closed again by restoring the shields to line.

I claim as new and of my invention herein—

The adjustable head-guard M, constructed as described, and applied to the portable shield K in the manner and for the purposes shown and explained.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

M. SAVIERS.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,
I. T. MELCHER.