J. Lewis.

Shingle.

No. 85,316. Patented Dec. 29, 1868.

Fig. 1.

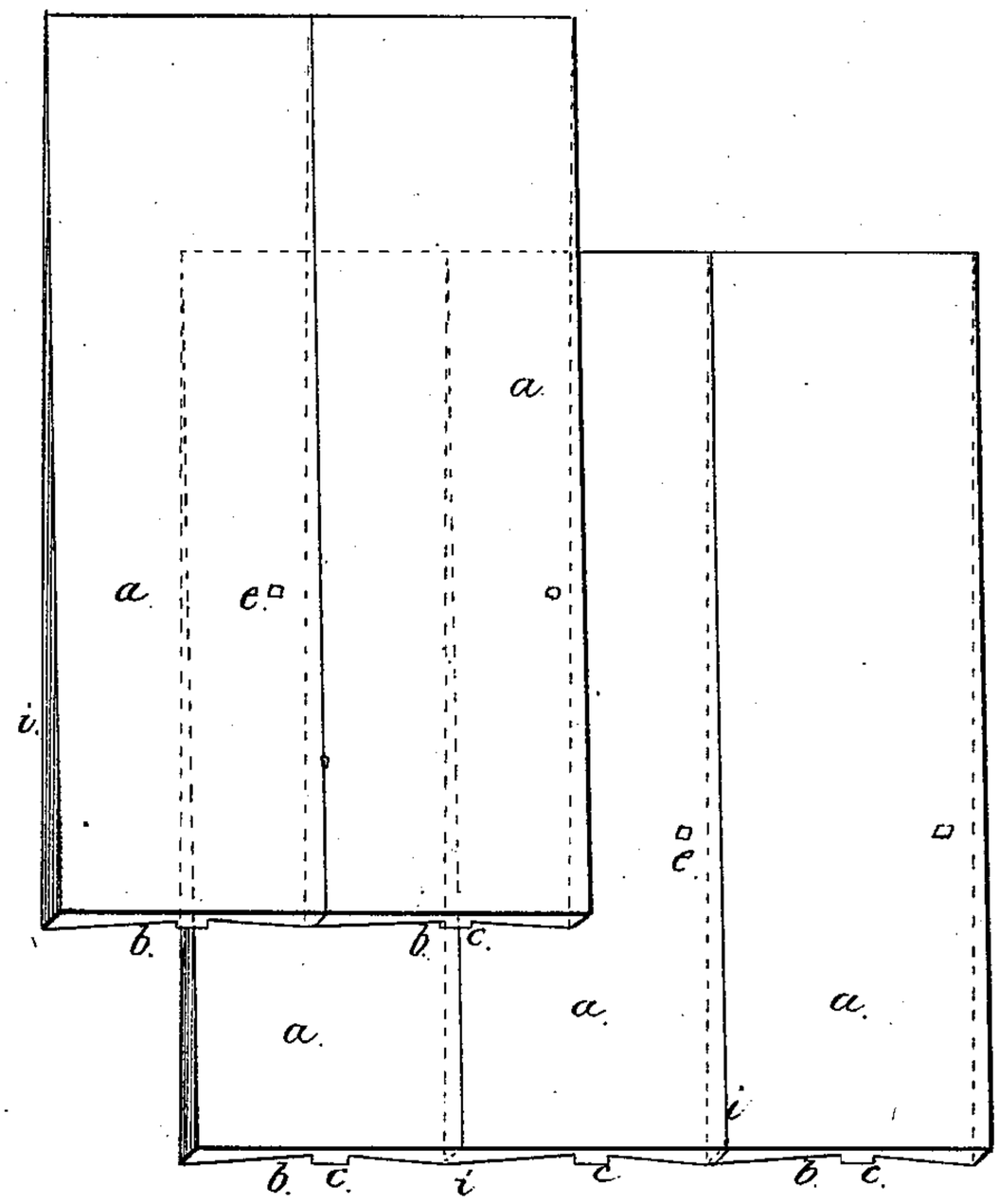


Fig. 2.

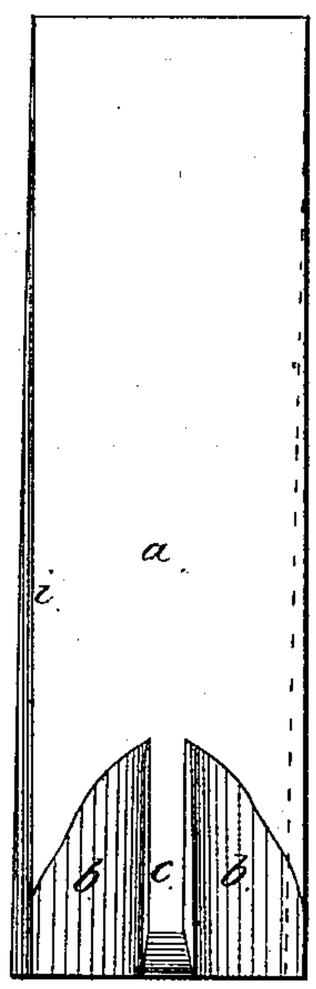
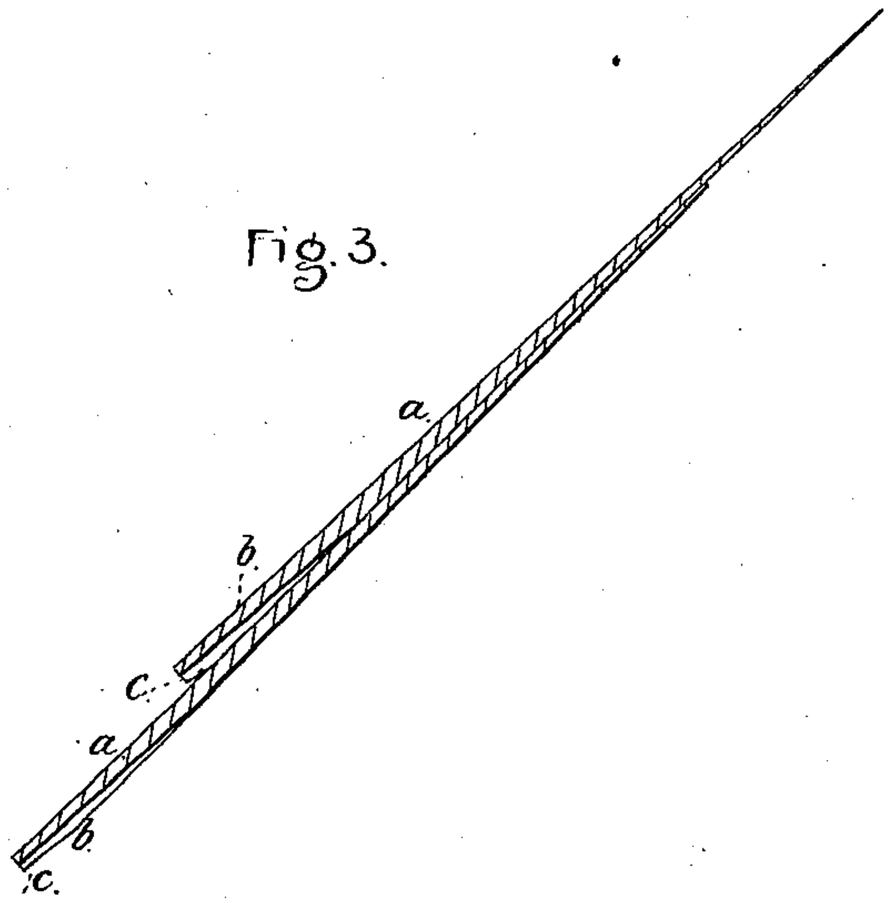


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

Chas. F. Smith

Harold Serrell

Inventor:

John Lewis

per L. W. Serrell atty.

United States Patent Office.

JOHN LEWIS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 85,316, *dated December* 29, 1868.

IMPROVED SHINGLE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN LEWIS, of the city and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a certain new and useful Improvement in Shingles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the shingles as laid one over the other;

Figure 2 is a view of the back of one of the shingles; and

Figure 3 is a vertical section of two of the shingles as laid in place upon each other.

Similar letters denote the same parts.

Shingled roofs are very much subject to decay, especially when laid with sawed shingles, in consequence of the surface absorbing moisture, and the capillary attraction drawing the moisture up between the shingles, and into the lower ends of the said shingles. The outer surface of the shingle, being exposed to the atmosphere, dries quickly, while the ends and under surface remain damp; the consequence is, that the shingles rot away, particularly on the under side of the ends and the upper portions of the middle of the shingles, upon which the ends of those next above rest.

My invention is to obviate the foregoing difficulties, and make the shingle much more durable.

Said invention consists in a shingle formed with a recess in the under side, at the lower and thicker end, so that there is an air-space between the lower end of one shingle and the surface of that below. Thereby the water will not be drawn by capillary attraction up between the two shingles, and the wood at the end of the shingle that becomes saturated with water will dry equally or nearly so on both the upper and under surfaces, so as to prevent the shingle warping or cracking or speedily rotting.

In the drawing, the shingle *a* is shown, with recesses formed at *b b*, leaving a rib, *c*, to cover the joint of the shingle next below; and these recesses are deeper nearer the middle of the shingle than towards the edges. Thereby the water running off the end of one shingle will be directed towards the middle of the next below.

I make the end of the rib *c* bevelled, to aid that part in drying. (See fig. 3.)

The edges of the shingles I form bevelled, as shown at *i i*, so that one laps under the other. This enables me to hold down the edges of two shingles by one nail, introduced in the upper one of the lapping shingles, as seen at *e e*, thus allowing the shingles to expand or contract without the risk of splitting, and lessening the number of nails required.

I do not claim a shingle formed with a series of flutes on the under side; but

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A shingle formed with the recesses *b b* and rib *c* upon the under side, at the lower portion, for the purposes set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this 31st day of August, 1868.

JOHN LEWIS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. SMITH,

GEO. T. PINCKNEY.