

W. R. Meers.

Portable House.

N^o 88,657.

Patented Apr. 6, 1869.

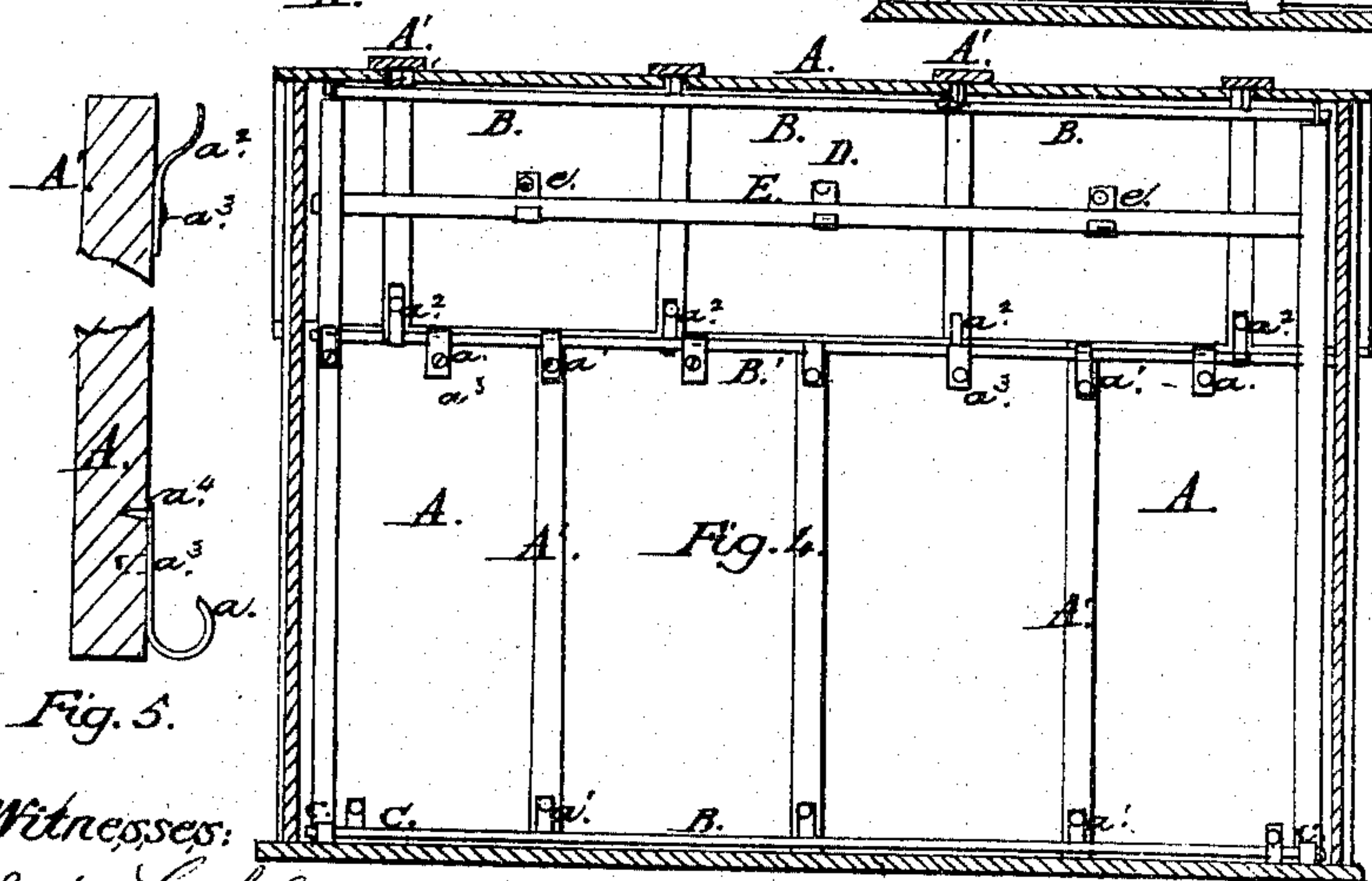
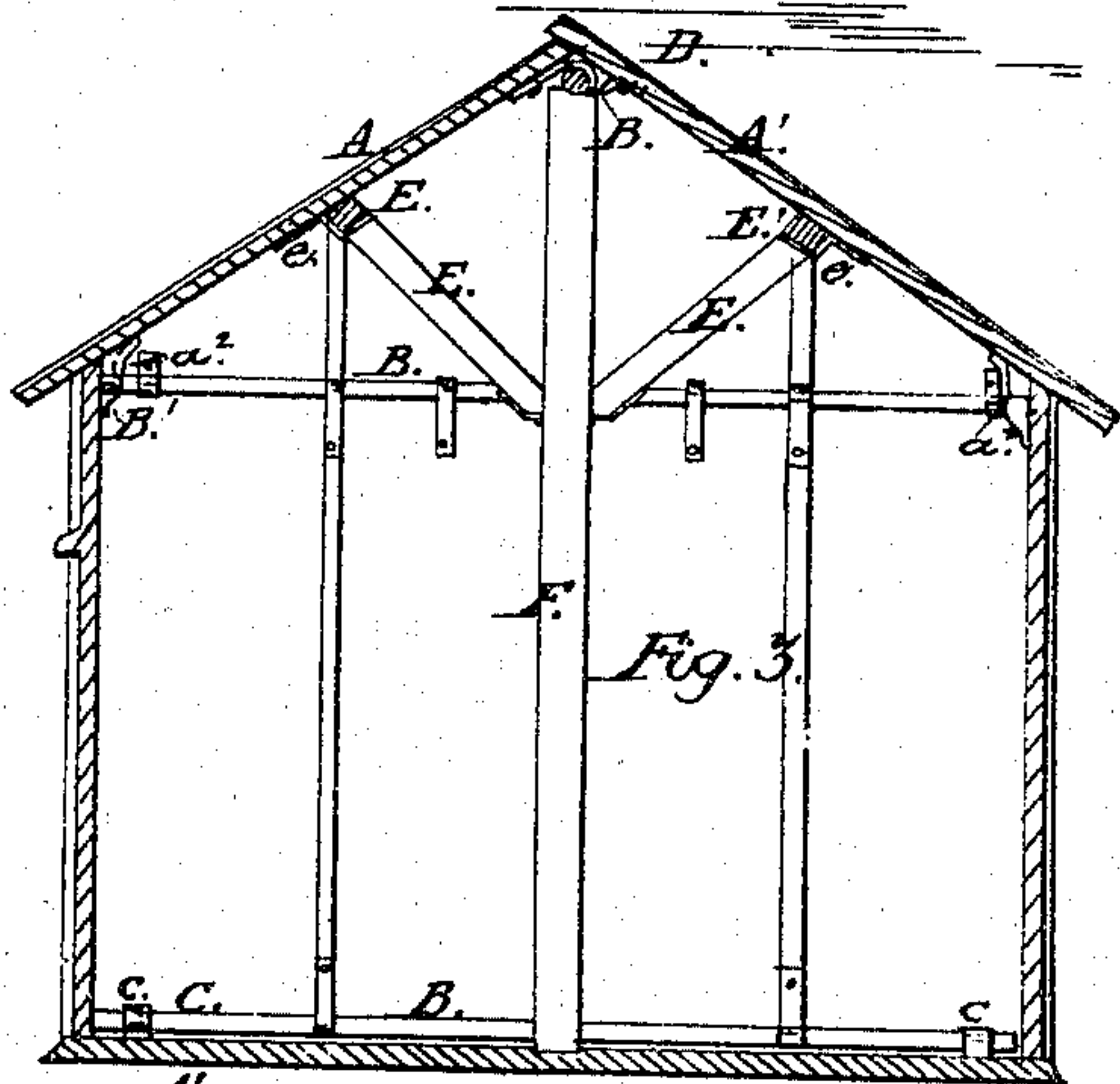
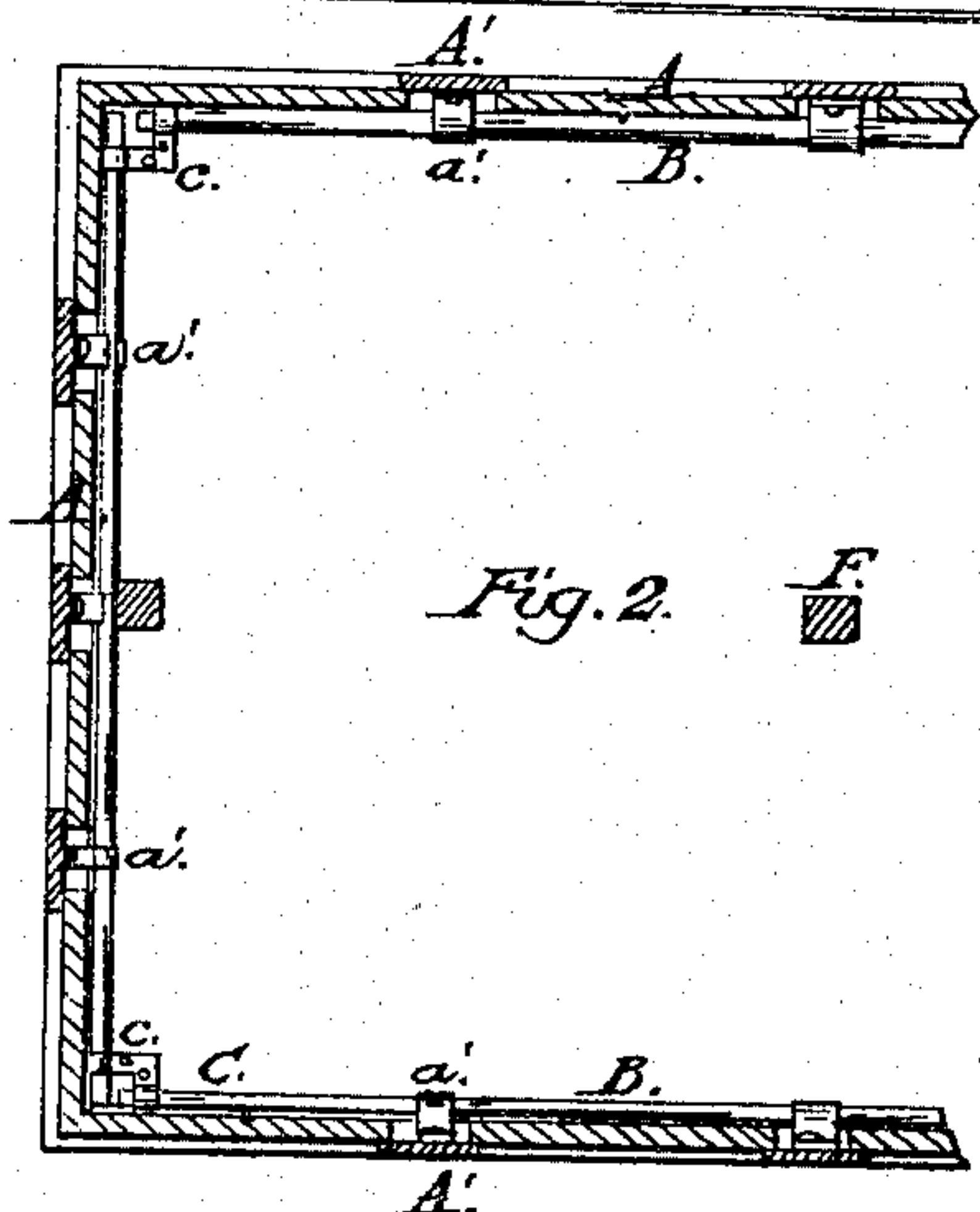
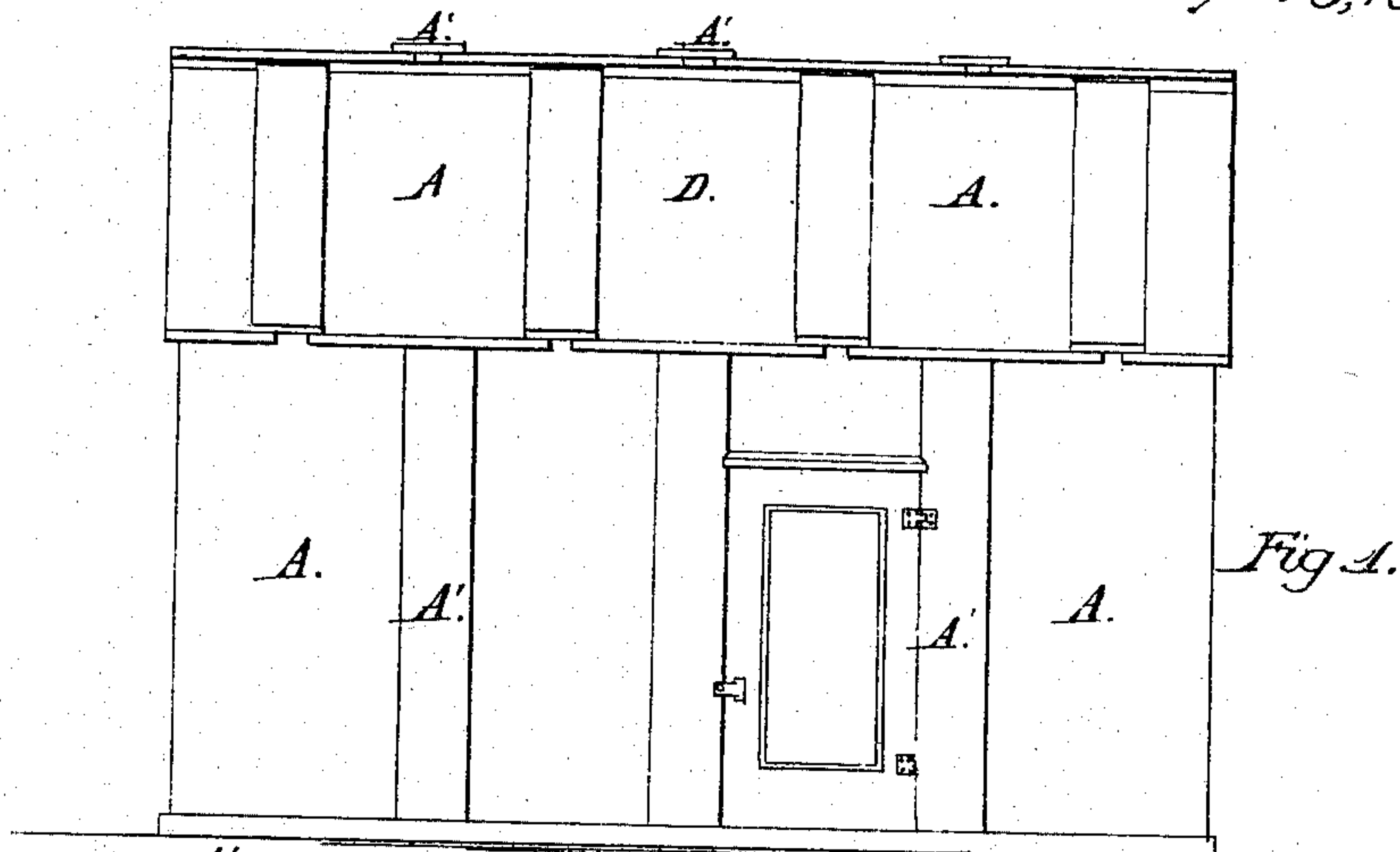


Fig. 5.

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WILLIAM R. MEARS, OF GRAFTON, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 88,657, dated April 6, 1869.

IMPROVED PORTABLE HOUSE.

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, WILLIAM R. MEARS, of Grafton, in the county of Jersey, and State of Illinois, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Houses and Roofs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and clear description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to houses, walls, roofs, and similar structures, constructed of a series of slats, with such hooks and cleats as will enable an operator to connect the same to joint-rods, or ridge-poles, in such manner as to form a substantial structure, giving the shelter and protection required.

The nature of said invention is in the employment of proper hooks and cleats for attaching the slats to the joint-rods, and in the construction of shed-roofs, for hay or other grain-stacks. The nature of said invention is in forming, by said slats and joint-rod, a hinged covering, which shall readily accommodate itself to the changeable form of the stack maintaining a proper protection against moisture during all said changes of form.

To enable those herein skilled to make and use my said improvements, I will now more fully describe the same, referring to the accompanying

Figure 1, as an elevation of a portable house, constructed in general accordance with the nature of my said invention; to

Figure 2, as part sectional plan; to

Figure 3, as a transverse sectional elevation; to

Figure 4, as a longitudinal sectional elevation; to

Figure 5, as a detail view, showing the attachment of the hooks or cleats to the slats, as here intended.

In the construction of my said houses and roofs, I use a slat, A, usually of wood, or rolled-iron plate, or similar sheet-metal.

Said slat A will have the hook *a*, by means whereof it is hung upon and secured to a rod or pole, B.

A series of slats, A, being placed in one plane consecutively upon the rod B, I cover the joint or seams between said slats by the covering-slat A', the same having at each end the hooks *a'*, for connection with the rod B, and a further rod, B', used for connecting the lower ends.

By thus connecting the covering-slat A', at both ends, with joint-rods B B', the parts are held down and firmly secured, said slat A', in this manner, acting to secure the lower slat A.

By the arrangement of slats A A' in this wise, I form the sides of the house, as indicated in the several figures.

In case that it be difficult to attach the slats to the joint-rods, the holding hooks *a a'* may be detached from one end of the slats and secured upon

the joint-rod, and thereupon be fastened to the fitted slat.

Ordinarily, however, this will not be necessary, as the expert operator will readily be enabled to successively attach the several slats in forming the sides and ends of a structure.

In order to attach the sides and ends of the structure to the floor, or ground, I use socket-bearings, *c*, to which the lower rods C may attach. In the usual arrangement thereof, the bearings *c* are screwed down to the flooring and have proper eyes, through which the rods C are passed.

The roof D may be supported upon a ridge-pole, or rod, B.

This, again, may rest on posts, or be supported upon the ends of the house.

The slats A A', by their hooks *a a'*, are hinged to the pole B, and said slats rest upon the sides of the building, and are held down by cleats *a''*, which pass under the rods B', said cleats being attached (similarly to the hooks *a'*) to the covering-slat A', and being formed as indicated in fig. 3, the change of form from that of the hook *a'* being necessitated by the use of the rods B', for connecting the joining slats of sides of the house, and by the difficulty in connecting slats having hooks at both ends.

In order to brace the roof D, I arrange a brace, E, supported upon a centre-post, F, as shown in fig. 3.

Said brace E bears against a rest-bar, E', passing under the roof-slats, and held in place by rest-hooks, *e*, secured, by screws, to the slats A'.

A house, constructed as aforesaid, is firmly secured in all its parts, and may nevertheless be readily taken apart, and the several slats, rods, and other parts composing the same, may then be easily transported or handled. The house so constructed may, moreover, be arranged with doors and windows in the usual manner.

In case of the application of my said improvement for forming a shed-roof for hay, or other grain-stacks, I use the slats A, with hooks *a*, and also the slats A'; but these will then have hooks *a'* at each end, and the said slats will each connect with a ridge-pole, B, and the slats A' will, at their lower ends, connect, by their hooks *a'*, with the rods B'. Thus the ends of all slats will be secured, and at the same time, all slats being hinged to the ridge-pole, the shed-roof thus formed will adjust itself to the form of the stack upon which it rests.

The hooks *a a'* and cleats *a''* will be secured to the slats A A' by screws *a'''*, and, if said slats are of wood, said hooks will have projecting prongs *a'* entering the wood to hold the hooks firmly in place.

Having thus fully described my invention,

What I claim, is—

1. The slats A, with hook *a*, slats A', with hooks *a'*, combined with the poles B B', substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The brace E, rest-bar E', rest-hooks *e*, and slats A, all combined and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The slats A A', and their hooks, when combined with the rods C and socket-rest *c*, for attach-

ing to the floor of the structure, substantially as set forth.

In testimony of said invention, I have hereunto set my hand, in the presence of—

W. R. MEARS.

Witnesses:

GEO. P. HERTHEL, Jr.,

WM. W. HERTHEL.