

H. K. WHITNER.

Ash-Pits.

No. 157,305.

Patented Dec. 1, 1874.

Fig. 1.

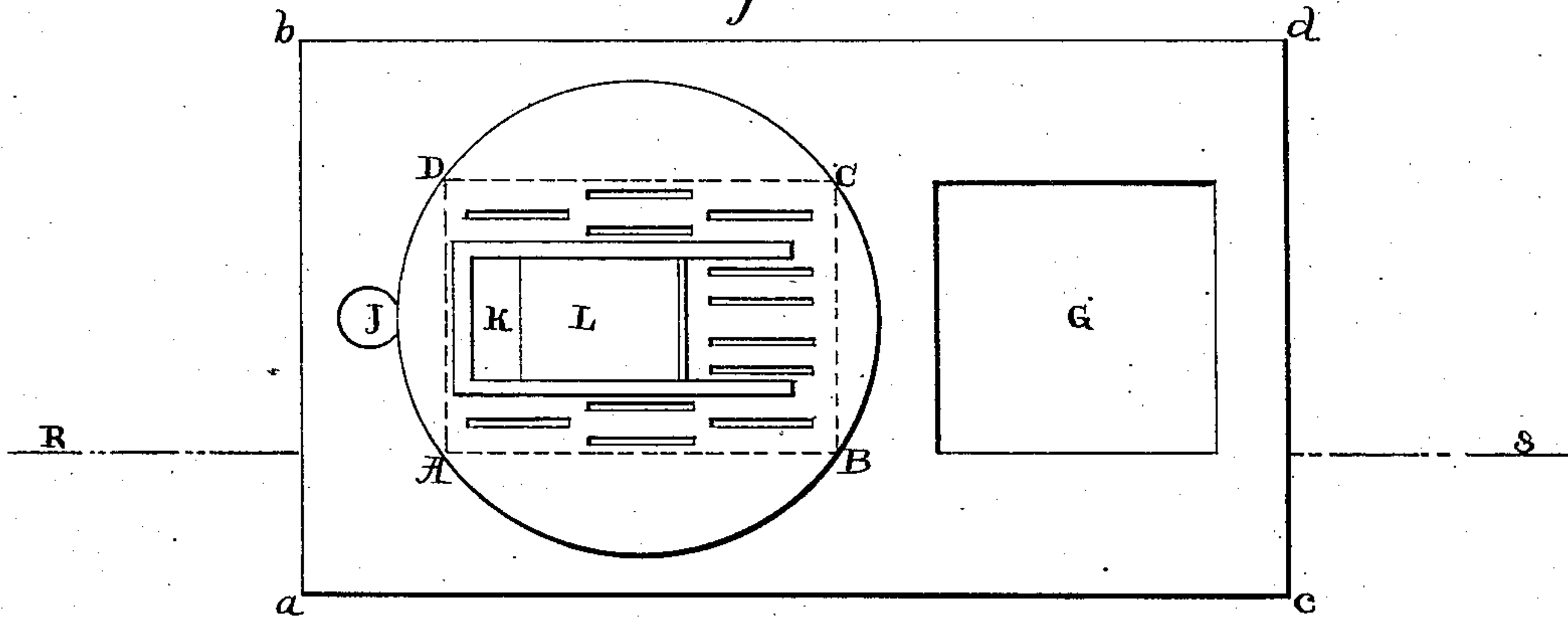


Fig. 2.

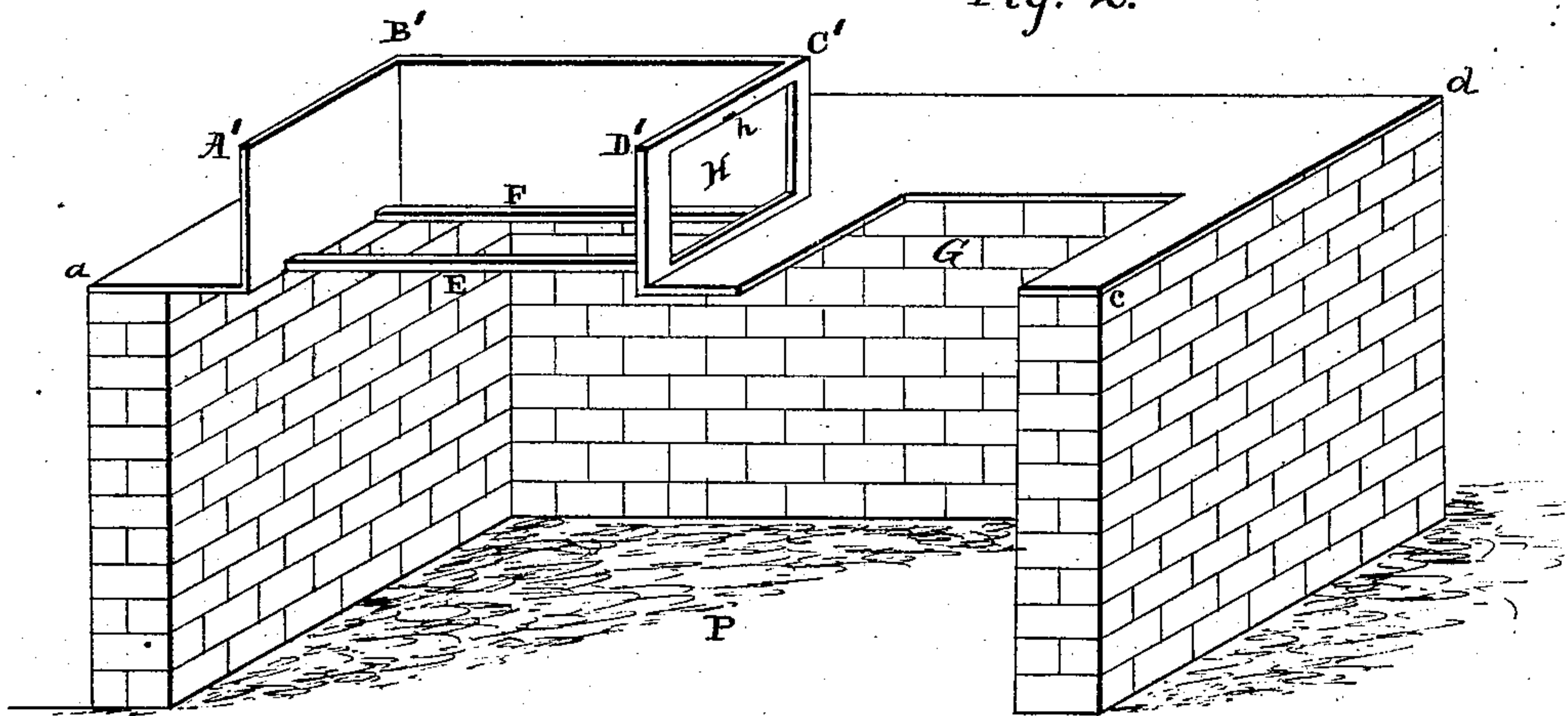
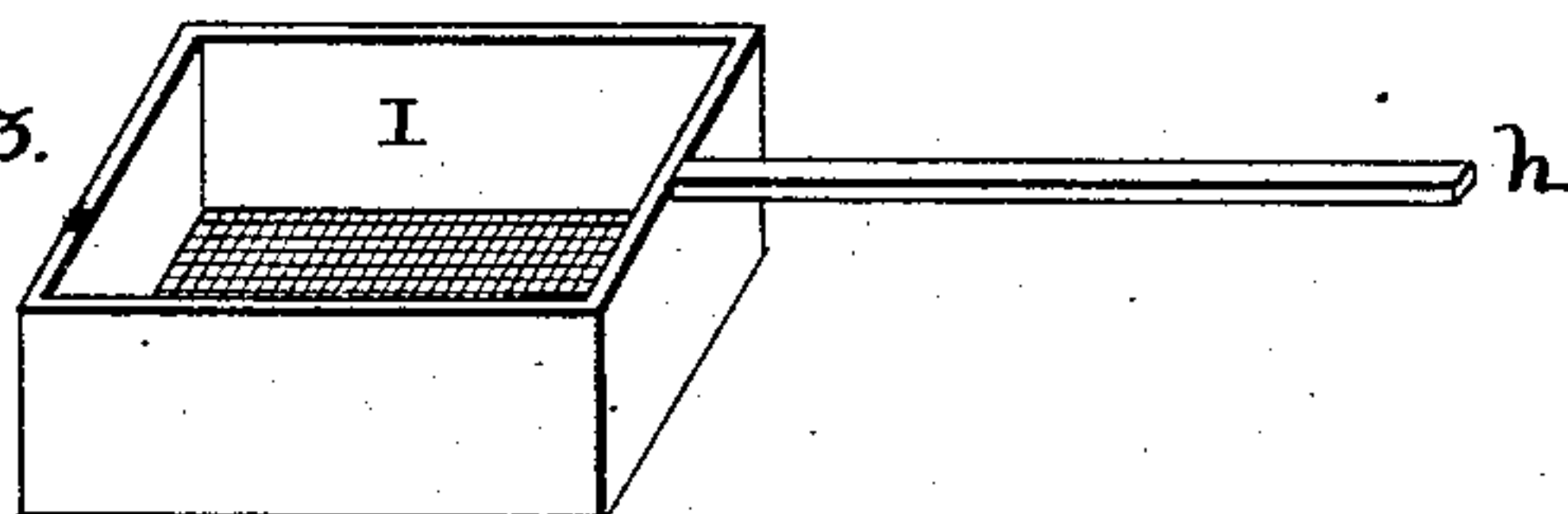


Fig. 3.



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IMPROVEMENT IN ASH-PITS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,305**, dated December 1, 1874; application filed October 23, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HIRAM K. WHITNER, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ash-Pits, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists of a combination of ash-pit, sifting-box, flue connecting ash-pit with smoke-flue, and perforated bottom plate of ash-box or stove of that class of stoves known as "portable heaters," commonly placed in cellars, combined in such manner as to greatly lessen the danger from accidental fires in storing hot coals or ashes; also, a great saving of fuel, and absence of dust by sifting or separating the unburnt fuel from the ashes, at the same time evaporating the drainage that will be absorbed by the ashes where this pit is constructed in the ground of damp cellars. The pit also affords a convenient place of deposit for sweepings of the cellar, &c., at all seasons of the year—a sanitary necessity now much neglected, owing to the inconvenience of getting such matter removed at any time in large cities and towns.

Figure 1 is a horizontal view of my improvement, it being a section horizontally taken through the ash-box of heaters as now constructed, showing the bottom plate of the heater A B C D, either circular or square, as it may be. Fig. 2 is a detail vertical section of the same taken through the line R S. Fig. 3 is a sifter.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The following description will enable those skilled in the arts to construct my improvement.

A B C D, Fig. 1, represent the bottom plate of the heater, either circular in form or square, as it may be, in which I make perforations like a grate of a stove, or an opening, K, to admit of the whole contents of the ash-box of the heater being passed through to the apartment below, or both. L is a sliding lid, to close the opening K when the sifter is used. G is an opening with a proper covering. Through this opening the ashes are taken from the pit. The opening J is the flue-hole for the pipe that connects the ash-pit with the smoke-pipe, thereby causing a

draft, to prevent dust while working at the pit; also, the ashes that collect in the smoke-flue, as now constructed, will drop into the ash-pit through this pipe. This dust-flue should have a damper. A' B' C' D', Fig. 2, corresponds in size with the bottom plate of the heater when it is square, and connects the bottom plate of the heater and the top of the ash-pit, which is level with the ground. As heaters are generally elevated from the ground, this space, when of a proper height, will enable us to place the sifter I, Fig. 3, in what I call the sifter-box A' B' C' D', Fig. 2, through the opening H, which opening should be closed by an ordinary stove-door with an aperture, h, so that the sifter I may be operated by means of the handle h, Fig. 3. E F, Fig. 2, are rods to support the sifter I. P is a pit, for the reception of the ashes, &c. It may be constructed of iron, stone, brick, or a concrete made of mortar, small stones, and cement. Perhaps the latter would be the cheapest. Said pit may be of any size desired, dug in the ground, for the purpose of draining the cellar, which will dampen the ashes, so that when they are taken out of the pit they will make little or no dust; or the ashes may be dampened by pouring water into the pit when necessary.

The pit may be covered with stone or iron, containing the proper openings.

If it is desired to do away with the sifter, the bottom plate of the heater can be set down upon the covering or form part of the covering itself; in that case the box A B C D, Fig. 2, might be dispensed with.

The sifter may be a shaking one, or revolving, or any of the known forms.

I am aware that sifters have been attached to cooking-stoves, and that ash-pits are constructed under ranges, &c., that are built on the first floor, the ash-pit being constructed in the cellar, walled up to the first floor, being covered with a grating, and I do not claim any of them; but I am not aware that any portable heaters, or stoves, or heaters in cellars have ever been constructed in the manner of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as my invention—

1. The ash-pit covering *a b c d*, mounted

upon and in combination with the substructure forming the ash-pit P, and having the ash-openings formed by bars, as E F, and dust-flue J, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the ash-pit plate *a b c d*, mounting the substructure, the dust-flue J, the stove-plate A B C D, having the

perforations, and the sifter-box A' B' C' D', substantially as described.

HIRAM K. WHITNER.

Witnesses:

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