

J. COPCUTT.
Fire-Proof Floor.

No. 226,282.

Patented April 6, 1880.

Fig. 1.

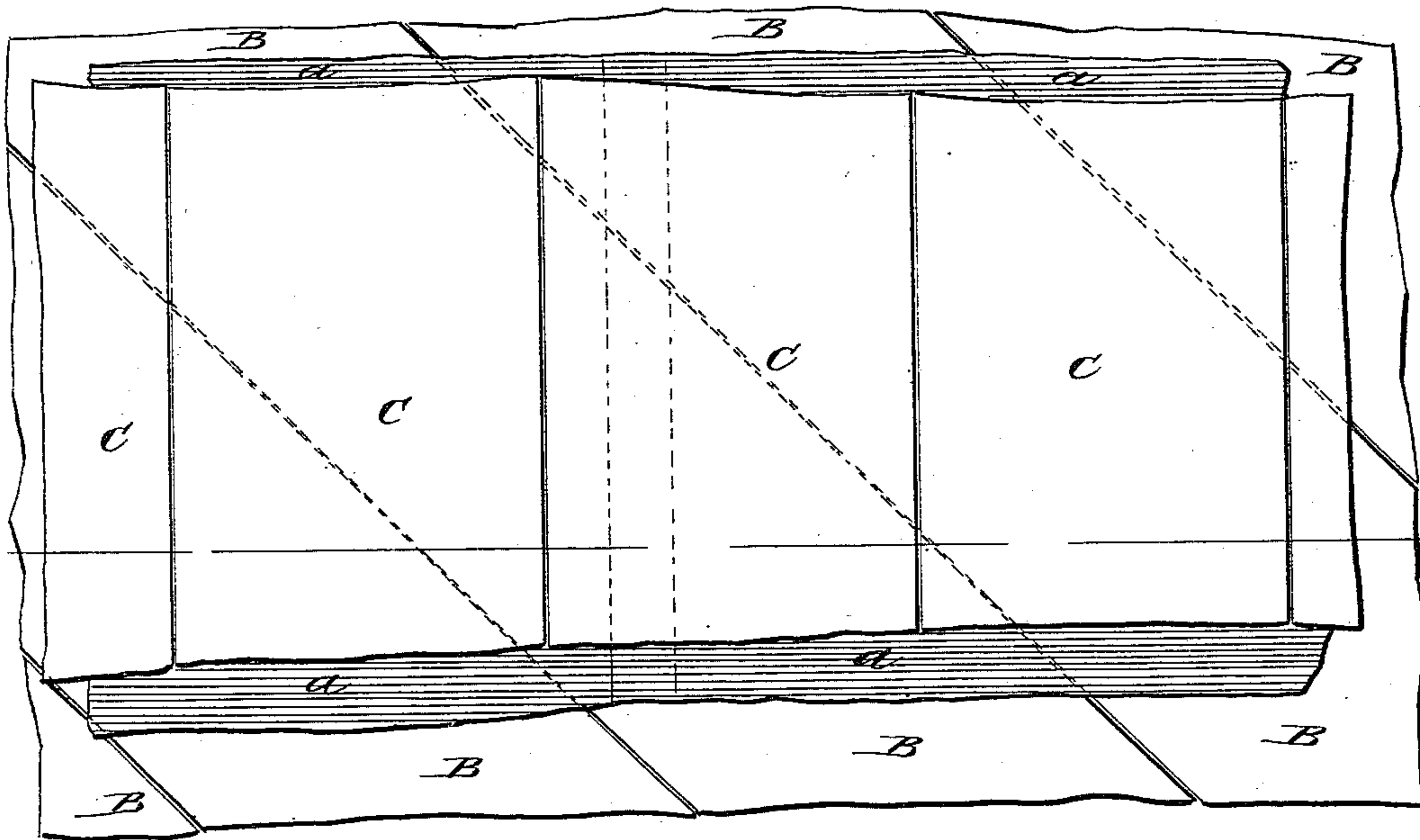


Fig. 2.

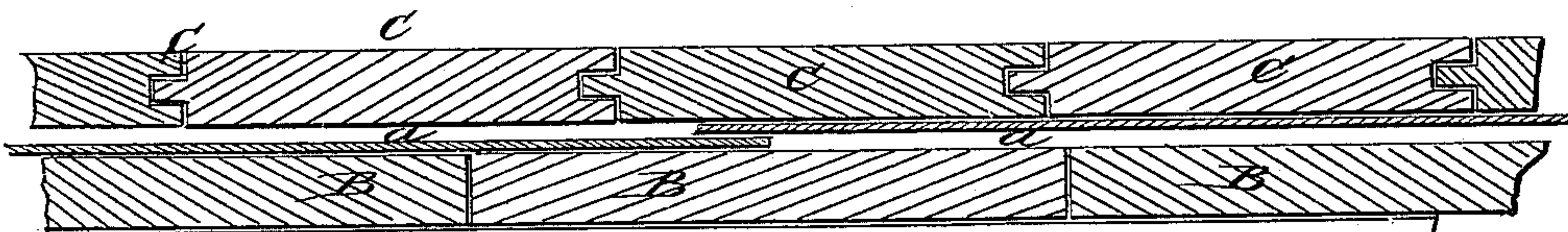


Fig. 3.

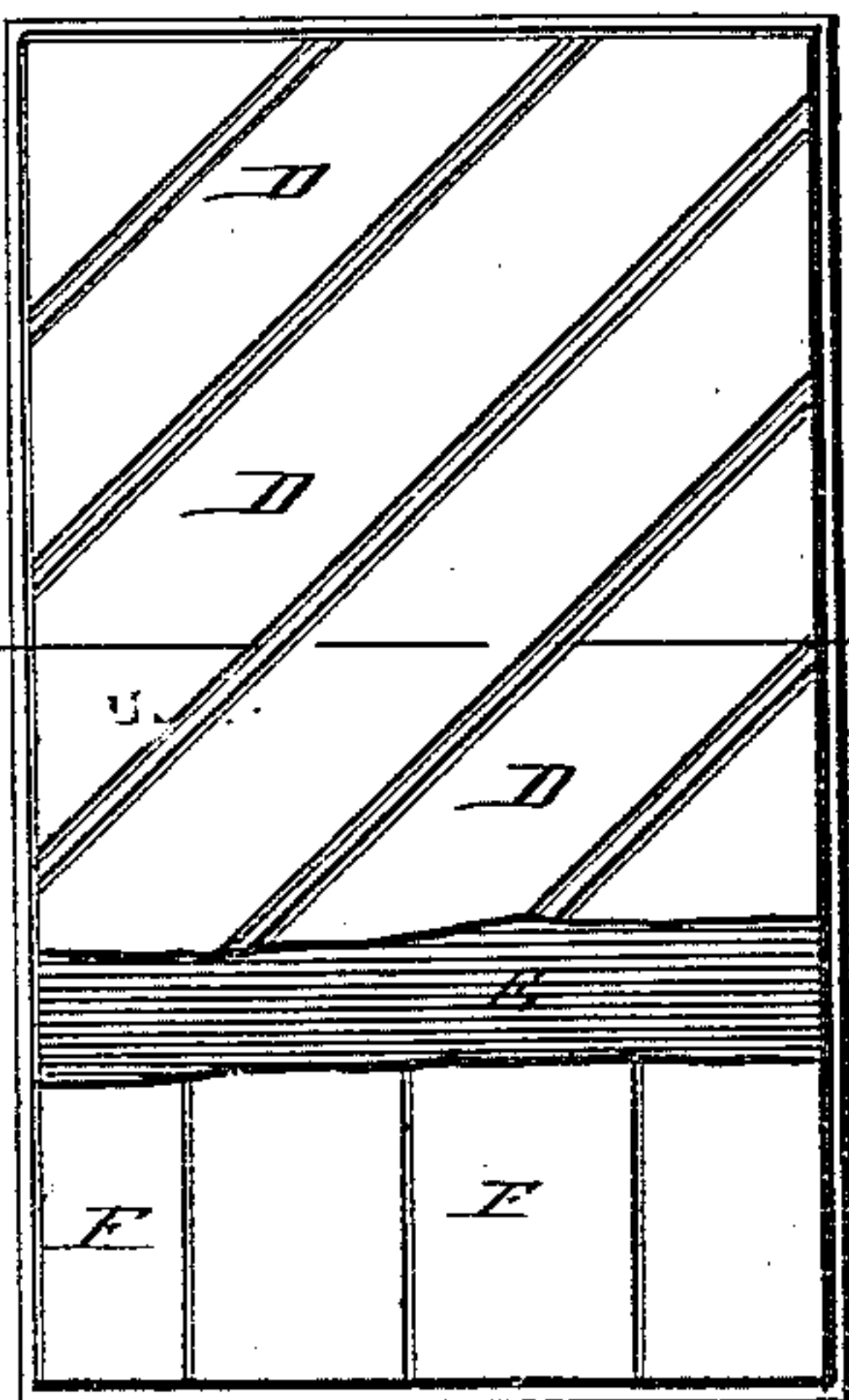
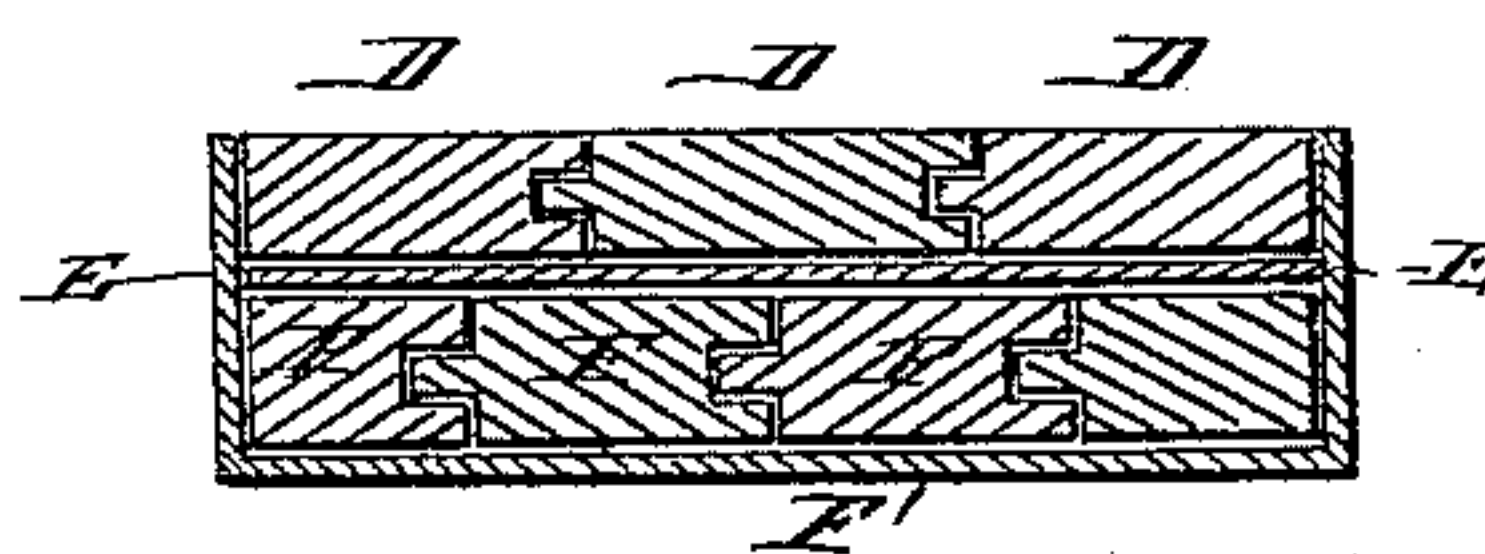


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

H. M. Andle.
C. Sedgwick

INVENTOR:

J. Copcutt
BY *Mumford*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN COPCUTT, OF YONKERS, NEW YORK.

FIRE-PROOF FLOOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 226,282, dated April 6, 1880.

Application filed February 21, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN COPCUTT, of Yonkers, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Construction of Buildings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates more particularly to the construction of the floors, doors, and shutters of buildings; and the object thereof is to prevent the rapid spreading of fire from one part of a burning building to another by burning through those parts.

In a floor it consists of two thicknesses of boards with an intermediate layer of sheets of iron lapped at the edges. A similar arrangement is adopted for doors and shutters. The latter may, in addition, if desired, be covered with the sheet-iron on one side and on the edges.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan of a floor laid in accordance with my improved mode of construction. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same, and Figs. 3 and 4 show the arrangement for doors and shutters.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A A, &c., are the joists of a building for supporting the flooring. Over these are laid diagonally rough boards B B, &c., and nailed down securely. Over this is placed the sheet-iron in sheets *a*, lapped at the edges, as shown in the drawings. On top of this layer of sheet-iron is placed and nailed the ordinary tongue-and-grooved flooring C C, &c. The metal may be painted with iron-clad paint.

In the doors and shutters one layer of boards, D, is placed diagonally, then the sheets of iron E, lapping upon each other, and over these a layer of boards, F. A casing of sheet-iron, F', may then be applied, covering one whole

side and lapped over the edges, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

By this mode of constructing the flooring and shutters several important objects are attained, the most important of which is that in case the building takes fire in one part this construction of the flooring, doors, and shutters offers an obstruction to the rapid spread of the flames to an adjoining room or part of the building, and thus gives time to extinguish the fire before it makes much headway. The sheet-iron prevents effectually the fire from going through for so long a time that the engine will put out the fire entirely in the first story in which it begins.

In addition to this principal advantage are these incidental ones—viz., the first layer of boards increases the strength of buildings, and as they are laid as soon as the joists are put down they furnish a floor for the workman to walk over and a foundation for the scaffolding. Further, by the triple layer a much more solid floor is obtained.

This method of making the floors and shutters could also be applied to the covers of hatchways, iceways, &c., and the metal should be put over the ends and sides of the beams around the hatchways.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination, in the floor of a building, of the boards B, laid directly on the joists, the intermediate layers of sheet-iron lapped at the edges, and the tongue-and-grooved flooring, substantially as described.

JOHN COPCUTT.

Witnesses:

WILTON C. DONN,
C. SEDGWICK.