

(No Model.)

J. F. ROSS.
Changeable Sign.

No. 235,652.

Patented Dec. 21, 1880.

Fig. 1.

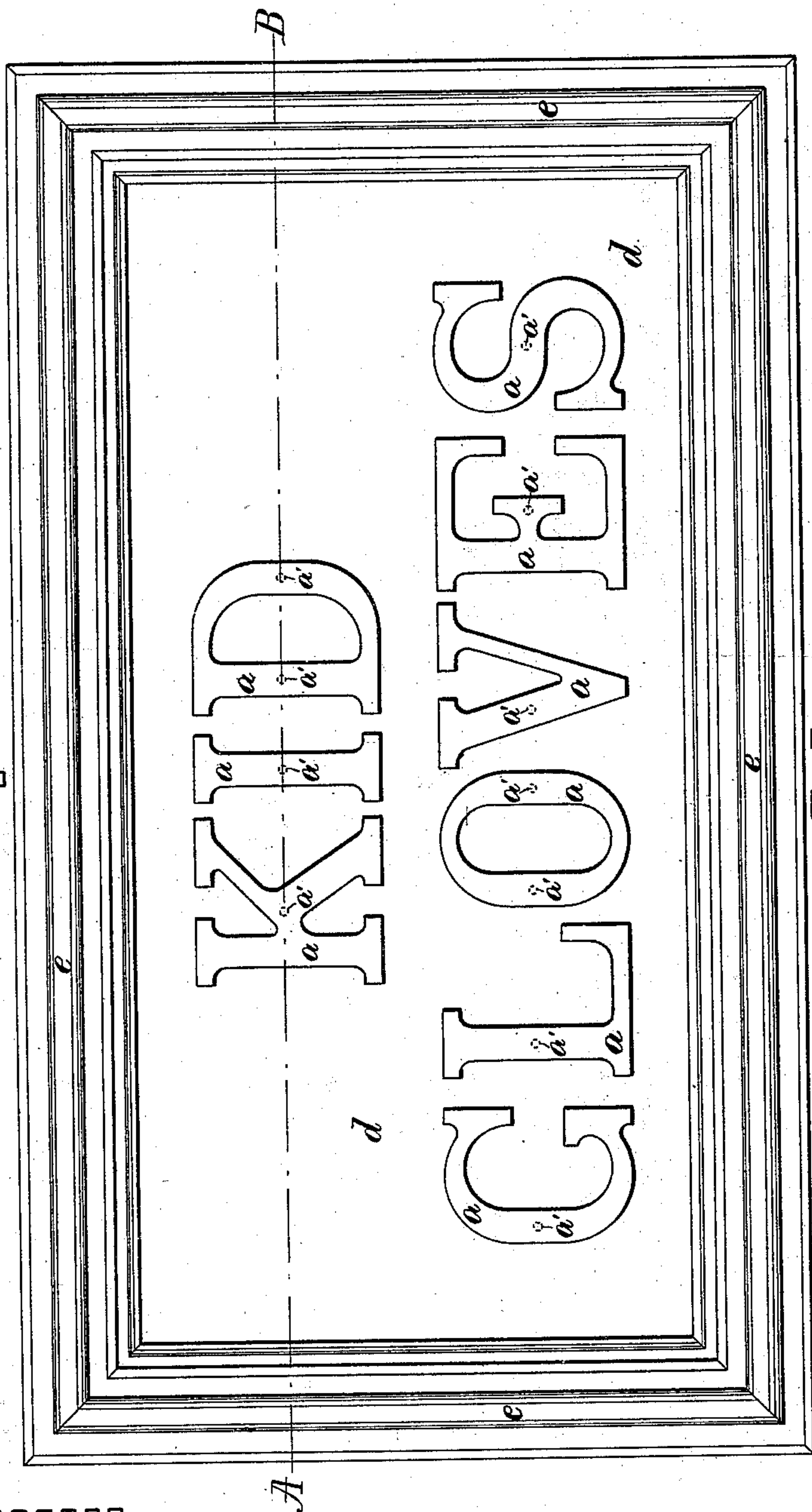
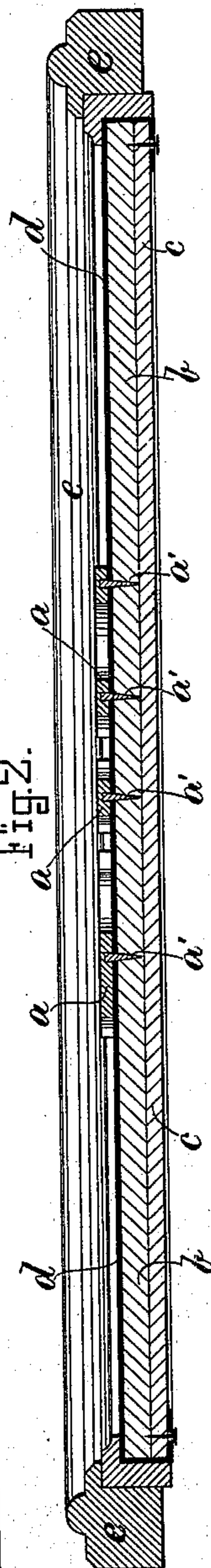


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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by
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH F. ROSS, OF IPSWICH, MASSACHUSETTS.

CHANGEABLE SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 235,652, dated December 21, 1880.

Application filed October 11, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH F. ROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ipswich, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Changeable Signs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in changeable signs for stores, hotels, windows, or for other purposes where it may be desirable to change the wording on the sign—as, for instance, when used in dry-goods or other stores as advertising cards or bulletins to call attention to novelties or to other kind of goods, as well as prices for the same, or for similar purposes where it may be necessary or desirable to change the reading of the sign from time to time.

The invention consists of metallic letters or numerals, each one provided at the rear with one or more sharp-pointed tacks or projections, in combination with a cork tablet provided with a wooden or other suitable back or support and a velvet or cloth front, the latter being preferably lasted or otherwise secured to the back or support after the cloth has been laid on the cork tablet and lapped over its outer edges. The cork tablet, with its cloth cover and back or support, may be inserted within a suitable frame, so as to produce a neat and ornamental finish; but I do not wish to confine myself to the combination of such frame with my improved changeable sign, as the latter may be used with or without such frame, as may be desired.

By making the sign-board of a cork sheet in front and a stiffener or support of wood in the rear, I combine strength with a light and soft material, into which the projections on the letters or numerals can be easily pressed by hand without the use of a hammer or other tool. In this manner any desired names, numerals, or sentences can be made up and attached to the sign-board simply by pressing the projections or tacks on the letters or numerals through the cloth covering into the cork sheet until the rear side of the letters

or numerals lie in contact with the covering in front of the cork sheet. I prefer to use velvet or velveteen as a cover for the cork sheet, as any perforations made by the tacks of the letters or numerals are not visible on such materials when the figures or symbols are removed.

On the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my adjustable sign, and Fig. 2 represents a cross-section as seen from below the line A B shown in Fig. 1.

Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

a a a represent the changeable letters, (or numerals,) each one being provided at the rear with one or more tacks or sharp-pointed projections, *a' a' a'*, as and for the purpose set forth.

b represents the cork sheet that serves as the material into which the projections *a' a'* are pushed for the purpose of retaining the letters or numerals in place.

c represents the support or back for the cork sheet *b*, to which it may be secured in a suitable manner.

d represents the velvet or cloth cover in front of the cork sheet *b*, which cover is lapped over the edges of the sign-board *b c* and lasted or tacked or otherwise secured to the back of the support *c*, as shown.

e represents the frame, to which the improved sign may be mounted or attached, if desired.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described changeable sign, consisting of the letters or numerals *a a*, with their rear projections, *a' a'*, in combination with the cork front *b*, support or back *c*, and cover *d*, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In combination, the changeable letters or numerals *a a a' a'*, cork sheet *b*, back *c*, cover *d*, and frame *e*, as and for the purpose as specified.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH F. ROSS.

Witnesses:

C. A. SAYWARD,
ALBERT P. JORDAN.