

(No Model.)

J. C. LAKE.

SIGN.

No. 299,652.

Patented June 3, 1884.

Fig. 1.

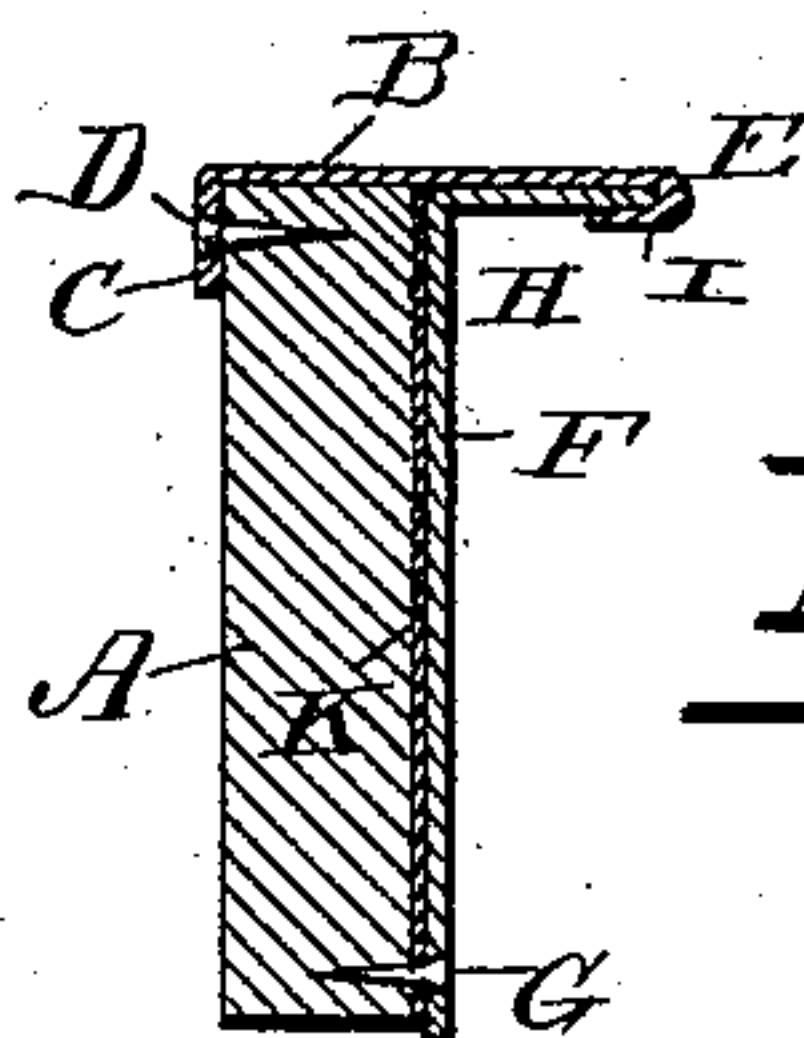
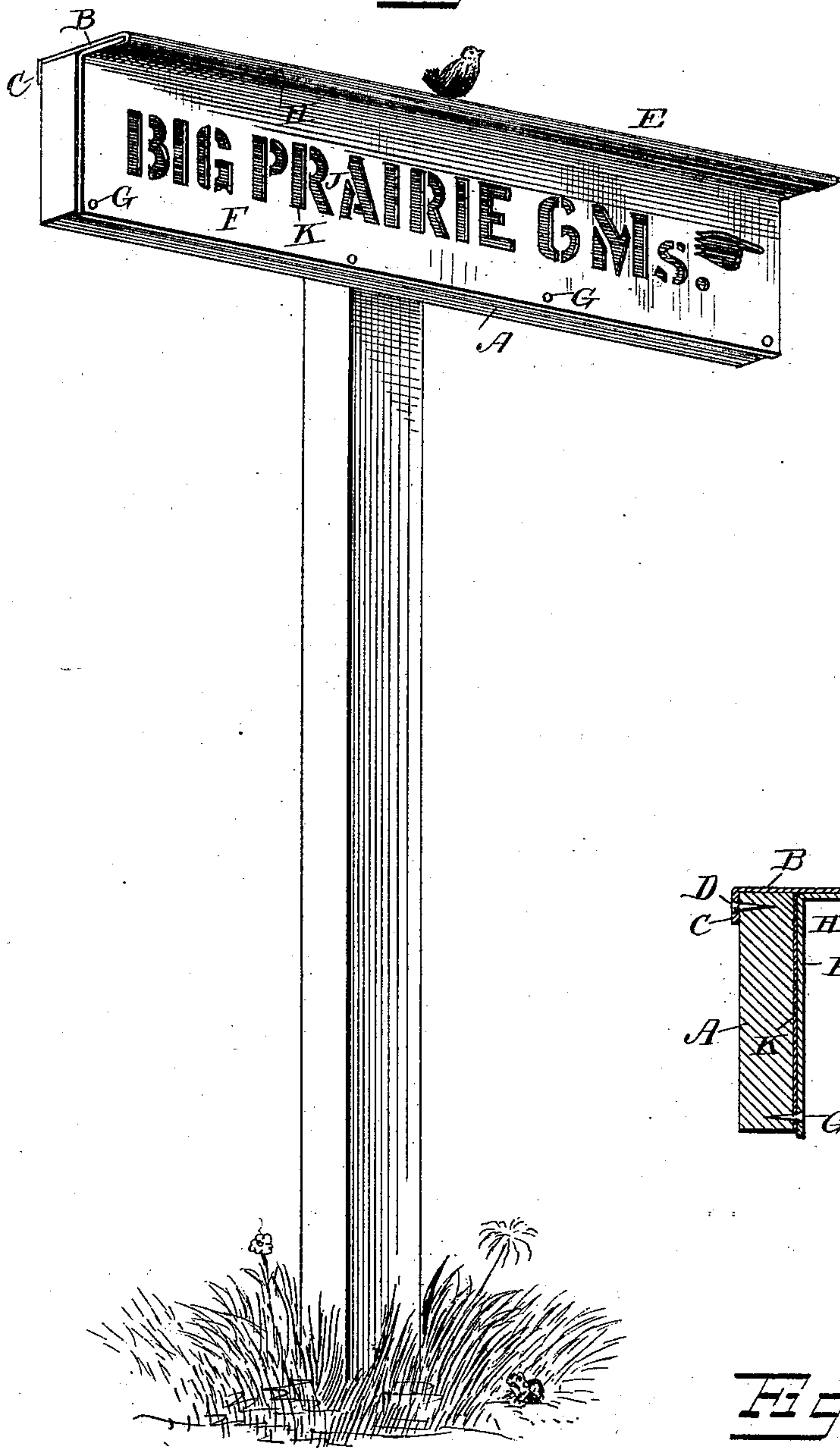
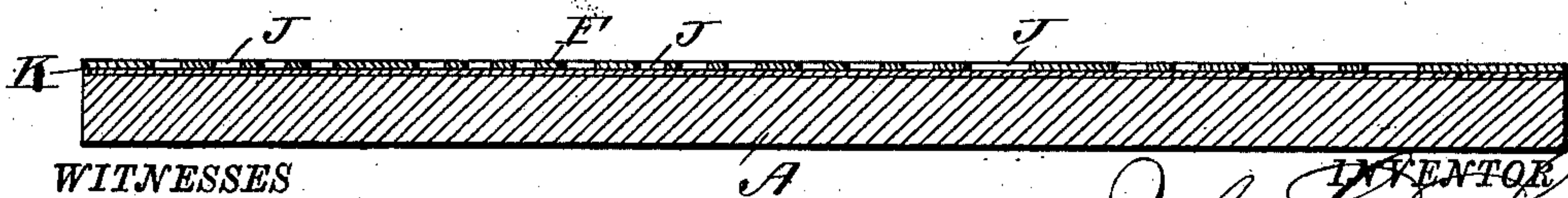


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

E. L. Ourand,

J. R. Little,

INVENTOR

John C. Lake,
by *Admow & Co.*
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. LAKE, OF BIG PRAIRIE, OHIO.

SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 299,652, dated June 3, 1884.

Application filed July 24, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. LAKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Big Prairie, in the county of Wayne and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Signs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to signs, and its object is to provide a sign possessing superior advantages in point of simplicity, inexpensiveness, durability, and general efficiency over those heretofore made.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sign embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view taken on a longitudinal plane through the letters.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a longitudinal strip or board, preferably formed of wood, that comprises the backing of my improved sign. The top edge of this strip A is protected by a longitudinal plate, B, that has a longitudinal downturned flange, C, at its rear edge, which serves as an additional protection to the top edge of strip A by preventing water and dirt from getting in between the said top edge and the said plate, and also serves as a means by which the said plate is secured in position, tacks or screws D being passed through this flange C into the strip A. The plate B presents a smooth and unobstructed surface, and projects some distance from the face of the sign to form a protecting cap or flange, E, extending longitudinally and having its outer edge turned down and under to form a D-shaped edge, I, that strengthens and obviates accidental bending of the projecting flange E, and serves another purpose, which will be presently described.

F is a facing-plate, which is secured to the face of strip A by tacks or screws G, and is provided at its top with a forwardly-projecting flange, H, at right angles to its main portion, which flange comes under the flange E, and has its end received by the bent edge I of said flange E. By this arrangement the top portion of the facing-plate F is retained in position and the projecting protecting cap or

flange formed by the flanges E and H is braced and strengthened, while either the top plate, B, or the face-plate F, can be removed for substitution or other purposes without disturbing the other parts. The letters J, forming the sign, are cut through the face-plate F like a stencil, and a card, K, of the desired color, is arranged between the strip A and the said face-plate, so that it will show through the latter and form the backing of the letters. In lieu of this card, the front face of strip A can simply be painted the desired color, and this paint or colored card is preferably phosphorescent or otherwise luminous, so that the sign will be easily visible at night, and in dark places, like tunnels, &c.

The operation and advantages of my invention will be readily understood. It is very simple, and is especially convenient and efficient, and easy of construction.

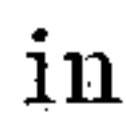
I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the main strip or backing of the sign, of the top plate presenting the smooth top surface and having its rear edge turned down to form a securing-flange, and its front edge projecting from the front edge of the backing to form a projecting cap and turned down and under to provide a strengthening-edge, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the main strip or backing, a face-plate independently removable from the same, and a top plate projecting from the front edge of the strip to form a protecting cap or flange and removably connected to the face-plate, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the longitudinal main strip or backing, the top plate secured thereto and projecting forwardly to form the top cap or flange, and having its extreme front edge bent down and under to form a D-shaped edge, and the face-plate secured to the face of the strip and having a forwardly-projecting top flange arranged at right angles to its main portion, and having its edge received and retained by the D-shaped edge, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination of the main strip or backing, the top plate having the smooth top

surface, the downwardly-bent rear edge by which it is secured to the rear face of the strip, and the front projecting cap or flange having the downwardly and under bent extreme edge 5 in  shape, and the front plate secured to the face of the main strip and having the top forward flange received into the down and under bent edge of the top plate, and having the letters forming the sign cut in its main portion to expose a color-backing in rear of the

face-plate, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN C. LAKE.

Witnesses:

EDWARD G. SIGGERS.

J. REED LITTELL.