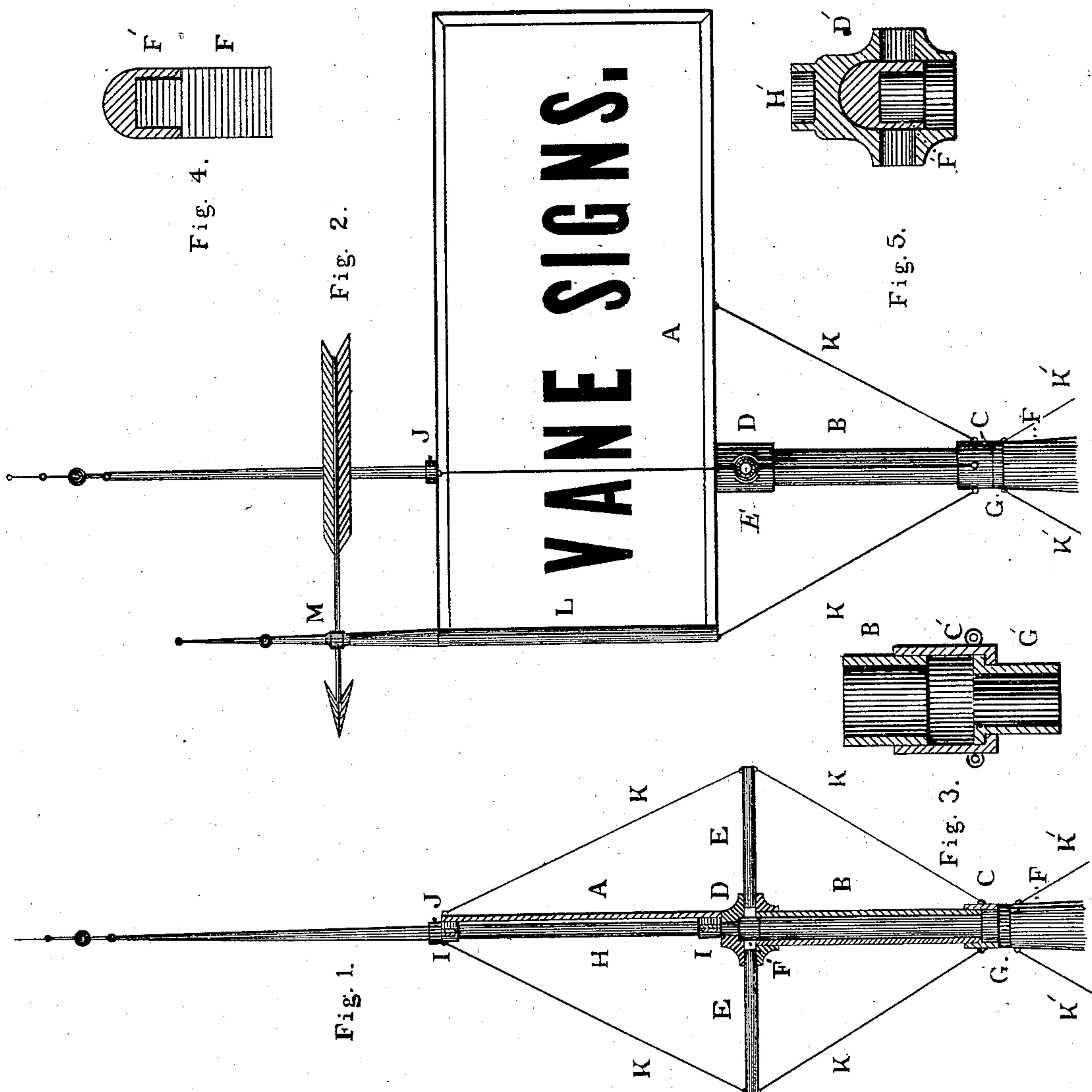


(No Model.)

G. W. MENEFEE.
SIGN.

No. 305,098.

Patented Sept. 16, 1884.



Witnesses:
James Young,
W. F. Kibbler

Inventor:
G. W. Menefee,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. MENEFEE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,098, dated September 16, 1884.

Application filed March 16, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE WASHINGTON MENEFEE, of the city and county of San Francisco, California, have invented certain Improvements in Signs and Vanes, of which this, with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

The invention consists in a sign arranged to swing with the wind like a vane, with details of construction applicable to vanes also.

Figure 1 is a cross-section of the sign or vane and a longitudinal section of the socket and bearings by which it is supported, showing also the rod, pole, or post on which said sign or vane swings, and the cross-arms and braces by which it is stiffened and strengthened. Fig. 2 is a side view. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical section of a portion of the lower end of the socket, showing one form of coupling and fastening. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the upper end of the supporting-rod and of the steel or other suitable cap fitted upon the top of this rod when said rod is made of wood and does not pass through the upper end of the socket. Fig. 5 is a vertical section of one form of coupling or head forming the upper end of the supporting-socket, showing also a vertical section of the cap in position within the socket.

In all these figures like letters indicate like parts.

A is a sign mounted upon a vertical axis, and arranged to swing with the wind like a vane. It may be counterbalanced and trussed, stiffened, and stayed with cross-arms and braces, as shown.

B is a socket, upon which the sign or vane is mounted, and with which it swings. It consists in the present instance of a short piece of gas-pipe and the couplings C and D, though it may be made in any other suitable manner.

C is a coupling screwed upon the lower end of the pipe to form the lower bearing of the socket. It is provided with four lugs or eyes, to which are secured the braces K K.

C' is another form of coupling, sometimes used to form the lower bearing of the socket. It is provided with an internal flange upon its lower end, as shown in Fig. 3. These couplings may be bored at their lower ends when true bearings are desired.

D is a double-T or four-way coupling screwed

upon the upper end of the pipe to form the upper end of the socket. It may also be bored out to form a true bearing for the rod or pole F. It may consist of a bearing only. D', Fig. 5, is another form of this coupling or head, arranged to support the entire weight of the sign or vane as it rests upon the top of the rod F. The socket-heads D and D', when used with a rod passing one side of the vane or sign, may be provided with a recess, lug, or other suitable projection or fastening for securing it firmly to the sign or vane.

E E are short arms screwed into opposite sides of the four-way or other coupling D.

F is a rod or other suitable support, forming the axis on which the sign or vane swings. Its upper end fits loosely into the socket B, having bearings in the couplings C and D. This rod may be supported by braces K', Figs. 1, 2.

F' and G are portions of the rod F, on which the bearings in the couplings C and D turn. When that portion of the rod F entering the socket is made of wood, F' is either a ring or cap, being a ring when the rod F passes through the coupling D, Fig. 1, and a cap, Figs. 4 and 5, when the rod F terminates in the socket B and carries the weight of the sign or vane upon its upper end. When the rod F passes through the coupling D, as in Fig. 1, F' may be arranged to give only a side bearing, or it may have both side and top bearings, and C may be made with a shoulder to assist in carrying the weight, as shown in the same figure, if so preferred.

G', Fig. 3, is a ring with an external flange, used in connection with the coupling C'. It is secured to the rod F in any suitable manner, and serves to prevent the sign or vane from being lifted by the wind or otherwise.

H is a rod sometimes used to insure greater stiffness and stability. It may consist of a prolongation of the rod F, or of a smaller rod let into the top of the rod F, or it may consist of a rod screwed into the socket H', Fig. 5.

I I are bearings for the rod H when said rod is but a continuation of the rod F. These bearings are firmly secured to the sign or vane. When the rod H screws into the socket H' and turns with the sign, I I become mere fastenings for securing the sign to the rod.

J is a collar and set-screw that may be used,

instead of the flanged ring G' and coupling C', to prevent the sign or vane from being thrown off by the wind. It is used only when the rod H is secured to or forms part of the rod F.

5 K K are braces. Two of them pass from the coupling C or C' to the under edge of the sign A, Fig. 2, and two from the same coupling to the outer ends of the cross-arms E E. Two also pass from the outer ends of these cross-arms to the upper edge of the sign or vane, all being firmly secured at each end. This arrangement gives a strong, substantial support, by means of which large signs may be securely mounted.

15 L is a weight placed upon the short end of the sign or vane to counterbalance the long end. It may be made in any manner suitable for the specified purpose, though in the pres-

ent instance it consists of a tube closed at the lower end, into which molten lead has been poured in sufficient quantity to form the counter-balance desired.

M is simply an ornamental appendage that may be inserted into and supported by the tube L. It as well as the whole design may be varied indefinitely.

I deem new and therefore claim—

A sign-vane consisting of the board A, bearing-socket B, cross-arms E E, braces K K, rod F, and counter-balance L, substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

GEO. W. MENEFFEE.

Witnesses:

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