

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. ELFORD.  
PORTABLE HOUSE.

No. 323,030.

Patented July 28, 1885.

FIG. 1.

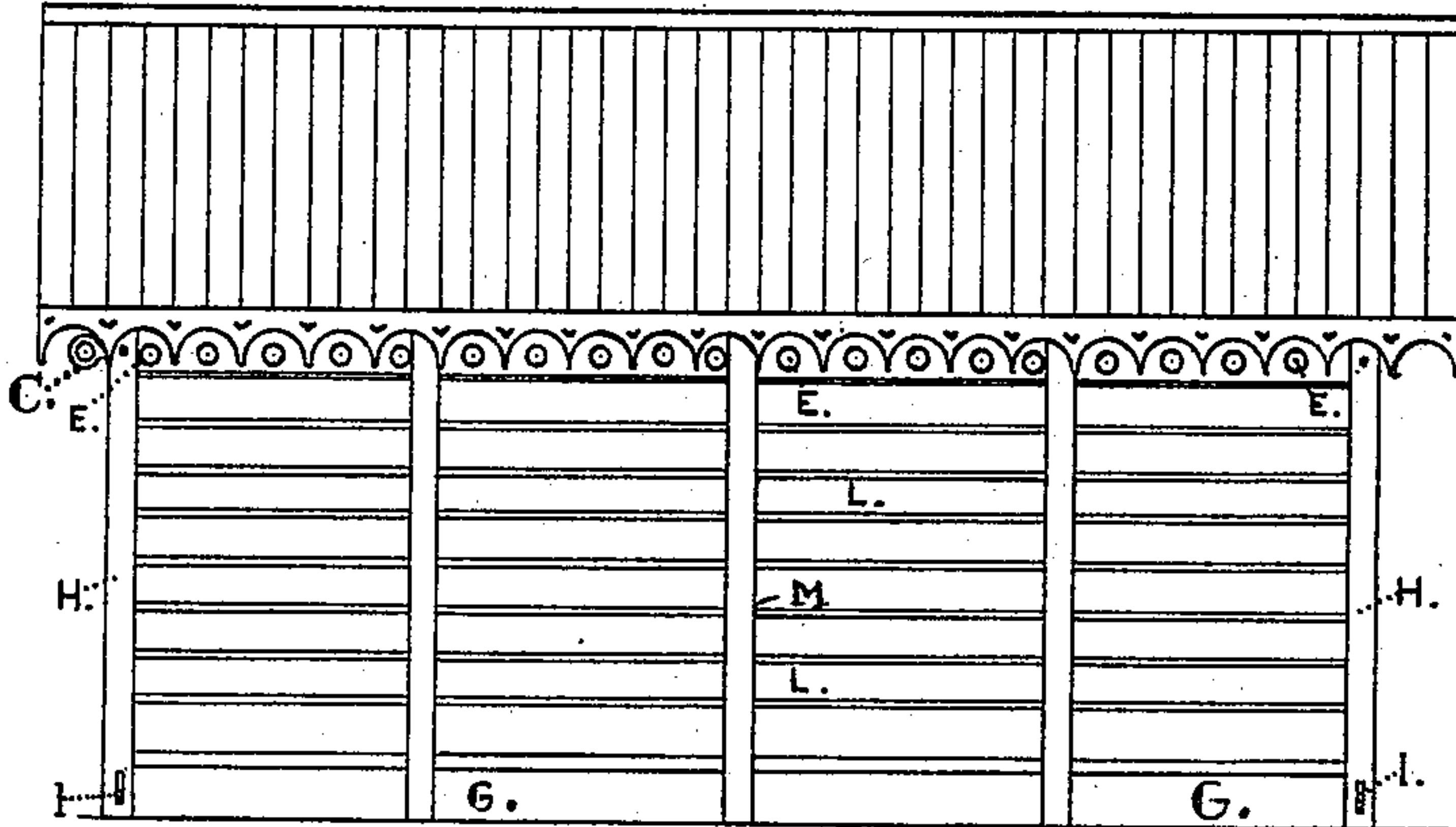


FIG. 2.

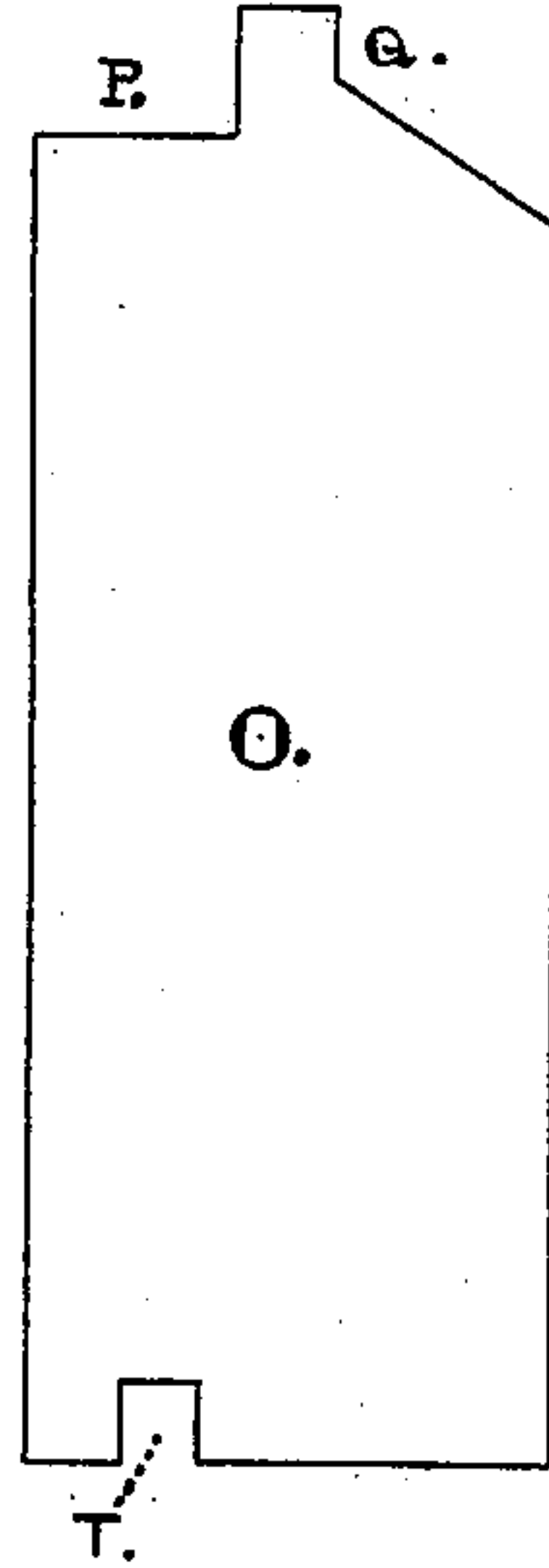


FIG. 3.



FIG. 4.

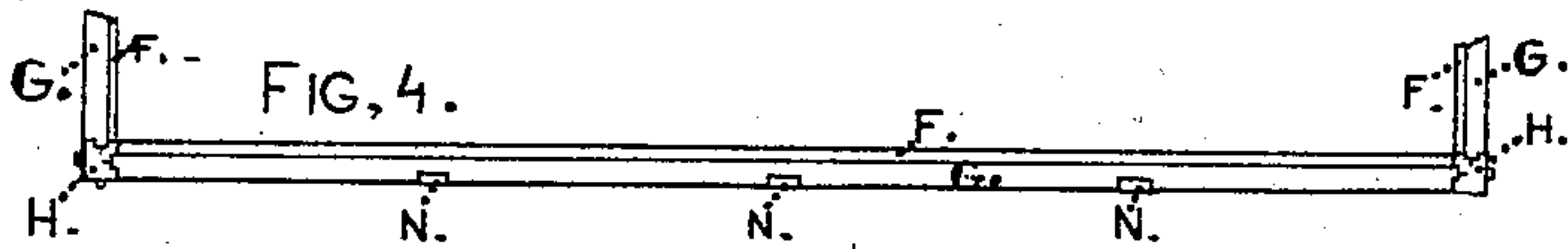


FIG. 6.

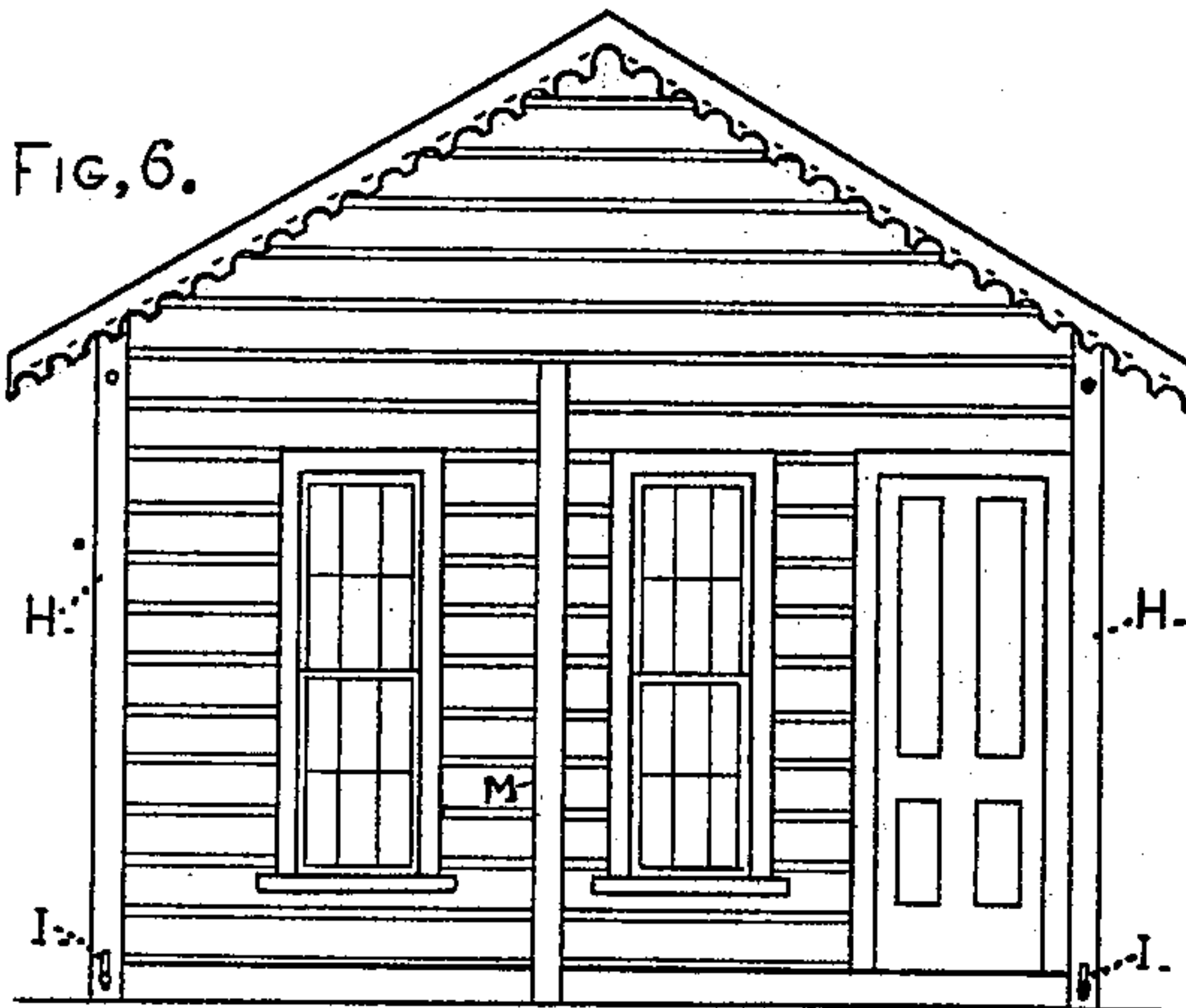


FIG. 5.

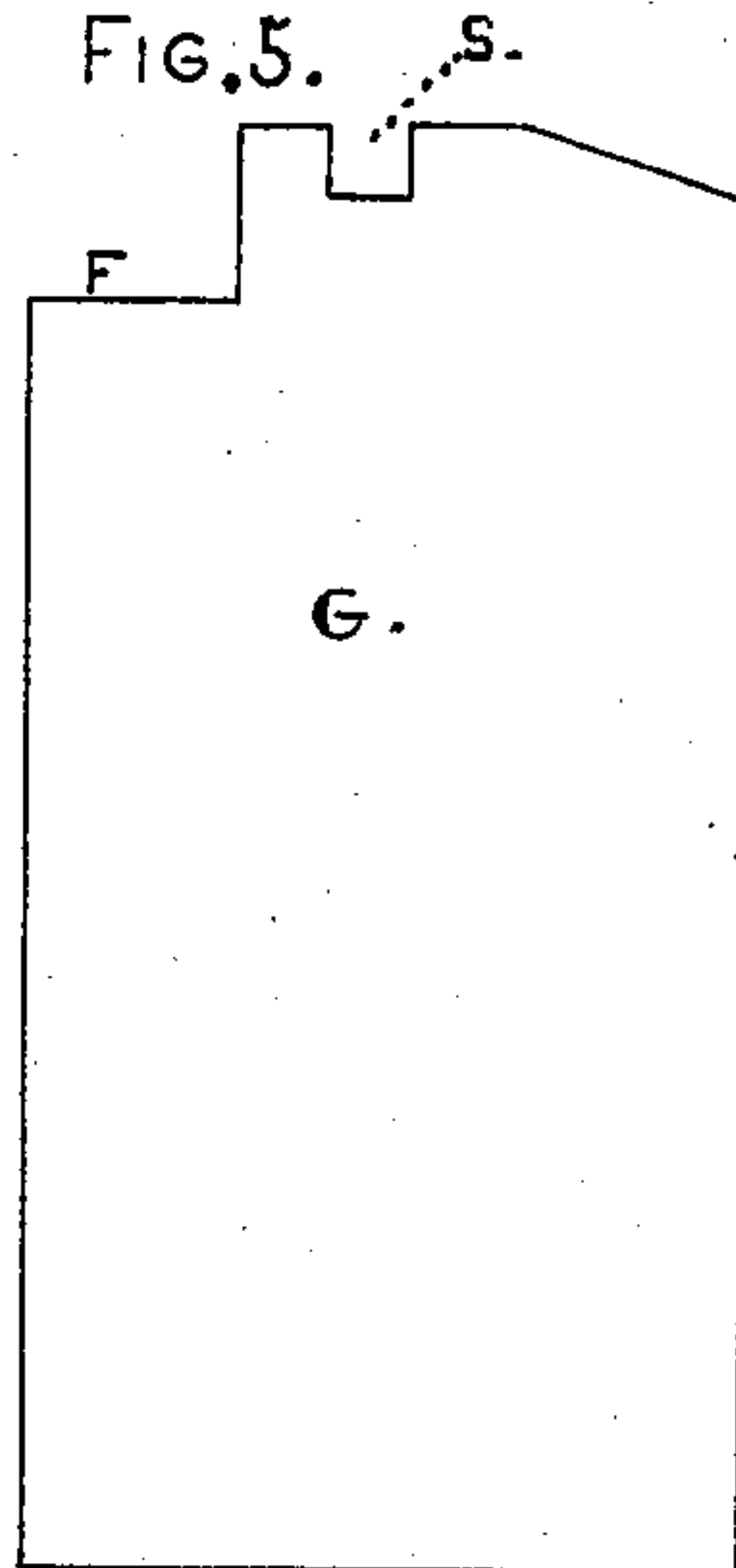


FIG. 7.

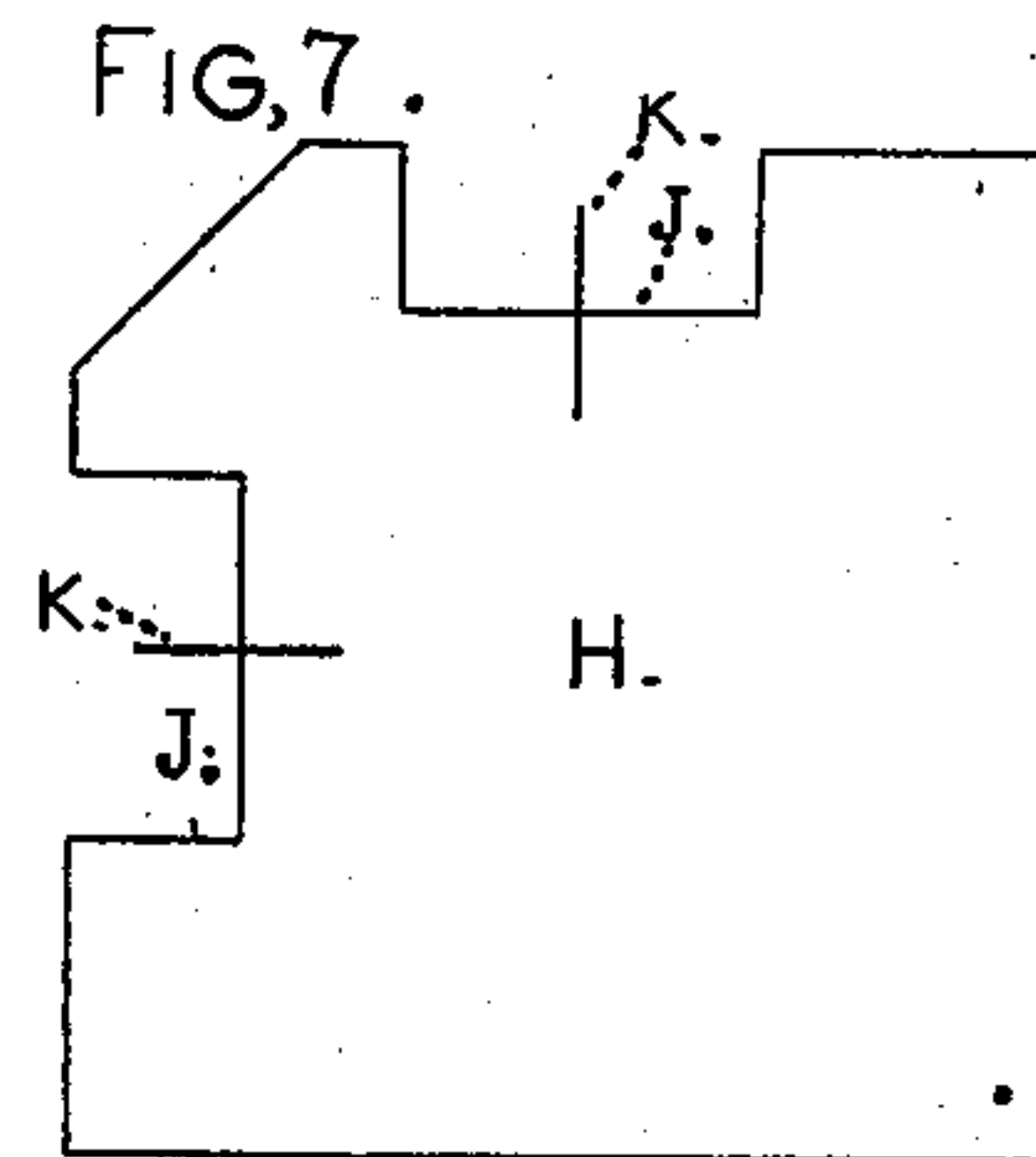


FIG. 20.



WITNESSES,  
*John H. Redstone.*  
*Albert H. Redstone.*

INVENTOR,

*William Elford*

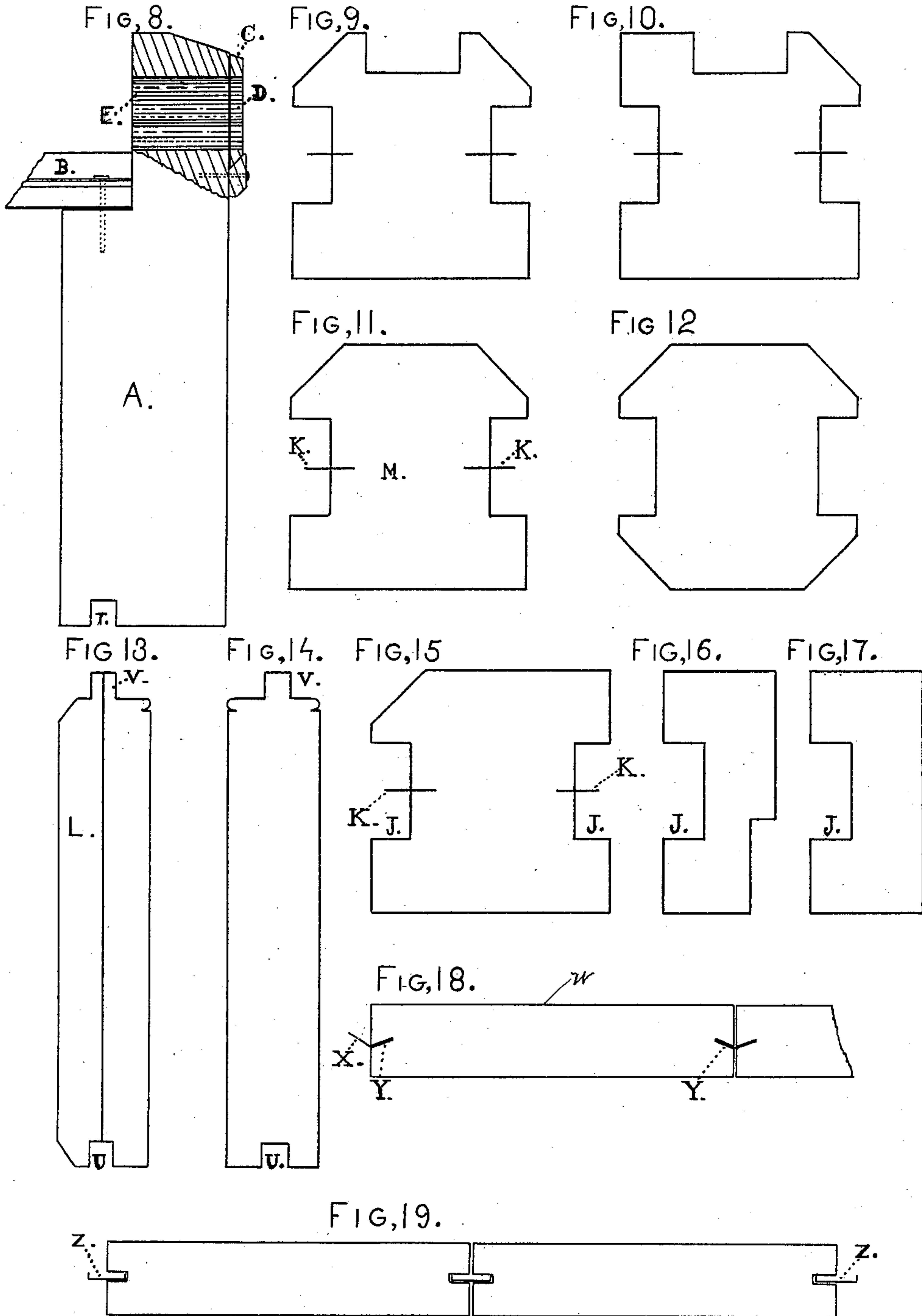
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. ELFORD.  
PORTABLE HOUSE.

No. 323,030.

Patented July 28, 1885.



WITNESSES,  
*John H. Redstone*  
*Albert E. Redstone.*

INVENTOR,  
*William Elford*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM ELFORD, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

## PORTABLE HOUSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,030, dated July 28, 1885.

Application filed May 25, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM ELFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oakland, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Houses, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a three-room house. Fig. 2 is an end view of an end plate. Fig. 3 shows the ventilating-slide C. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the side sills with sections of the corner-posts and broken parts of the end sills. Fig. 5 is an end view of the sills. Fig. 6 is a front elevation of the house. Fig. 7 is a section of the corner-posts H, showing the gains for the siding and the metallic tongue K. Fig. 8 shows the end of the side plate with a section cut out to show the ventilating-opening. It also shows the ventilating-slide C in section cut through the ventilating-opening. A broken piece of the upper ceiling, nailed in the gain or notch formed to receive it, is also shown. Fig. 9 shows a top or end view of an intermediate post with gain or notch to receive the partition-boards. Fig. 10 shows an intermediate post formed to receive a window or door frame and partition. Fig. 11 shows an intermediate post where there is no partition. Fig. 12 shows an intermediate post connecting a partition-wall in the inner part of the house. Fig. 13 shows the end of a piece of siding grooved to receive the tongue K for outside walls. Fig. 14 shows the end of a piece of inner partition-board. Fig. 15 shows the end or top view of an outside post formed to receive a window or door frame where there is no partition. Fig. 16 shows the end view of a piece of door-frame. Fig. 17 shows the end view of the window-frame. Fig. 18 shows the end view of the roofing-board, with another broken piece in position at the side to show the manner of joining the edges and forming the joint. Fig. 19 shows the ends of another form of roofing-boards or boards joined by a different form of tongue. Fig. 20 is a section showing a corner-post and an intermediate post with the siding in position.

A represents the end view of the side plate; B, the ceiling-board; C, the ventilating slide; D, the opening in the ventilating-slide; E, the

corresponding opening in the side plate; F, the rabbet for the ends of the flooring in the sill G. (Shown in Fig. 5.)

H represents the corner-posts.

I represents the shrinkage-adjusting slots which receive pins on the sills.

J represents the groove in the posts to receive the ends of the partition-boards forming the siding.

K represents the tongue that connects the siding with the posts in the grooves J to form a tight joint.

L represents the siding or boards forming the outside wall.

M represents the intermediate posts in the outside wall.

N represents the gain or mortise upon the outside of the sill to receive a corresponding outside tenon upon the post.

O represents the end of the end plate; P, the rabbet to receive the ceiling.

Q represents the shoulder to receive the ordinary rustic with which the gables are finished, being nailed on in the usual way.

S represents the groove in the top of the sill to receive a tongue-strip to unite with the siding.

T represents the groove in the bottom of the end and side plates to receive the tongue of the siding.

U represents the grooves and V the tongues of the siding and partition boards.

W represents the roofing-boards.

X represents metal tongues to form the joints in the roofing-boards.

Y represents the groove or saw-kerf to receive the tongue or metal strip X in joining them.

Z represents another form of metal tongue for the roofing-boards, which I sometimes employ.

The following is the construction and operation of my improved portable house: I generally construct the roofing of inch and one-eighth thick by seven inches and three-quarters wide redwood or other suitable lumber. I form the kerf or angular groove Y at about the angle shown in Fig. 18 in each of the edges. I then form the metal strip X a kind of trough to fit the angle of the saw-kerf in the roofing-board, as shown in Fig. 18. This



trough is designed to carry off all the rain that falls upon or runs through the crack or seam formed by the shrinkage of the roofing. I form the end plate of any suitable lumber, with the  
 5 rabbet P to receive the end of the ceiling, and the shoulder Q to receive the common rustic boards with which I finish the whole of the gable. I form the side plate, A, with a rabbet sufficiently deep to receive the end of the ceiling, and leave sufficient lumber above to form  
 10 the ventilating-openings E, which I form by boring about one and three-quarters inch in diameter, and arrange them as shown in Fig. 1, to correspond with the opening in the slide  
 15 C. (Shown in Fig. 3.) By moving the slide C the ventilating-ports may be opened or closed to any desired extent. The corner-posts are provided with the slots I, to receive pins on the sills, and thus permit of the raising of the  
 20 sills G as fast as the siding shrinks, and the outer tenons on the intermediate posts are left sufficiently long, and the shoulder is left high enough from the sill to allow for all shrinkage of the siding. The tongue K keeps the joints  
 25 between the posts and the siding tight together. In joining the window or door frames with

the posts I use a tongue-strip, which I nail into the groove J, to leave the tongues projecting to fit in the groove J in the posts. I employ this tongue to save lumber that might otherwise be wasted, as it will be seen that the tongue may be formed upon the same piece of which the frame is made. 30

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 35

1. The corner-post H, having the grooves J, the metal tongues K, and the slot I, in combination with the sills G and siding L, constructed and operated substantially as and for 40 the purposes set forth.

2. The portable house herein described, comprising in its construction the corner-posts H, having grooves J, tongues K, and slots I, the roofing-boards having the grooves Y and 45 tongues X fitted therein, siding L, sills G, and intermediate posts having grooves and tongues, substantially as shown and described.

WILLIAM ELFORD.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. REDSTONE,  
 ALBERT E. REDSTONE.