

(No Model.)

J. G. LOW.

TILE WITH HOLES TO SERVE AS FRAMES OR SUPPORTS.

No. 336,244.

Patented Feb. 16, 1886.

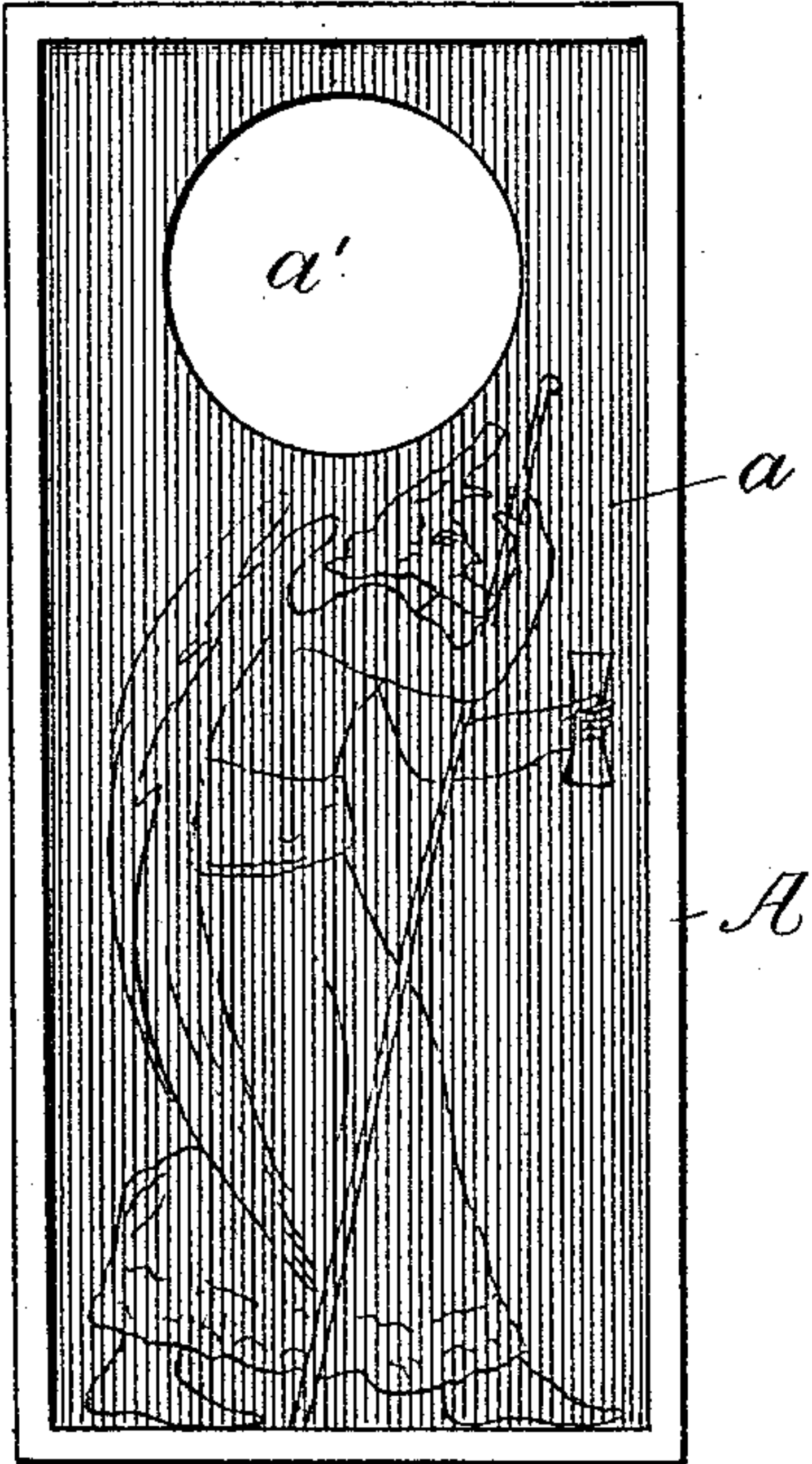


FIG. 1.

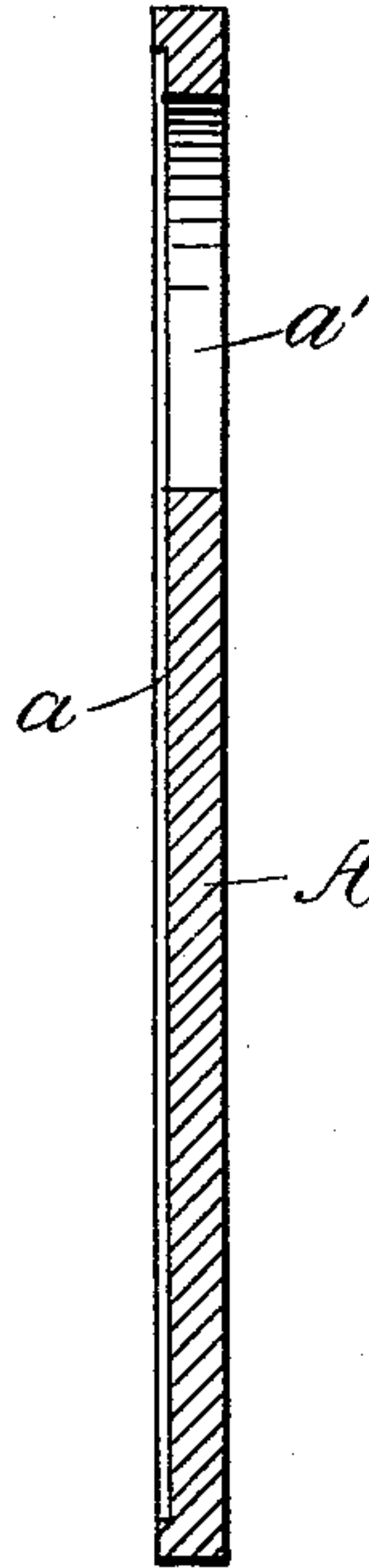


FIG. 2.

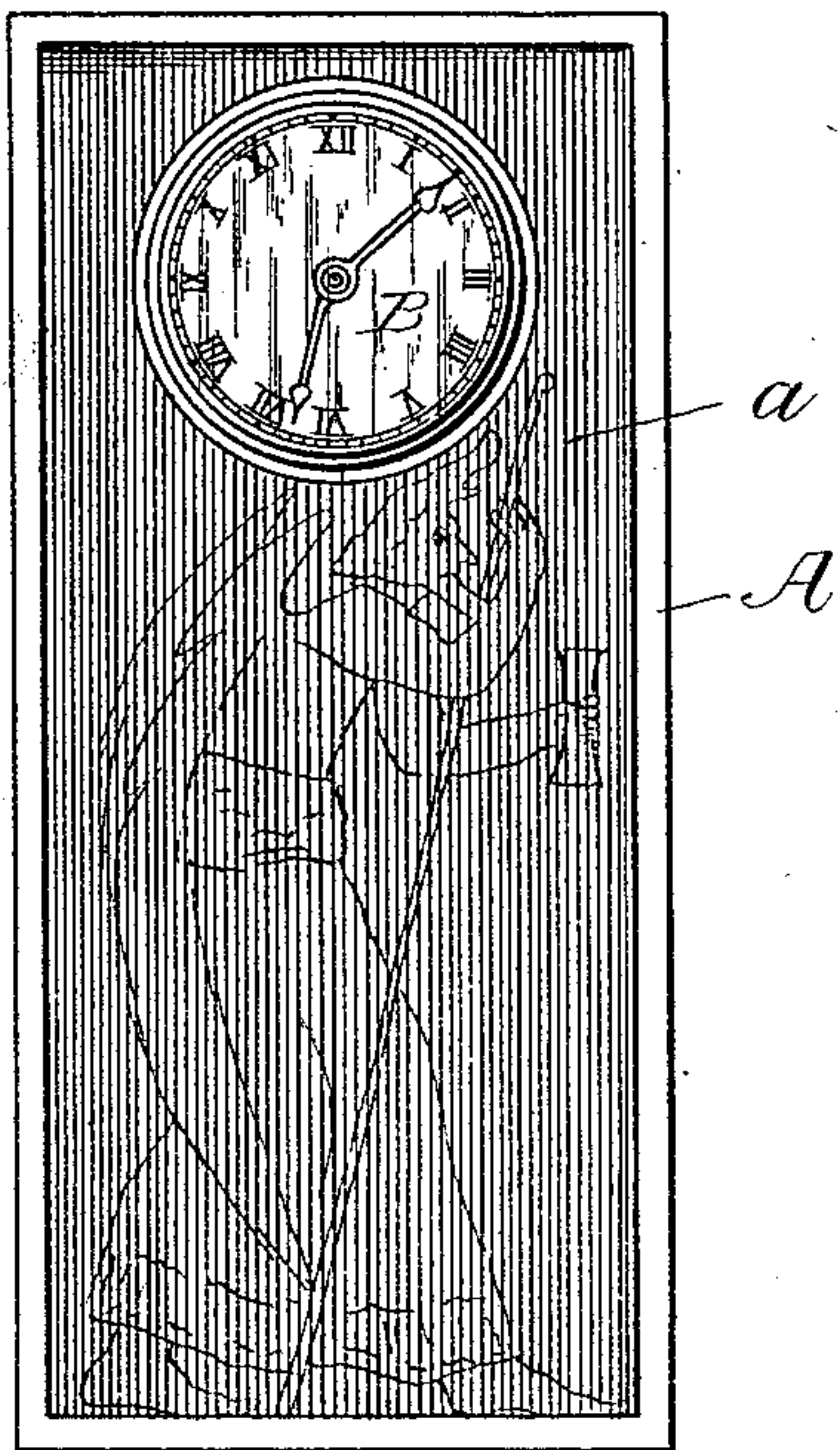


FIG. 3.

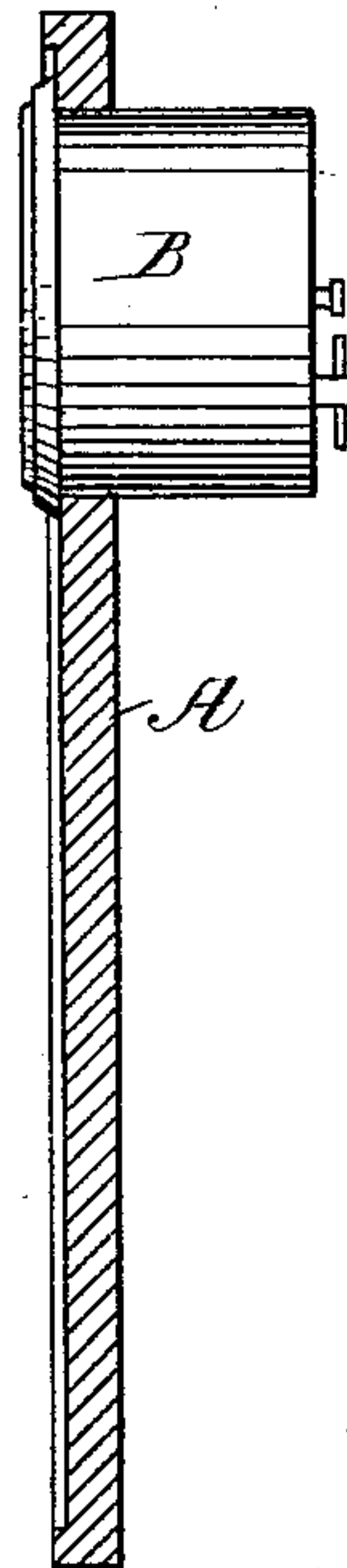


FIG. 4.

WITNESSES

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## TILE WITH HOLES TO SERVE AS FRAMES OR SUPPORTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 336,244, dated February 16, 1886.

Application filed October 20, 1885. Serial No. 180,419. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN G. LOW, of Chelsea, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, a citizen of the United States, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tiles with Holes to Serve as Frames or Supports, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in explaining its nature.

The invention relates to a tile having one or more holes or perforations formed therein to extend entirely through the tile. It is desirable for many purposes to provide tiles with holes or perforations. So far as I am aware, this has not been done, and principally for the reason that tiles have been almost entirely used for floors and wall decoration, which calls, of course, for tiles having but one finished or ornamental surface. I have conceived that the field for the use of tiles may be very largely increased, and especially if they are provided with holes or perforations which shall enable them to be used as frames or supports for various articles. The uses to which tiles thus made can be put are very many, and I have illustrated in the drawings the employment of the tile as a frame and support for a clock.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved tile. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section thereof. Fig. 3 shows the tile used as a support and frame for a clock, and Fig. 4 is a vertical section of Fig. 3.

A represents the tile. It has at least one ornamental surface *a*, upon which is impressed or imprinted or otherwise provided any suitable design or ornamentation. It is provided with the hole *a'*, which is formed therein prior

to the baking of the tile, by means substantially as described in my application for Letters Patent, improvement in tile-making machines, of even date herewith; and the hole receives the clock B. It will thus be seen that the tile acts as a holder and support for the clock, and also furnishes an ornamental finish therefor. This is only one of the many uses to which tiles thus provided with holes or perforations can be put.

In making the tile I use a die through which extend one or more plugs or posts having the shape of the holes which it is desired to form. The tile dust is placed in the die about this post or these posts, and is compressed therein, the post or posts remaining in place. After the tile-dust has thus been compressed and solidified to shape, the post or parts are removed from the dies, or the dies from them, and the tile stripped or taken from the dies and finished by burning and glazing in the ordinary manner; and I am thereby enabled to perforate the tiles where desired and to form smoothly-finished holes, and at no expense, as the holes are formed in the process of making the tile.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

As an improved article of manufacture, a tile made of tile dust or material having one or more holes or perforations formed therein, substantially as specified, all substantially as described.

JOHN G. LOW.

Witnesses:

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