

(No Model.)

J. W. HUTCHISON.  
COVER FOR HAY RICKS.

No. 356,838.

Patented Feb. 1, 1887.

Fig. 1.

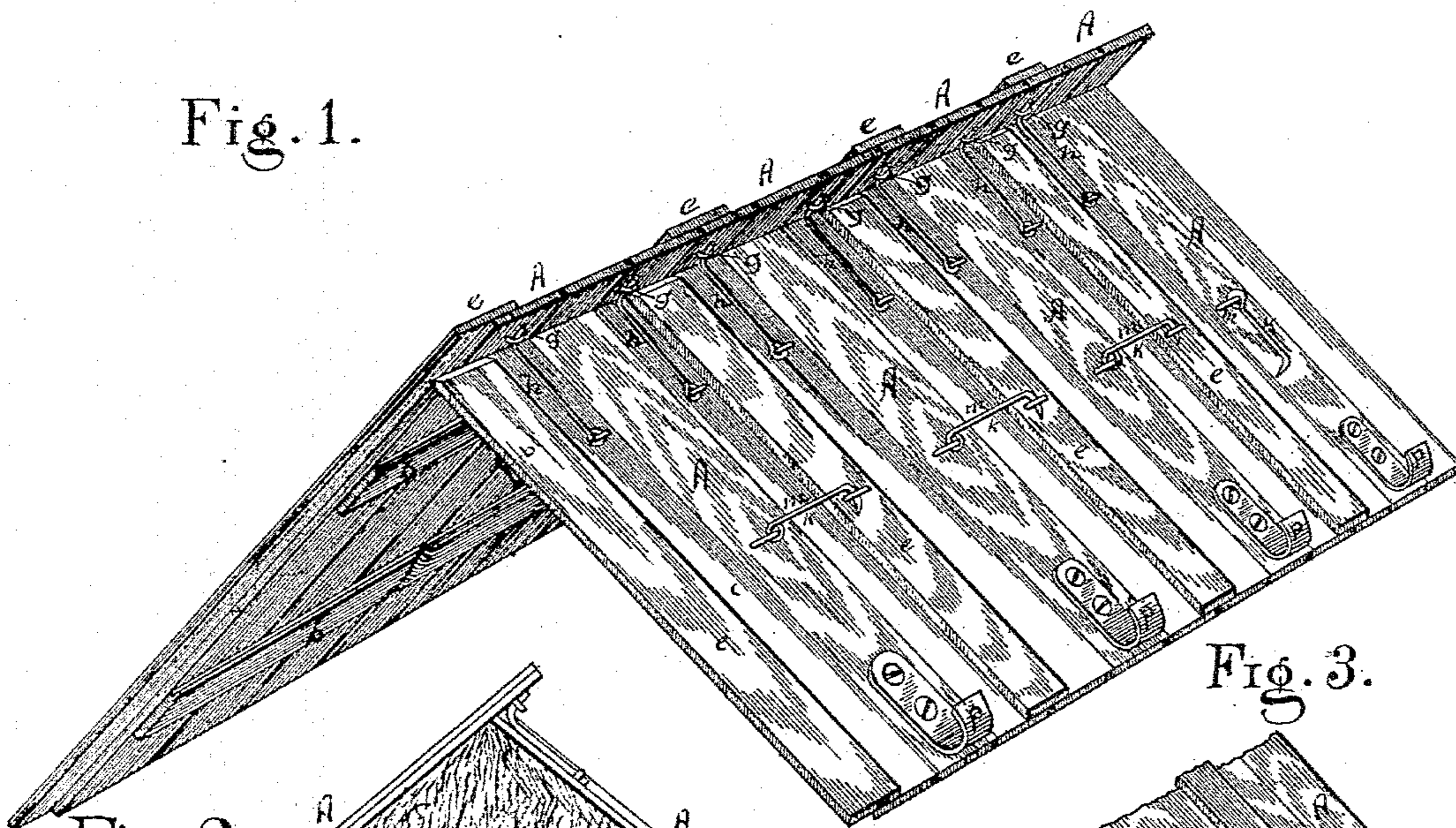


Fig. 2.

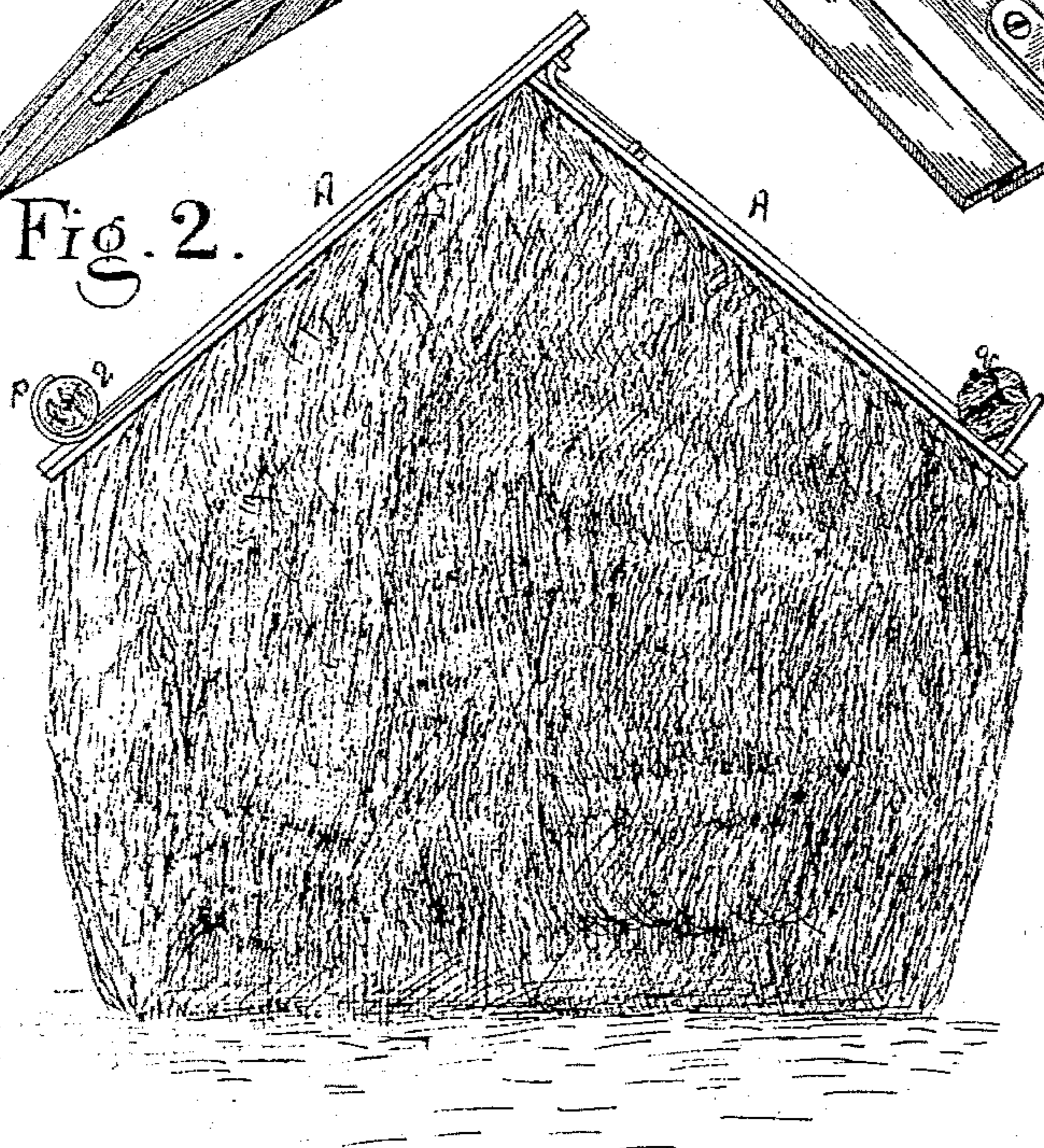


Fig. 3.

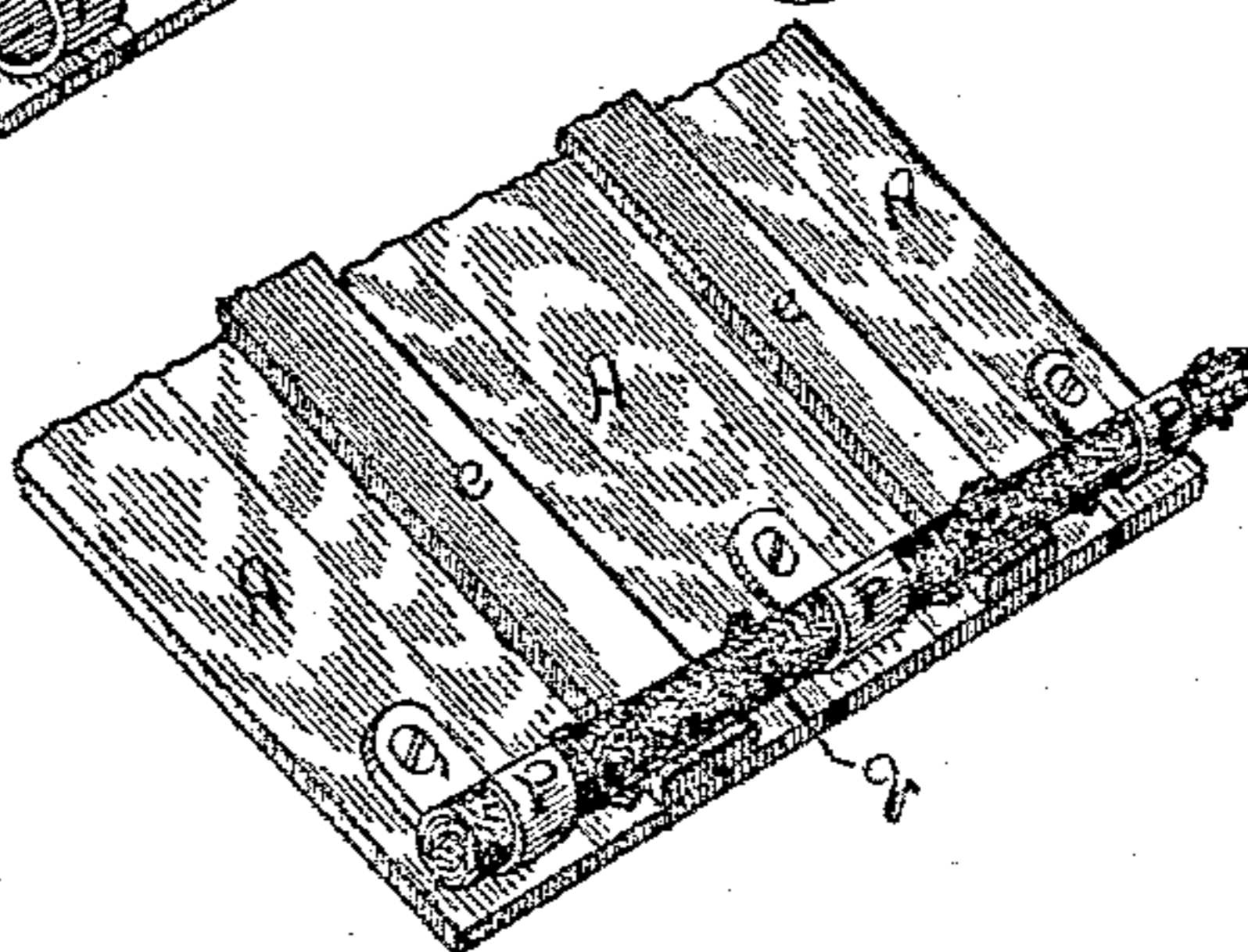
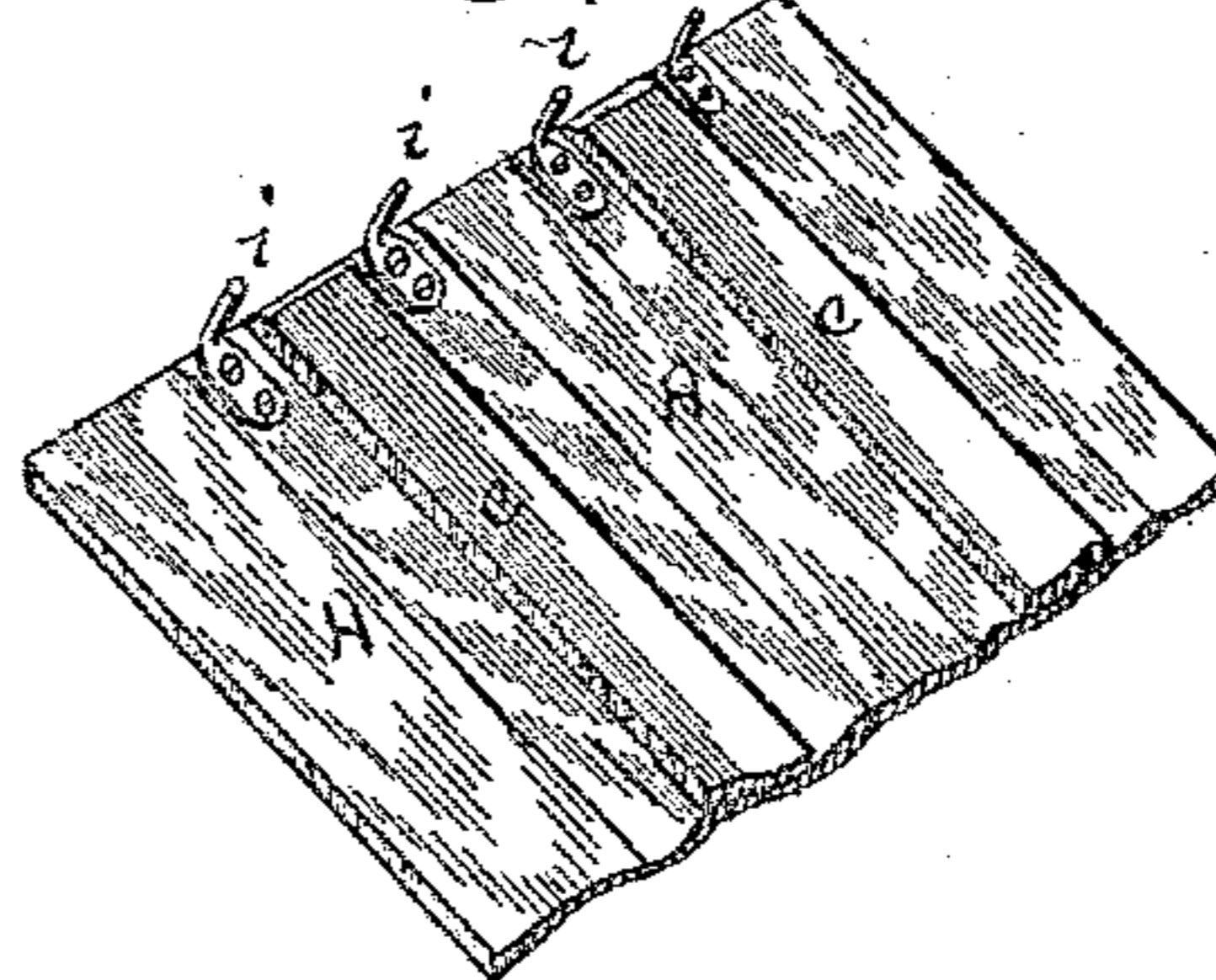


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

J. B. McGirr.  
W. E. Chaffer

Inventor:

John W. Hutchison  
By his Attorney  
L. D. Smith

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WILLIAM HUTCHISON, OF GOWER, MISSOURI.

## COVER FOR HAY-RICKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 356,838, dated February 1, 1887.

Application filed June 23, 1886. Serial No. 206,529. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN WILLIAM HUTCHISON, of Gower, in Clinton county, Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Caps or Covers for Hay-Ricks and Similar Purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and accurate description of the same.

I am aware that sectional as well as continuous flexible caps for hay-ricks have been made heretofore, and that wood and textile fabrics have been used in constructing them. I therefore do not claim, broadly, such a cover as my invention, but confine myself to the improved mode of construction by which my cover is rendered portable and easy to handle, and at the same time secure and applicable, without modification, to all the purposes of roof-shelter.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my cap in use. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of my invention. Figs. 3 and 4 are details of the same.

My cap is made up in sections, so that it may be easy to handle and capable of extension or contraction, as may be desired, to cover a larger or smaller expanse.

In the drawings I have designated the several sections by the letter A, and it will be understood that they are intended to be duplicates of each other, though that is not essential. They should be made and used in pairs, however, so that the two sections which are coupled to each other on the ridge shall be of the same width. Each section A is made preferably from ordinary tongued and grooved flooring-boards nailed to transverse cleats *b*, and along one edge it is provided with a batten-strip, *e*, which, when the sections are in use, lap and cover the joints between. The sections for one side only differ from the sections for the other side in this: The sections for one side are all provided on their under sides and about eight inches from one end with two or more clips or staples, *g*, and the corresponding sections on the opposite side are provided with hooks which project upward from the extremity of the section, so that the staples of the opposite section may be engaged with said hooks while both sections are resting on the stack, it being only necessary to slide the sta-

ple-section upward a short distance above its final position, which I prefer to make like the hooks *h*, though they may be fixed to the section, as at *i*. I prefer the hooks *h*, because with them their engagement with their staples *g* may be effected while the outer ends of the sections are raised up out of position by the irregularity of the surface of the stack, and will therefore adapt themselves to the slant of the top of the rick. By placing the staples *g* on the under side at a little distance from the upper end of section A there is formed a projecting ridge to prevent rain from entering the top of the rick. Each section is also provided with a hook, *k*, on one edge, and a staple, *m*, on the other, and these serve to attach the adjoining sections to each other. Each section, at the end opposite the hook *k* or staple *g*, is provided with a bracket or hook, *p*.

I prefer a simple hook, as shown, although a bracket or shelf of any kind may be employed capable of holding stones or other rough weights of any kind. The object is to attach a weight of some kind to load the lower or free end, so that the cap will not be lifted or blown off by high winds. A sufficiently heavy pole, *q*, of wood, is at once most convenient and most effective, because it also serves to bind the sections together as well as to weight them, and the hooks *p* not only support but they inclose the pole and render accidental displacement difficult. By putting the hooks *p* on the outside of the cover and at a suitable distance from the lower end the weight retained by them will bear upon the whole area of the section.

I am aware that caps have been made projecting beyond the rick at their lower ends, and that weights have been suspended from the under sides thereof; but that is not my invention, because said weights pull down the lower edge only of the cap, while my weight is superincumbent as to the whole area of the section.

The length and width of the section may be as preferred, but should be restricted to dimensions which will render them easy to handle.

In putting the cap upon a rick commencement is made at one end, and the two sections of one pair are coupled by staples *g* and hooks

h. The next succeeding pair is then put in position in the same way, and connected with the first pair by the hooks and staples *k m*, and so on until the whole rick is covered.

5 Poles or weights may then be put on, as described. The added weight of the poles *q*, or other heavy body, exerts a constant pressure upon the rick, which has an effect to settle and compact the upper part.

10 When the hay is to be used, it may be uncovered a little at a time by the removal of the sections one by one.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. A cap or cover composed of sections *A*,  
15 arranged in pairs to be attached at their ends, the section on one side being provided with staples *g*, inserted in the under side six inches, or thereabout, from the end, and the sections  
20 on the other side provided with hooks projecting at right angles and even with the end of the section, whereby said staples *g* may be  
25 caused to engage said hooks while both sections are resting upon the supporting hay by sliding the staple-section slightly above its final position, and a projecting ledge is formed  
30 along the ridge to prevent entrance of rain, as set forth.

2. A cap or cover composed of sections *A*,  
A, arranged in pairs to be attached at their  
35 ends, and the sections on one side provided with staples projecting at right angles from the under side, and the sections on the other side provided with hooks projecting at right  
40 angles from the upper side even with the upper end, and each section provided with hooks and staples near the edges for marginal attachment, and the brackets or hooks *p* on the  
45 outside to receive and retain superincumbent some convenient anchoring-weight to hold the sections without touching the hay and without slings of any kind.

3. A sectional cap or cover, *A A*, flexibly joined at the ridge and provided with hooks or brackets *p*, adapted to receive and retain a  
45 convenient superincumbent anchorage-weight on the outside, combined with a pole, *q*, to constitute a continuous anchoring-weight superincumbent upon the cover-sections to coincidentally press the hay and hold the sections in place.

JOHN WILLIAM HUTCHISON.

Witnesses:

J. T. JAMISON,

W. C. ROCKWELL,