

(No Model.)

W. DUFFY.

WOOD BLOCK FLOORING.

No. 377,098

Fig 1.

Patented Jan. 31, 1888.

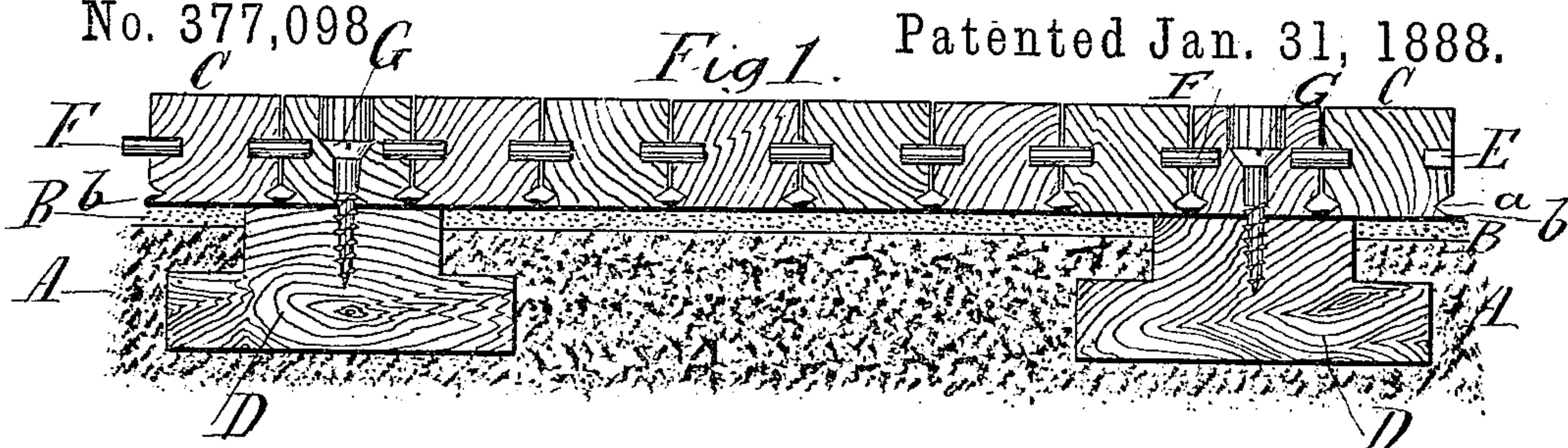


Fig. 2.

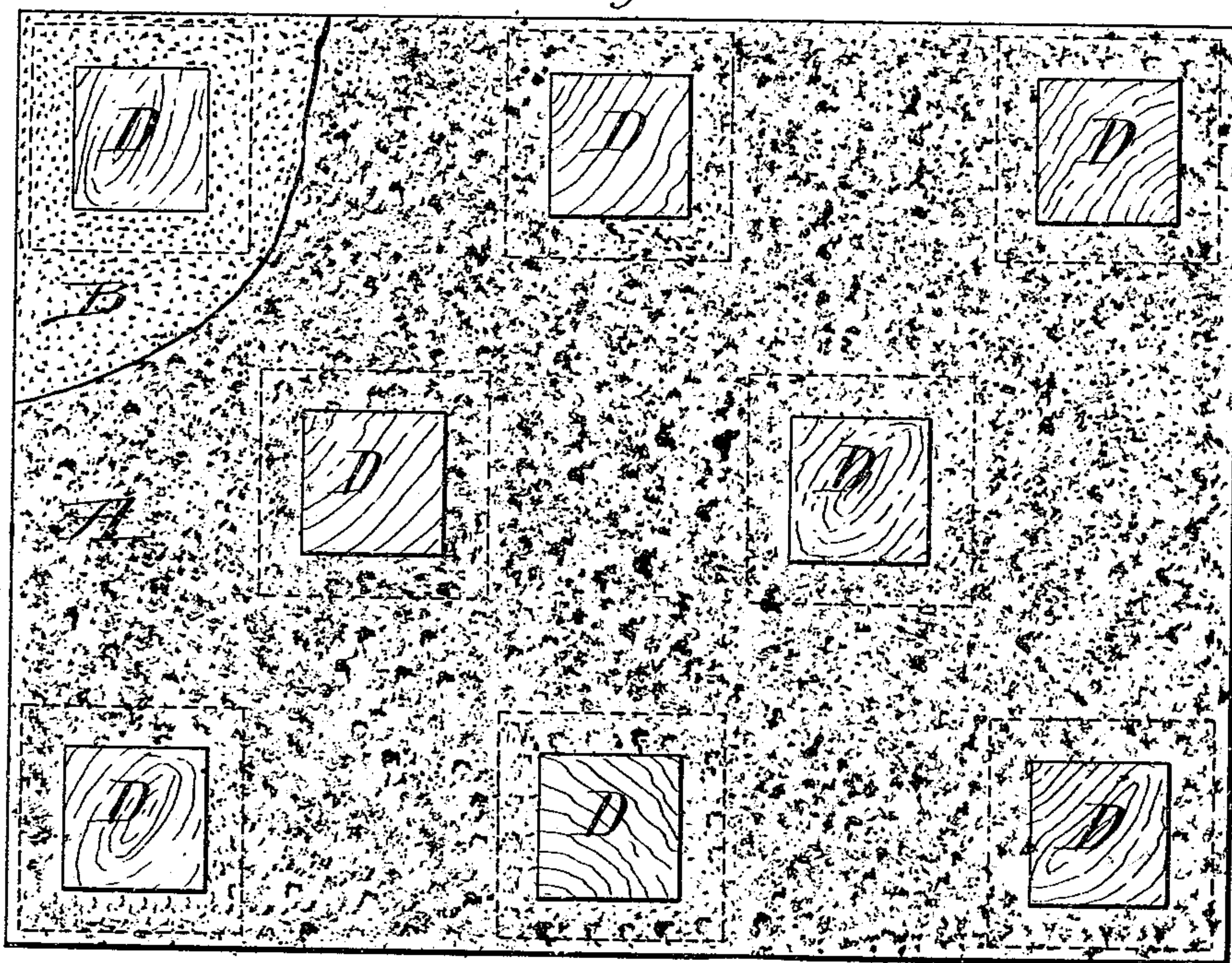


Fig. 4.

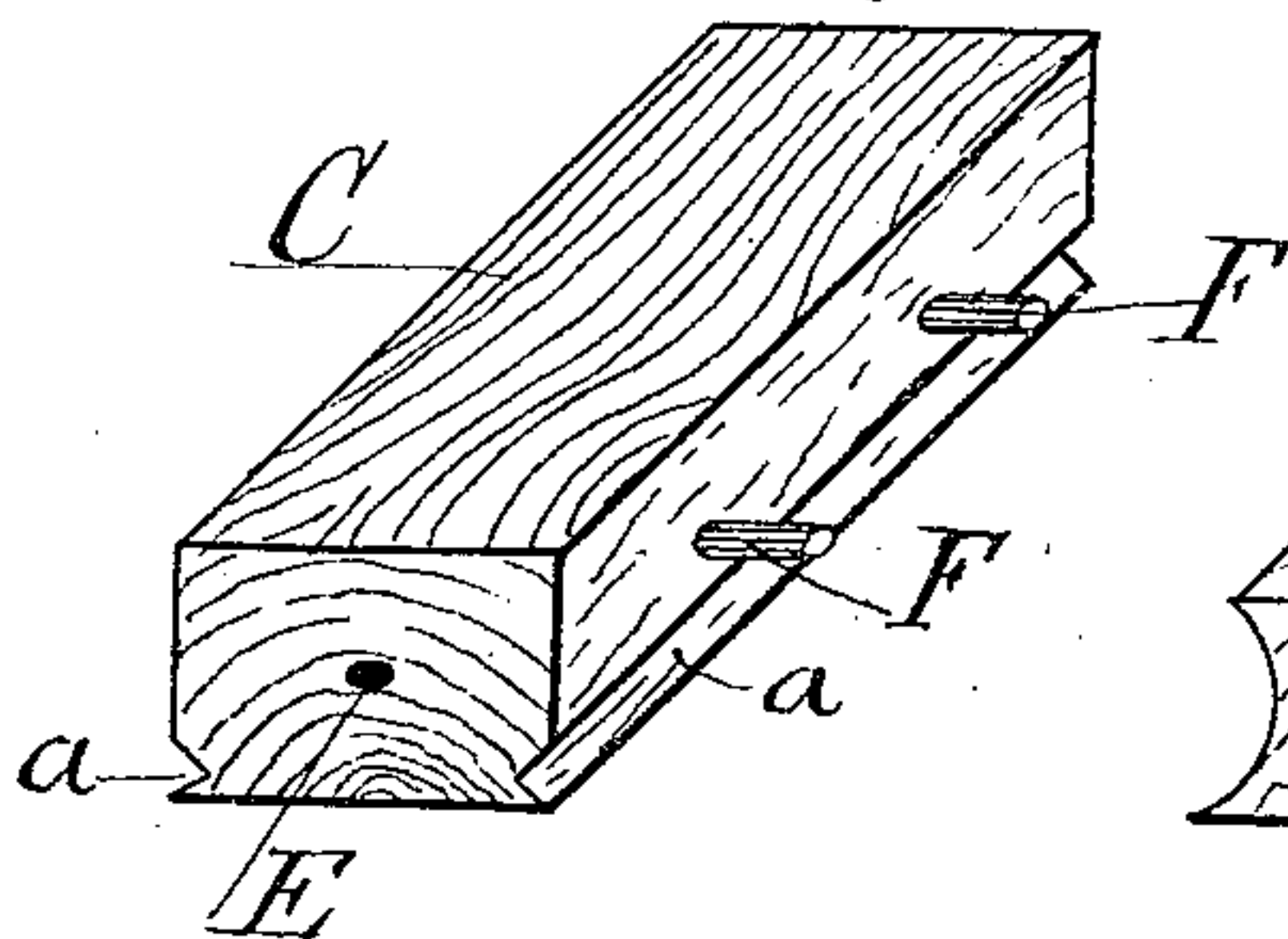


Fig. 5.

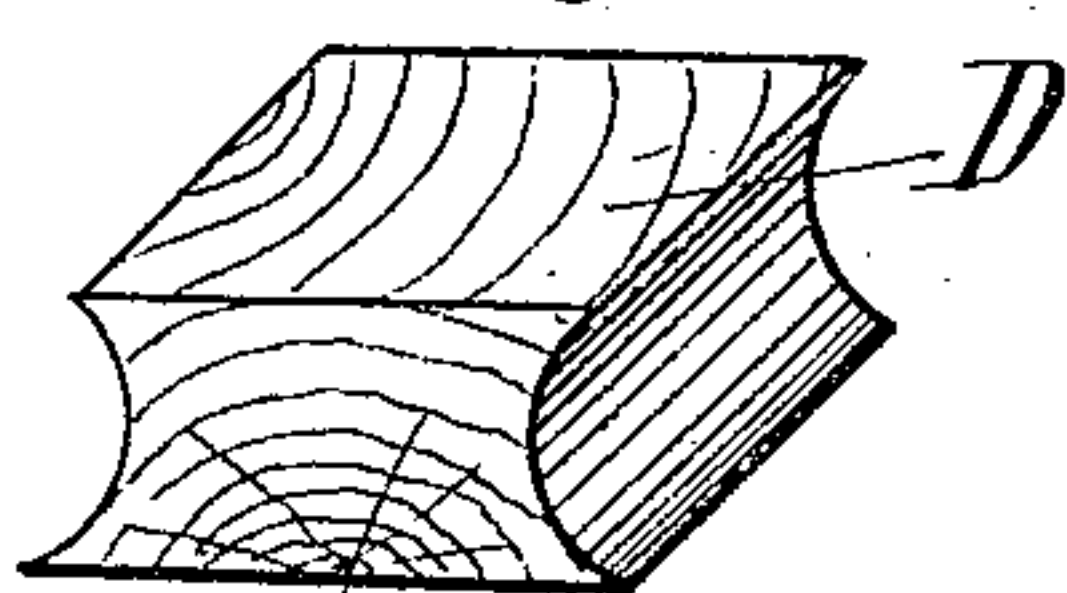
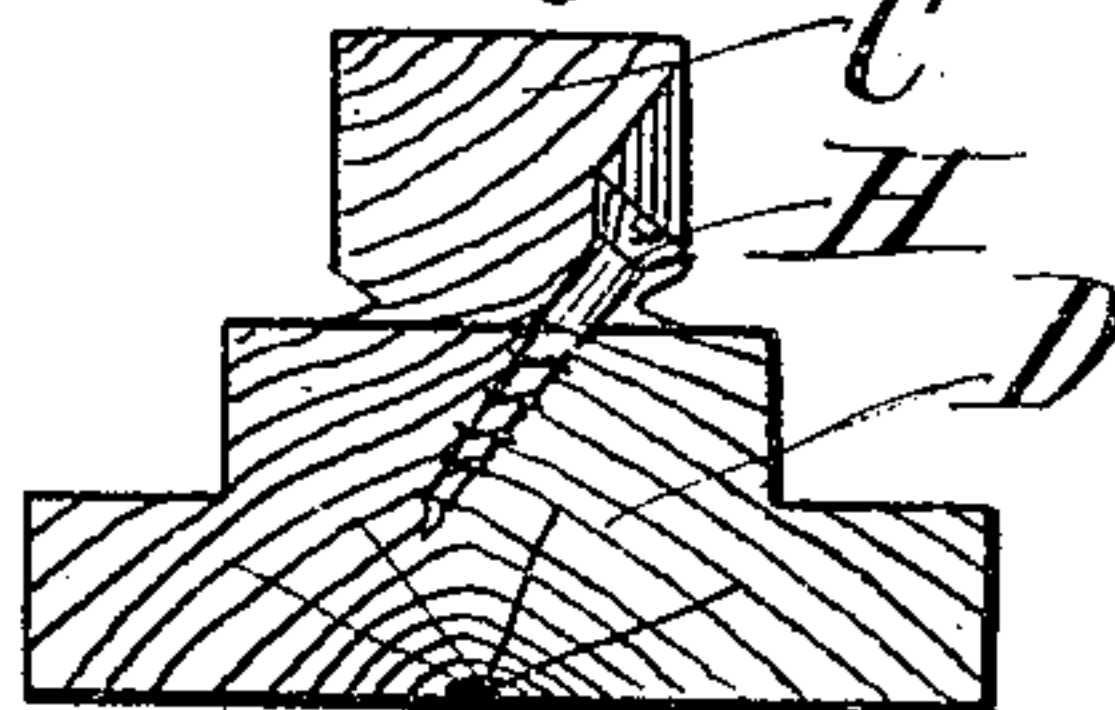


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

James Stevenson
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM DUFFY, OF BERMONDSEY, COUNTY OF SURREY, ENGLAND.

WOOD-BLOCK FLOORING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 377,098, dated January 31, 1888.

Application filed December 21, 1885. Serial No. 186,319. (No model.) Patented in England August 27, 1885, No. 10,158; in France October 20, 1885, No. 171,767, and in Belgium December 2, 1885.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DUFFY, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at 66 Storks Road, Bermondsey, in the county of Surrey, England, have invented certain Improvements in Wood-Block Flooring, (for which I have applied for a patent in Great Britain on August 27, 1885, No. 10,158, as also in France on October 20, 1885, No. 171,767, and in Belgium December 2, 1885,) of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved method of laying and securing the wood blocks or "briquets," such as are used in the formation of the floorings of the interior of edifices and in lieu of ordinary boarded flooring.

The objects of my improvements are to insure that wood-block flooring, when laid in accordance with my invention, shall be reliable as regards immunity from the wood blocks or briquets aforesaid becoming loosened, and at the same time the system which I adopt results in a structural formation free from interstices, and consequently rendering it a matter of impossibility (practically speaking) for damp to penetrate, or for foul air or vermin to accumulate. I attain these objects in the following manner, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional view illustrative of my improved system; Fig. 2, a plan view showing the substratum and foundational bonding-blocks; Fig. 3, a detailed view, in section, illustrative of one of the modes hereinafter referred to of securing the flooring-briquets to the substructural bonding-blocks. Fig. 4 is a detailed perspective view of one of the flooring-briquets; and Fig. 5, a perspective view of an alternative form of foundational bonding-block to that shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4.

Similar letters are employed to denote like parts throughout the several views.

The substratum or bed of concrete and cement, A B, is prepared, generally, much in the manner usually adopted for the reception of the superposed wood briquets C, but disposed at suitable intervals in the area intended to be covered over with the wood briquets aforesaid. I insert and bed or build in with the substratum A B aforesaid bonding-blocks D, of wood, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

The wood which I employ for the briquets C, as also for the bonding-blocks D, I thoroughly season before use, so as to insure immunity from shrinkage when the flooring is laid, as also to prevent the destructive effects of "dry rot;" and with a view to the effectual tying or bonding together of the wood briquets C, I form holes or recesses E, preferably of circular configuration, in the sides and ends of the briquets C, and into which holes or recesses I introduce, in the operation of building up or forming the floor, pins or plugs F, preferably of wood, Figs. 1 and 4, said pins or plugs being, of course, of corresponding sectional shape to that of the holes or recesses E into which they are entered. Further, I thoroughly secure to the embedded foundational bonding-blocks D such of the flooring-briquets C as are superposed thereon. One method of accomplishing this is shown at G, Fig. 1, and another at H in the detailed view, Fig. 3; but I do not confine myself to the particular device to be adopted under this head.

Before the flooring-briquets are laid they are dipped into a preservative adhesive compound while the latter is in a heated fluid or semi-fluid state, with which not only the under surface of each briquet becomes coated, so as to form a hard and fast joint with the concrete and cement substratum A B, but which takes up and enters into the longitudinal >-shaped grooves *a* formed along the bottom of the sides of the briquets, as shown at *b*, Fig. 1. Thus an additional keying or bonding together of the whole system ensues. Hence, in accordance with my invention, the flooring becomes solid throughout, presenting an even and immovable structural formation free from interstices, thereby preventing the penetration of moisture or the accumulation of foul air or vermin.

The surface of a wood-block floor constructed in accordance with my invention may be washed or scrubbed without the risk of affecting any other part than the actual flooring-surface to be cleansed.

I am aware that prior to the date of my invention wood flooring-blocks have been formed with a groove, such as at *a*, and also that an adhesive preservative film, *b*, has been introduced between the top of the cement and con-

crete substratum A B and the under surface of the wood briquets. I therefore lay no claim to these features by themselves, but—

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a wood-block flooring, the combination of a substructure of concrete, A B, bonding-blocks D, embedded therein, flooring-block C, having dowel-holes E, grooves *a*, and dowels F, fastening G, and a coating of preservative adhesive composition, substantially as set forth.

2. In a wood-block flooring wherein the blocks are mutually sustaining, the combina-

tion of a concrete substructure, intermittent non-continuous bonding-blocks embedded in said substructure, and doweled floor-blocks, some of which are secured to the bonding-blocks by suitable means, substantially as set forth.

3. In a wood-block flooring, the combination of doweled floor-blocks C, having grooves *a*, intermittent non-continuous bonding-blocks D, and a layer of preservative adhesive composition, as set forth.

WILLIAM DUFFY.

Witnesses:

JAMES STEVENSON,
ALFRED MELHUSH.