

(No Model.)

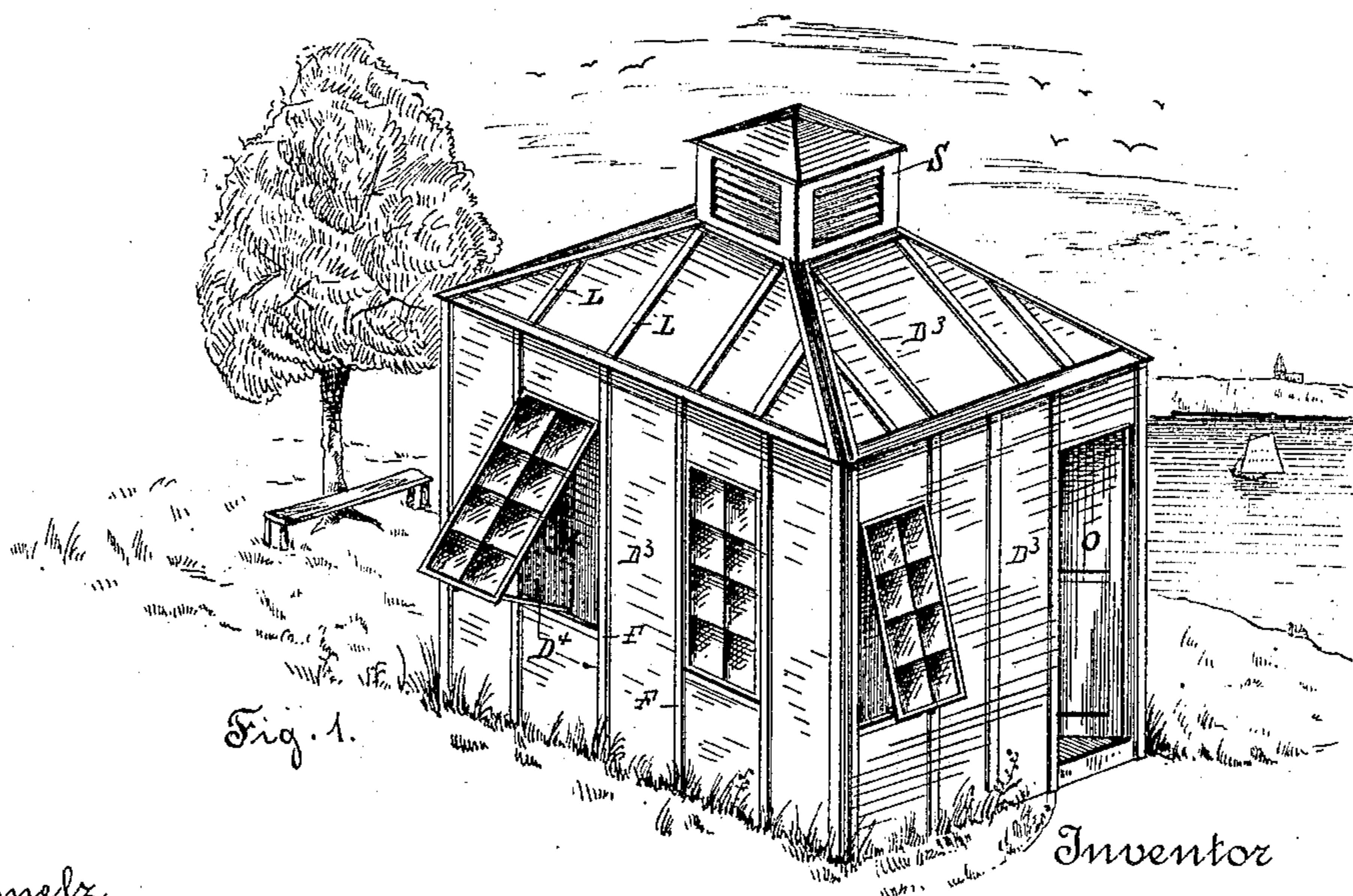
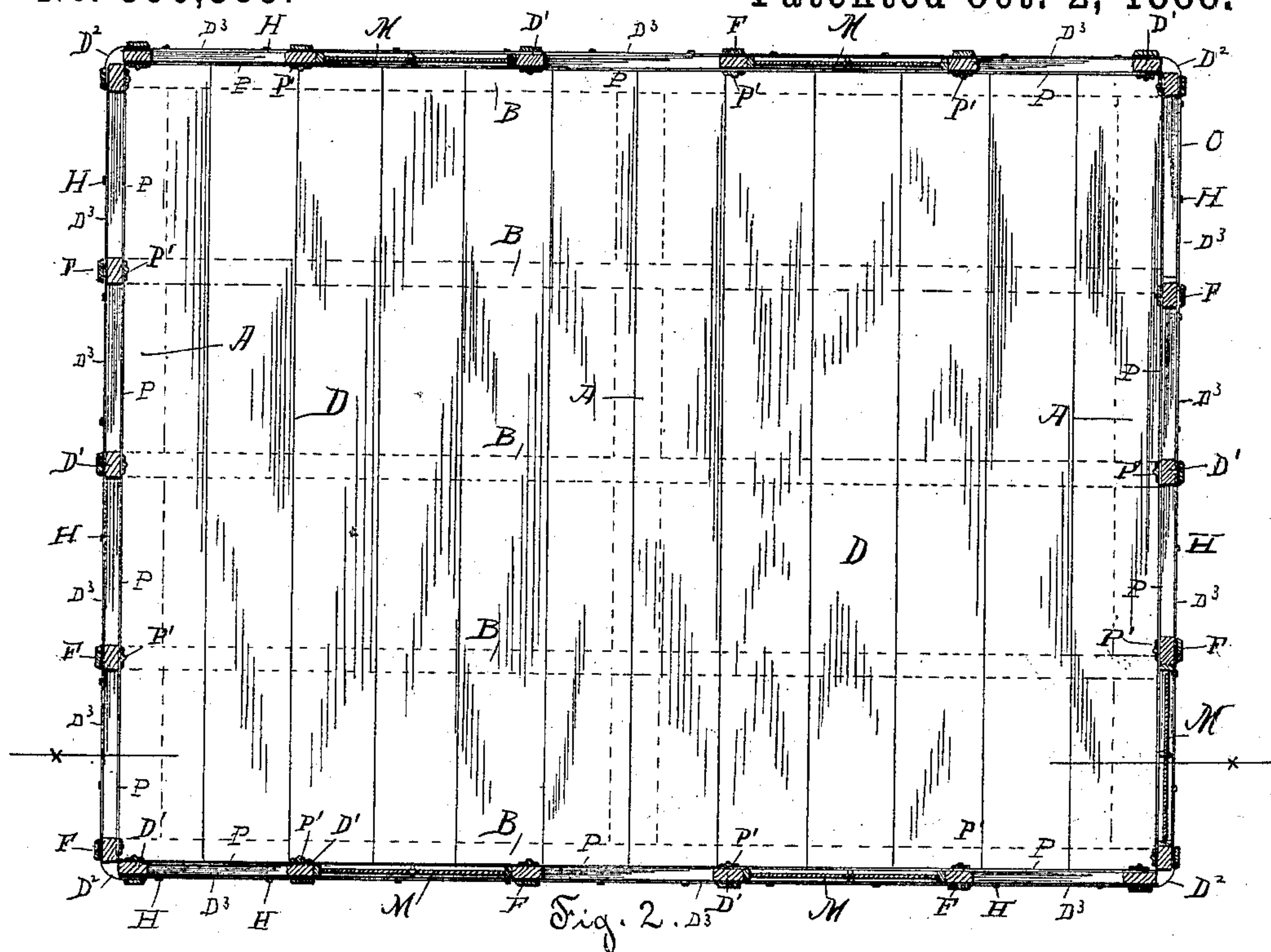
3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

H. W. GOODNOW.

PORTABLE HOUSE.

No. 390,589.

Patented Oct. 2, 1888.



Witnesses
Chas. F. Schmeltz.

R. B. Fowler

Inventor

Henry W. Goodnow

By his Attorney

Rufus B. Fowler

(No Model.)

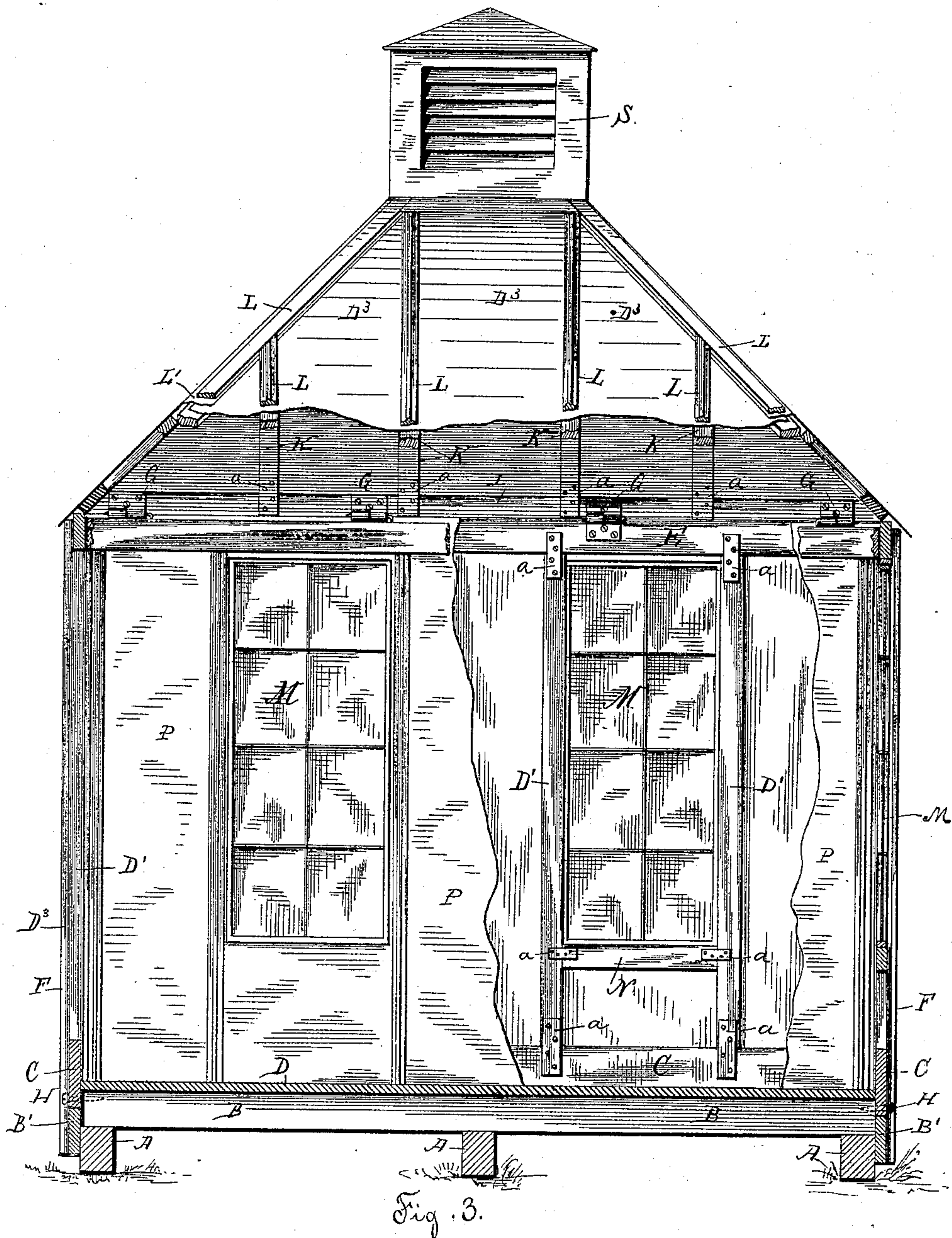
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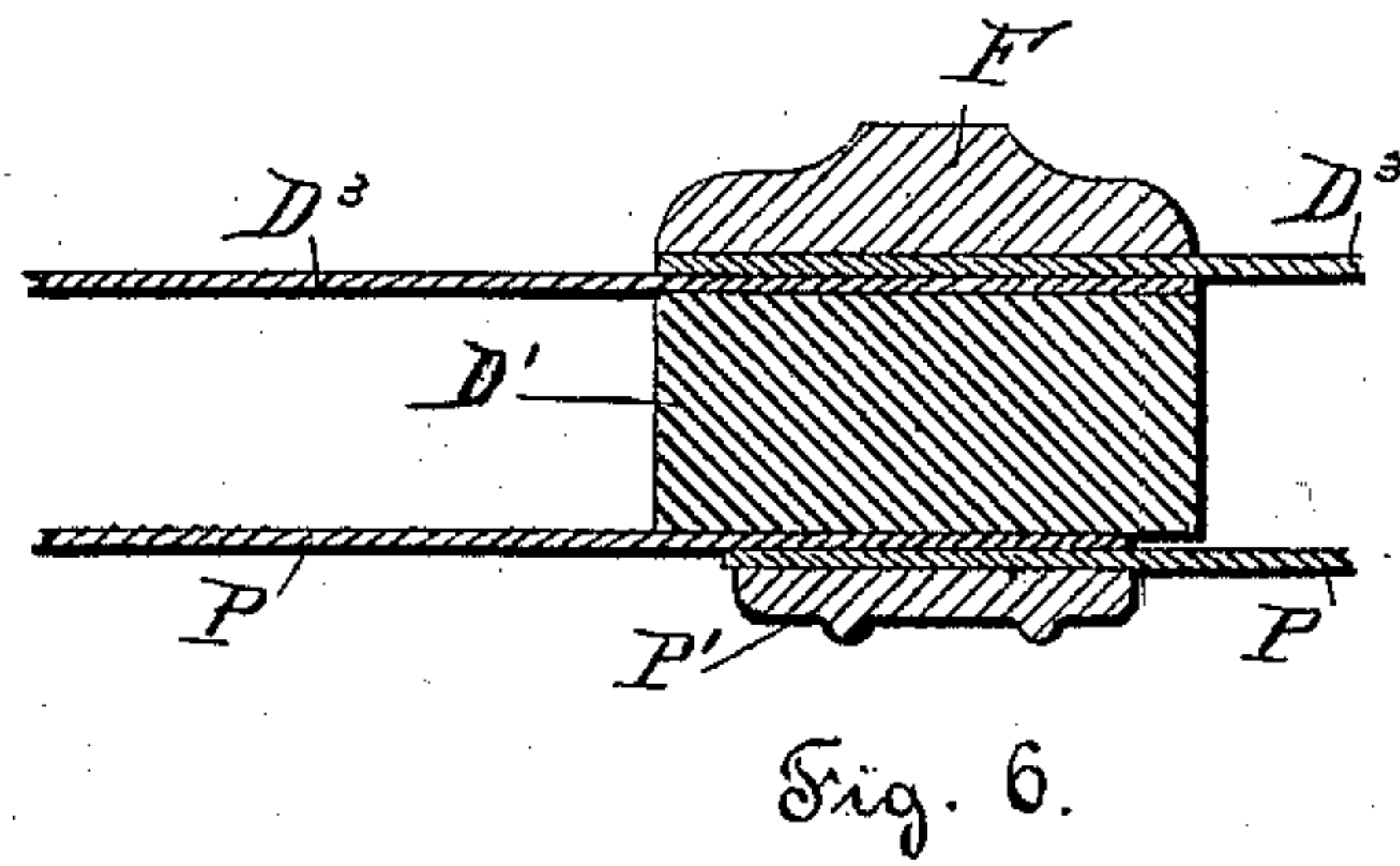
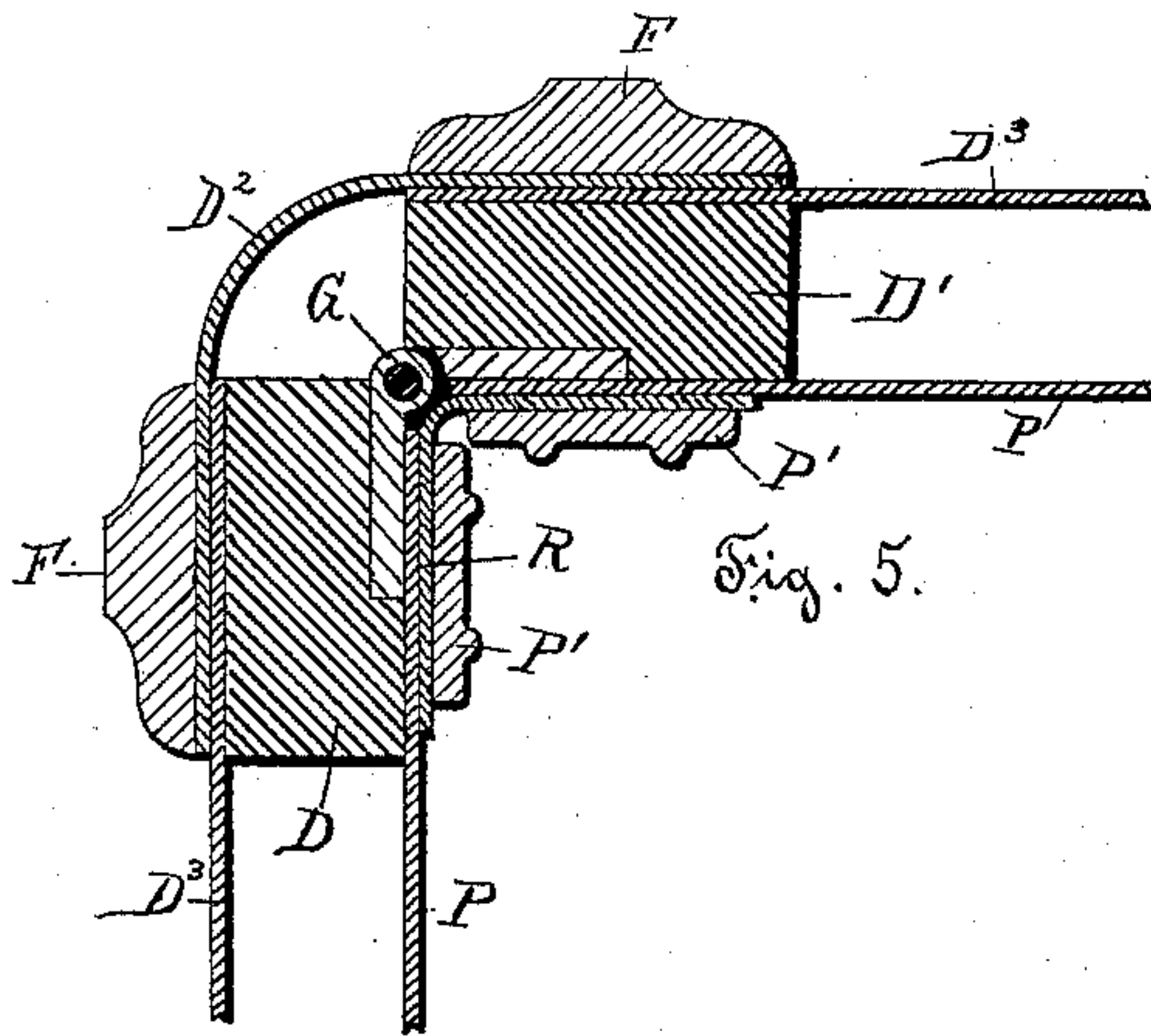
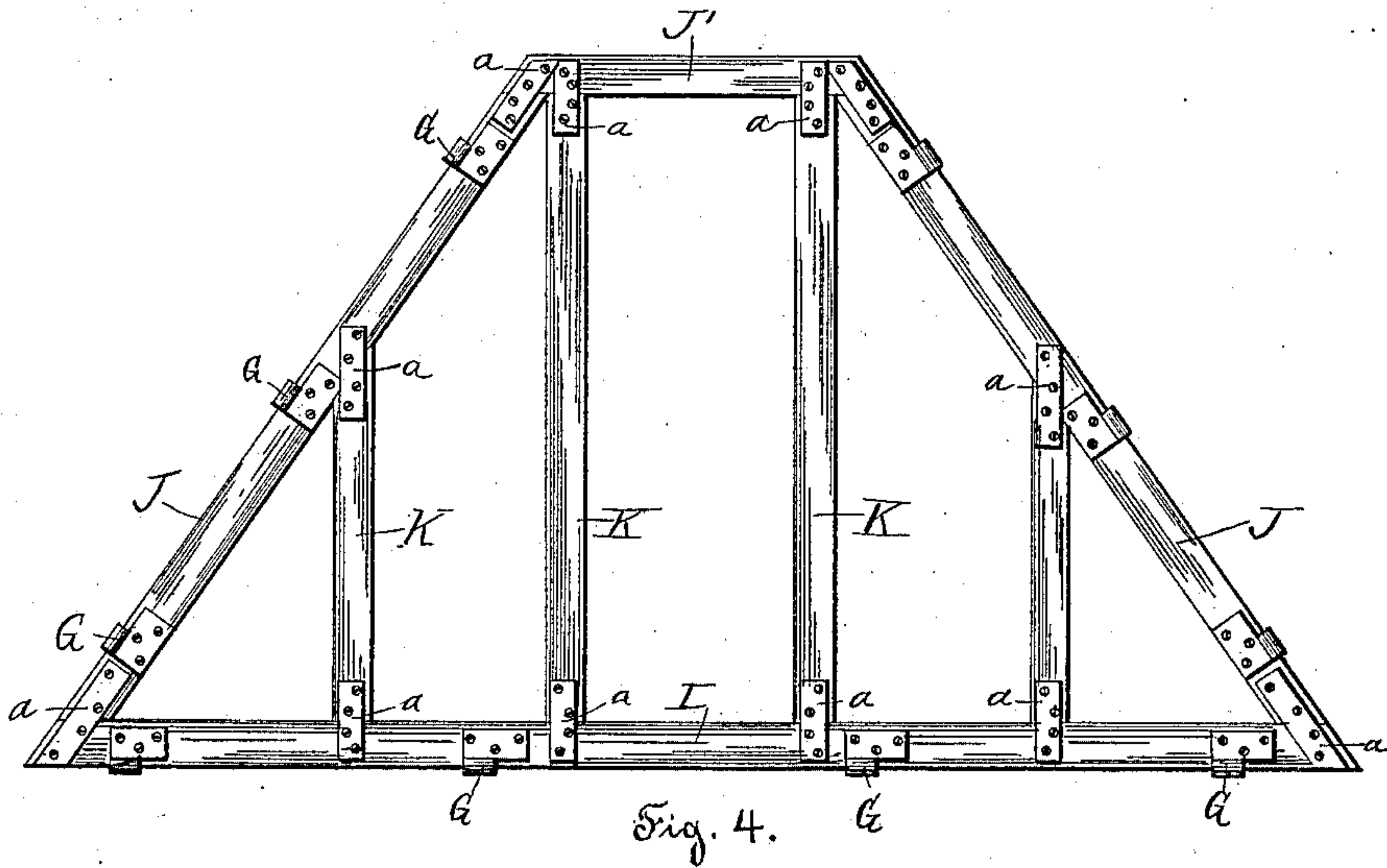
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY W. GOODNOW, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

PORTABLE HOUSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,589, dated October 2, 1888.

Application filed August 15, 1887. Serial No. 246,953. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY W. GOODNOW, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Houses, set forth in the annexed specification, accompanied by drawings illustrating a portable house embodying my invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one of my improved portable houses. Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of one of the houses. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on line X X, Fig. 2, with a portion of the interior rear wall removed. Fig. 4 shows the frame-work of one of the sides of the roof. Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view of a portion of the side walls, showing the construction of a corner of the house; and Fig. 6 is a horizontal sectional view of a portion of one of the side walls.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the different views.

My invention relates to the construction and arrangement of parts of a house in which the sides forming the upright walls and sides of the roof are built in a single piece and so connected at the corners that the structure can be readily taken apart for transportation; and it consists in the several details of construction, as hereinafter described, and specifically set forth in the annexed claims.

I first construct a platform, preferably supported upon the timbers A A and floor-joists B B, which constitutes the floor of the house, of the size of the inside of the frame forming the upright walls. The position of both timbers A A and joists B B is indicated by broken lines in Fig. 2. Around the platform I place a strip of board, B', from two to four inches wide, and attached by nails or screws to the joists B B, forming a projecting ledge or shoulder, upon which the upright walls of the house rest.

Each of the sides of the house is similarly constructed, and therefore a description of one will serve as a description of the remaining sides.

The sill, or what in ordinary house-building corresponds to the sill, is formed of a board, C, which may be from four to twelve inches in width. I prefer, however, to make it about

six inches wide, so that when its lower edge rests upon the strip B' it will extend above the upper surface of the floor D, to serve as a mop-board. Upon the upper edge of the board C, forming what I term the "sill," I place a series of posts or studs, D', of sufficient height to form the walls of the house, with metallic strips *a a* attached to both the posts, and also to the board C, and overlapping the joint between them. On the upper ends of the series of posts D' is a strip, E, forming the plate upon which the roof rests. The post D', I usually make of strips about three inches in width and one inch in thickness, and the plate E of the same dimensions, and attached to the upper ends of the series of posts in the same way as they are attached to the sill, as before described—viz., by the metallic plates or strips *a a*. The board forming the sill and the narrow strip forming the plate, with the posts or studs, thus form a rectangular frame having a series of openings between each of the posts. These openings are closed by a strip of paper, card-board, or similar material, D², each strip being equal in length to the height of the walls of the house and as wide as the space between the posts, with the width of the two adjacent posts added, so that the strips of paper or card-board will lap at their edges for about the width of the posts, and I place the batten-pieces F over the overlapping edges of the paper or card-board and secure them firmly to the posts D by means of nails or screws clamping the overlapping edges of the paper or card-board between the pieces F and the posts D'.

Upon each of the corner-posts I fasten the leaves of ordinary hinges, G, one of which is shown in Fig. 5, one of the leaves being fastened upon one of the corner-posts and the corresponding leaf upon the contiguous post of the adjacent side, with the pintle uniting the two leaves of the hinge removable, so that the two adjacent sides of the house are readily separated. I attach the bottom board or sill, G, to the frame-work which supports the floor by means of the bolts H, (shown in Fig. 3,) the bolts passing through the sills into the ends of the floor-joists, and also into the side of the two joists at the side of the house.

The roof is constructed in a manner similar to that of the sides just described, and is shown

in detached view in Fig. 4, where the frame-work of one side of the roof is shown.

The strips I rest on the plates E, and the strips J form the hip-rafters, which are brought
5 together at the top, forming with the strips I a triangle, except when the house is provided with a ventilator at the top, as shown in the drawings, when the bar J' is placed across. The side rafters, K K, are attached to the hip-
10 rafters and to the strips I in the same manner as the posts are attached to the sills and plates, as already described—viz., by means of the metallic plates or strips *a a*. The strips I and also the hip-rafters J are provided with the
15 leaves of ordinary hinges, G, in the same manner as the corner-posts of the vertical walls above described, having removable pintles which allow the roof sides to be attached to the plates and also at the hip-rafters in the
20 same manner as the sides of the house are united. The joints formed at the corners of the vertical walls and also at the junction of the hip-rafters are closed, as shown in detail in Fig. 5, by means of a strip of paper, card-board,
25 or some similar material, D², which is bent around the corner and fastened beneath the corner battens. The paper or card-board, D³, with which the frame of the roof is covered, is likewise secured to the rafters by batten-
30 strips L, and beneath the batten-strips placed over the hip-rafters I secure a strip of paper or card-board to close the joint between the hip-rafters, as shown at L', Fig. 3.

Between certain of the posts I place win-
35 dows M by placing a bar, N, across the space between the posts D' and attached to the posts D' by metallic plates *a a*, Fig. 3. In these rectangular spaces I place a window-sash by hing-
ing it at the top, so that the bottom may be
40 carried out from the house and supported by a brace-rod, D⁴, Fig. 1.

Between such of the posts as may be de-
sired I place doors, one of which is shown at
O, Fig. 1. Upon the inside of the posts D',
45 I place a lining, P, of paper or card-board, attached to the inner sides of the posts by means of the batten-strips P', clamping the lining firmly between the posts D' and the interior
batten-strips, P'.

50 The strips of paper or card-board, D³, covering the vertical walls of the house, extend down over the wide board forming the sill of the house, and the outside batten-strips, F, also
extend downward over the sills, so that there
55 is no open joint at the floor, and the corner strips of paper or card-board, D², entirely close the joints at the corners of the vertical walls.

When the house is to be taken down, the
outside corner battens are removed and the
60 corner strips of paper or card-board, D², are removed. The similar battens and strips of paper or card-board, L, at the junction of the hip-rafters are also removed, and the pintles
of the connecting-hinges are withdrawn, the
65 sides of the roof removed, and the vertical walls taken down by removing the bolts by which they are attached to the frame-work of

the floor. Each side of the roof and each of the four vertical walls thus form one separate piece, which is readily transported and again
70 set up.

If desired, the sills C may be placed di-
rectly on the ground and the floor and its sup-
porting frame-work omitted. The interior
lining may also be omitted, if desired, although
75 I deem it advisable in case of houses to be occupied for some time that the interior lin-
ing be used, as shown, as it secures an air-
space between the lining and the outer wall, rendering the house cooler in the summer and
80 warmer in the winter. I also prefer to close the joint at the corners of the vertical walls on the inside by means of a strip, R, Fig. 5, secured beneath the interior corner battens,
which can be removed, as in the case of the
85 exterior corner battens, when the house is to be taken down. Instead of the timbers A A, forming in the present instance the support for the floor-joists, posts driven into the ground
90 may be employed.

I secure an ample ventilation of the interior
of the house by means of a ventilator, S, placed
at the apex of the roof, through which the
heated and impure air of the interior finds
exit in a constantly-ascending current, sup-
95 plied by an inward current through the bot-
tom of the outwardly-opened windows.

I am aware that the frame-work of houses
has heretofore been sheathed or covered with
paper. Such use I do not claim; but
100

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

1. As an article of manufacture, a portable
house made as above described, and consist-
ing of vertical walls formed by a series of
105 posts securely united at their lower ends to a
board placed edgewise to said posts and form-
ing the sill, and at their upper ends to a strip
of board placed edgewise to the posts and
forming the plates, card-board strips overlap-
110 ping one another and placed over and cover-
ing the rectangular openings between said
posts, batten-strips placed over the overlap-
ping strips of card-board and opposite each
post to which it is attached, thereby clamp-
115 ing the edges of card-board between said posts
and batten-strips, the adjacent posts at each
corner being attached together by the leaves
of ordinary hinges attached to the posts, said
leaves being provided with removable pintles,
120 whereby the sides may be separated at the
corners, and a roof formed similarly to the
sides—viz., of a light frame-work joined to-
gether at the corners and divided into open-
ings by bars or rafters crossing said frame-
125 work, and having the openings so formed cov-
ered with card-board, substantially as de-
scribed.

2. The combination, with the frame-work
having card-board panels, substantially as de-
130 scribed, and forming the vertical walls and
roof of a portable house, of the leaves of or-
dinary hinges provided with removable pin-
tles, said leaves being attached to the contigu-

ous posts at the corners of the frame-work, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a light frame-work covered with card-board and forming the
5 vertical walls and roof of a house, of the card-board strips D² and L', said strips being bent around the corners of said walls and roof, with their edges clamped between the adjacent posts

at the corners and batten-strips placed outside and opposite said posts, substantially as described. 10

HENRY W. GOODNOW.

Witnesses:

RUFUS B. FOWLER,
JOHN C. WOODBURY.