

(No Model.)

H. THOMAS.
TENT CLOSING DEVICE.

No. 396,842.

Patented Jan. 29, 1889.

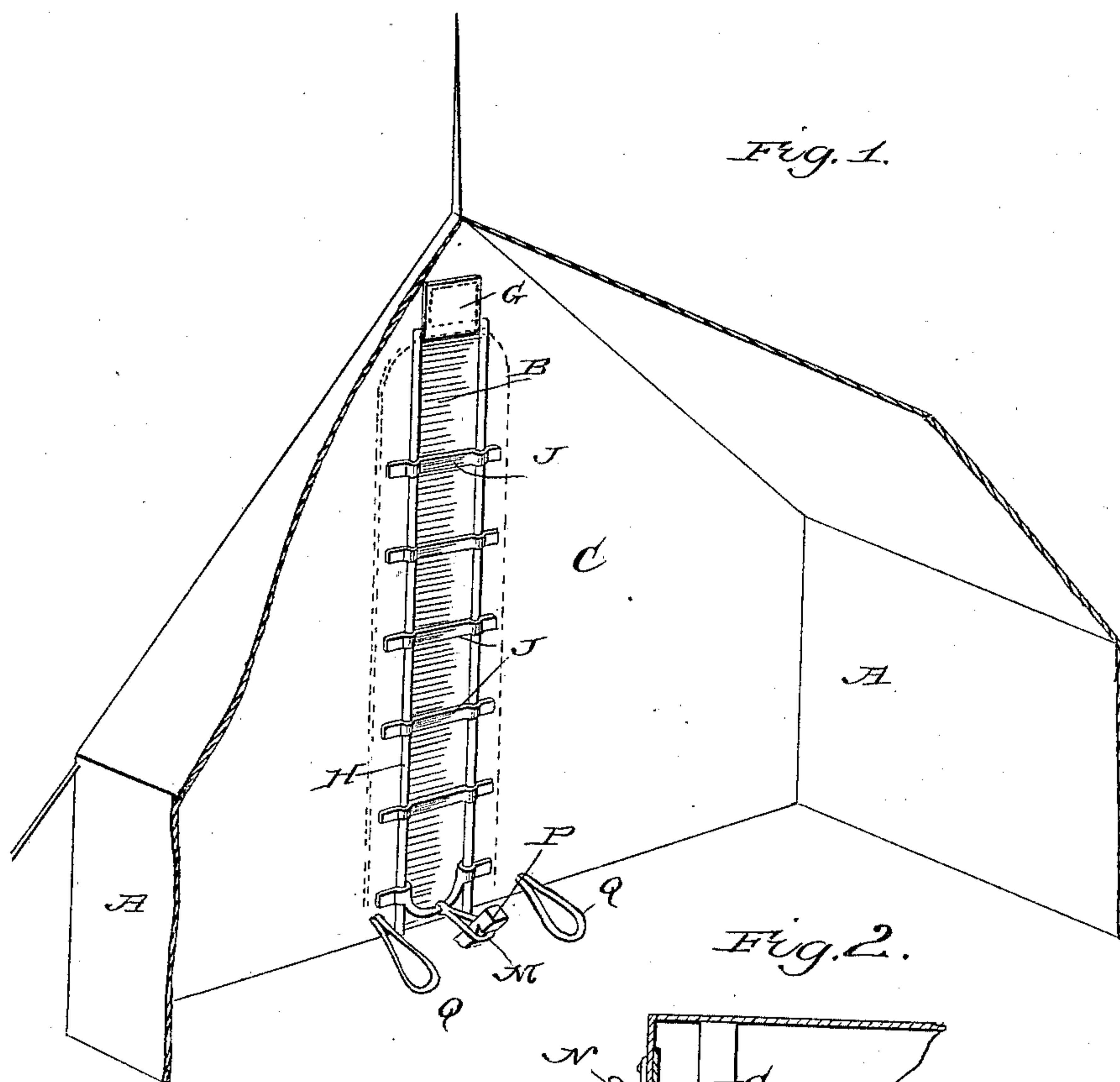
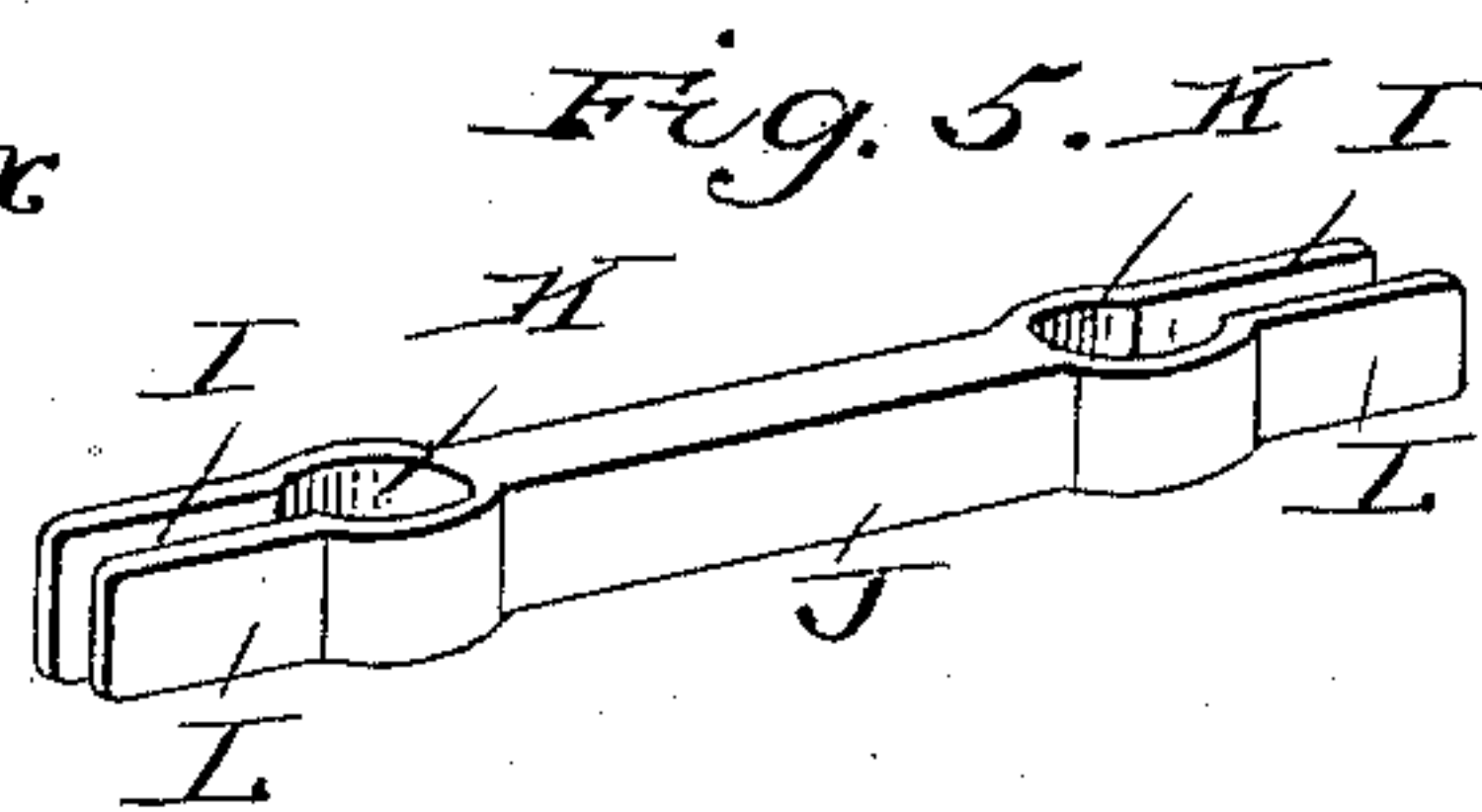
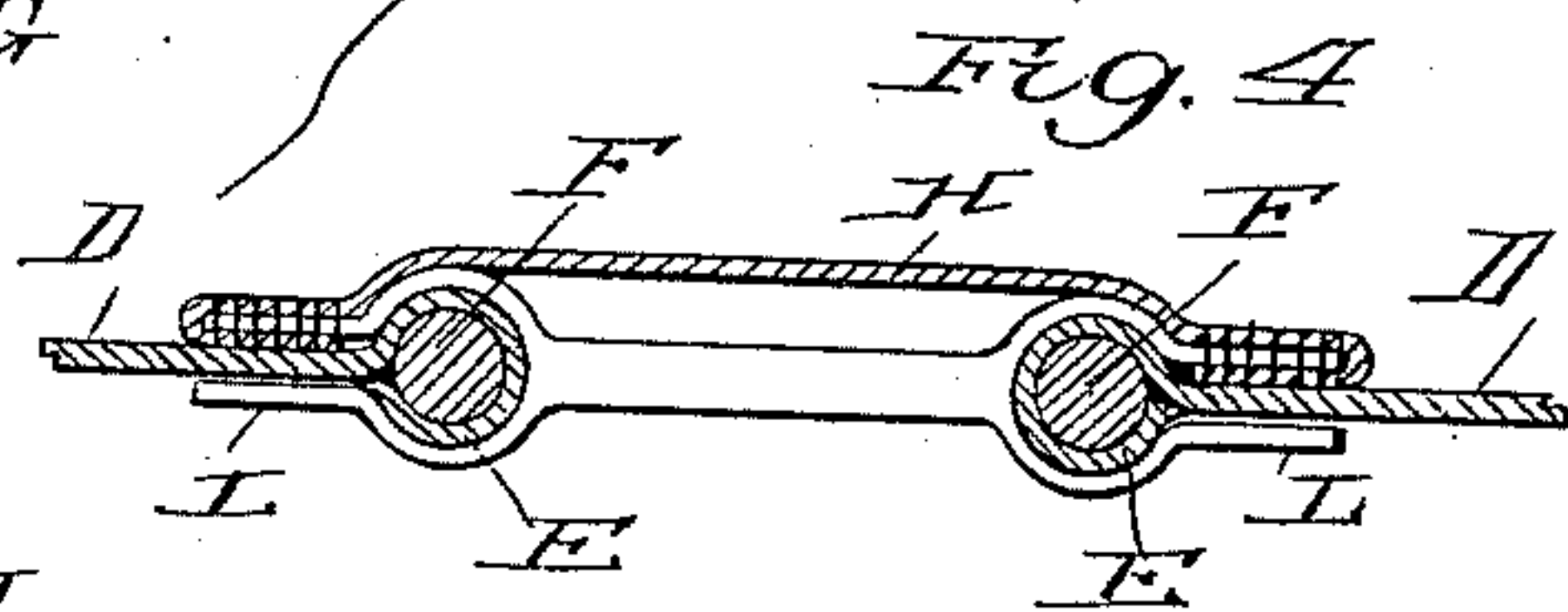
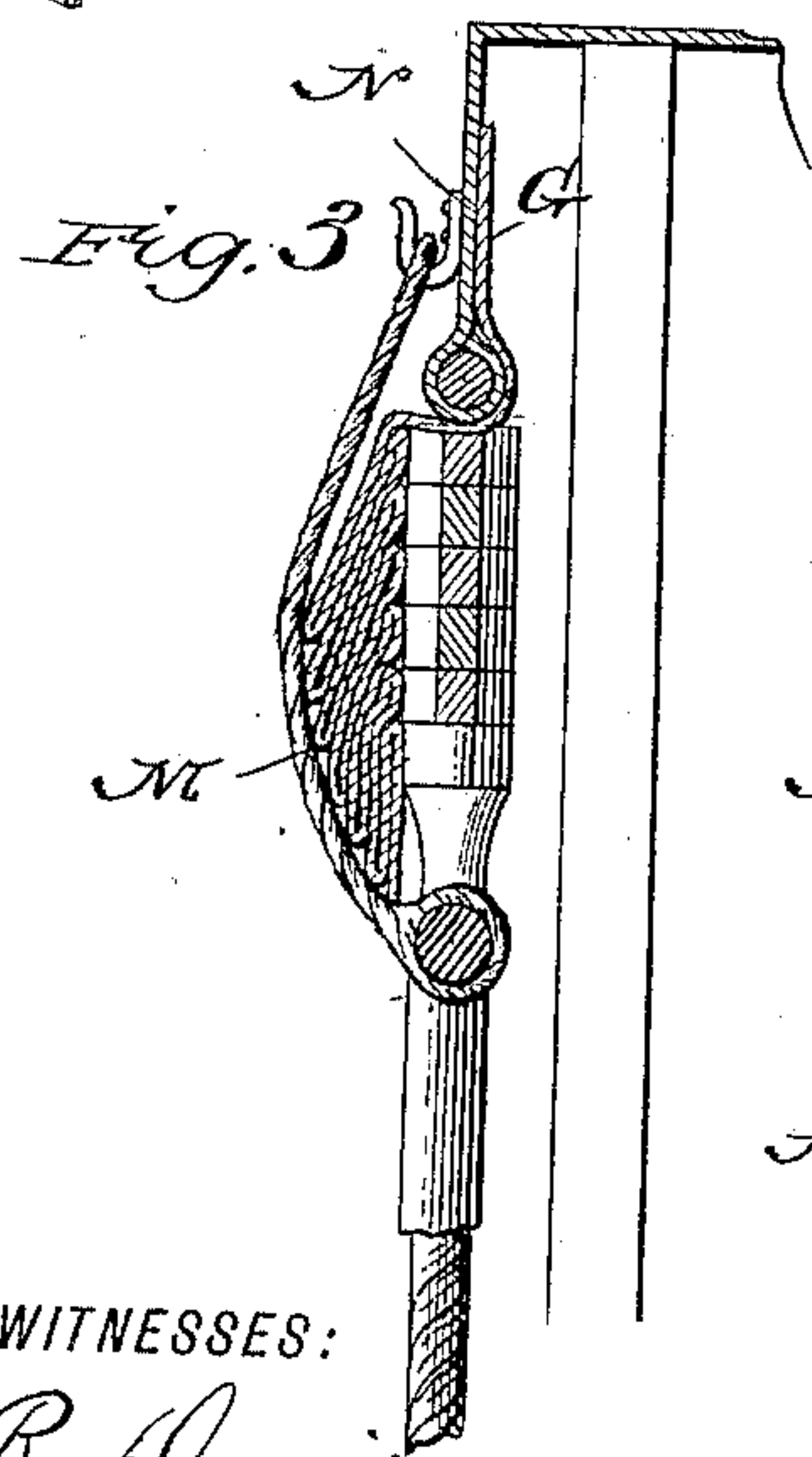
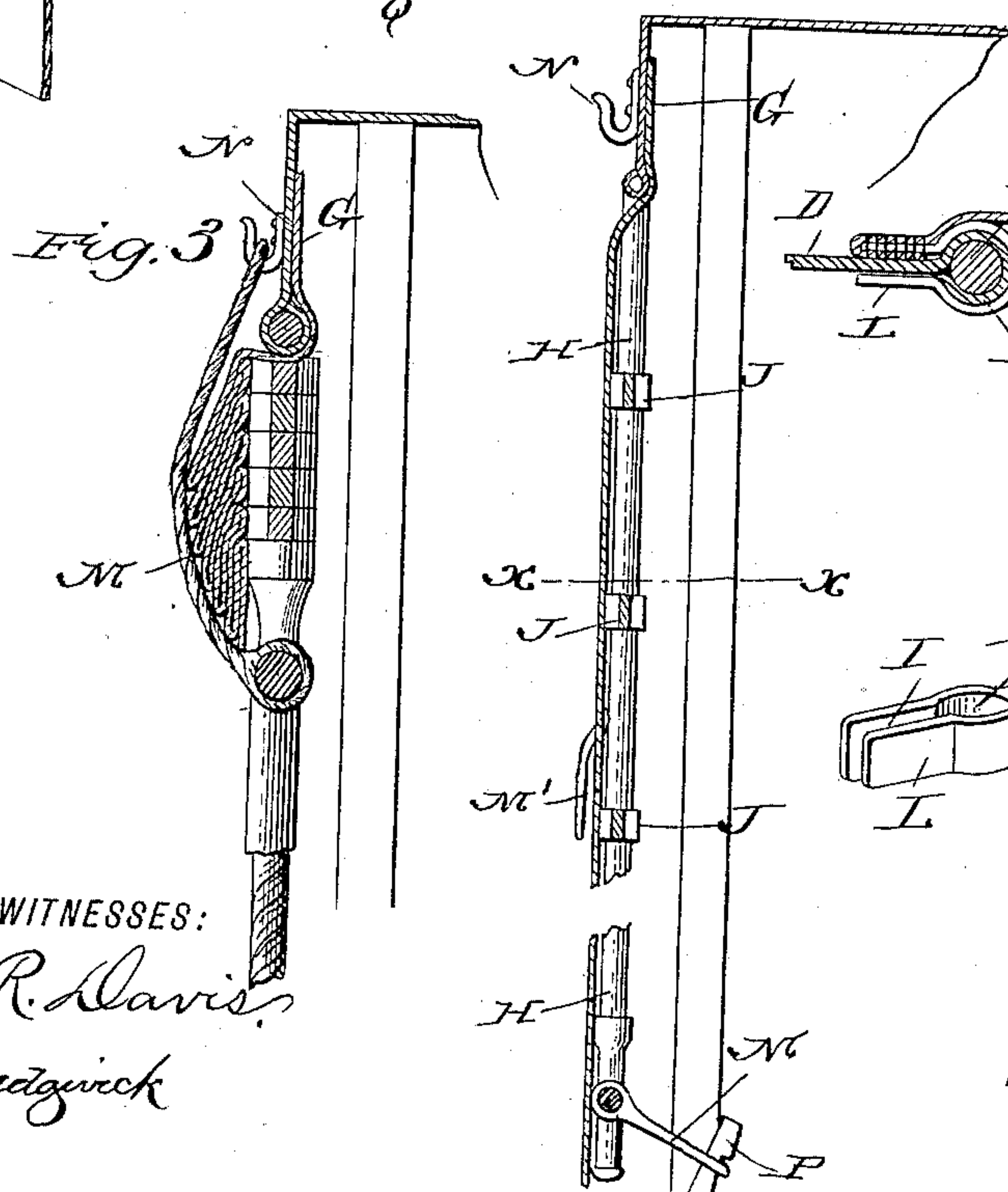


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY THOMAS, OF FORT OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

TENT-CLOSING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 396,842, dated January 29, 1889.

Application filed December 21, 1888. Serial No. 294,257. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY THOMAS, of Fort Omaha, in the county of Douglas and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and Improved
5 Tent-Closing Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my improvement is to produce a device for closing the entrance-opening in the wall of a tent readily and quickly
10 and in such manner that the tying of cords becomes unnecessary. I accomplish this object by providing the wall of the tent in which is the entrance-opening with a flexible curtain secured at its top above the opening, and
15 provided at intervals along its length with clips which embrace at each end a guide-piece combined with each perpendicular edge of the opening in the tent-wall.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying
20 drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a view of the inside of one of the walls of a tent provided with my improved
25 closing device, showing the entrance to the tent completely closed. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section taken through the closing device when in the position shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section taken on the same plane as
30 Fig. 2 when the closing device is folded so as to open the entrance to the tent, being somewhat enlarged. Fig. 4 is a cross-section taken on the plane of the line xx , Fig. 2, enlarged; and Fig. 5 is an isometric view of one of the
35 sliding clips detached.

My improved device may be applied to old tents as well as to new ones, and the curtain may be arranged to be operated from the outside of the tent-wall as well as the inside, and
40 may be applied to any number of openings in a tent.

In the drawings I have shown the device applied so as to bring the curtain on the outside of the tent.

45 In the drawings, A is a tent, which may be of any ordinary construction. It is provided with an opening, B, in the wall C, to permit of access to the interior of the tent. This opening B is made by removing a section of the
50 material of the wall C of any desired width and height, leaving the side edges of the open-

ing parallel and perpendicular to the ground. The top edge may be at right angles to the side edges, as shown. The edges of the openings are then turned over upon themselves a
55 sufficient distance, so that when the turned-over portion is sewed to the main portion a hem will be left sufficiently large to receive a guide-rope. This construction is best shown in Fig. 4, where D is the main portion of the
60 wall, E the turned-over portion, and F the rope.

At the top of the opening B, on the inside of the tent-wall, the part G of the curtain H, which is of flexible material, is secured. This
65 curtain is sufficiently long and wide to entirely cover the opening B when hanging loosely, and is disposed, as shown, so as to be on the outside of the tent-wall. To this curtain, at intervals, are attached, by sewing or
70 otherwise, the parts I of the sliding clips J.

To combine the curtain and opening to the tent for use, the sliding clips J are manipulated so that their enlarged circular portions K K will embrace each the rope of one of the
75 edges of the opening B, the clips and opening made in the wall of the tent being formed to accommodate one another. The parts L of the clips will then extend over the main portion of the wall of the tent and serve to retain the
80 clips in place upon the guide-ropes F. When the curtain and tent are thus combined, it is obvious that the clips J may be slid upward upon the guide-ropes F of the tent, and will carry with them the curtain, which will form
85 into folds, as shown in Fig. 3. To retain the curtain in this position, a cord or loop, M, may be attached to the lowest clip and brought up and hung upon the hook N, secured to the
90 wall of the tent. When the curtain is thus secured upon the hook N, the flaps of the tent-wall below the lowest clip will be free to be moved to permit ingress or egress to and from the tent.

When the curtain is wanted to entirely close
95 the opening to the tent, the loop M is removed from the hook N and the clips J allowed to run down the guide-ropes F, carrying with them the curtain. To retain the curtain in its closed position, the loop M, placed on the
100 lowest clip, will be drawn over the tent-peg P on the inside.

If desired, the curtain may be raised to uncover but a portion of the tent-opening, and to secure the curtain so as to maintain such opening a loop, as M', is provided at any desired point on the curtain, and may be brought over the hook N.

While the curtain is being raised, to prevent the flaps of the wall of the tent from being raised with it, each flap may be secured to the tent-peg P by means of the loop Q, attached thereto.

The tent-wall in which the opening to the tent is made is usually of canvas, and the curtain will also be formed, preferably, of the same material; but I do not confine myself to a canvas curtain or tent, as other flexible material might be used in constructing either. Neither do I mean to confine myself to the combination of a flexible curtain with a flexible tent-wall, as my device might be used to cover the opening in a rigid wall; but when used with a rigid wall of course the manner of combining the guide-pieces with the edges of the opening will be different, if guide-pieces are used, which will not always be the case, as the edges themselves may serve as guides when they are rigid.

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

1. In combination with a tent-wall having an opening formed therein, a guide-piece secured to each of the perpendicular edges of said opening, and a flexible curtain secured

at its upper end above said opening, and provided at intervals with clips embracing at each end the guide-pieces at the edges of the opening, substantially as specified.

2. In combination with a flexible tent-wall having an opening formed therein, a flexible curtain secured at its upper end so as to cover said opening, a guide-rope combined with each perpendicular edge of the opening, and clips combined with said curtain at intervals, said guide-ropes serving as guides for said clips, and a loop, M, placed upon one of the clips, and a hook, N, placed upon the tent-wall above the opening, substantially as specified.

3. In combination, a clip, J, and a tent-curtain, H, said clip being secured to said curtain by its part I, and embracing a guide-rope in the opening of the tent-wall by its part K and overlapping the tent-wall by its part L, substantially as specified.

4. In combination with a flexible tent-wall having an opening formed therein, a guide-rope secured in a hem formed in the edges of the opening of said tent-wall, and a flexible curtain secured at its upper end above said opening, and provided at intervals with clips embracing at each end the guide-rope at the edges of the tent-opening, substantially as specified.

HENRY THOMAS.

Witnesses:

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FRANK KETSHMARK.