

(No Model.)

A. MEIGS.
LUMBER STRIP.

No. 432,245.

Patented July 15, 1890.

Fig. 1.

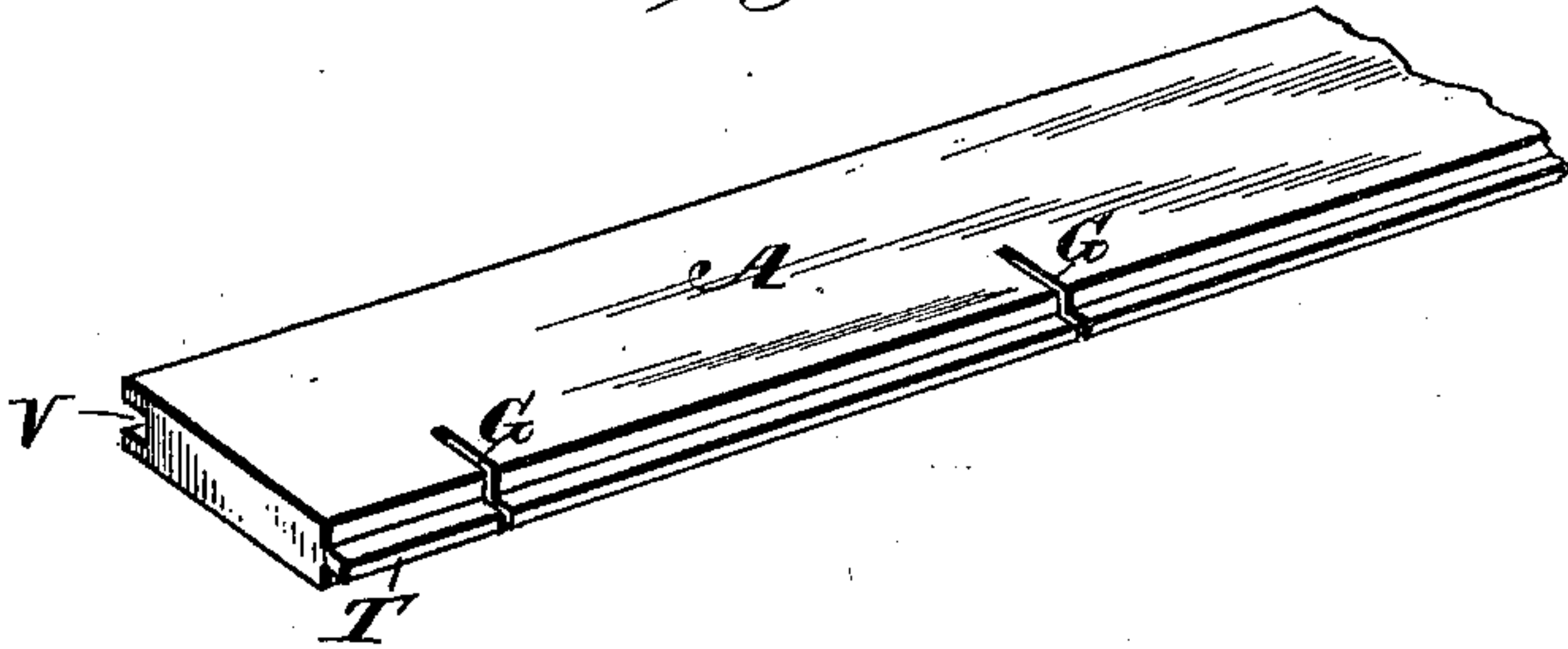


Fig. 2.

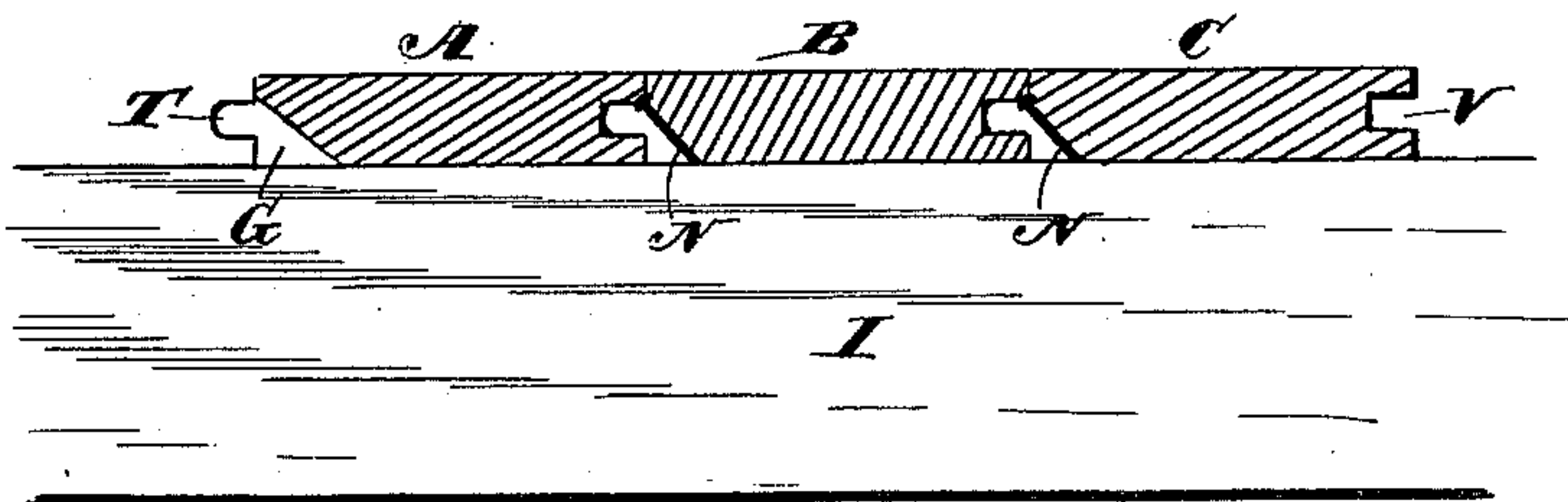


Fig. 3.

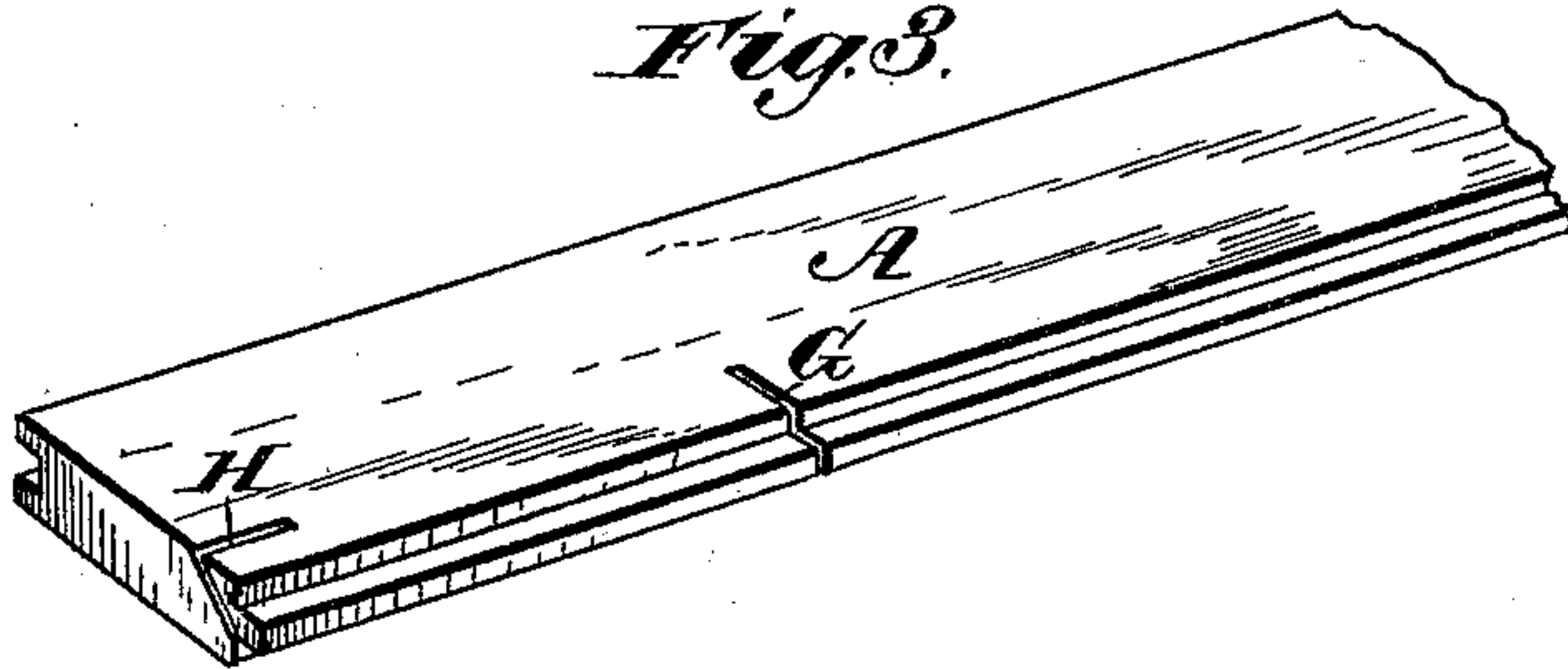
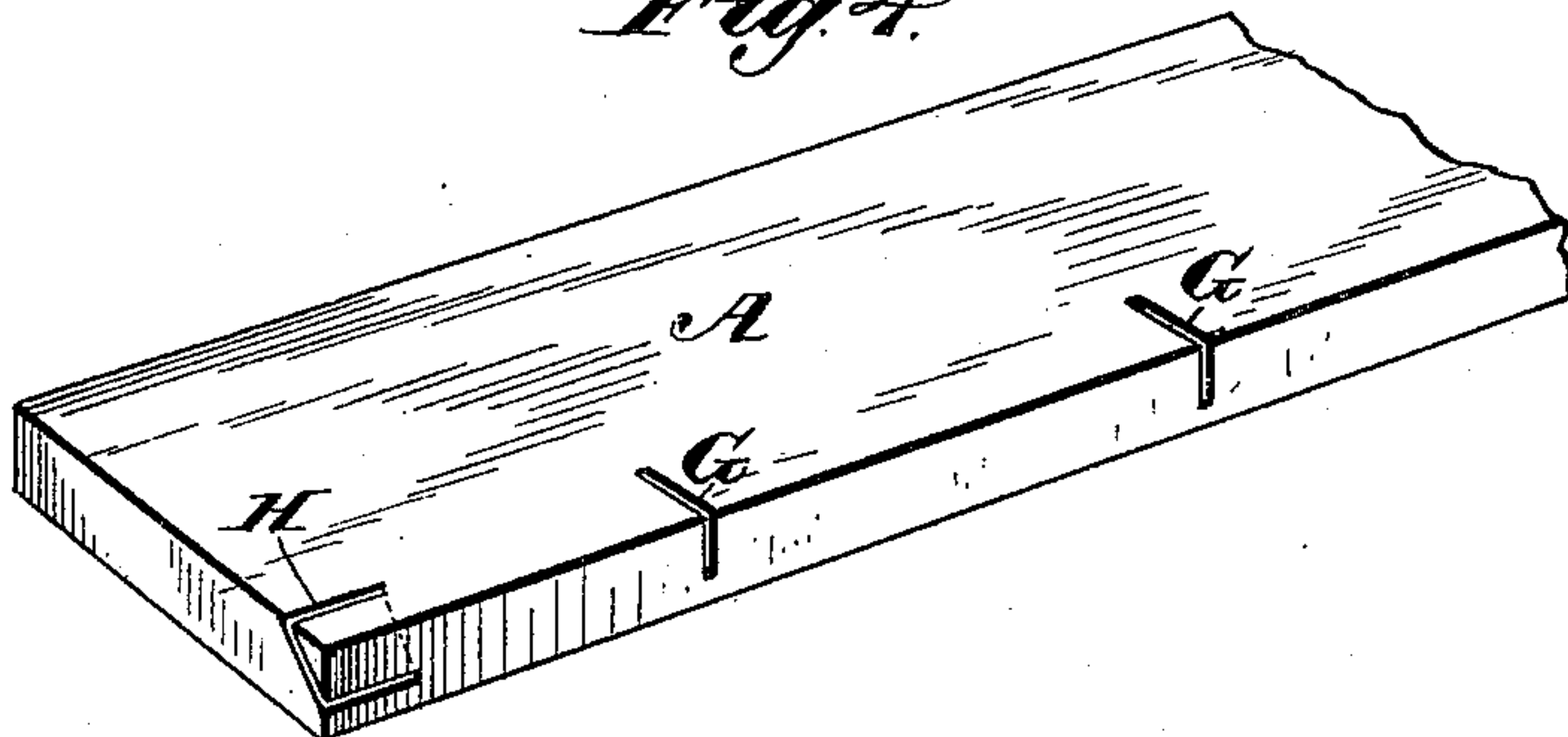


Fig. 4.



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ARTHUR MEIGS, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

LUMBER STRIP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 432,245, dated July 15, 1890.

Application filed December 26, 1889. Serial No. 335,009. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR MEIGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lumber Strips, of which the following is a specification.

The nature of my invention relates to a new and improved lumber strip prepared for blind-nailing, and the same is especially adapted to flooring, wainscoting, and lumber used for similar purposes wherever it is desirable to leave a smooth surface without disclosing the nails or screws used in attaching the lumber. The invention consists in making the oblique saw-kerf in the edge of the lumber, the same extending to a point beneath the upper surface and cut obliquely inward, so as to cut the inner or lower surface, such saw-kerf being thin or narrow, forming a slot of less thickness than the thickness of the nails used in attaching the lumber strip.

It also consists in the cutting of an oblique slot at the end of the board whenever it is found desirable to attach the board at that particular point. These slots are cut at such distances apart as to correspond with the distance from center to center of the joist or studding to which the lumber is to be attached.

The objects of the invention are, first, to form a cheap method of preparing lumber for blind-nailing, and, second, to prepare the lumber so that the nails can be readily driven to their positions, the heads thereof being entirely covered from sight. These objects I accomplish by means of the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a bottom view of the flooring-strip provided with the saw kerf or slots. Fig. 2 shows a series of boards provided with saw kerfs or slots, together with the nails which attach the boards to the joist, the same being a sectional view through the points of attachment. Fig. 3 shows a bottom view of a flooring-strip provided with the oblique slots and also with the end slot. Fig. 4 shows the under side of a board provided with the oblique slots and with the end slot. It will be

observed that Fig. 4 does not show a tongued or grooved piece, but simply a plain board.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In Fig. 1, A represents a board having a groove in one side and a tongue in the other, said groove being shown by V and said tongue by T.

G G represent two oblique kerfs cut from a point at or near the top of the tongue, and through what would be, when attached, the under side of the board. The form of this groove is shown more fully in Fig. 2, where the kerfs are filled by the nails N N.

In Fig. 2, A, B, and C represent the three flooring-strips, and I represents the joist to which they are attached by means of the nails N N.

Fig. 3 also represents a flooring-strip provided with the saw kerf or slot G, and a slot cut into the end of the board in the form shown by H.

In ordinary construction the slots G G are cut with an ordinary circular saw; but they may be cut by any suitable implement for cutting a narrow slot. The slot H is also cut by a saw into the end of the board in the form shown.

In laying floors it will frequently be found unnecessary to use the slot H, providing the slots G G are sufficiently near the ends of the boards to hold them in place; but in all cases where it is found necessary to attach the end of the board I prefer to use the slot cut in the form shown by H, rather than the oblique slot G, which, if placed near the end of the lumber, might cause the portion between the end and the slot to split.

In Fig. 4 it will be seen that the board is merely a plain board without tongue or groove, and when plain boards are used I deem it advisable to cut the saw kerfs or slots G, so that they will nearly reach the surface of the board, in order to give the nail a greater hold upon the board. When tongued or grooved lumber strips are used, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, I prefer to have the saw kerf or slot G terminate at the junction of the tongue with the shoulder above the tongue, as shown in Fig.

2, for the reason that this will bring the head of the nail at the angle, will allow considerable thickness above the head of the nail, and still leave enough of the board below the head of the nail to give sufficient strength for the attachment.

I have found by experience that a nail driven through the saw kerf or slot will not split or injure the board, although the saw-kerf be very narrow, and that the nail will receive sufficient hold upon the board to secure it, whether the same be flooring or wainscoting. If found desirable, the slot may be extended nearer the upper surface of the flooring-strip than the point where the tongue forms an angle with the shoulder, and in cases where great strength is required it may be found desirable to so construct the flooring.

In laying boards and attaching them to the joist or studding the tendency of nails driven obliquely is to draw the boards together, and when the work is completed it will be found that the boards are permanently and substantially attached to the joist or studding.

I do not intend to limit my invention to the peculiar form of the saw kerf or slot, nor to peculiar kinds of boards.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a lumber strip provided with slots, as G G, cut through the edge of the strip, leaving the uppersurface of the same whole, said slot adapted to receive nails for attaching the strip, substantially as described.

2. In combination with a lumber strip provided with a series of slots, as G G, a slot, as H, cut into the end of the board, as described, said end slot adapted to receive a nail for blind-nailing at the end of the strip, substantially as described.

3. In combination with a lumber strip provided with oblique slots, as G G, a joist or stud, as I, and nails, as N, said nails passing through the slots with their heads below the surface of the lumber strip, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two witnesses.

ARTHUR MEIGS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

ARTHUR C. DENISON,
HARRY P. VAN WAGNER.