

No. 778,748.

PATENTED DEC. 27, 1904.

G. W. HOWELL.

SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1904.

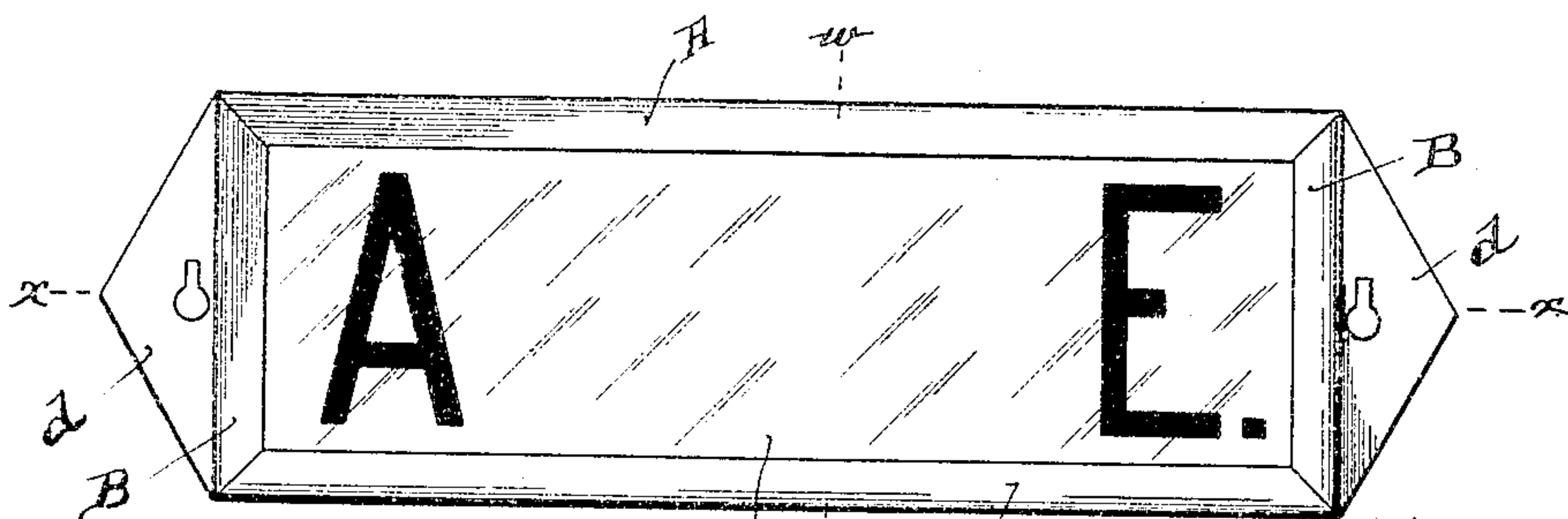


Fig. 1.

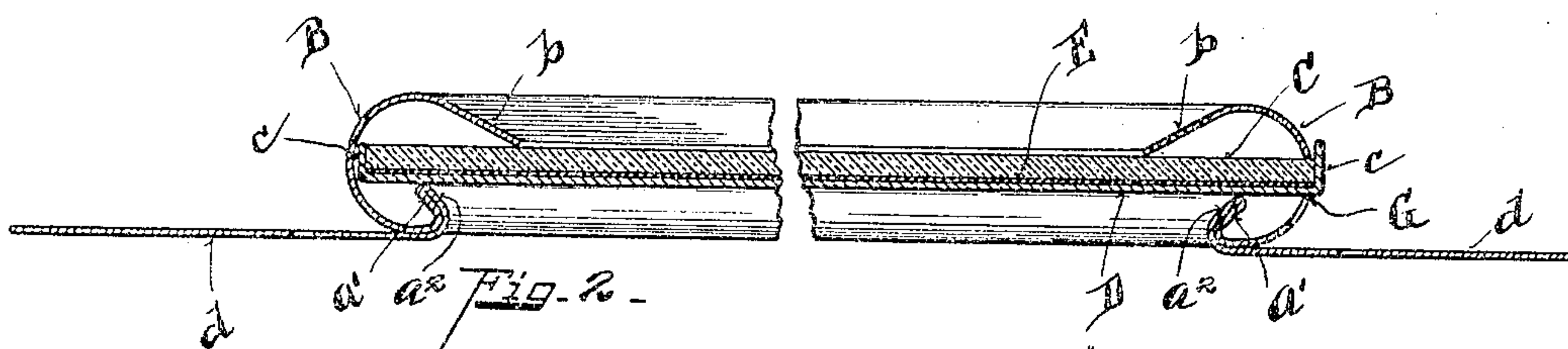


Fig. 2.

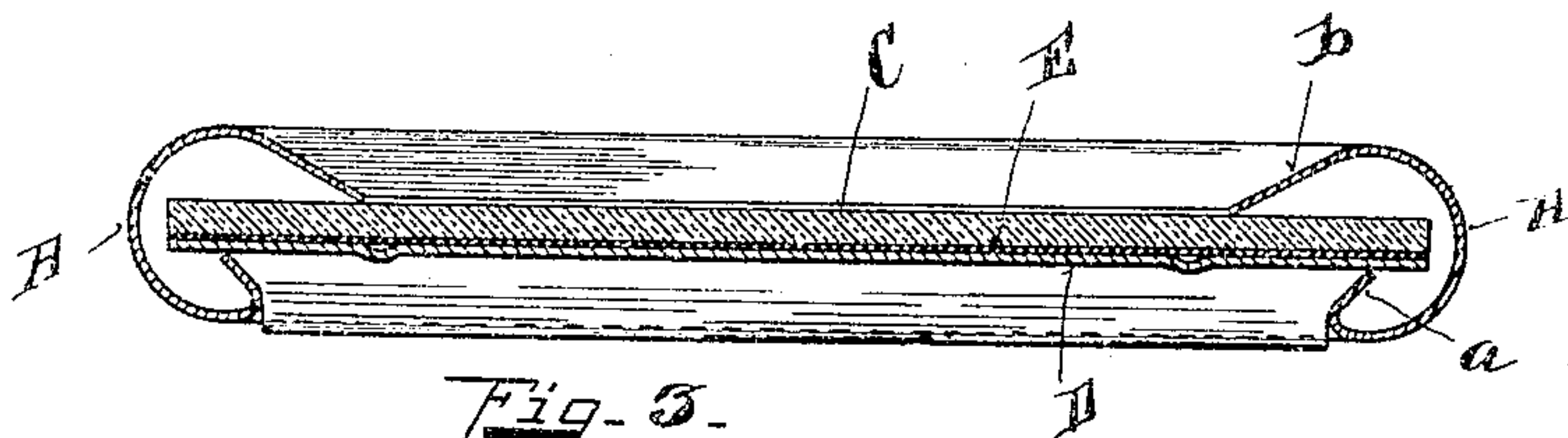


Fig. 3.

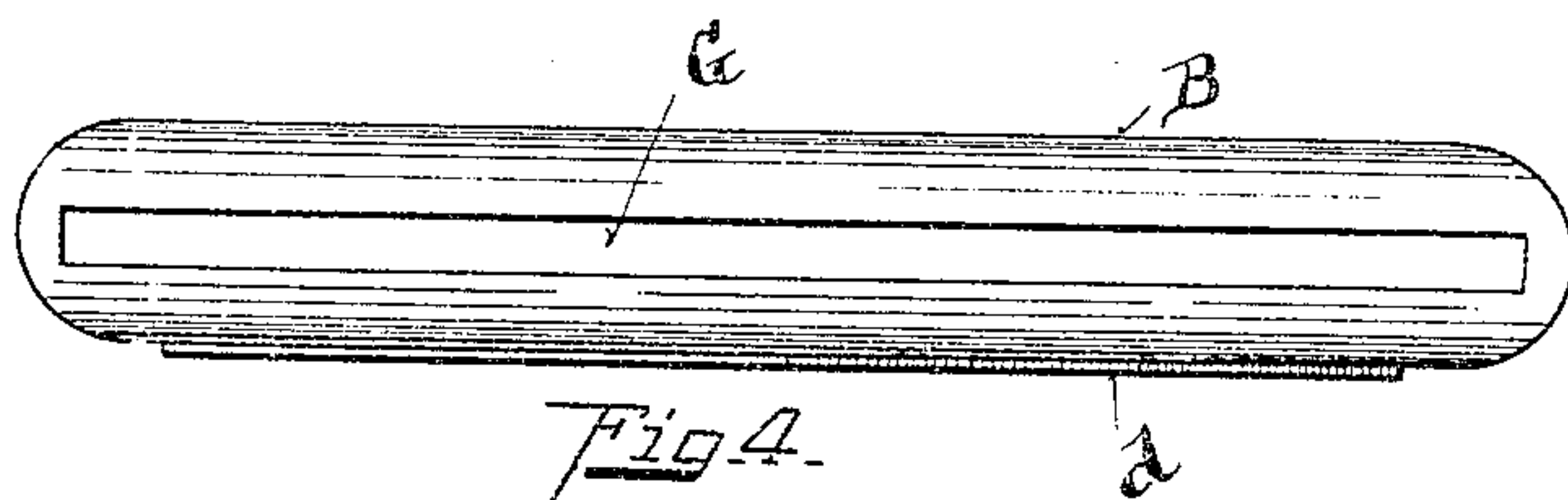


Fig. 4.

Inventor

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. HOWELL, OF COVINGTON, KENTUCKY.

## SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 778,748, dated December 27, 1904.

Application filed June 8, 1904. Serial No. 211,587.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. HOWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Covington, in the county of Kenton and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Signs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a sign adapted to be used on street-corners to designate the name of the street, on street-cars, and for other similar objects.

The object of the invention is to produce a frame which will hold an interchangeable sign.

The features of my invention are more fully set forth in the description of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the sign in position for use. Fig. 2 is an enlarged section on line *xx*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on line *ww*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged end elevation of the sign.

The drawings show the sign formed of a rectangular frame with a removable letter-plate. When made rectangular, four strips of sheet metal are employed, which are bent over into a hollow oval form, and the ends are mitered and joined together after the manner of a picture-frame.

A represents the strips of the metal forming the sides of the frame; B, the ends thereof. In the preferred form of construction the body portion is of circular or shell form, one edge being inclined inward, as at *a*, Fig. 3. The opposite edge *b* is projected forward over the edge *a*. The edges are a sufficient distance from each other to receive the flat portion of the sign.

In the preferred form of construction the removable portion of the frame is constructed as follows:

C represents a glass front.

D represents a backing-plate made of either sheet metal or glass, if desired.

E represents a piece of canvas or other suitable material upon which the letters are painted or laid in any appropriate manner.

When the back plate is made of metal, the ends thereof are bent up, as at *c*, Fig. 2. When the back plate is made of glass, it is of plain form. A glass back is employed when the sign is to be illuminated.

G represents a slot pierced in one end of the frame to receive the removable portion of the sign. The frame being of sheet metal is semi-elastic in character. The edges *a b* of the sides are left asunder a trifle less than the thickness of the removable plate, which may be readily inserted, the side pieces yielding enough to receive the same, and the frictional engagement of the edges with the plates of the same hold them firmly in position, so that the sign portion is readily removed from the frame and another one inserted at the pleasure of the user.

When the sign is desired to be secured upon a wall, the following construction is preferably carried out: The edges *a'* of the ends B are extended to enable the metal to overlap at *a''* and thence extend outwardly, as at *d*, Fig. 2, which extension may be pierced with holes for the insertion of fastening means.

Having described my invention, I claim—

In a device for supporting a sheet, a frame composed of a resilient roll of metal, having one edge intumed toward the center of the roll and outturned with reference to the frame, the other edge being intumed with reference to the frame, the said edges being adapted to clamp and support a sheet between them, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

GEORGE W. HOWELL.

Witnesses:

OLIVER B. KAISER,  
LEO O'DONNELL.