

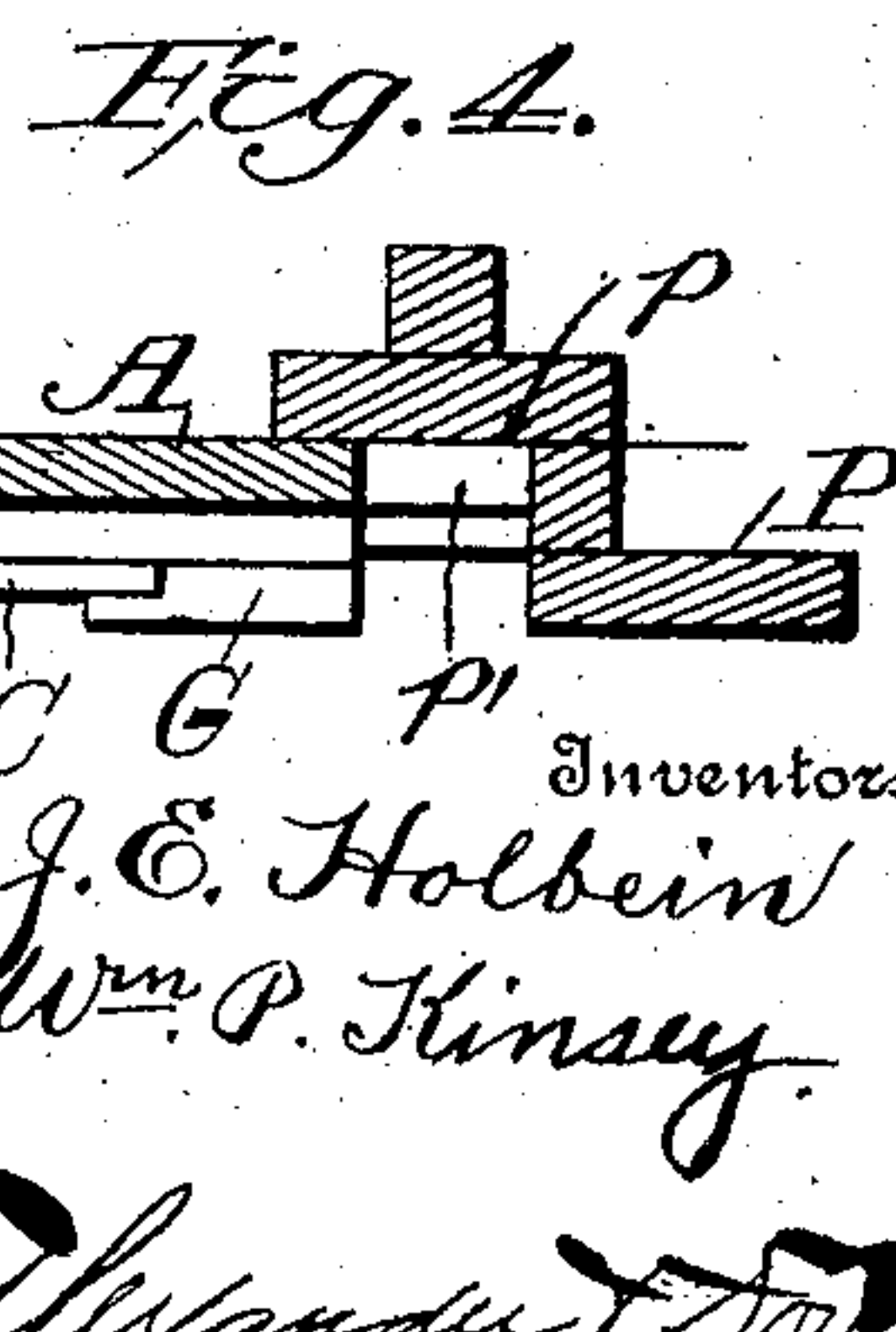
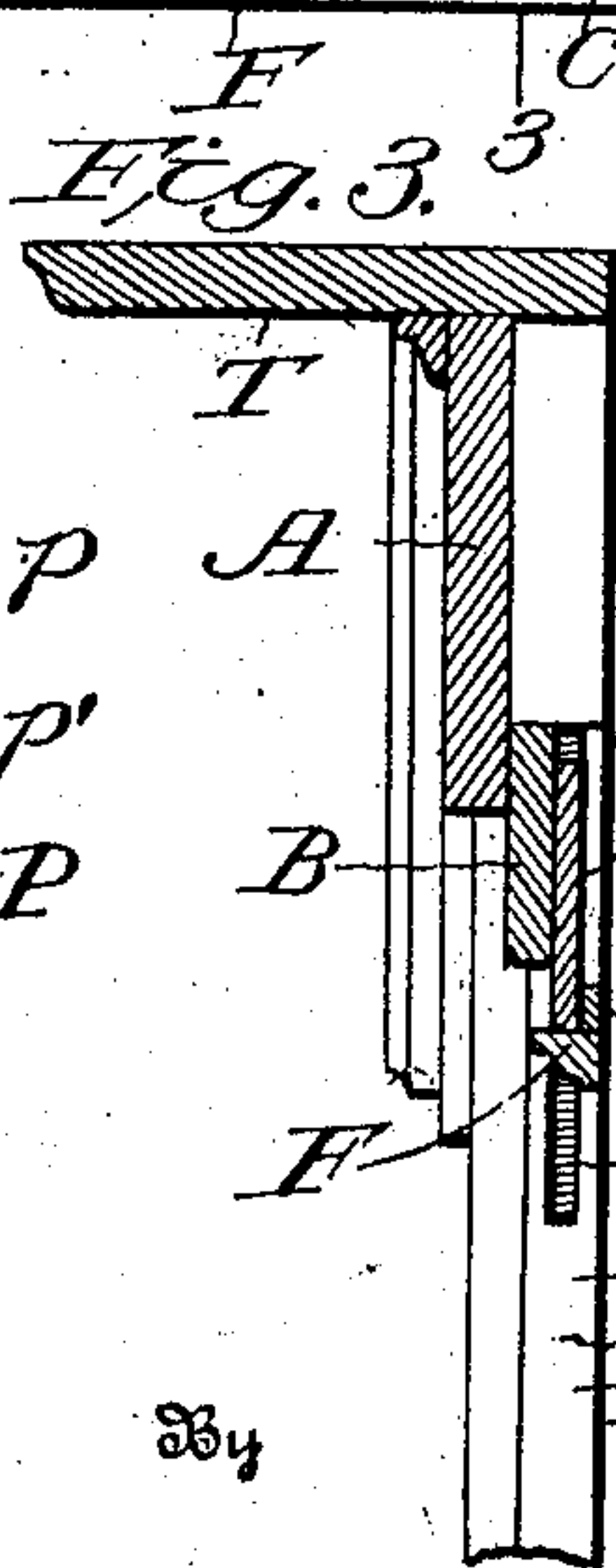
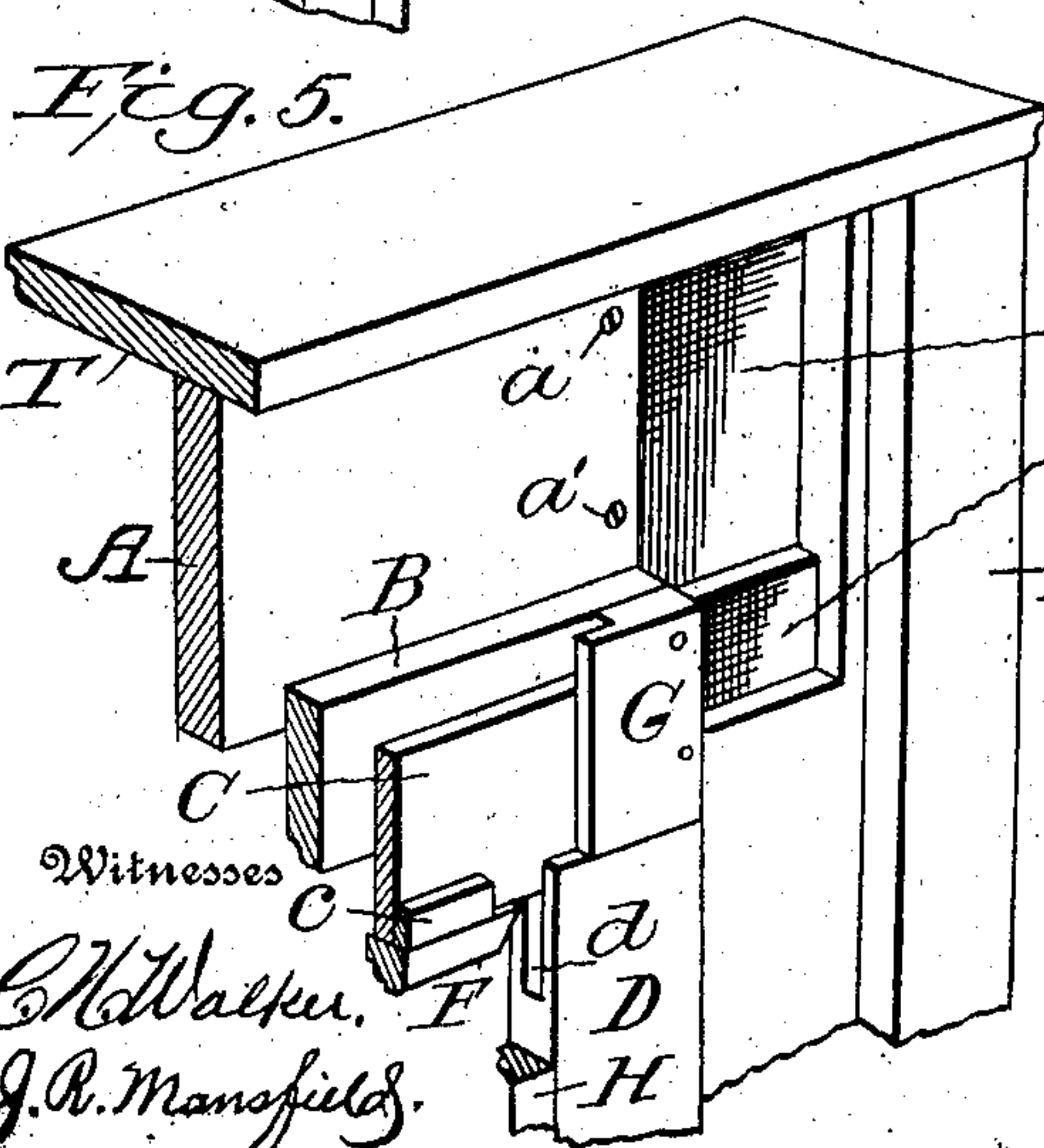
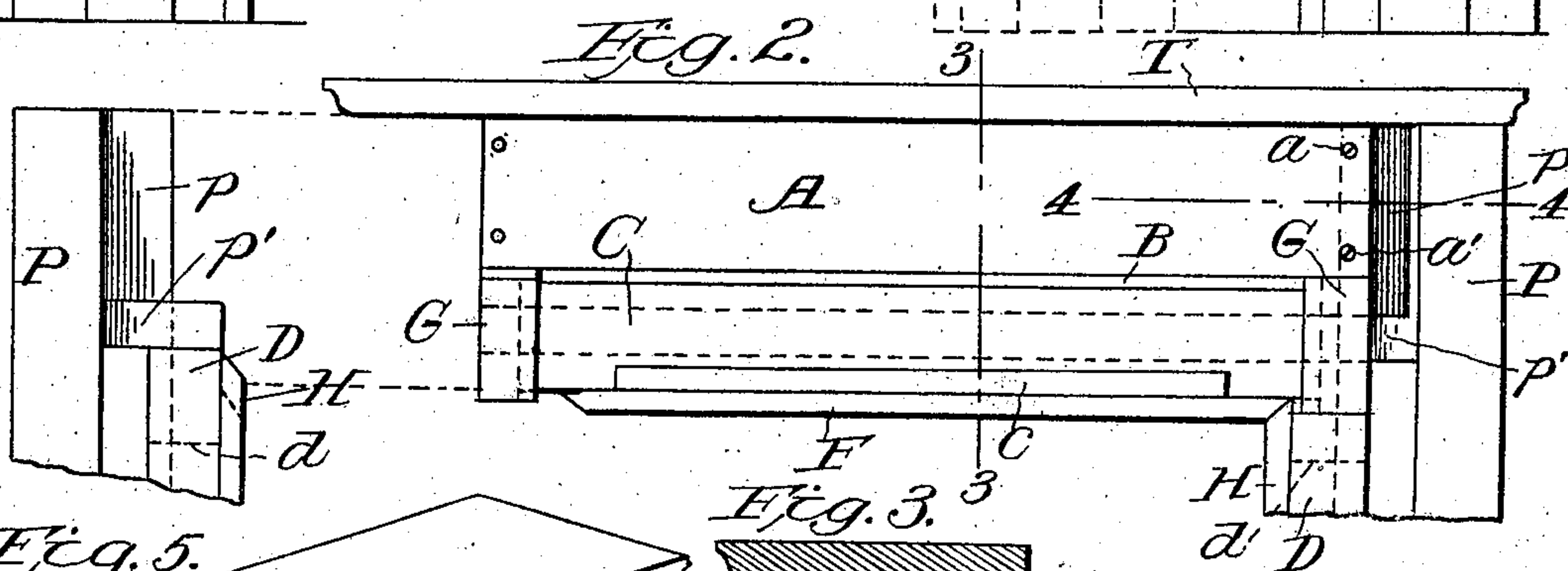
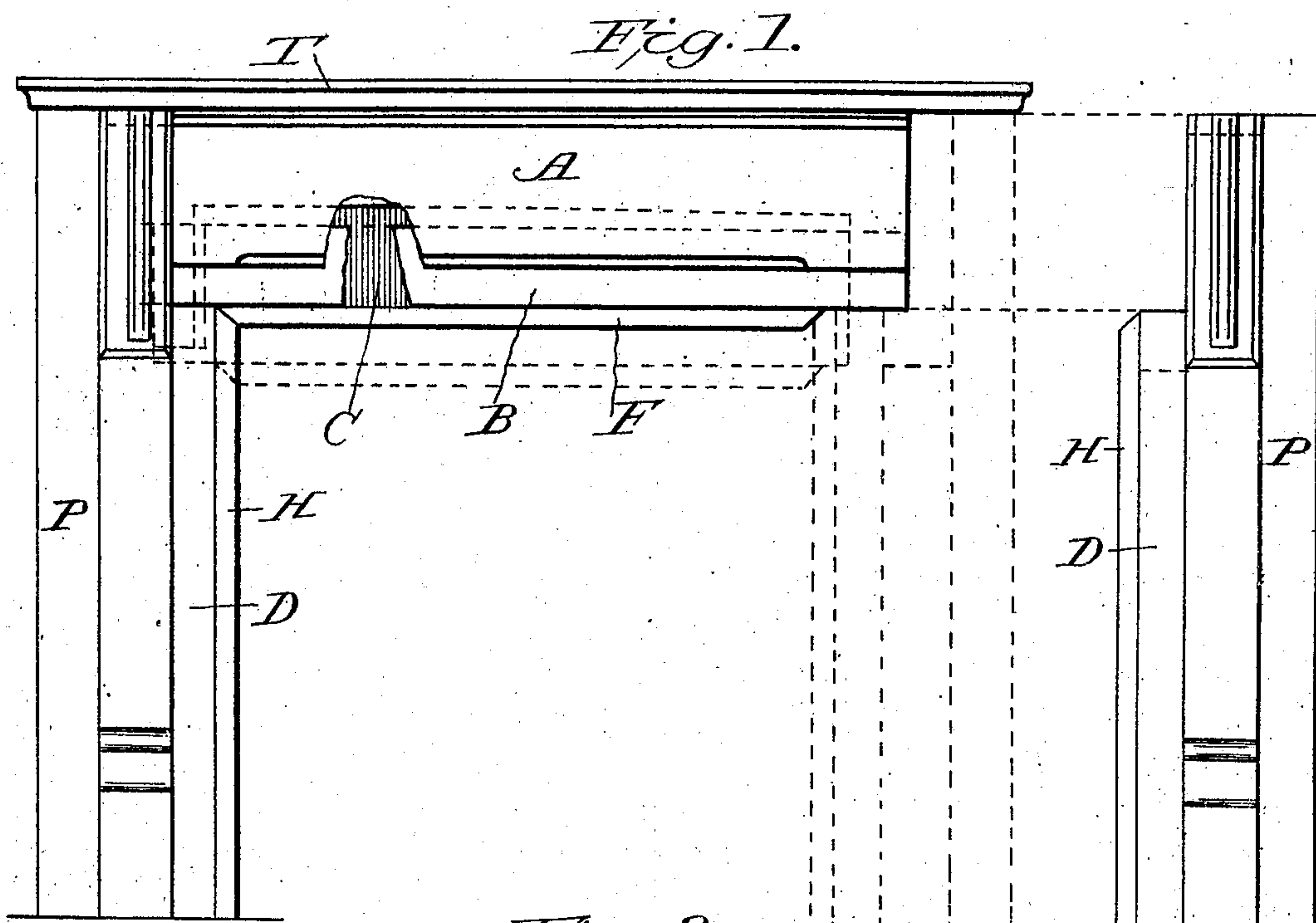
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PATENTED JULY 31, 1906.

J. E. HOLBEIN & W. P. KINSEY.

ADJUSTABLE MANTLE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 12, 1906.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADJUSTABLE MANTEL.

No. 827,369.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 31, 1906.

Application filed January 12, 1906. Serial No. 295,786.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH ELMER HOLBEIN and WILLIAM PENN KINSEY, of Evans City, Butler county, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Mantels; and we hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

This invention is an improvement in adjustable or so-called "knockdown" mantels, but also applicable to stationary or "put-up" mantels.

The principal object of this invention is to provide the mantels with an adjustable fire-strip so constructed and arranged that it will not interfere with the adjustability of the adjustable mantels nor with the general appearance thereof when adjusted nor with the appearance of the stationary mantels when applied thereto. This fire-strip can be adjusted in position very quickly and readily, so as to fit the mantels to different heights of fireplaces, and when adjusted will add to rather than detract from the general appearance of the mantel. By this invention the necessity of cutting off the plinths or bases of the mantels in order to bring the upper framework into position to connect with the front of the fireplace is avoided, and we thereby preserve the general symmetry of the mantels and are enabled to keep the mantel-shelf at standard height, although the mantel can be applied to different heights of fireplaces.

The further object of the invention is to render the mantel applicable to different widths of fireplaces without the necessity of cutting away any portion thereof, so that it can be readily fitted to any size fireplace by ordinary workmen.

The invention is particularly designed for wooden mantels which are usually kept in stock by lumber merchants; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts of the mantel, as hereinafter claimed and which will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the mantel illustrated in the drawings.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of an adjustable mantel with the finishing-strip raised in full lines and shown lowered

in dotted lines, and one of the pilasters is shown separated in full lines and in position in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a rear view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged section on line 4 4 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a rear detail perspective sectional view showing the adjustable features.

The mantel comprises the frieze A, to which the shelf or top T may be secured. To the lower edge of the frieze A and rear side thereof is attached a strip B, which depends below the lower edge of the frieze. The frieze A is supported at its ends on pilasters P of any suitable construction, which are provided at their rear edges with recesses *p* to accommodate the ends of the frieze-board A and other recesses *p'* to accommodate the ends of the finishing-strip B, the frieze being fastened to the pilaster by screws *a*, and by removing these screws the pilasters can be adjusted laterally relative to the ends of the frieze, as is evident from the drawings, and thus the two pilasters can be placed closer together or farther apart to suit the width of the fireplace to which the mantel is to be attached.

These kinds of mantels are usually kept in stock by dealers, and in order to make a neat finish when applied to a fireplace the finishing-strip should be placed in proper position relatively to the upper edge of the fireplace-opening. This has heretofore been generally accomplished by cutting off the plinths or bases of the pilasters; but this operation is troublesome, and at the same time when this is done the top or mantel-shelf is necessarily correspondingly lowered, which is very objectionable, and one of the objects of the present invention is to maintain this top shelf at the desired uniform height and to avoid the necessity of cutting off the plinths, while at the same time it affords the desired adjustability of the mantel and enables a neat finish to be made around the fireplace. For this purpose we provide an adjustable fire-strip C in rear of the finishing-strip B. The ends of this fire-strip C are retained and guided in rabbeted blocks G, attached to the ends of the finishing-strips B, and are further guided in vertical slots *d* in the upper ends of vertical finishing-strips D on the inner sides of the pilasters. A reinforcing-strip *e* may

be attached to the lower edge of the fire-strip, as shown, to afford a better bearing for the bead F, hereinafter referred to.

If the fireplace is of the usual height, the fire-strip C is simply raised behind the finishing-strip B and is concealed by said strip and the upper bead F, attached to the lower edge thereof, and the slots *d* in the edges of the vertical finishing-strips D are covered and concealed by the vertical beads H, which are applied to the inner edges of said vertical finishing-strips. If the fireplace be lower than is customary, after the mantel is in position the strip C is lowered in slots *d* until its lower edge comes to the desired height above the fireplace, and in its lowered position, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and in full lines in Figs. 3 and 5, the fire-strip becomes a second finishing-strip, enhancing the appearance of the mantel, as it imparts a more substantial appearance thereto around the fireplace. As this fire-strip is several inches in width in practice the mantel can be readily applied to fireplaces of considerable differences in height. The fire-strip does not interfere with the lateral adjustment of the pilasters, adds very little to the cost of the mantel, greatly increase the desirability thereof, and lessens the labor necessary in fitting the mantels to the fireplaces, as the only parts which need to be cut off in fitting the mantels to the fireplaces are the beads F and H, which should not be applied until the mantel and fire-strip have been properly adjusted. Then the horizontal bead F will only have to be cut at one end and the vertical beads H cut to the proper height, so as to make a neat finish.

From the foregoing description and the drawings it will be apparent that the upper adjustable finishing or fire strip when not needed will remain in such position that it does not affect the appearance or general utility of the mantel, and when lowered for the purpose of closing or lowering the face of the chimney-piece and the fire-front frame it adds to the appearance of the mantel by forming a depressed panel bound by the finishing-strip B and the bead F.

Having described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a mantel, the combination of the frieze, the top or shelf, the pilasters, the finishing-strips on the pilasters having slots in their upper ends, and a vertically-adjustable fire-strip in rear of the frieze, engaging in said slots.

2. In a mantel, the combination of the pilasters having vertical finishing-strips on their inner edges provided with slots, a frieze connected with the pilasters above the vertical finishing-strips, a horizontal finishing-strip attached to the rear edge of the frieze, and a vertically-adjustable fire-strip in rear of the

finishing-strip having its ends engaged in the slots in the vertical finishing-strips.

3. In a mantel, the combination of a top or shelf, the frieze attached thereto, rabbeted blocks connected to said frieze, and a vertically-adjustable fire-strip engaging said blocks.

4. In a mantel, the combination of a top or shelf, the frieze, the finishing-strip attached to the rear side and lower edge of the frieze, the rabbeted blocks attached to the finishing-strip and the vertically-adjustable fire-strip engaged in said blocks.

5. In a mantel, the combination of a top or shelf, the frieze, the finishing-strip attached to the rear side and lower edge of the frieze, the rabbeted blocks attached to the ends of the finishing-strip, the vertically-adjustable fire-strip engaged in said blocks, and the pilasters supporting the frieze and having vertical finishing-strips on the inner edges, provided with vertical slots for the accommodation of the ends of the fire-strip.

6. In an adjustable mantel, the combination of the top or shelf, the frieze, the laterally-adjustable pilasters provided with recesses for the accommodation of the ends of the frieze, finishing-strips attached to the pilasters and having slots in their upper ends and inner sides, and an adjustable fire-strip in rear of the frieze engaging the slots in the finishing-strips.

7. In an adjustable mantel, the combination with the top or shelf, the frieze connected therewith, the laterally-adjustable pilasters attached to the ends of the frieze, and means for securing the frieze to said pilasters, the vertical finishing-strips on the inner side of the pilasters having slots in their inner sides; with the vertically-adjustable fire-strip having its ends engaged in said slots, and the finishing-beads applied to the lower edge of said fire-strip and the edge of the vertical finishing-strip.

8. In an adjustable mantel, the combination with the top or shelf, the frieze connected therewith, the pilasters having recesses in their upper ends for the accommodation of the ends of the frieze, and means for securing the frieze to said pilasters, the vertical finishing-strips on the inner side of the pilasters having slots in their inner sides; with a vertically-adjustable fire-strip having its ends engaged in said slots, and the finishing-beads adapted to be applied to the lower edge of said fire-strip and the edge of the vertical finishing-strip.

9. In an adjustable mantel, the combination of a non-extensible top, a non-extensible frieze attached thereto, a finishing-strip attached to the rear side and lower edge of the frieze, laterally-adjustable pilasters, rabbeted blocks attached to the ends of the finishing-strip, a vertically-adjustable fire-strip in rear of the finishing-strip engaging the said rab-

beted blocks, and the slots in the pilasters, and the finishing-beads, substantially as described.

10. In an adjustable mantel, the combination of a non-extensible top, a non-extensible frieze attached thereto, a finishing-strip attached to the rear side and lower edge of the frieze, laterally-adjustable pilasters provided with recesses in their upper ends for the accommodation of the ends of the frieze and finishing-strip and provided with vertical slots in their inner edges for the reception of the fire-strip; rabbeted blocks attached to the

ends of the finishing-strip, a vertically-adjustable fire-strip in rear of the finishing-strip engaging the said rabbeted blocks and the slots in the pilasters, and finishing-beads, substantially as described. 15

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses. 20

JOSEPH ELMER HOLBEIN.

WILLIAM PENN KINSEY.

In presence of—

W. L. McKISSON.

FRED RAHISER.