

No. 890,631.

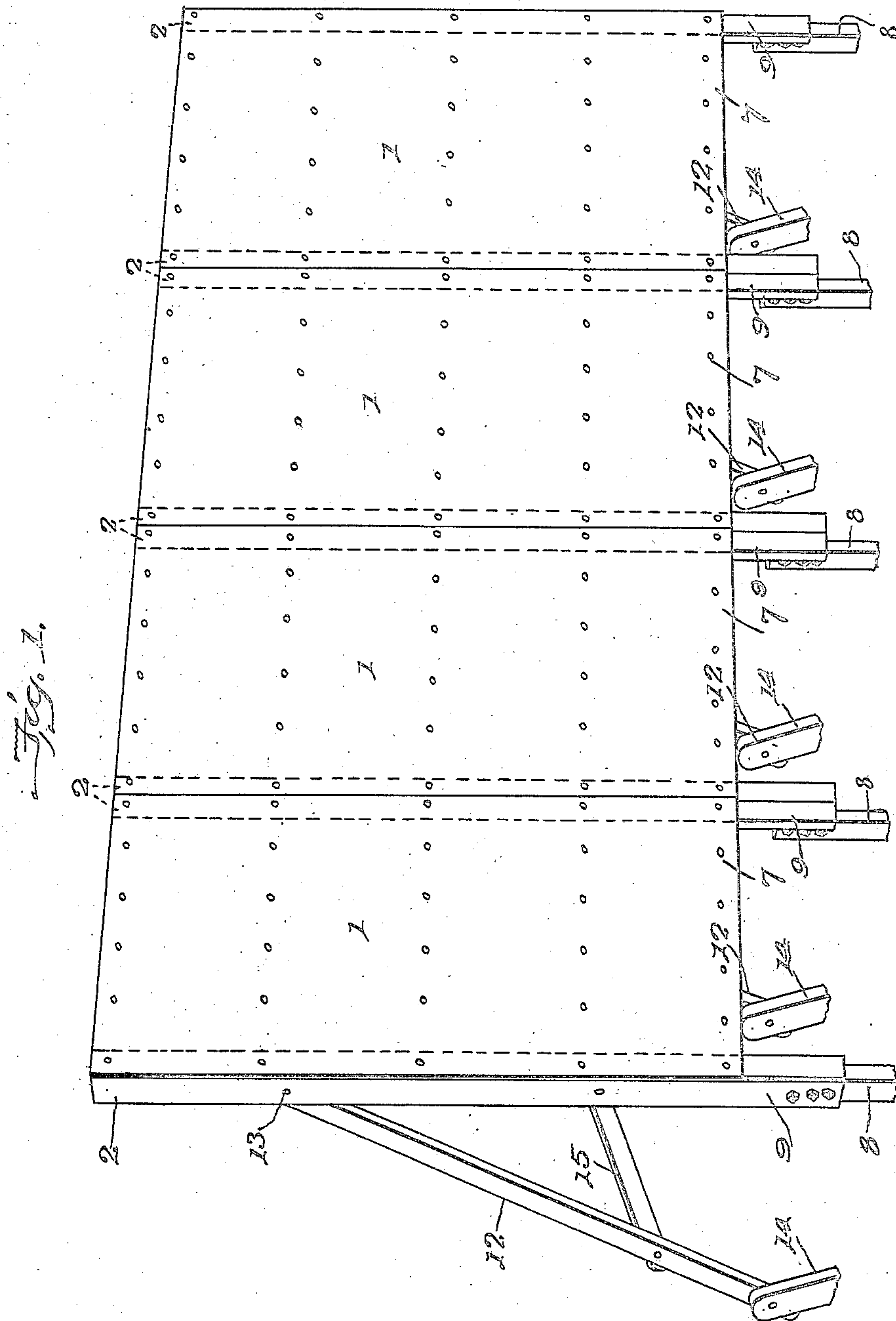
PATENTED JUNE 16, 1908.

J. R. FITZGERALD.

SIGN BOARD.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 20, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

G. Howard Walmsley.
Edward A. Reed

Inventor
Joseph R. Fitzgerald.

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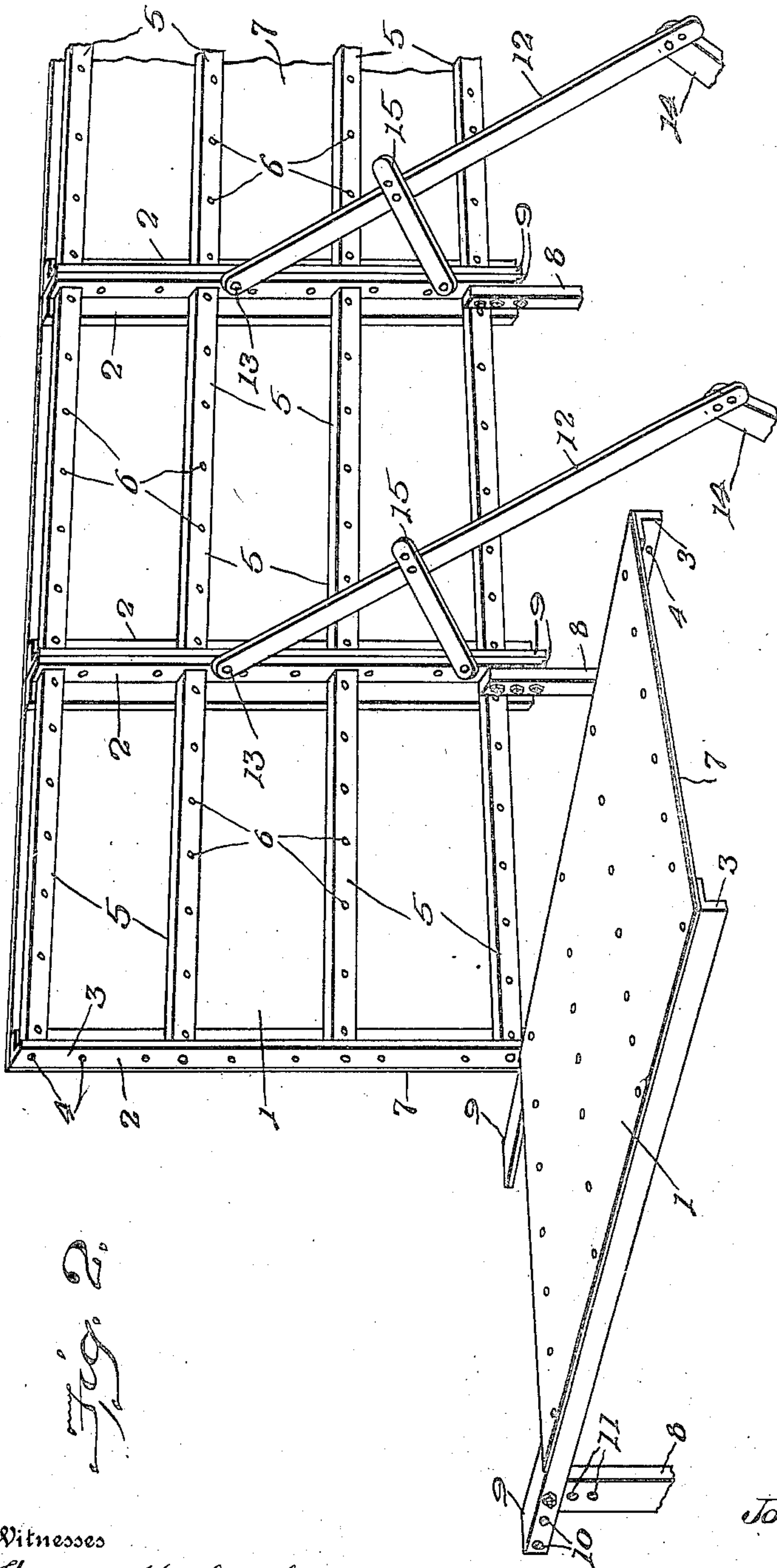


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH R. FITZGERALD, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

SIGN-BOARD.

No. 890,631.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 16, 1908.

Application filed May 20, 1907. Serial No. 374,670.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH R. FITZGERALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sign - Boards, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The present invention relates to sign boards, and the object of the invention is to provide a sign board which can be readily handled and transported from one point to another; which can be easily and quickly set up; the size of which can be readily varied; which will be strong and durable; and which may be manufactured at a low cost.

With these objects in view my invention consists in certain novel features of construction, and in certain parts and combinations hereinafter to be described, and then more fully pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sign board embodying my invention; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing such a sign board partially set up and showing the framework thereof.

In these drawings, I have illustrated the preferred form of my invention, and, as there shown, the same consists of a plurality of sections formed of metal and adapted to be connected one to the other at their adjacent edges to form a continuous face or front surface upon which to place the sign, but, obviously, the construction of the sections and the material employed therein could be varied to a wide extent without departing from the spirit of my invention. As here shown, each section 1 is constructed independently of the remaining sections and consists of upright vertical members 2, having rearwardly extending projections provided with means for connecting the same to the corresponding projections on the adjacent section. I prefer to construct these upright members of angle iron, each angle iron having one member extending parallel with the face of the section and the other member extending rearwardly to form a flange 3, which is provided with suitable means for connecting the same to the corresponding flange on the adjacent section, the means here shown comprising a series of bolt holes 4 adapted to receive suitable bolts for securing the sections together. The upright members 2 are connected one to the other by means of suitable transverse

bars 5, preferably extending longitudinally of the section and preferably provided with a series of apertures 6.

The front side of each section is covered with a suitable facing material 7, preferably sheet iron, which forms a firm, smooth surface upon which to place the sign. This covering is secured to the frame in any suitable manner, but I prefer to secure the same as here shown, which is by means of bolts or rivets extending through the cover and through the apertures 6 in the transverse bars 5 of the frame. This covering has its ends flush with the rearwardly extending member of the angle iron forming the end posts of the section, and, when the rearwardly extending members of the angle irons of two sections have been secured together, the edges of the covering or facing of the sections are brought together and form a close joint, thus providing a practically continuous sign board which may be made in any desired length by the addition or removal of the sections.

The several sections may be supported above the ground or other supporting surface in any suitable manner, but I prefer to provide a series of supporting members 8, adapted to be secured to the supporting surface and to extend above the same with their upper ends lying in the same horizontal plane. As here shown, where the sign board is constructed for use on the ground, these supporting members consist of stakes, preferably of metal, adapted to be driven into the ground. The lower ends of the upright members 2 forming the frame of each section are secured to the upper ends of the supporting members 8 in any suitable manner, but I prefer to form this connection by extending the lower ends of the upright members 2 below the lower edge of the covering 7, as shown at 9, and to provide the same with a series of bolt holes 10 adapted to register with a corresponding series of bolt holes 11 in the upright members 8. In setting up a section, the extension 9 is connected to the member 8 by a single bolt extending through one of the holes 10 in the member 9 and through the corresponding hole 11 in the member 8, thus forming a pivotal connection between the section and the supporting member 8 and enabling the same to be readily raised to a vertical position where it is firmly secured by passing bolts through the remainder of the holes 10 and 11. The second section is mounted in the same

manner, and, when the same has been secured in a vertical position, the adjacent flanges formed by the rearwardly extending members of the angle irons are firmly secured together, thus uniting the two sections into what is practically a single sign board. If desired, a plurality of supporting members 8 may be provided for each section, or, as here shown, the adjacent upright members 2 of adjoining sections may be secured to a single supporting member 8.

In small signs the supporting members 8 will usually be sufficient to maintain the same in the desired position, but where the sign is of considerable size, it is desirable that the same should be provided with an additional support or brace, and I have here shown a suitable brace 12 connected at its upper end, preferably by means of a pivotal connection 13, with the upright member 2 of the section and secured at its lower end to a supporting member, which, in the present instance, is shown as a stake 14. To further strengthen the signboard, an auxiliary brace 15 extends between the brace 12 and the upright member 2 at a point beneath the point of connection of the brace 12 with said upright member. This auxiliary brace 15 is preferably connected to the upright member 2 or to the brace 12 by a pivotal connection which may be formed by the use of a single connecting bolt. Thus, both the brace 12 and the auxiliary brace 15 can be folded flat against the rear of the section when the same is to be transported from one point to another.

While I prefer to construct the entire sign board of metal, providing the frame and braces of suitable iron bars and the covering or facing of sheet metal, it will be readily apparent that the sections could be constructed of other material.

From the foregoing description it will be apparent that I have provided a sign board which can be readily transported from one point to another; which can be readily assembled and placed in the desired position; the size of which can be varied to accommodate the same to various conditions; which can be produced at a low cost; and which, when set up, will provide a strong, durable construction which will not be easily broken down or destroyed.

I wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

Having thus fully described my invention,

what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A sign board of the character described comprising a plurality of separable sections having corresponding rearwardly extending projections on their adjacent ends, means for securing said projections one to the other, and means for supporting said sections in an upright position.

2. A section for a sign board of the character described comprising a frame, consisting of upright end members formed of angle irons, having one flange extending parallel with said frame and the other flange extending at right angles thereto, transverse members extending between said upright members and secured to the rear side of the first mentioned flange, and a covering of facing material extending over the front of said frame and secured to said upright members and to said transverse members.

3. A sign board of the character described comprising a frame, a supporting member adapted to be secured to the supporting surface, and means for pivotally connecting said frame to said supporting member.

4. A sign board of the character described comprising a frame, a supporting member adapted to be secured to the supporting surface, means for pivotally connecting said frame to said supporting member, and means for securing said frame in its adjusted position.

5. A sign board of the character described comprising a frame, a supporting member adapted to be secured to the supporting surface, means for pivotally connecting said frame to said supporting member, and a brace pivotally connected at one end to said frame and secured at its opposite end to the supporting surface.

6. A sign board of the character described comprising a frame, a supporting member adapted to be secured to the supporting surface, means for pivotally connecting said frame to said supporting member, a brace pivotally connected at one end to said frame and secured at its opposite end to the supporting surface, and an auxiliary brace extending between said first-mentioned brace and said frame.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH R. FITZGERALD.

Witnesses:

W. F. FITZGERALD,
F. L. KILROY.