

R. C. LAFFERTY.  
SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 28, 1908.

940,536.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Fig. 1.

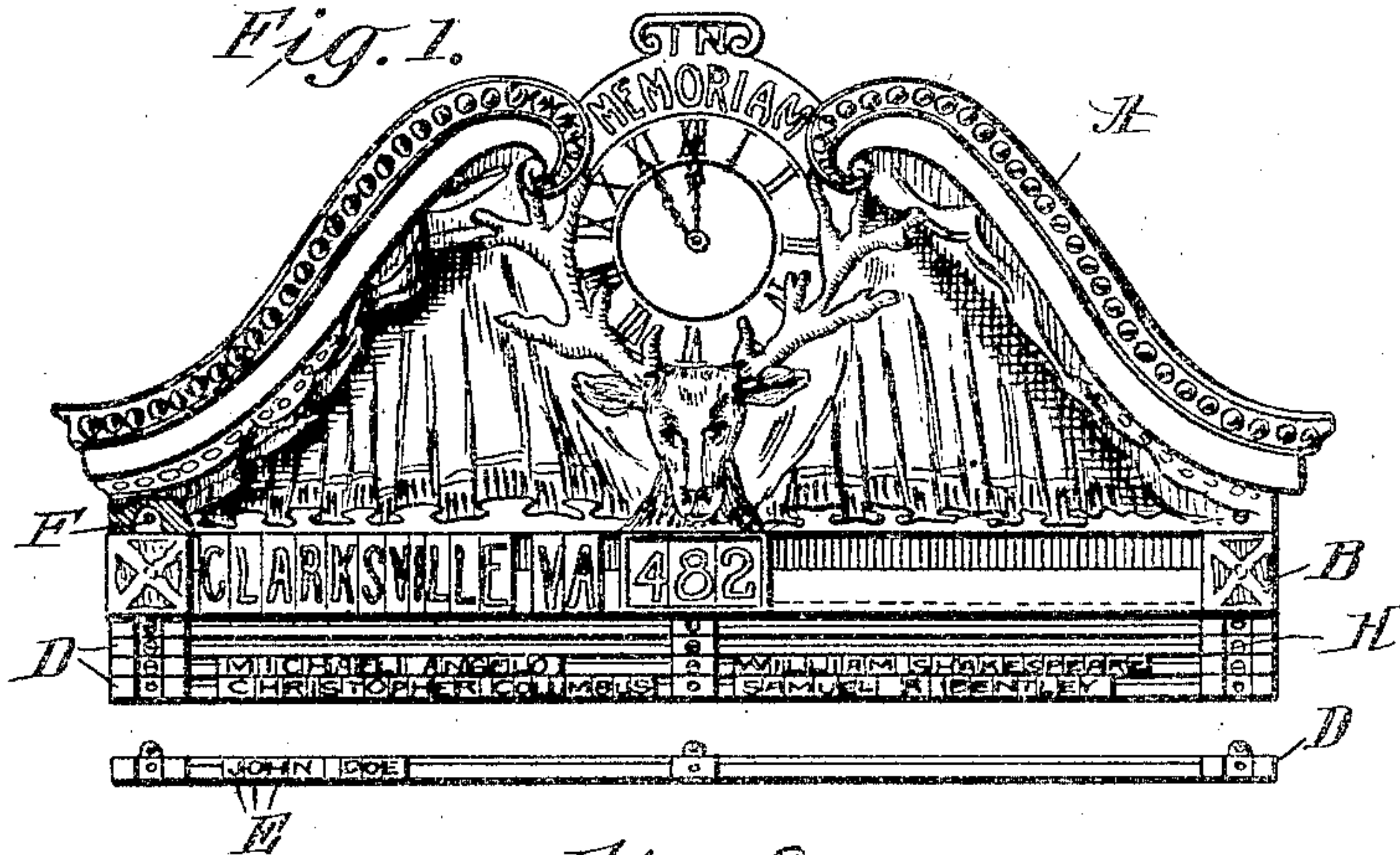


Fig. 2.

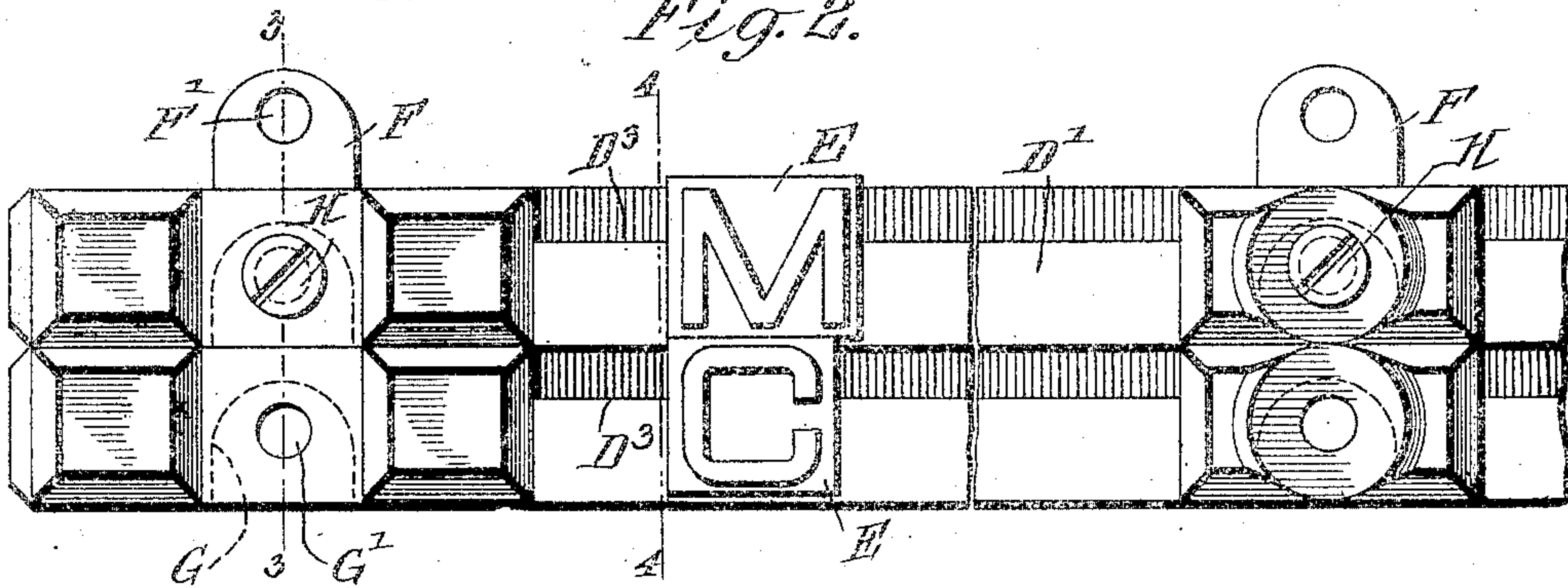


Fig. 3.

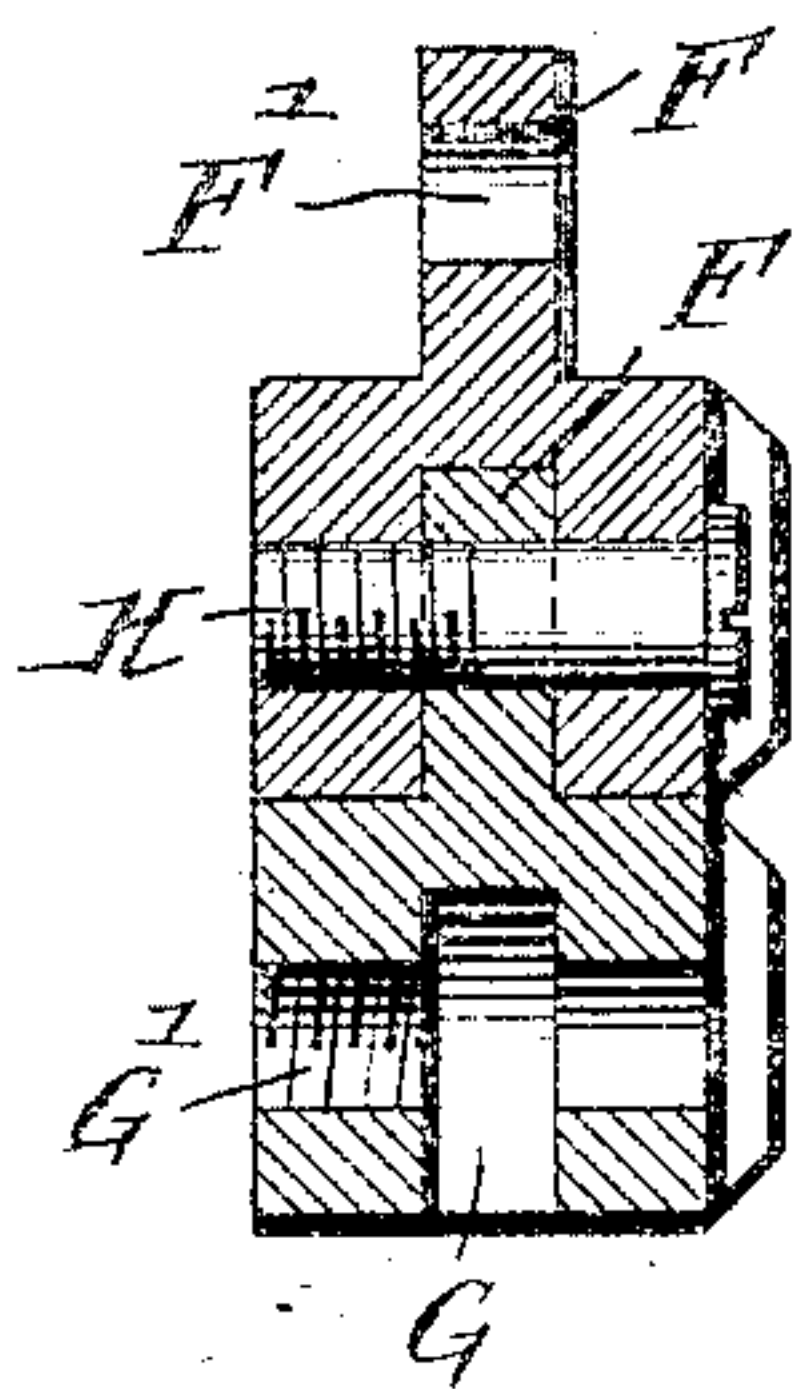


Fig. 4.

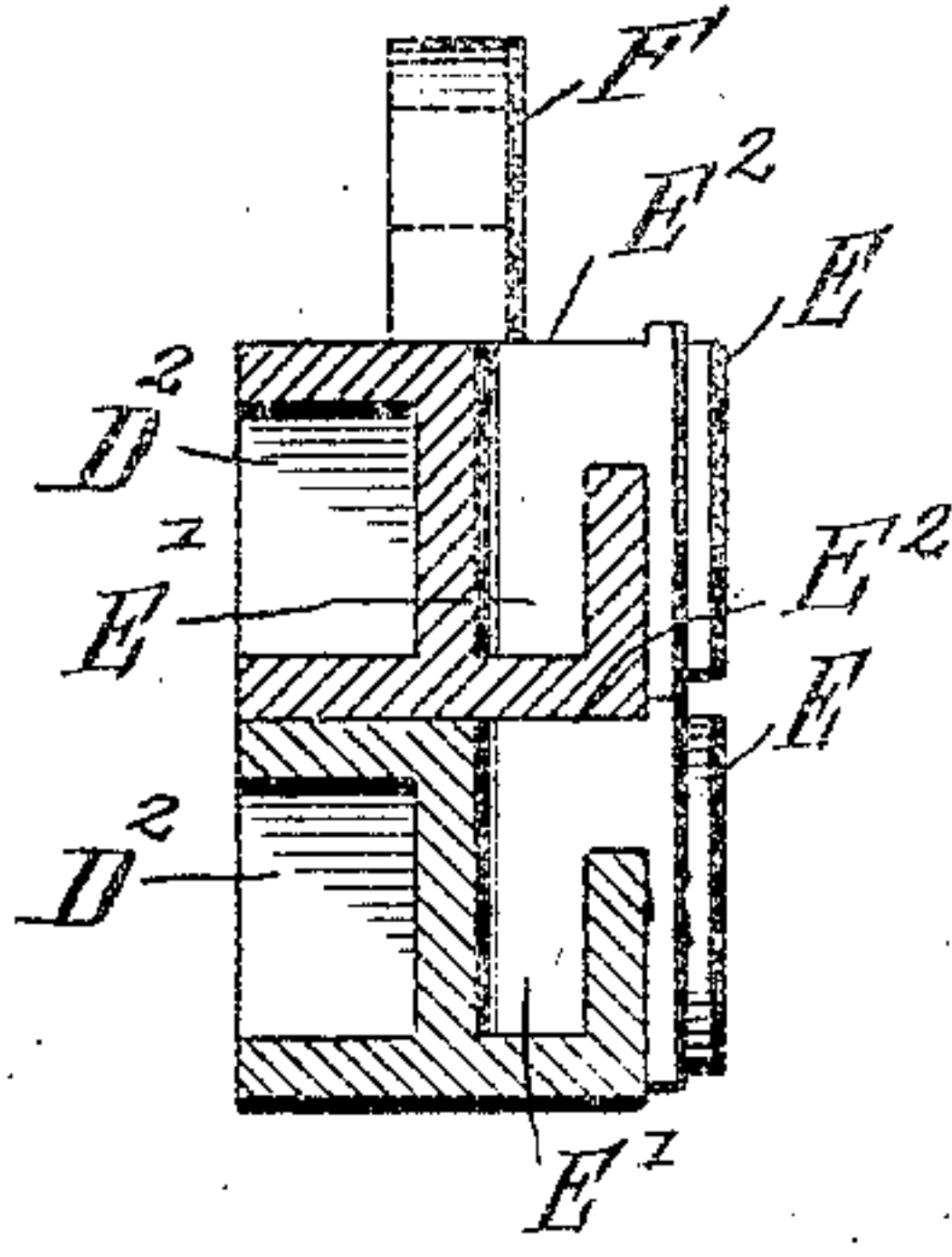


Fig. 5.

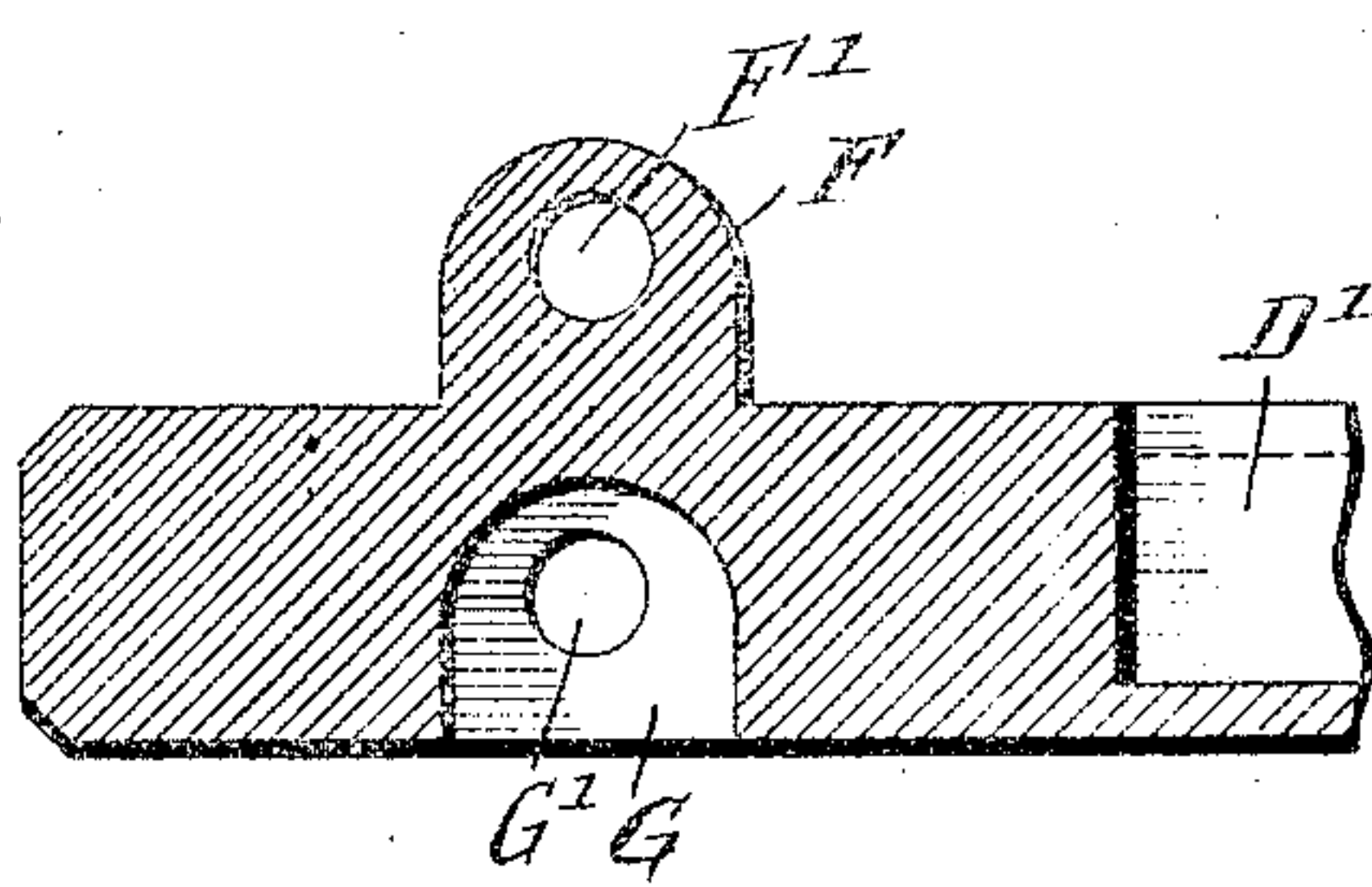


Fig. 6.

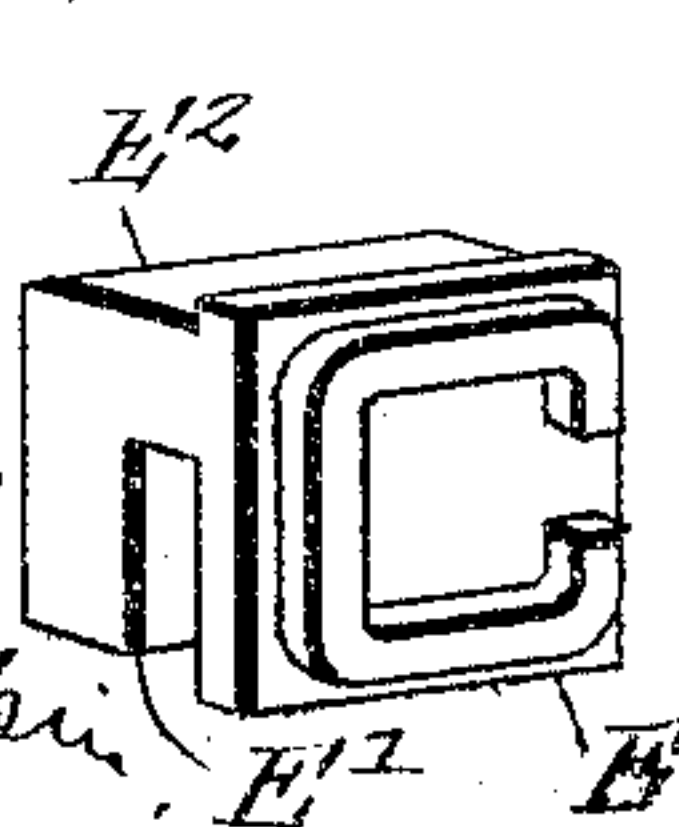
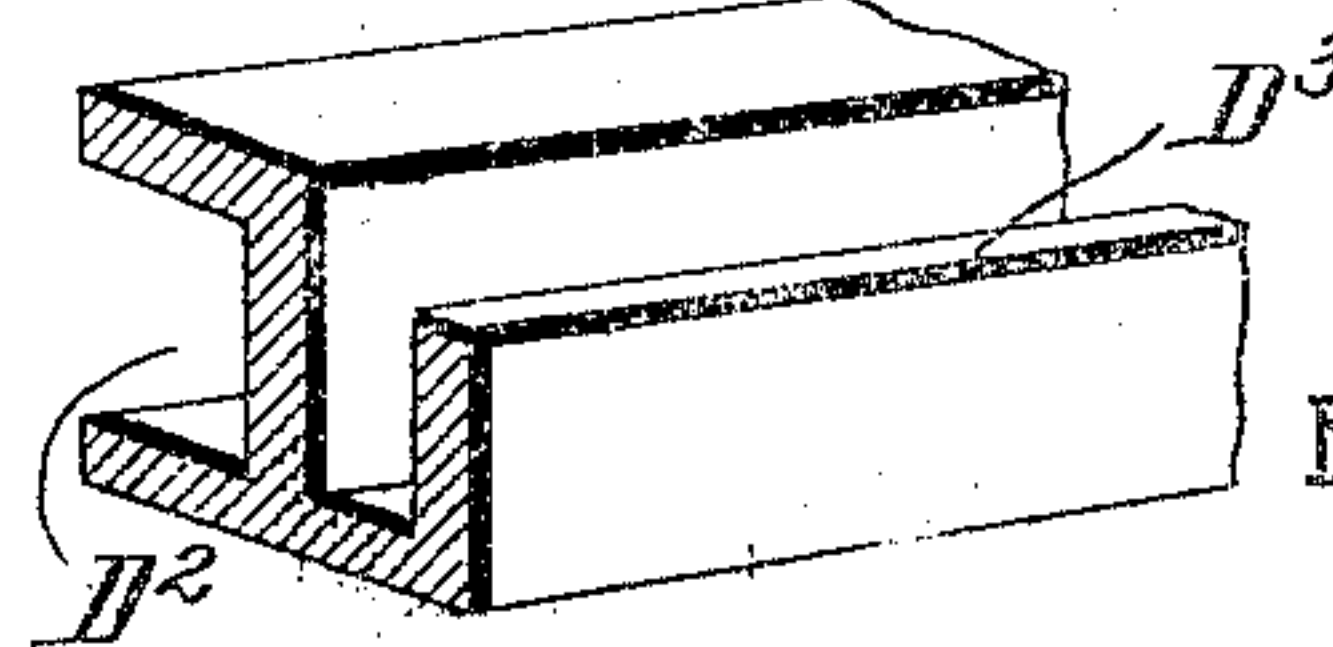


Fig. 7.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT CHARLES LAFFERTY, OF CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA.

SIGN.

940,536.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Application filed May 28, 1908. Serial No. 435,594.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT C. LAFFERTY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improvement in signs, and while it has a general application and is capable of general use it is especially designed for use as a memorial sign by fraternal and other societies by which to display the names of the deceased members, and as a directory for office buildings; and the invention consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a sign embodying my invention, one of the main bars being detached and lowered. Fig. 2 is a front elevation, partly broken away showing two of the name bars. Fig. 3 is a cross section on about line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a cross section on about line 4—4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail longitudinal section of a portion of one of the main bars. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the letters, and Fig. 7 is a sectional perspective view of a portion of one of the name bars.

By the invention I provide a series of letter carrying bars suspended from each other in such manner that the overlying bars lock the letters of the next lower bars in engagement therewith so that when the several bars are coupled up in the manner presently described the letters of each bar will be locked in place by the next upper bars.

In the construction shown the sign embodies a cap A which may be of any suitable design, a head bar B, suspended from the cap A, and adapted to receive letters forming any suitable heading which may include for instance, the designation of a lodge, the name and number and its location, and from this head bar B I suspend one or more series of letter carrying bars D, which for convenience of reference I shall term the name bars, and which in general structure, that is to say, for the purpose of receiving the letters E may be constructed

alike and similar to the corresponding construction of the head bar B.

One of the name bars D is illustrated in detail and comprises as shown a main bar or body D' journaled in its rear face at D<sup>2</sup>, and an upturned hook-like flange D<sup>3</sup> at the front side of the main bar and terminating at its upper edge below the upper face of the main bar so that the flat bottom of the next upper bar may overlies the hook-like flange of the bar below and secure the letters hooked on the said lower bar in connection therewith so long as the letter carrying bar is coupled to the next upper one. To this end, the letters E, which may be of any suitable character or design are provided on their rear sides with downwardly opening hooks E' which engage with the hook-like flange D<sup>3</sup> of the main bar, and these letters coincide at their upper edges E<sup>2</sup> with the upper face of the bar to which they are applied so that the flat bottom of the next upper bar may rest firmly against the upper edges of the letters and so secure the same in engagement with their carriers D.

In coupling up the head bar C with the cap A, and the name bars with each other and with the head bar I prefer to provide each of said bars with upwardly projecting lugs F at their upper sides, and with corresponding sockets G in their lower sides and with perforations F' and G' which coincide when the bars are connected and receive a connecting pin which may preferably be in the form of a screw bolt as shown.

In the use of my invention it will be noticed that if the number of names which it is desired to display is limited they are simply connected up to the sign and there are no blank spaces left to suggest anticipated deaths, and the sign will be complete at all times and free of grewsome blank spaces.

Manifestly, the cap piece may be ornamented in any suitable manner, and may include when desired the emblems of any fraternity or other order for which the particular sign may be intended, or the name of a building.

In carrying out the invention practically, it may be preferred to draw or roll the main



or intermediate portions of the main bars, and to cast the end portions thereof having the lugs F' and the sockets G' and to weld said end castings to the intermediate drawn portion in any desired manner.

I claim—

1. A sign comprising a cap, having in its under side sockets, a head bar provided with upwardly projecting lugs entering and held in said sockets, and also having sockets in its lower side, said head bar having a main or body portion, and a hook-like flange along the front face thereof, and terminating at its upper edge below the upper edge of the main portion or body of the head bar, letters hooked into engagement with said flange and underlying the cap, and name bars suspended from the head bar and provided with upwardly projecting lugs on their upper face, and with corresponding sockets in their lower faces, and having longitudinal hook-like flanges on their front faces terminating at their upper edges below the upper edges of their respective name bars, and letters hooked on their respective hook-like flanges and underlying the next upper bar whereby they will be locked in place substantially as set forth.

2. The improvement herein described comprising a series of letter carrying bars having separate letters applied thereto, any number of the said bars being suspended from each other, the overlying bars extending above and in close proximity to the letters of the next lower bar whereby to lock the letters of the said next lower bars in connection with their respective bars.

3. The combination with a supporting bar, of a letter carrying bar suspended therefrom, and separate letters interlocked with the letter carrying bar and underlying and in close proximity to the next upper or supporting bar when the letter carrying bar is coupled thereto whereby the supporting bar will secure the letters in interlocked connection with their carrying bar.

4. The combination with a letter carrying bar, and letters detachably engaged there-

with, of a supporting bar for the letter carrying bar and said supporting bar extending above and in close proximity to the letter carrying bar locking the letters in connection therewith.

5. The combination of a letter having a downwardly opening hook on its rear side, and a support therefor having an upwardly opening hook on its front side for the hook of the letter, and means independent of the supporting hook and overlying the letter whereby to lock it in engagement with its supporting hook, substantially as set forth.

6. A letter carrying bar provided at its front side with means for supporting letters and having an upwardly projecting lug at its upper side and a corresponding socket in its lower side, the said lug and the walls of the socket being provided with transverse openings whereby a number of said bars may be coupled in series by fitting the lugs in their corresponding sockets and the passage of the connecting pins through the coinciding openings, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination substantially herein described, of a series of letter carrying bars, means for suspending said bars from each other and separate letters detachably connected with their respective carrying bars and underlying the next upper bar and held thereby in engagement with their respective carrying bars substantially as set forth.

8. The combination of a name bar having at its front side an upwardly projecting hook-like flange terminating at its upper edge below the upper edge of the name bar, a superposed bar, and a letter provided at its rear side with a hook engaging with the said flange of the name bar and supported thereon, the upper face of said letter coinciding with the upper face of the name bar whereby the superposed bar will lock the letter in connection with its supporting name bar substantially as set forth.

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