

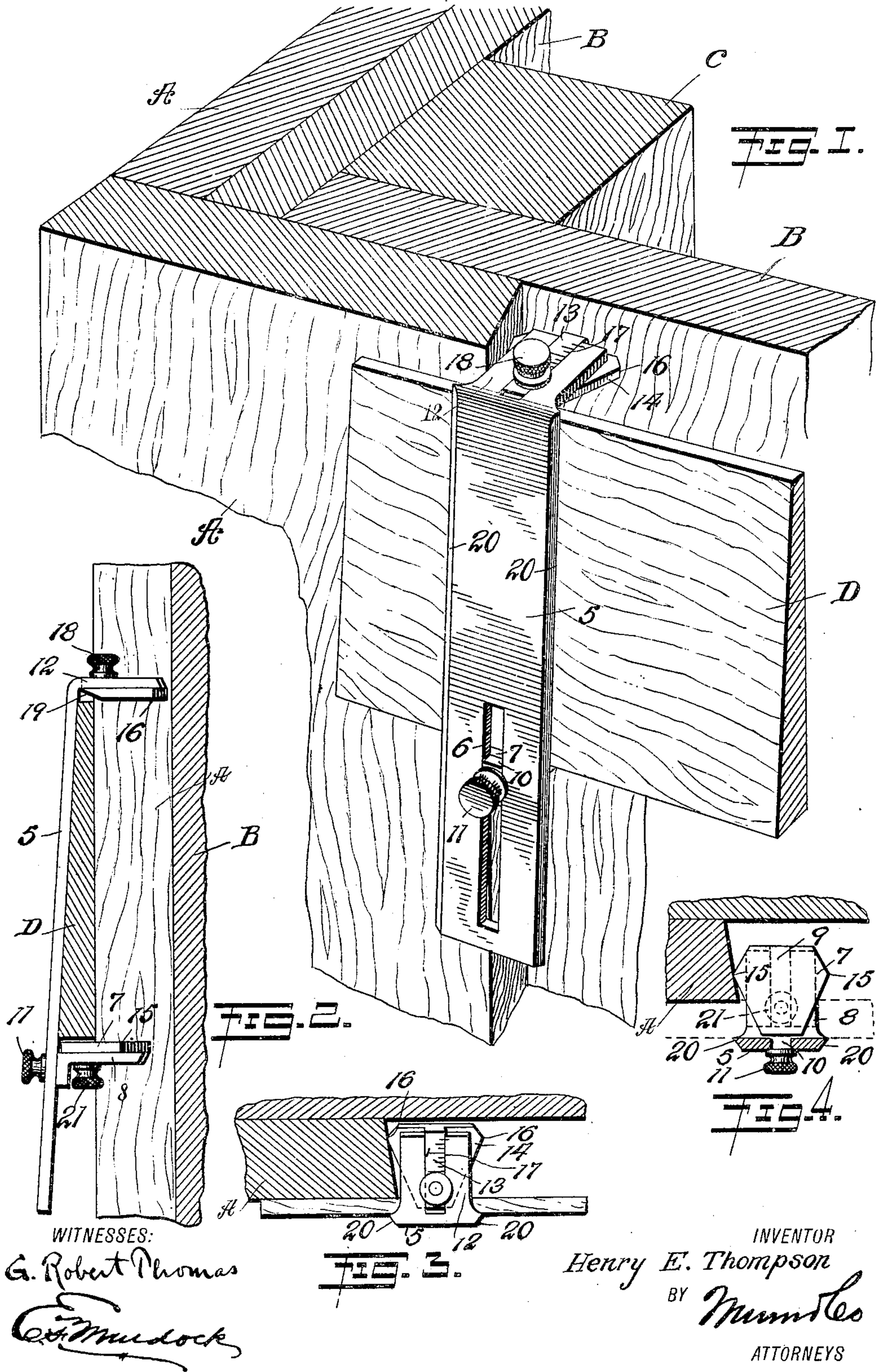
H. E. THOMPSON.

SIDING TOOL.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 25, 1910.

979,225.

Patented Dec. 20, 1910.





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SIDING-TOOL.

979,225.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 20, 1910.

Application filed June 25, 1910. Serial No. 568,835.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY E. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Wisdom, in the county of Beaverhead and State of Montana, have invented a new and Improved Siding-Tool, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Among the principal objects which the present invention has in view are: to provide a tool for marking siding or clapboards to fit the corner board irrespective of the angle at which the inner edge thereof is cut; to provide a tool for marking boards adapted to be controlled as to the line of mark by the undercut edge of a corner board door or window casing; to provide means for setting the tool to ascertain the desired thickness of corner board, door or window casing and the thickness and width of clapboarding or siding; and to provide a tool of the construction illustrated which is simple, durable and efficient.

One embodiment of the present invention is disclosed in the structure illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which like characters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, fragmentary in form and on an enlarged scale, showing the corner construction of a building to which is to be applied clapboarding, a tool constructed in accordance with the present invention being shown in connection therewith; Fig. 2 is a vertical section, fragmentary in form, showing the corner board, sheathing and clapboard in position to be marked for the saw cut, the tool being shown in side elevation and in operative position; Fig. 3 is a detail view in plan, of a tool constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention, the same being shown in operative position upon a clapboard, and in engagement with a corner board; and Fig. 4 is a cross section of the tool, showing the longitudinally movable face plate in engagement with the bevel edge of a corner board.

For reasons related to the art of house construction the corner finish is formed by square corner boards A, A. These boards are overlaid upon the sheathing boards B, B after the same have been nailed to the stud C. For the purpose of concealing the butted joint of the clapboard D against the corner

boards A, the inner edges of the said corner boards are slightly beveled inward, as illustrated in the drawings, particularly in Figs. 1, 3 and 4. Heretofore the joint has been made by the carpenter forming a straight cross cut of the boards, pitching the saw slightly to provide for the angle of the inner face of the corner board. The accuracy of the pitch at which the saw has been placed has been a matter of personal equation, and therefore widely varied. It is to overcome the inaccuracies above stated that I have provided a tool for marking the clapboards, accurate under all conditions, whether the corner boards, door or window casings are erected accurately vertical or not, and whether the inner edges of the corner boards are beveled under or outward.

The straight body portion 5 of the tool is of any desired length, that preferred by me being about eight inches, which accommodates the standard run in width of clapboarding. At the one end of said body portion 5 the same is provided with a slot 6 extended lengthwise of the said body portion to form a runway for the adjustment of a face plate 7 at the lower, or what we will term the butt end of the tool. The face plate 7 is slidably mounted on a bracket 8, a slot being provided in the said bracket opening outwardly to form a guide for a slide block 9, which is extended from the back of the face plate 7, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4 of the drawings. The bracket 8 is provided with a guide block 10. Set out from the block 10 is a screw extension, on the threaded end whereof is mounted a set nut 11. The block 10 neatly fits the slot 6 to guide the movement of the bracket 8 and face plate 7 carried thereby, to maintain the disposition of the said face plate at an angle of 90° to the body portion 5. The flange of the nut 11 overhangs the slot 6 on the outer surface of the body portion 5, and when the said nut is turned tightly it impinges upon the body portion and draws the bracket hard against the same in holding relation.

The upper or forward end of the body portion 5 is overturned to extend from the said body portion at an angle of 90° therefrom, and to form the arm extensions 12, 12. Between the arm extensions 12, 12 is accurately milled a slot to receive a slide block 13. The block 13 is extended from a face plate 14, which, together with the face plate



7, forms the gage for the width of the clap-boarding D. The face plates 7 and 14 are each provided with upwardly beveled sides forming the wedge shape shown particularly in Figs. 3 and 4. The plate 7 is provided with projected corners 15, 15, and the plate 14 is provided with corners 16, 16. The corners 15 and 16 are disposed on opposite sides of the face plates, and accurately parallel with the face of the body portion 5, whereby the distance between the body portion 5 and either of the corners 15, 15 or 16, 16 is the same without regard to which side of the face plate is used. The distance from the corners 15 and 16 respectively, to the outer edge of the face plate upon which they are formed, is equal to one-half the thickness of the clapboard and of the edge thereof to which each of the said plates is approximated when the tool is in use. This arrangement of the face plates secures accurate markings on the clapboarding when the same is held in position between the face plates, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, and when the said corners 15 and 16 are moved into contact with the undercut edge of the corner board A.

The blocks 9 and 13 of the respective plates 7 and 14 are provided with accurate markings 17. By means of these markings there may be ascertained the thickness required for the corner board. The block 13 has extended therefrom a groove threaded extension, upon which is mounted a knurled nut 18, the flange whereof overrides the extensions 12, 12 to impinge thereon and clamp the plate 14 in set position. The plate 14 is provided with a bevel upper surface 19 turned toward the body portion 5. The said surface, when thus disposed, prevents the plate 14 catching upon the thin edge of boarding D when the tool is drawn from engagement therewith.

The slide block 9 is provided with a screw threaded extension having engaged therewith a knurled screw nut 21, being the same in construction and operation as the nuts 11 and 18.

The body portion 5 is provided with bevel edges 20, 20, constructed in the manner usual for rules for marking, whereby the point of a pencil may be carried close to the junction of the boarding and body portion 5.

With a tool thus constructed, the operation is as follows: Preliminary to marking the clapboarding, the carpenter adjusts the tool with reference to the corner board A. To do this the body portion 5 is laid upon the corner board and the face plate 14 is extended downward until the edge rests upon the sheathing board B. To permit this movement the nut 18 is loosened to permit the sliding block 13 to work freely between the extensions 12. It will be understood that the block 14 has been extended beyond

the ends of the extensions 12 a distance equal to the thickness of the narrow edge of the clapboarding to be used, the marking 17 on the said block 13 being used to indicate the proper distance. The plate 15 is similarly extended from the bracket 8 a distance equal to the thickness of the thick edge of the clapboarding to be used. This adjustment having been accomplished, and the parts separated by tightening the screws 18, 21, the operation is as follows: The nut 11 is loosened so that the bracket 8 will slide longitudinally in the slot 6. The clapboarding to be used is placed against the corner boards A and the body portion 5 is overlaid thereover, the face plates 7, 14, resting against the edges of the clapboarding. In this position the nut 11 is tightened, holding the bracket 8 in fixed position. The line for marking the board D will be found to be parallel to the line between the corner 16 on the face plate 14 and the corner 15 on the face plate 7 where the same rest against the surface of the undercut edge of the corner board A. When the board D is cut on this line it will be found that the end of the board thus cut corresponds to the line of the angle caused by the meeting of the overhung surface of the corner board and the clapboard having varied thicknesses. The tool is now in position to be used for marking the clapboarding. This is accomplished by placing the clapboarding against the corner board A to overlay the same to the position shown in the drawings. The nut 11 is loosened to permit the block 10 and bracket 8 carried thereby to slide lengthwise on the body portion 5. The tool is placed over the clapboarding D, the extensions 12 and the face plate 14 carried thereby being placed over the upper or thin edge of the clapboarding. The face plate 7 is lifted against the lower edge of the clapboarding, and in this position the nut 11 is upset to hold the bracket 8 and face plate 7 rigidly in position. The tool is then moved until the corners 15 and 16 of the plates 7 and 14 strike against the undercut side of the corner board A. Using the side of the body portion 5 a mark is now made on the clapboard D for cutting the same. The mark thus made is parallel to a line drawn between the corners 15 and 16, and is an accurate scribe of the median line of the junction between the undercut vertical edge of the corner board A and the vertical butt end of the clapboard D. The tool is continued in use in this manner for all succeeding boards. If the widths of the boards vary, the tool at once detects this defect. If the same is unintentional it is corrected; if the same is intentional the tool is readjusted to suit the variation in width but not the variation in the extension of the face plate 7.



The bracket 8 and the extensions 12 are disposed in mutually parallel relation, but are extended at an angle of greater than 90° from the body portion 5. This angle is preferably 4° away from the 90°, this being the pitch of the wedge shape in cross section to which the clapboards are milled. This angle may be varied to any desired extent without altering the scope of the present invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A siding tool, comprising an elongated body portion having a slot formed longitudinally therein; a fixed bracket secured on said body portion and extended from the under side thereof; a movable bracket having a sliding block mounted in said slot in said body portion and extended from the said body portion in parallel relation with the said fixed bracket; a plurality of gage plates mounted on said brackets, said gage plates having lateral converged extensions adapted to impinge upon surfaces perpendicular to said body portion; and means for holding the said gage plates on said brackets.

2. A siding tool, comprising an elongated body portion having a slot formed longitudinally therein; a fixed bracket secured to said body portion and extended from the under side thereof, said bracket being provided with an outwardly opening elongated slot; a movable bracket slidably mounted in said slot in said body portion, and having an outwardly opening elongated slot, said movable bracket being arranged in parallel disposition to said fixed bracket; means for securing said movable bracket in fixed adjusted position in said slot in said body portion; a plurality of gage plates slidably mounted in said brackets, said plates having converged lateral extensions to impinge upon surfaces perpendicular to said body portion; and a plurality of holding devices for fixing said gage plates in adjusted position.

3. A siding tool, comprising an elongated body portion having a slot formed longitudinally therein; a fixed bracket secured to said body portion and extended from the under side thereof, said bracket being provided with an outwardly opening elongated slot; a movable bracket slidably mounted in said slot in said body portion, and having an outwardly opening elongated slot, said movable bracket being arranged in parallel disposition to said fixed bracket; means for securing said movable bracket in fixed adjusted position in said slot in said body portion; a plurality of gage plates slidably mounted in said brackets, said plates having converged lateral extensions to impinge upon surfaces perpendicular to said body portion and end surfaces to limit the extension of said plates, said plates being va-

ried in the extent of the separation of said end surfaces and said lateral extensions; and a plurality of holding devices for fixing said gage plates in adjusted position.

4. A siding tool, comprising an elongated body portion having a slot formed longitudinally therein; a fixed bracket secured to said body portion and extended from the under side thereof, said bracket being provided with an outwardly opening elongated slot; a movable bracket slidably mounted in said slot in said body portion, and having an outwardly opening elongated slot, said movable bracket being arranged in parallel disposition to said fixed bracket; means for securing said movable bracket in fixed adjusted position in said slot in said body portion; a plurality of gage plates slidably mounted in said brackets, said plates having converged lateral extensions to impinge upon surfaces perpendicular to said body portion and end surfaces to limit the extension of said plates, the converged extension of one of said plates being removed from the forward edge thereof a distance equal to the sine of the angle of the pitch of clapboarding; and a plurality of holding devices for fixing said gage plates in adjusted position.

5. A siding tool, comprising an elongated body portion having a slot formed longitudinally therein; a fixed bracket secured to said body portion and extended from the underside thereof, said bracket being provided with an outwardly opening elongated slot; a movable bracket slidably mounted in said slot in said body portion, and having an outwardly opening elongated slot, said movable bracket being arranged in parallel disposition to said fixed bracket; means for securing said movable bracket in fixed adjusted position in said slot in said body portion; a plurality of gage plates slidably mounted in said brackets, said plates having converged lateral extensions to impinge upon surfaces perpendicular to said body portion and end surfaces to limit the extension of said plates, the converged extension in one of said plates being removed from the forward edge thereof a distance equal to the thickness of the narrow edge of the corner board, and the converged extension of the other of said plates being removed from the forward edge thereof a distance equal to one-half the thickness of the corner board minus the thickness of the thin edge of the underlying siding board at the line of the lower edge of the overlapping siding board; and a plurality of holding devices for fixing said gage plates in adjusted position.

6. A siding tool, comprising an elongated body portion having a slot formed longitudinally therein; a fixed bracket secured to said body portion and extended from the under side thereof, said bracket being pro-



vided with an outwardly opening elongated slot; a movable bracket slidably mounted in said slot in said body portion, and having an outwardly opening elongated slot, 5 said movable bracket being arranged in parallel disposition to said fixed bracket; means for securing said movable bracket in fixed adjusted position in said slot in said body portion; a plurality of gage plates 10 slidably mounted in said brackets, said plates having converged lateral extensions to impinge upon surfaces perpendicular to said body portion and end surfaces to limit the extension of said plates, the converged 15 extension in one of said plates being removed from the forward edge thereof a distance equal to the thickness of the corner board minus the thickness of the thin edge of the underlying siding board at the line 20 of the lower edge of the overlapping siding

board, and the converged extension of the other of said plates being removed from the forward edge thereof a distance equal to one-half the thickness of the corner board minus the thickness of the thin edge of the 25 underlying siding board at the line of the lower edge of the overlapping siding board, and said gages being provided with graduate markings arranged to indicate the extension of said plates; and a plurality of 30 holding devices for fixing said gage plates in adjusted position.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY E. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

G. B. QUARLES,

ALLEN C. MERRITT.