S. S. LANDON.

BUILDING.

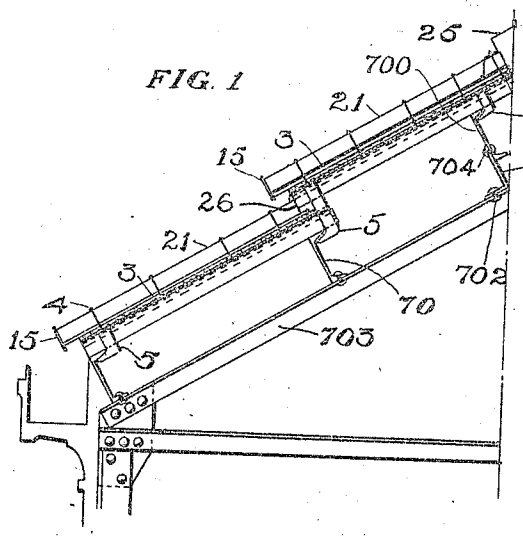
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 19, 1909.

1,066,291.

Patented July 1, 1913

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1



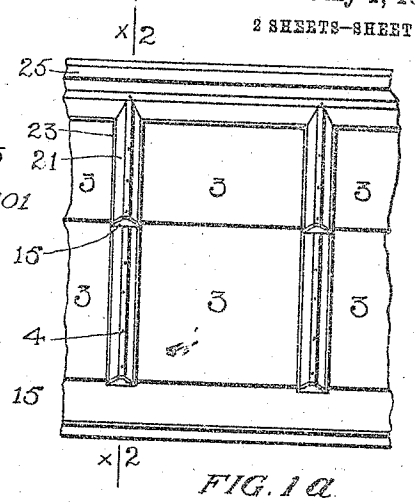


FIG. 1a

FIG. 3

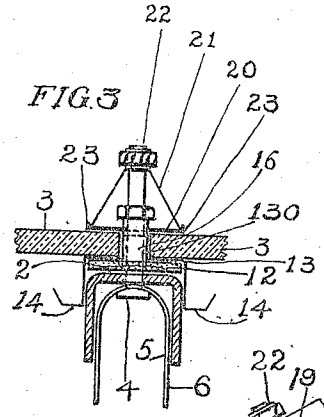


FIG. 2

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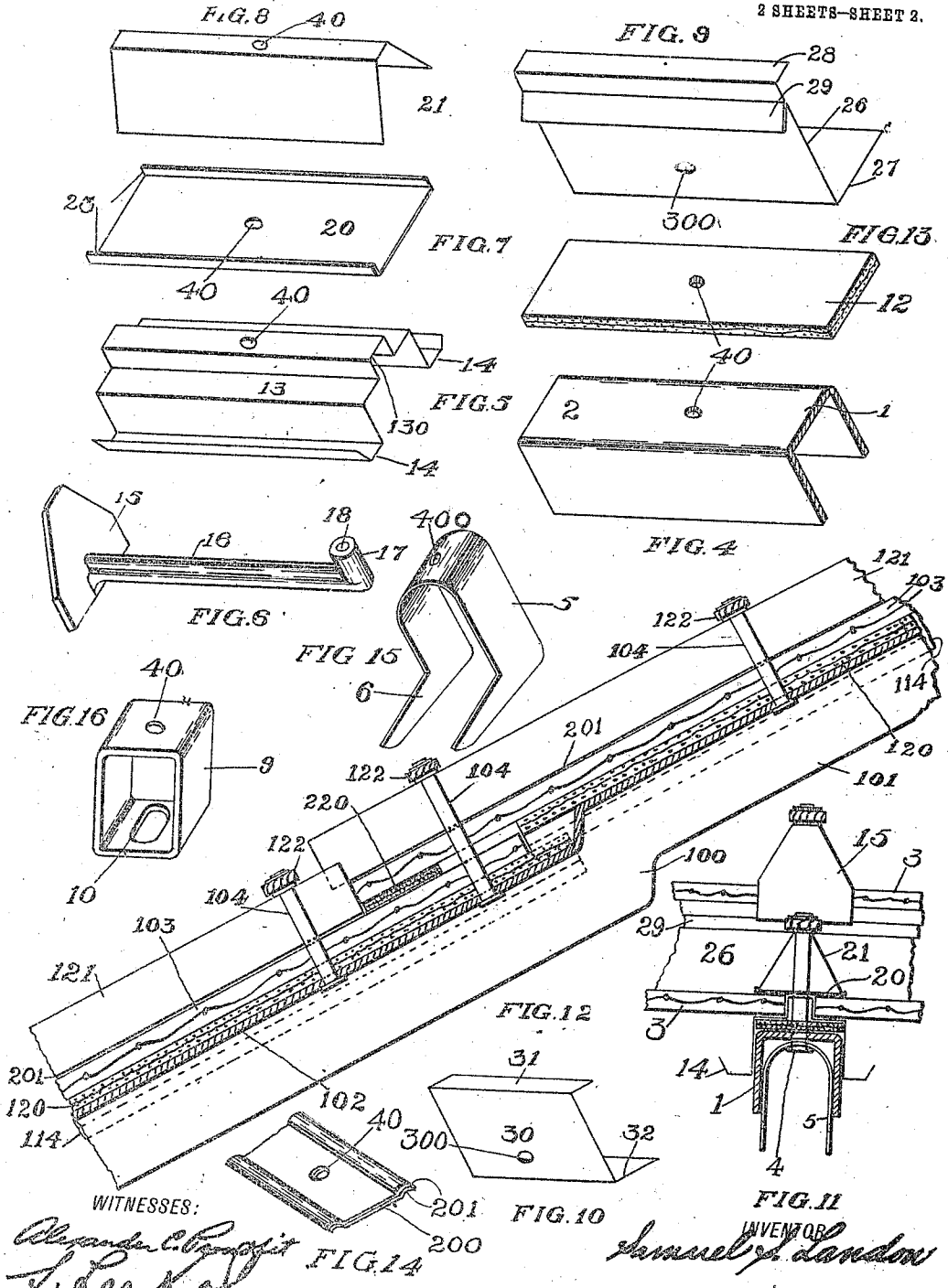
BUILDING.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL S. LANDON, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

BUILDING.

1,066,291. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 1, 1913.

Application filed June 19, 1909. Serial No. 503,118.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL S. LANDON, of East Orange, New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Buildings, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings designating like parts.

This invention relates to buildings and more particularly to structures of the nature of skylights, and is of special utility when embodied in structures of glass and metal used in train-sheds, green-houses, and similar roofs, walls or floors, having large areas of transparent or translucent material; although by the use of the term skylight I do not intend any technical significance but contemplate the use of my improvements in any field for which they are adapted by their nature.

An important object of my invention is to provide a supporting structure of such construction and arrangement as to afford an unusual degree of strength with a relatively low cross area of the supporting members, so that the weight of the structure will be low, it will present a minimum obstruction to light, and will be less expensive in cost of material than the structures heretofore used generally for analogous purposes.

Another important object of my invention is to provide a broad bearing for the edges of the plates of glass constituting the lights, or of such other structural devices as may take the place of plates of glass, and to provide means for cushioning those members so as to avoid their fracture.

My improvements include also provision for capping devices above the edges of the plates constructed and arranged to receive the weight of the workmen and distribute it so that workmen may walk along the skylight without danger of fracture of the glass and without danger of bending or otherwise harming the capping device.

Still another object of notable importance comprised in the purview of my improvements, is the provision of means by which the skylight structure can be built up from a relatively low portion of the roof without the use of scaffolding, false-work, or other adventitious supporting means, the lower panels of the supporting structure serving when in place to bear the weight of the workman as he installs the next higher panels of supports until the uppermost panel has been put in place.

Among other objects of my invention may be mentioned novel means for constructing skylights in which the plates of glass or similar roofing members follow a shingle or overlapping mode of construction; also novel universal means for securing the various members of the supporting structure to each other; and a novel device for collecting and disposing of the condensate; also eaves-troughs of improved construction and arrangement; and a novel bracket or stop to be engaged by the eaves end of the lights, to hold the latter in place.

Sometimes the work of drilling structural steel, preparatory to installing sky-lights occupies months, and to eliminate this tedious and expensive delay is an important object of my invention, which obviates any necessity for bolting the skylight members to the steel structure in any way whatsoever, taking advantage of the fact that the structural steel members furnished to-day on a fabricated building afford sufficient detail to enable the erector to secure a puttyless skylight in place without the use of bolts, nuts, rivets, or any such method of fastening, which requires skilled workmanship and is a hazardous undertaking. Accordingly, I have provided as the principal structural unit of my improved skylight, a main bearing member, such as an astragal, which lends itself to a simple, permanent and substantial union to structural steel by the use in combination therewith of a universal fastening member taking preferably the form of a yoke, as the latter can be readily hitched upon the flanges of purlins, and allows the astragals to be put in place very rapidly, these afterward being lined up and spaced off, ready to receive the glass, and the yoke joint allowing for expansion and contraction of both the structure and the astragal itself. They also act as a permanent scaffolding, upon which the astragals of the intermediate panels can be laid into place as quickly and rapidly as those in the lower panels. For this reason, I prefer

also to provide the main bearing member with a particular design of housing which presents a smooth upper surface to ntact with the glass, allowing it to be shifted into place, a very desirable feature in glazing.

To eliminate leakage through the joints and thus to obviate any cause for the use of gutters, which have hitherto been considered necessary, I prefer to provide a sealing strip of "metallic insertion" or sheet metal such as lead, which is laid upon the glass and in accordance with my invention, extends across from the edge of one light of glass to the other, this distance ordinarily not exceeding half an inch at their junction with each other. This lead or metallic insertion, being very flexible, follows the indentations of the glass, all lights of which are always irregular and uneven, and I provide above the sealing strip a cap, which has a shape preferably corresponding to an inverted V, designed for strength, minimum of material and ability to withstand abuse, and which bites into the lead strip or metallic insertion, this contact preventing the wings of the cap from spreading, and at the same time making a flexible water-tight connection between the aforesaid cap and metallic insertion or packing.

I believe myself to be the first to provide a sealing strip extending across from one light of glass to the other, and this in connection with my novel cushion insures the permanency of the puttyless skylight absolutely, if the physical conditions are properly met, and excludes the necessity for any repairs by reason of the breakage of glass.

In order to render it unnecessary to extend the astragal of this skylight beyond the curb or point of the structure upon which the astragal has its bearing and permanent foundation, I prefer to provide a suitable bracket, which may be attached to this member and extend beyond the eaves, in order to allow the glass to have a permanent overhang, which is controlled by this eaves check, and adds greatly to the appearance of the skylight. By thus terminating the astragals at the curb, I make it possible to use a continuous eaves gutter, free from the cut-out spaces which have been necessary with such puttyless skylights of the past, to clear the bars, which have been allowed to extend over the eaves to support the glass. Of similar importance in the saving of material is my improved shingle type of joint between the neighboring panels in ascending series, my improvements comprising chiefly the arrangement of the astragals so that the bars of a higher panel extend somewhat beyond the upper margin of those in the panel next below and are supported therefrom by suitable supports such as chairs near the upper extremities of the lower bars, and a continuous eaves gutter can be run along under the overhang of the upper panel, extending down to the lower panel and sealing the eaves completely.

In providing materials for the construction of skylights of my improved shingle type, most of the details can be secured in the open market, there being no necessity for buying special shapes, and by providing loose fitting assembling bolts with knurled nuts, the astragals can be placed very readily and quickly and I make it unnecessary for the workman to carry any tools whatsoever upon the structure after the glass has been placed, the knurled nuts allowing him to screw the caps down into place with his fingers, a mode of adjustment which is far superior to the use of any tool held in the hand, and expedites the work advantageously.

The shop costs in preparing the material for my improved structure have been cut considerably by the fact that all the necessary assembling holes in the several astragal members, including the main bearing member, the housing or retaining member, the sealing strip and the cap, are all punched through the horizontal portions of the astragal. All of these holes can be punched in a gang punch with one operation. The cap may be fashioned in the machine with one operation. The sealing strip may be punched and fashioned in one operation regardless of its length. The eaves gutters, being of permanent design, also can be fashioned with one operation, using suitable tools which are found in the market to-day.

My improved skylight can be easily and quickly put in place, covering up the building and allowing the workmen to plaster as soon as the side walls and roof are completed, for the assembled astragals are light to handle and easy to secure permanently in adjusted position, assuring a tight, stable skylight even when the structural steel of the building upon which it lies is badly warped and twisted, an achievement which has been impossible in puttyless skylights using existing types of butt joints or lap joints.

The various features of my invention will be illustrated and described fully in the accompanying drawings and specifications and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a view in side elevation, partly in vertical section, of a sky-light in the construction of which my improvements have been embodied; and Fig. 1[a] is a view thereof in front elevation; Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view in vertical section on enlarged scale similar to Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section on the line X^3—X^3, Fig. 2, looking from right to left; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary, detail view in perspective of the main longitudinal bearing member; Fig. 5 is a similar view of the con-

densate gutter and retaining member; Fig. 6 is a view in perspective of one of the brackets; Fig. 7 is a similar fragmentary view of a portion of the sealing strip; and Fig. 8 of the cap strip, forming together a weather strip; Figs. 9 and 10 are similar fragmentary views of the eaves gutters; Fig. 11 is a view taken on the line X^3—X^3 Fig. 2, looking from left to right; Fig. 12 is a view similar to Fig. 2 of a modified form of structure. Fig. 13 is a fragmentary, detail view, in perspective, of a portion of the cushion member; Fig. 14 is a similar view of a modified form of sealing strip; Fig. 15 is a view in perspective of a yoke member; and Fig. 16 is a similar view of a chair member.

In the embodiment of my invention selected for illustration and description to enable ready and complete understanding of my improvements, the part designated by the reference numeral 1 is the main longitudinal member of the astragal of a skylight, this being selected on account of the large numbers of skylights used and for which my invention is particularly available, so that I use hereinafter the expression "astragal" to denote the assembled supporting unit although I do not intend by that expression to limit the use of such a member for the technical purpose of an astragal in the sense of a skylight member inclined to the horizontal, nor do I intend to convey any other technical limitation ordinarily signified by the expression.

The member 1 may be of any suitable and convenient material and form, but I prefer to make it of a metal channel bar having the cross section of an inverted U and composed of structural steel, because by locating the bar with its horizontal web 2 uppermost I provide a broad bearing for the skylight members 3 and a convenient and accessible seat for the bolts 4 and other connecting devices used to secure together the several members forming the astragal; such an arrangement making possible the use of relatively short bolts, etc., as will be most readily seen upon reference to Fig. 3.

In accordance with an important feature of my invention I provide means by which the astragal can be readily placed in position upon the main support of the skylight without the necessity for scaffolding. The means for accomplishing this emplacement of the astragal may take any suitable and convenient form, but I prefer to provide devices which can be attached to the principal member 1 of the astragal before it is taken to the roof, so that as much as possible of the work of assemblage can be accomplished in the shop, where it can be done with greatest economy, speed and accuracy, the assemblage of these parts being especially difficult at the great altitudes common in the construction of train sheds and other buildings where skylights of this type are employed. I have illustrated such a device at 5, (best seen in Figs. 2 and 15,) which designates a hook-shaped yoke having the general shape of an inverted U (see Fig. 3) with its closed end extending upward within the member 1, to which it is secured suitably as by a bolt 11 (see Fig. 2) passing through an aperture 400, which may be of suitable size and shape to permit adjustment relatively to the bolt 11, as indicated in Fig. 2, while the free ends or forks 6 of the yoke are preferably extended at an angle to the body of the yoke, so that by grasping the astragal and lifting it above the roof-beam or purlin 7 commonly provided for a lower curb surrounding the opening to be covered by the skylight, and having usually a flange 8, the yoke forks 6 will pass below the heel of the flange, and when the bolt 11 has been firmly set will clamp the member 1 to the upper surface of the flange. This can be accomplished by a workman standing firmly upon the main portion of the roof, and when he has installed one or more of the members 1, the latter constitute means by which the workman can gain access to the next or intermediate panel of the skylight. Preferably a similar yoke or device 5 will be provided near the upper end of each astragal member 1 to hook over the flange 80 of the next higher intermediate purlin 70, serving the same purpose and in the same manner as the yoke 5 already described.

The arrangement of members 1 just described can be repeated and continued to any extent desired, in order to form a skylight of the desired length, and having also as many panels in height as required by the exigencies of the particular installations, so that any area can be covered by multiplying the number of astragals.

Any convenient and suitable mode of arrangement at the joints between the panels may be adopted, and as one such arrangement I have shown in Figs. 1 to 3 an overlapping joint or shingle type of structure embodied in a skylight having two panels or multiple units (as shown in Fig. 1 in transverse section) on each side of the skylight, the lower panel being that already described while the second panel is virtually a repetition of the structure just described, the member 1 being secured to the lower panel preferably, by any suitable and convenient means, which takes the form in the instance illustrated of a chair 9, consisting of a hollow square of metal secured as at 10 to the member 1 of the lower panel as by a rivet or bolt 11, and standing at a height sufficient to hold the member 1 of the intermediate panel so that it will support the lights 3 of the latter panel. Any suitable means

may be provided to secure the members 1 of the intermediate panel to the chairs 9, as for example, bolts 4 passing upward through an aperture 40, of suitable contour and size, in the upper cross piece of the chair and through the horizontal web 2 of the member 1, above which they project to serve as connecting and retaining members for the other parts of the astragal which I will now describe in detail.

In accordance with my invention I prefer to place upon the horizontal web 2 of the main longitudinal member of astragal a cushion 12 which may be of any suitable material, but which for the sake of permanence, fire-proof quality and proper cushioning effect I prefer to form of a continuous strip of magnesia quilting through which the bolts are passed at the appropriate intervals. Upon this cushion rest the lights 3 which may be of any suitable material, such as glass, and of which there may be any suitable and convenient number, there being shown in the drawings one light between each two neighboring astragals, the lights being laid with their edges in the same plane.

I prefer to interpose between the lights 3 and the cushion 12 a member 13 serving to protect the cushion, for which purpose it preferably is formed of a continuous strip of suitable material, such as copper, and it may be, and preferably will be, constructed and arranged to afford (see Figs. 3 and 5) a gutter 14 on each side of the astragal to receive, collect and carry off the condensate from the lower surface of the lights. To this end the strip 13 is made of sufficient width to permit its lateral margins to be bent first downward substantially parallel with the side webs of the member 1, then outward at an angle to the webs on each side and then upward at its edges. When thus constructed the condensate gutters serve as retaining walls within which the cushion 12 is confined in place and protected from the condensate and other moisture, this being a novel and important feature of my improved device.

The lights or other members 3 may be held from sliding downward by any suitable and convenient means and as one suitable device for this purpose I have devised a novel bracket or stop 15 having a shank 16 arranged to lie above the member 1, preferably within an upward extension or housing 130 of the strip 13, above the cushion 12, between the neighboring edges of the lights 3, this bracket having preferably suitable means to permit its attachment to the bolts 4, for which purpose I have shown a socket 17 pierced at 18 to pass the bolt 4, which may be provided with a locknut 19 (see Fig. 2) which may be run down upon the threaded shank of the bolt against the upper extremity of the socket to hold the latter down in place, preventing any tendency of the bracket to tilt under the weight of the glass at its lower end, which may thus be safely extended to project in the form of an overhanging eave, adding greatly to the attractive appearance of the skylight.

I prefer to provide a weather strip or seal to cover the longitudinal joint between the lights or other members 3, and this may be of any suitable form, but I have devised a novel form of weather strip and seal which I prefer to utilize as shown in Figs. 1 to 3 and in 7 and 8, and best seen in Fig. 3, this weather strip comprising primarily a continuous strip 20 of suitable metal such as lead through which may pass the bolts 4, when as I prefer, a cap strip 21 is combined with the strip 20, this cap strip being of any suitable form and held in place by any suitable means such as the nuts 22 upon the bolts 4. In accordance with a valuable and novel feature of my invention I prefer to provide the strip 20 with lateral upwardly extending flanges 23 which may be seen clearly in Fig. 7, and I prefer to form the cap 21 having in cross section the shape of an inverted V with its apex slightly flattened to have a bearing for nuts 22, the side wings of the member 21 being arranged preferably to engage the strip 20 inside the flanges 23, which serve to confine the lower edge of the wings so that they cannot be spread out unduly under the action of the nuts 22 or under the weight of a workman or other person walking or standing upon the cap strip 21. In place of a strip having vertical flanges, I may use to advantage a flat strip of "metallic insertion" such as shown in Fig. 14, comprising a strip of lead 200 covered with rubber 201, with marginal ribs. By this form of construction I provide a very strong and permanent weather strip constructed and arranged to withstand the weights and strains incidental to the rough usage to which these skylights are often subjected especially in train sheds, where there is necessarily much passage over the skylights during the cleaning of the sheds from cinders, snow, etc. It will be noted that the weather strip comprises only two continuous members, the resiliency of the metal, which may advantageously be copper, distributing the weight without the necessity for such expensive additions as coil springs and extra treads for the workman to walk upon.

The combination of the inverted V shape of the cap, or the marginal ribs on the rubber-covered metallic insertion, and the retaining flanges, serves to insure positive contact of each edge of the lead sealing strip 20 with the upper face of members 3, regardless of the irregularity of the glass or other material forming the light or other roofing

member, and regardless of the pressure exerted in tightening up the screws 22 after the latter have been run down sufficiently to drive the sealing strip 20 snugly against the upper surface of the lights.

My improved astragal as thus described and illustrated is of extremely light, strong and compact construction, permitting the maximum quantity of light to pass, and still affording all necessary strength of support to the lights.

Where the skylight is formed of a plurality of panels on each side of a medial ridge, the joint at the arch may be effected in any suitable manner, and in Fig. 1 I have shown the upper lights 3 as surmounted by a simple cap strip 25 and it will be noted that the purlins 700 are of the same size as the purlins 7 and 70 so that to hold them at a proper level I have illustrated angle bars 701 secured in any suitable manner as by rivets 702 upon the cross beams 703 of the skylight, suitable means as bolts or rivets 704 being provided to secure the purlins 700 to the angle bars 701.

Along the horizontal joint between each panel, when constructed as above described, I prefer to provide a trough 26, which may be of any suitable and convenient form to seal the joint, and I have devised a novel form of such trough suitable for this purpose, the same being illustrated in Figs. 2 and 9. This trough is formed, in the instance illustrated, of an integral, continuous strip of metal having an upright portion with flanges 27 and 28 at the bottom and top respectively to lie upon the horizontal web members 2 in position to receive the drip from the gutters 14, near the upper end of the lower members 1 and extending up to the lights or members 3 of the next higher panel, while an offset portion 29 is presented rearwardly and downwardly to rest along the tops of the caps 21, thus sealing the horizontal joints effectively.

A lower eave gutter 30 is shown in Figs. 2 and 10, having an upright portion with top and bottom flanges 31 and 32, respectively occupying the positions illustrated in Fig. 2. Drain holes 300 may be provided.

Passing now to Fig. 12, the structure therein illustrated embodies a somewhat modified form of lap joint between the panels, and in this figure the reference numeral 101 designates the main longitudinal member of an astragal which may be in cross section substantially of the shape of an inverted U and is shown as offset at 100 so that the upper light 103 projects naturally above the lower light 103, and the bolts 104 are secured respectively to the horizontal web portions 102, from which they extend upward through the cushion strips 120, the lights 103 and the weather strips 121, above which are provided retaining nuts 122, these parts corresponding in function and essential respects with similar members already described and bearing the reference numerals 1, 2, 3, 4, 20, 21, and 22.

The reference numeral 114 designates the condensate gutters, similar to those numbered 14, and the numeral 220 designates a transverse packing strip, preferably continuous, of magnesia quilting interposed between the lower lights 103 and the overlapping lowermost edge of the next higher lights 103, the lower and downward edges of the higher panel resting against the cap 121 of the next lower panel, which may be over-lapped slightly by the next higher cap 121.

Having illustrated and described my invention thus fully and suitable means for carrying the same into effect, it will be understood that I do not limit myself to the specific materials and constructional forms selected for illustration and description, nor in general otherwise than as set forth in the claims read in connection with this specification.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the class described; a main bearing member; a cushion member resting thereagainst; a retaining member embracing said cushion and the part of said bearing member against which said cushion rests, and presenting a bearing surface to receive the structural members to be engaged with said device, such as lights of glass; and a weather strip to extend across the joint between said structural members.

2. In a device of the class described; a main bearing-member having a substantially flat bearing-surface extended along the region of juncture between the structural members to be engaged with said device; a cushion-member substantially co-extensive with, and resting upon said bearing-surface; and a retaining member also substantially co-extensive with said bearing-surface, said retaining member being constructed and arranged to be engaged with the neighboring margins of said structural members, spanning the joint therebetween and having an extension to enter said joint and serve as an abutment for the opposed edges of said structural members, said retaining member having also a portion extending away from the region of contact with one of said structural members to serve as a moisture-directing-member and as retaining and protecting means for said cushion and main bearing-member respectively.

3. In a device of the class described; a main bearing-member having a substantially flat bearing-surface extended along the region of juncture between the structural members to be engaged with said device; a cushion-member substantially co-

extensive with, and resting upon, said bearing-surface; and a retaining member also substantially co-extensive with said bearing surface, said retaining member being constructed and arranged to be engaged with the neighboring margins of said structural members, spanning the joint therebetween and having an extension to enter said joint and serve as an abutment for the opposed edges of said structural members, said retaining member having also portions extending away from the region of contact with said structural members to serve as a moisture-directing-means and as retaining and protecting-means for said cushion and main bearing-member respectively.

4. In a device of the class described; a main bearing-member having a substantially flat bearing-surface extended along the region of juncture between the structural members to be engaged with said device; a cushion-member substantially co-extensive with, and resting upon, said bearing-surface; and a retaining member also substantially co-extensive with said bearing-surface, said retaining member being constructed and arranged to be engaged with the neighboring margins of said structural members, spanning the joint therebetween and having an extension to enter said joint and serve as an abutment for the opposed edges of said structural members, said retaining member having also a portion extending away from the region of contact of said structural members to serve as moisture-directing-means and as retaining and protecting-means for said cushion and main bearing - member respectively; and a weather-strip to span said joint on the side opposite said main bearing-member, said weather-strip comprising a sealing-strip extending across said joint, and a capping strip having wings to engage said sealing-strip on each side of said joint.

5. In a device of the class described; a main bearing-member having a substantially flat bearing-surface extended along the region of juncture between the structural members to be engaged with said device; a cushion-member substantially co-extensive with, and resting upon, said bearing-surface; and a retaining member also substantially co-extensive with said bearing-surface, said retaining member being constructed and arranged to be engaged with the neighboring margins of said structural members, spanning the joint therebetween and having an extension to enter said joint and serve as an abutment for the opposed edges of said structural members, said retaining member having also a portion extending away from the region of contact with one of said structural members to serve as moisture-directing-means and as retaining and protecting-means for said cushion and main bearing-member respectively, and a member to hold said structural members against displacement lengthwise of said joint, said holding-member having a shank housed within said extension of said retaining member within said joint.

6. In a device of the class described; a main bearing-member having a substantially flat bearing-surface extended along the region of juncture between the structural members to be engaged with said device; a cushion-member substantially co-extensive with, and resting upon, said bearing-surface; and a retaining member also substantially co-extensive with said bearing-surface, said retaining member being constructed and arranged to be engaged with the neighboring margins of said structural members, spanning the joint therebetween and having an extension to enter said joint and serve as an abutment for the opposed edges of said structural members, said retaining member having also a portion extending away from the region of contact with one of said structural members to serve as a moisture-directing-means and as retaining and protecting-means for said cushion and main bearing-member respectively, and a weather-strip to span said joint on the side opposite said main bearing-member, said weather-strip comprising a sealing-strip extending across said joint, and a capping strip having wings to engage said sealing-strip on each side of said joint; said sealing-strip having marginal flanges to limit the lateral expansion of said wings; and a holding-member having a holding portion to be engaged with one of said structural members to prevent longitudinal displacement thereof, a shank portion housed within said extension of said retaining member in said joint; and a connecting-member transfixing said main bearing-member, cushion, retaining member, holding member and weather-strip, to secure said parts in assembled relation.

7. A device of the class described, such as an astragal; said device comprising a main longitudinal bearing-member; a continuous cushion-strip extending lengthwise thereupon; a metallic retaining-member consisting of a continuous strip of metal extending above said cushion, and having a downwardly extended retaining portion terminating in a gutter on each side of said main bearing-member; a sealing-strip having upwardly extending marginal flanges; a capping strip being in cross-section substantially of the shape of an inverted V; and bolts extending through said members, and connecting same in assembled relation; said parts being constructed and arranged to receive suitable structural members, such as lights of glass between said retaining strip

and said sealing strip, and to hold them in adjusted position; substantially as described.

8. As an article of manufacture; a device of the class described; comprising a main bearing-member; a cushion-member; a retaining-member constructed and arranged to confine said cushion in place upon said bearing-member; a holding-member to be engaged with a structural-member such as a light of glass to prevent endwise displacement of said structural-member; a sealing-member and a capping and tread-member to protect the joint between adjacent structural-members; a fastening-member to secure said bearing-member to a suitable support; and a bolt transfixing and connecting said members; substantially as described.

9. A structure of the class described; comprising a pair of spaced and overlapping astragal sections; a purlin to support said sections; a yoke arranged to engage and be supported by said purlin, and to prevent displacement of said astragal therefrom; a separately formed chair member intervening between the overlapping portions of said astragal members; and means to connect adjustably said chair and yoke to opposite sides of the lower astragal member.

Signed at New York, in the county and State of New York, this third day of June, 1909.

SAMUEL S. LANDON.

Witnesses:
ALEXANDER C. PROUDFIT,
S. LEE KOHN.