T. O. MATTHEWS.

SIGN STRUCTURE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 24, 1911.

1,001,541. Patented Aug. 22, 1911.

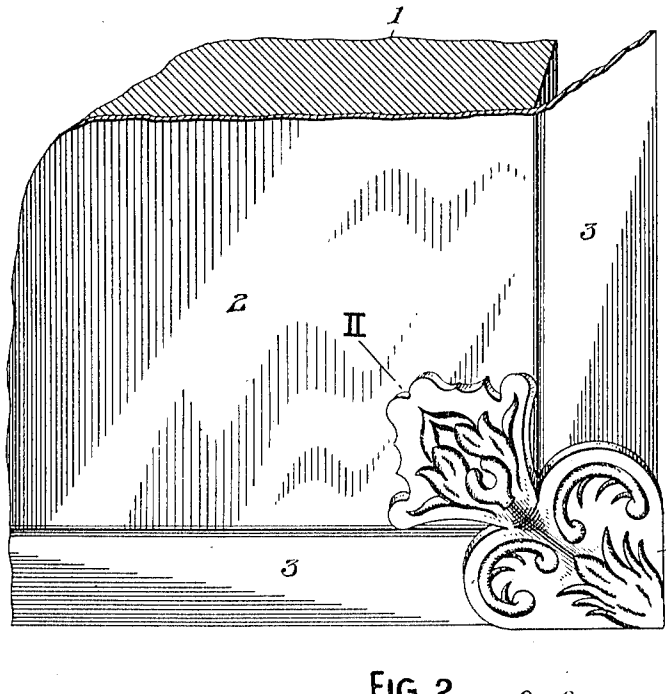
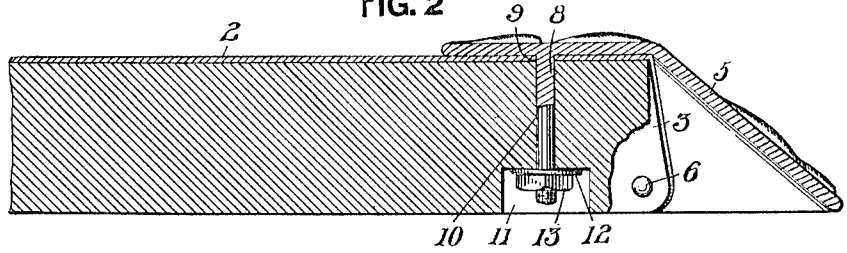


FIG. 1

FIG. 2



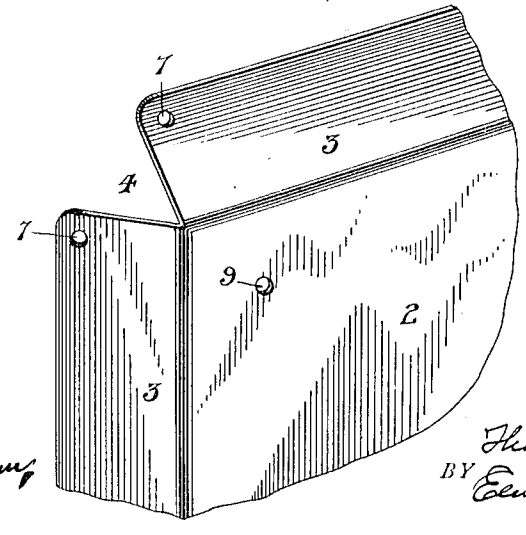


FIG. 3

WITNESSES:

J. R. [illegible]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS O. MATTHEWS, OF AVALON BOROUGH, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO JAS. H. MATTHEWS & CO., OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

SIGN STRUCTURE.

1,001,541. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Aug. 22, 1911.**

Application filed May 24, 1911. Serial No. 629,228.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS O. MATTHEWS, a citizen of the United States, and residing in the borough of Avalon, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented or discovered new and useful Improvements in Sign Structures, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in certain new and useful improvements in metal signs, relating particularly to the corner construction thereof, and to their attachment to the back board or plate.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a broken perspective of one of my improved signs, Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same along the line II—II in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3 is a broken perspective of the face plate with the corner plates removed.

The following is a detailed description of the drawings.

1 is the back board or plate, usually of wood, and 2 is the metal face plate upon which the letters or other insignia are cut, mounted or otherwise displayed. The edges 3—3 of the plate 2 overlap the edges of plate 1 and are bent or turned rearwardly so that they cover the edges of the plate 1 when the sign is assembled. They may be bent at an angle, as shown in the drawings, or flat against the edges of plate 1, if desired. To facilitate the bending of the edges of the plate 2, said edges, 3—3, are severed or cut away at the corners, as at 4, so that the bent edges do not meet or overlap.

The corners of the flat portion of plate 2 and the adjacent ends of the edge portions 3—3 are covered by corner plates or pieces 5 which are cast or otherwise formed to abut flatly against said plate and said edge portions. The plates 5 are preferably ornamental in character to improve the general appearance of the structure.

The plate 5 is secured in place by means of rivets or other members, 6—6, embedded in or otherwise fixed to the under surface of plate 5 and extending through holes 7—7 in the edge portions 3—3. The ends of the rivets 6—6 are upset to hold the corner piece firmly in place.

8 is a bolt or other member whose end is embedded in or otherwise secured to the under surface of plate 5 and which extends through a hole 9 in the plate 2. 10 is a hole in plate 1 adapted to register with said hole 9 and provided at its rear end with a countersunk portion 11 adapted to receive the washer 12 and nut 13 which engage the outer end of bolt 8.

In assembling the sign, the corner pieces 5 are first secured to the plate 2, as shown, by means of rivets 6—6, and the plate 2 placed upon the plate 1, the bolts 8 entering the holes 10. The nuts 13 are then screwed on the bolts 8 in the countersunk holes 11, and the sign is ready to be erected.

The advantages of my improved structure are manifold. Among them may be mentioned the ease and accuracy with which the edges of the plate 2 may be bent without preliminary scoring of the metal, and the rigid and secure manner in which the corners of said edges are kept in proper alinement and prevented from dinging or distortion. Instead of unsightly and uneven corners, the same present a highly pleasing appearance and at the same time add to the strength and durability of the structure. The manner of attaching the plate 2 to the plate 1 is inexpensive and reliable, and at the same time the face plate may be readily removed without marring. The means for attaching the corner plates to the face plate and its bent edges are concealed, as are also the means for attaching the face plate to the back plate, thus avoiding the use of unsightly screw-heads or bolts now in general use on signs of this type. The construction is also inexpensive, as the elements 5—5 not only serve to cover the bent corners of plate 2 but also act as securing means to attach said plate to plate 1.

What I desire to claim is—

1. A sign structure consisting of a back plate, a metal face plate mounted thereon and having its edges bent rearwardly to conceal said back plate, corner plates secured to said bent edges, and means carried by said corner plates and engaging said back plate and said face plate to bind the structure together.

2. A sign structure consisting of a back plate, a metal face plate of greater area mounted thereon, the corners of said face plate being cutaway and the edges of said plate being bent rearwardly to conceal said back plate, corner plates secured to said bent edges, and means carried by said corner plates and engaging said back plate and said face plate to bind the structure together.

Signed at Pittsburg, Pa., this 19th day of May, 1911.

THOMAS O. MATTHEWS.

Witnesses:
E. A. LAWRENCE,
A. W. FORSYTH.