A. GOSS.

Conductors for Lightning-Rods.

No. 196,350. Patented Oct. 23, 1877.

Fig. 1.

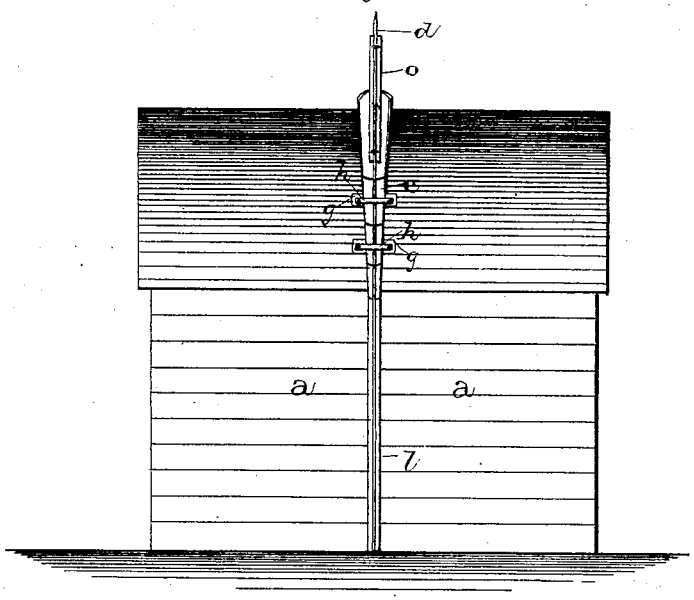
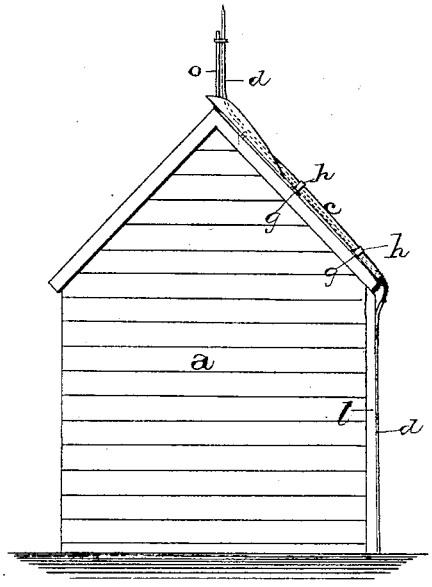


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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ALONZO GOSS, OF VERMILLION, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

IMPROVEMENT IN CONDUCTORS FOR LIGHTNING-RODS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,350**, dated October 23, 1877; application filed June 11, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALONZO GOSS, of Vermillion, in the county of Clay and Territory of Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Conductors for Lightning-Rods; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in conductors for lightning-rods; and it consists in an iron rod or brace, which extends nearly up to the point of the lightning-rod, to help the rod carry away the electricity, and in a trough-shaped conductor, which is placed along the roof of the house, and in which the lightning-rod is placed, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The accompanying drawings represent my invention.

a represents a building of any kind, to which my invention is applied. Extending down across the roof of this building from the top to below the eaves is a trough-shaped conductor, *c*, in which the lightning-rod *d* rests. This conductor is made on its outside of zinc, and lined on the inside with Russia iron. This trough or conductor is secured in position by means of the strips or blocks of wood *g*, and the zinc bands *h*, which pass over the top of the conductor. The object of the wooden blocks is to prevent the Russia iron from coming in contact with the roof of the house. To the upper end of this conductor is fastened the iron rod or brace *o*, which extends nearly up to the top of the lightning-rod, and serves both to hold the rod in position and to help it carry away the electricity. The conductor serves also to help carry away the electricity, and does away with the usual insulators, which are used to secure the rod to the top of the house, and which serve in a great measure to obstruct the free flow of electricity down the rod. Where a large conducting-surface is added to the rod, as in the case where one of these conductors is used, the electricity is carried quietly beyond the surface of the house the instant it touches the point of the rod, and thus the house is almost absolutely protected from lightning. The post *l* will be inserted between the side of the house and the lightning-rod, so as to prevent the lightning from jumping from the rod into or against the house.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In combination with a lightning-rod, a trough-shaped conductor, placed across the roof of the house to receive the rod, substantially as shown.

2. The trough-shaped conductor and lightning-rod, made from zinc and Russia iron, and held in position by means of the blocks *g* and bands *h*, substantially as shown.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of May, 1877.

ALONZO GOSS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
JOHN L. JOLLEY,
THOS. A. ROBINSON.