

H. Smith, Jr.,
Coffin.

N^o 64,159.

Patented Apr. 23, 1867.

Fig. 1.

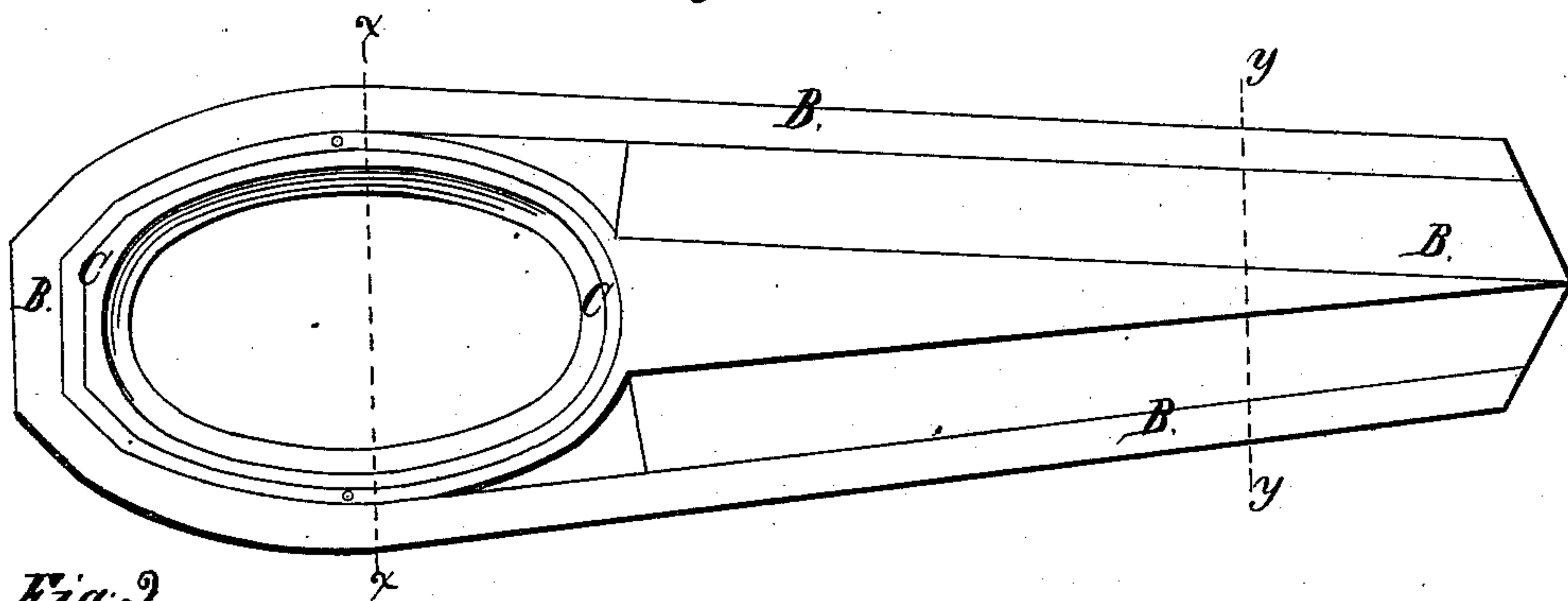


Fig. 2.

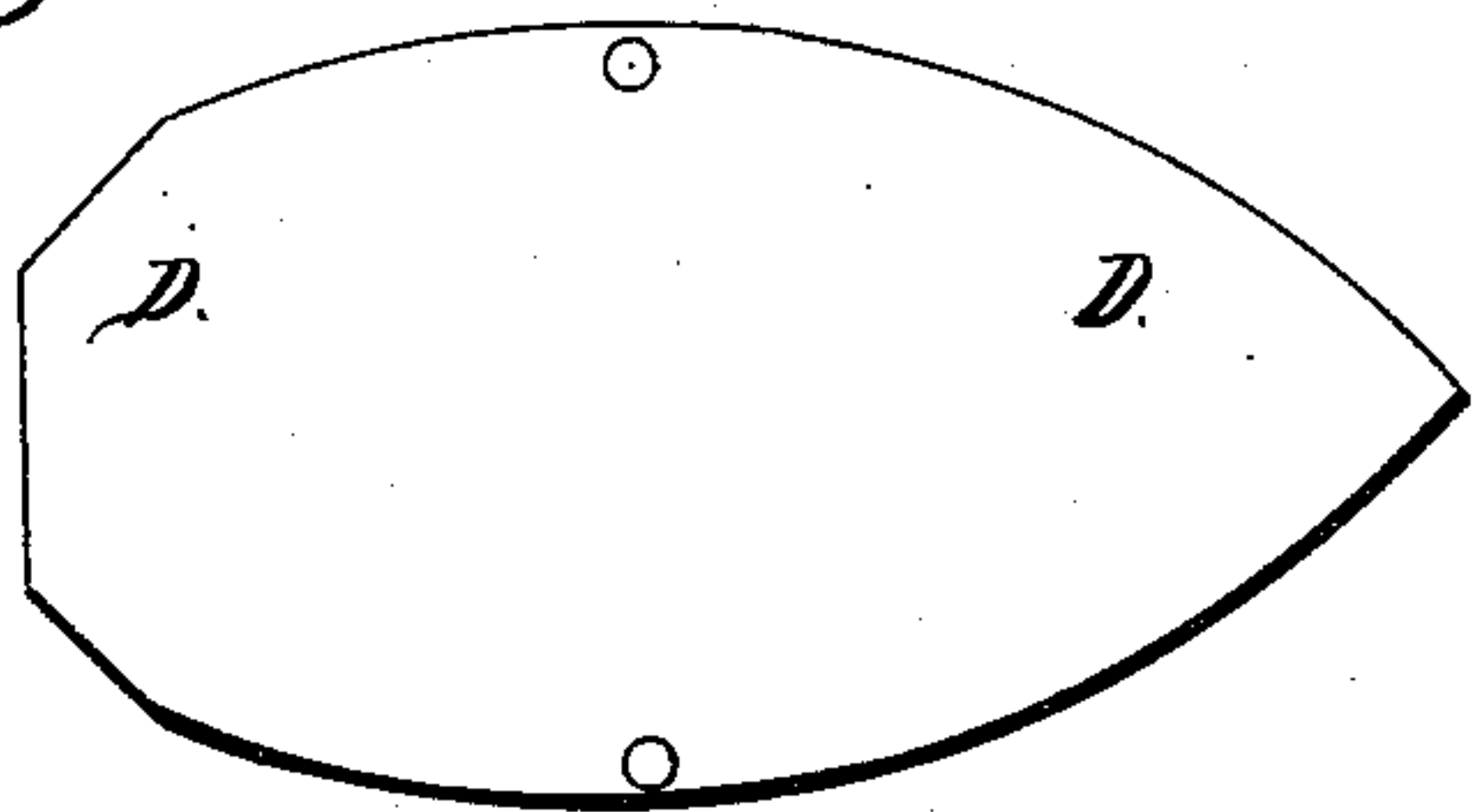


Fig. 3.

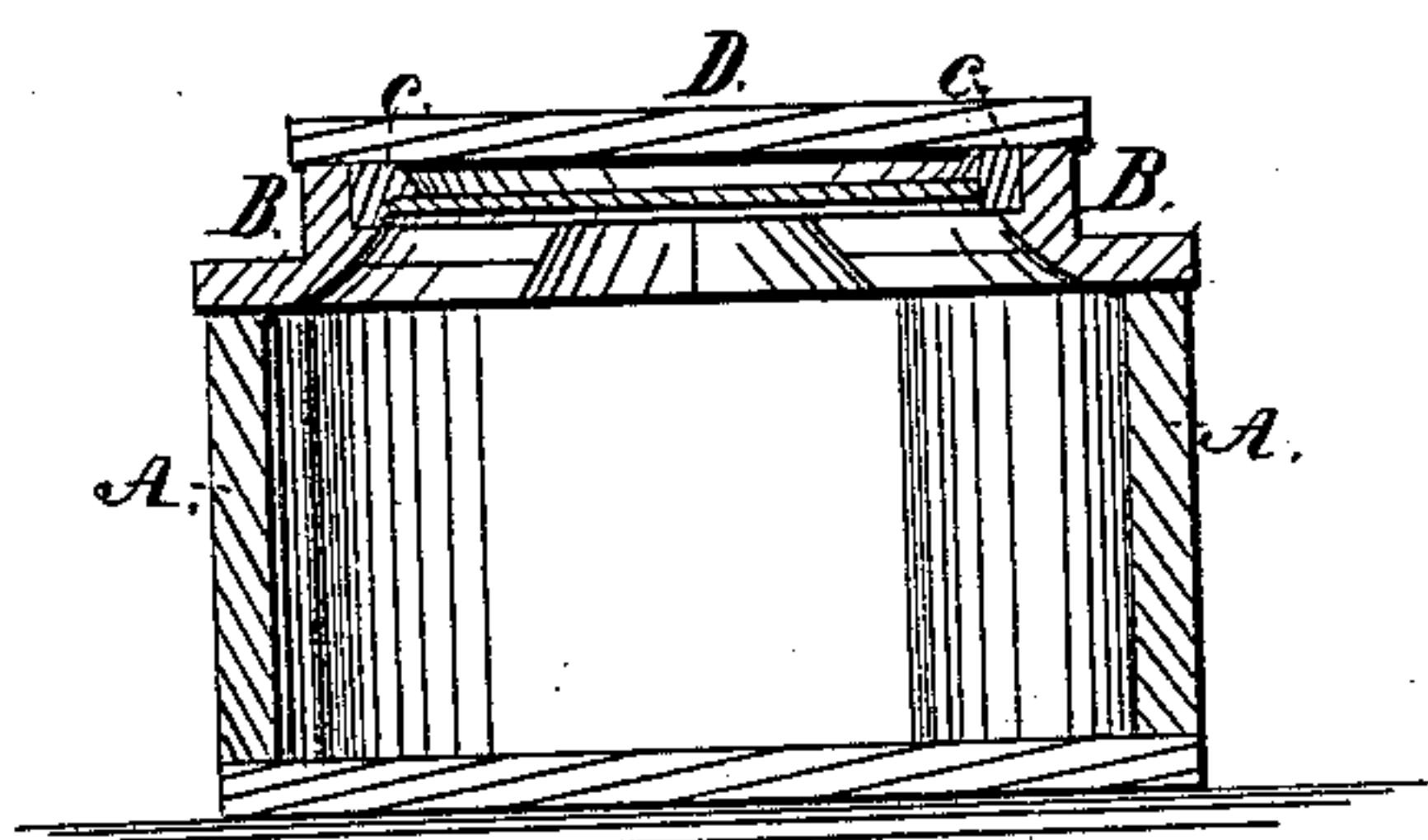
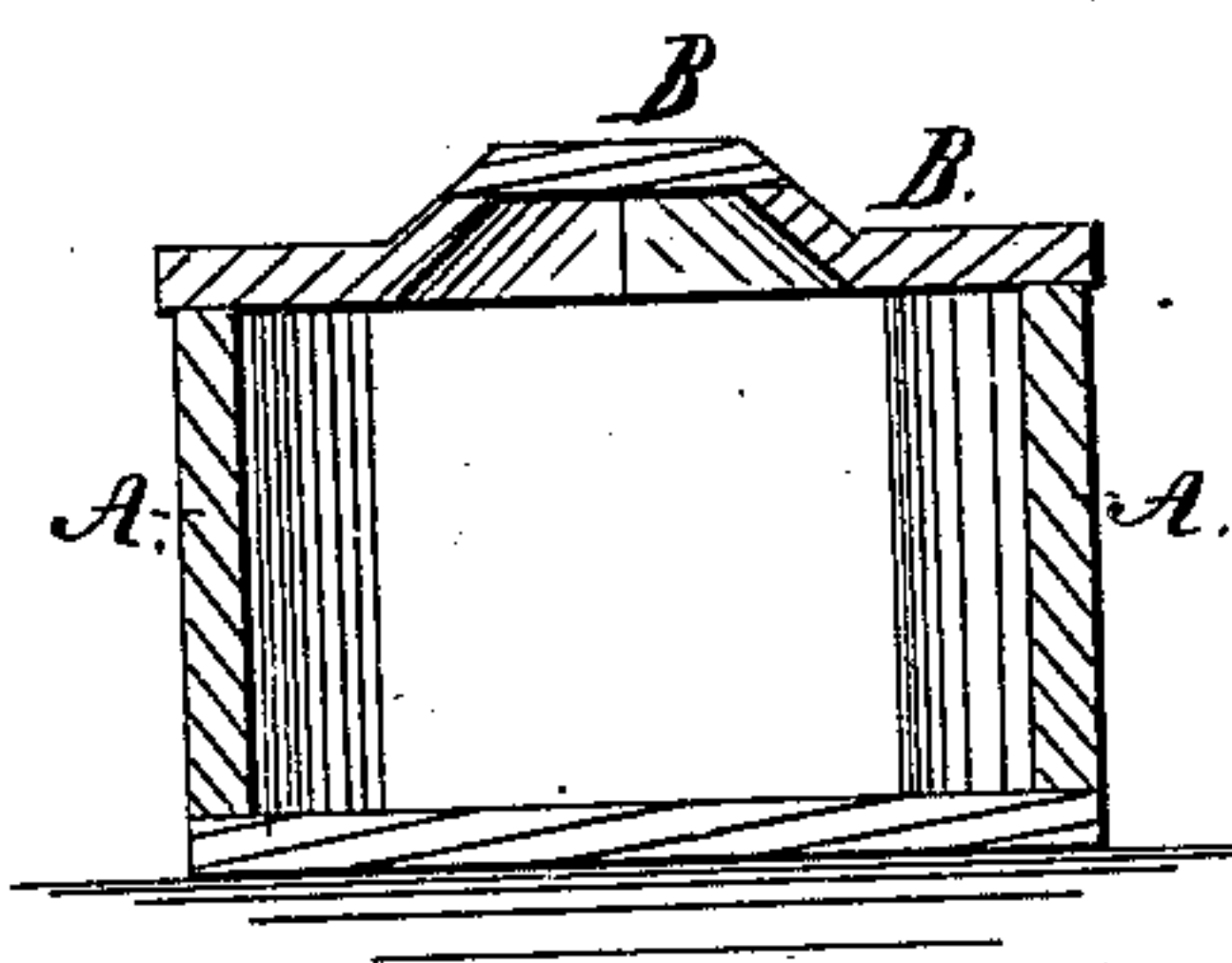


Fig. 4.



Inventor:

Witnesses:

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HENRY SMITH, JR., OF SUMMIT, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 64,159, dated April 23, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN COFFINS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same:

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, HENRY SMITH, Jr., of Summit, in the county of Schoharie, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Coffins; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of my improved coffin, the small detachable lid or cover being removed.

Figure 2 is a detail view of the detachable cover, showing its form.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross-section, taken through the line *x x*, fig. 1.

Figure 4 is a vertical cross-section, taken through the line *y y*, fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention consists in combining a frame, prepared for the reception of a glass plate, with the lid or cover of the coffin in such a way that the upper side of said frame shall be flush with the upper surface of the said lid or cover, and in the combination of a small detachable lid or cover with the main lid, in such a way that the said small lid shall cover the frame and secure it in its place.

A is the main body of the coffin, which is made in the usual manner. B is the lid or top of the coffin, which is secured in place with screws in the usual manner, so that it may be removed when desired, for the insertion of the corpse, or for any other purpose. In the broader or head part of the lid B is formed an elliptical opening, or the end of said opening may be made to correspond with the shape or outline of the end of the coffin, as shown in fig. 1. This opening is formed with a shoulder around it, upon which the frame C rests, as shown in fig. 3. The frame C is made of such a shape as to fit accurately into the opening in the lid B, so as to prevent the escape of any unpleasant effluvia, and render it perfectly safe to look at the corpse even when death was caused by some contagious disease. D is a small detachable lid or cover, which may be made in the general form of the opening through the lid C, and should be of such a size as to cover the frame C and overlap the cover B, so that it may be secured to said cover by two or more screws, and thus secure the said frame in place. A glass plate may be secured in the frame C, in the same manner as glass is secured in a window-sash.

When the coffin is constructed in this manner, the small cover D can readily be removed, to allow the corpse to be seen. The frame C can also be removed when desired and it is prudent to do so, which allows the corpse to be seen as distinctly as if the entire cover had been removed.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the frame C, prepared for the reception of a glass plate, with the cover B of the coffin, in such a manner that the upper side of said frame may be flush with the upper surface of the said cover, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

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