M. H. Crane,

Coffin.

No. 64,496. Patented May 7, 1867.

Fig. 1.

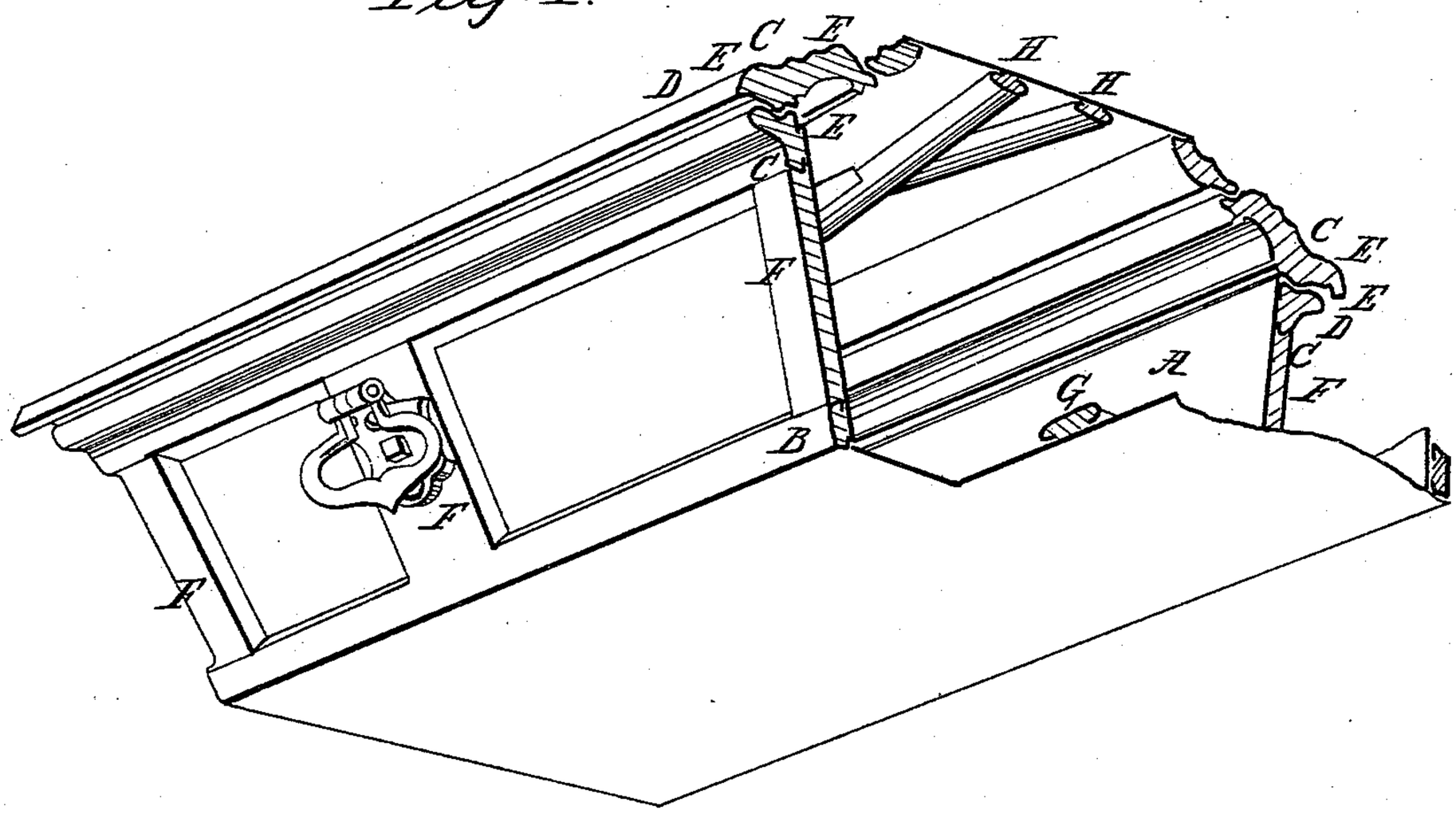
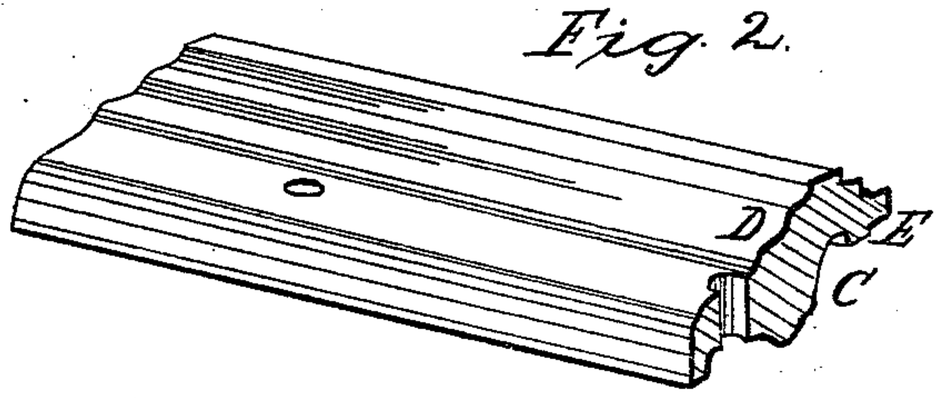


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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Attys.

United States Patent Office.

MARTIN H. CRANE, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO CRANE, BREED & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 64,496, *dated May* 7, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC BURIAL-CASES.

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

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, MARTIN H. CRANE, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Metallic Burial-Cases; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

This invention relates to a construction of sheet-metal coffins or burial-cases intended to combine the advantages of strength, lightness, and economy of labor and material with a handsome appearance.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a sheet-metal burial-case embodying my invention.

Figure 2 represents a portion of a stiffening piece or moulding.

The body of the case is composed of sheet zinc or other sheet metal carefully soldered at the joints so as to form a tight vessel, A. The upper and lower edges of this vessel are respectively stiffened and ornamented by sills B and rails C, composed of pieces or strips formed of sheet metal, (see blue lines D,) drawn or stretched over wooden strips E, which pieces or strips are afterward firmly soldered to the exterior of the said body, as represented. Stiles F, similarly composed to said rails, are likewise soldered to the body and to the said rails and sills. The bottom and lid are similarly stiffened with strips G and H. The rails C may be grooved or channelled to receive a suitable luting or gasket, and perforated for the reception of the usual screws employed to fasten down the cover.

This mode of stiffening a sheet-metal burial-case is found to be preferable in many respects to that hitherto adopted, of bending or swaging the material of the body itself around the wooden strips, or otherwise, because in the latter mode of operation the metal of the body proper cannot be drawn or folded so closely around the strip as can be done between suitable dies separate and apart from the body, nor can as sharp and neat finish be given to it, while, on the other hand, in my mode the close fit and tension of the metal about the wood make it much more effective as a means of stiffening and strengthening the body.

I claim herein as new and of my invention—

1. A metallic burial-case stiffened by sheet metal drawn over wood and secured to the body of the case by soldering, in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combined arrangement with the body proper of the wood and metal rim or rail C for the reception of the screws employed to fasten the lid in the described combination with the composite wood and metal stiles, the said rail, sill, and stiles being formed separately from said body and the sills B, and afterward firmly soldered thereto and to each other, as set forth.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

M. H. CRANE.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,

JAMES H. LAYMAN.