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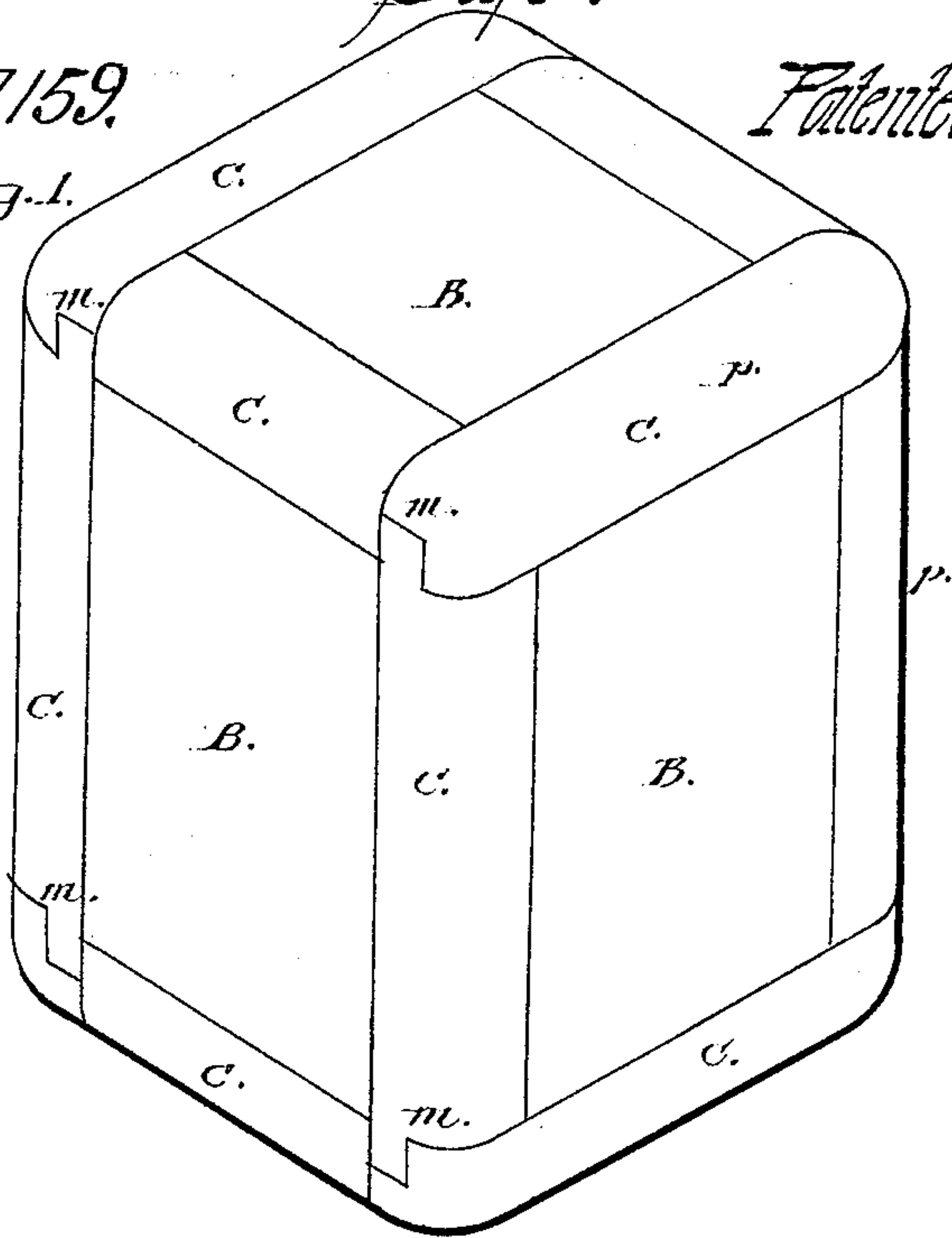
*M. Briggs,*

*Safe.*

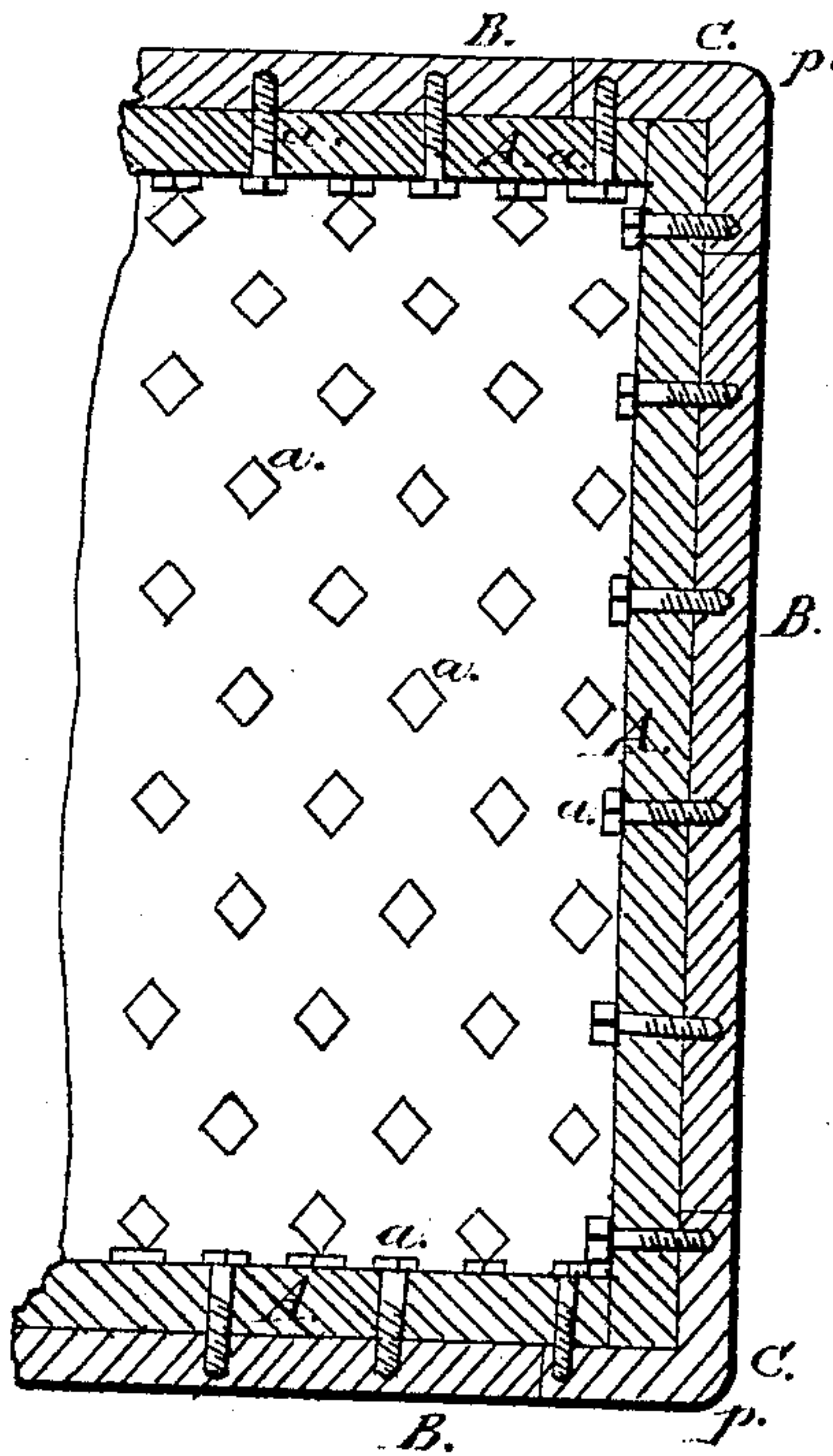
*No. 97,159.*

*Patented Nov. 23, 1869*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:  
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# United States Patent Office.

MARTIN BRIGGS, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 97,159, dated November 23, 1869.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SAFES.

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, MARTIN BRIGGS, of the city of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Burglar-Proof Safes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and

Figure 2, a section of one side of the safe.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

My invention consists in constructing a safe of plates which present a uniform steel surface upon the outside, and which are united by screws that enter the walls from the interior, and extend but part way through; the whole construction being such as to render the safe impenetrable to either drill or wedge, as herein-after described.

In the drawings—

A A A A represent the inner, and B B B B, the outer plates, the latter being secured to the former by square-headed screws *a a*, which screw into the walls from the interior, but do not extend through the entire plating.

The angles of the safe are covered by bands C C C C, secured to the inner plates by screws in the same manner.

The edges of the bands are rounded, as shown at *p*, to prevent chipping off under the action of the sledge.

This arrangement of the plates and bands B C presents a smooth and flush exterior surface, without rivet or screw reaching the outside, and having closely-fitting seams, which will not allow the insertion of a wedge.

The angle-irons or boards are connected together by mortise-and-tenon joints *m*.

The outer plates are what are known as "welded iron and steel plates," composed of two layers, respectively, of iron and steel, placed together flatwise, welded and rolled or hammered, thus presenting a steel face on one side and iron on the other.

In my construction of the safe, the steel is placed outward, and the safe thus presents, on the exterior, an entire and uniform steel surface.

If desired, the inner plating A may be used in the same way, or it may be made of iron alone.

The special advantages I claim in this construction are—

First, the formation of the safe with an entire and uniform outer steel surface, and

Second, the uniting of the parts by screws, which enter the walls from the inside, and do not extend through to the outside.

The steel presents a surface which is impenetrable by drills, wedges, or other instruments, and therefore, if strongly made, cannot be broken open.

This surface, from its great hardness and smoothness, will prevent the drill, or other instrument, from holding or adhering to place under action, and from its great solidity, will cause such instrument to dull and break. It is thus impenetrable by any instrumentality that can be brought to bear upon it.

The securing of the screws upon the inside, and not extending through, prevents the drilling out of the same, as is frequently done upon ordinary safes, in which the bolts and rivets pass through from the outside instead of the inside.

I am aware that "welded steel and iron plates" have before been employed in the construction of safes, but located within the walls, instead of on the outside of the same.

In such case, the outside of the safe has been constructed simply of iron plating, which is easily cut and torn from place, and when this is done, the screws or bolts, which attach the outer to the inner plating, are loosened and exposed, and can be driven in or drilled out, which gives a ready access to tools by which the interior of the safe may be readily reached.

This projection of the screws through the inner plating cannot be avoided, as the outer must be held in place by it, and if the outer is easily torn from place, the inner is necessarily penetrable.

The only remedy is to make the outer plating impenetrable at the start, which I accomplish by making a steel surface and avoiding the extension through of the screws or bolts.

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

A safe, consisting of the inner plates A, the outer panels B, screws *a*, and angle-irons C C, covering the angles of the sides and top and bottom, said irons being connected together by mortise-and-tenon joints, the whole constructed and arranged as set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

Witnesses:

MARTIN BRIGGS.

R. F. OSGOOD,  
GEO. W. MIATT.