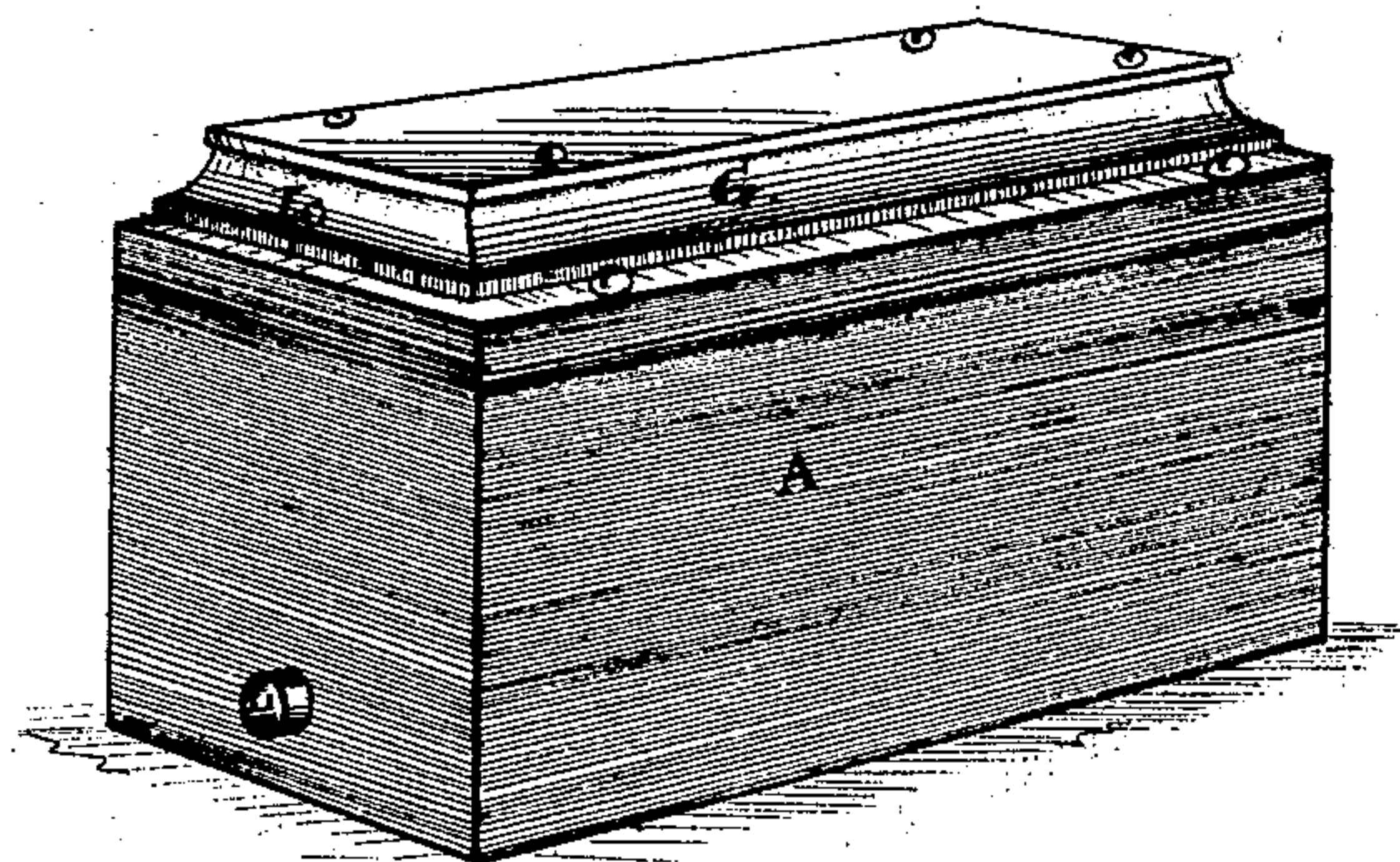
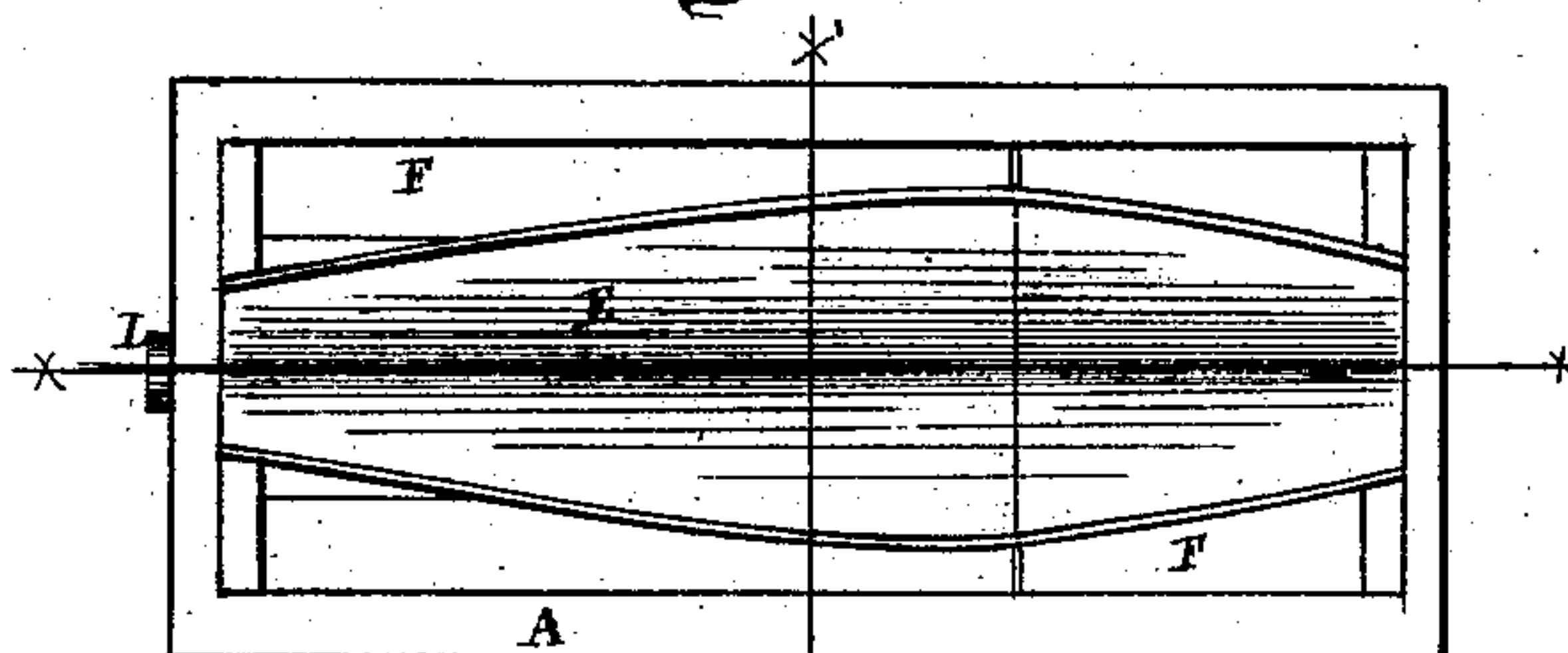


*J. V. Black,*  
*Corpse Cooler.*  
*No. 110,337.      Patented Dec. 20. 1870.*

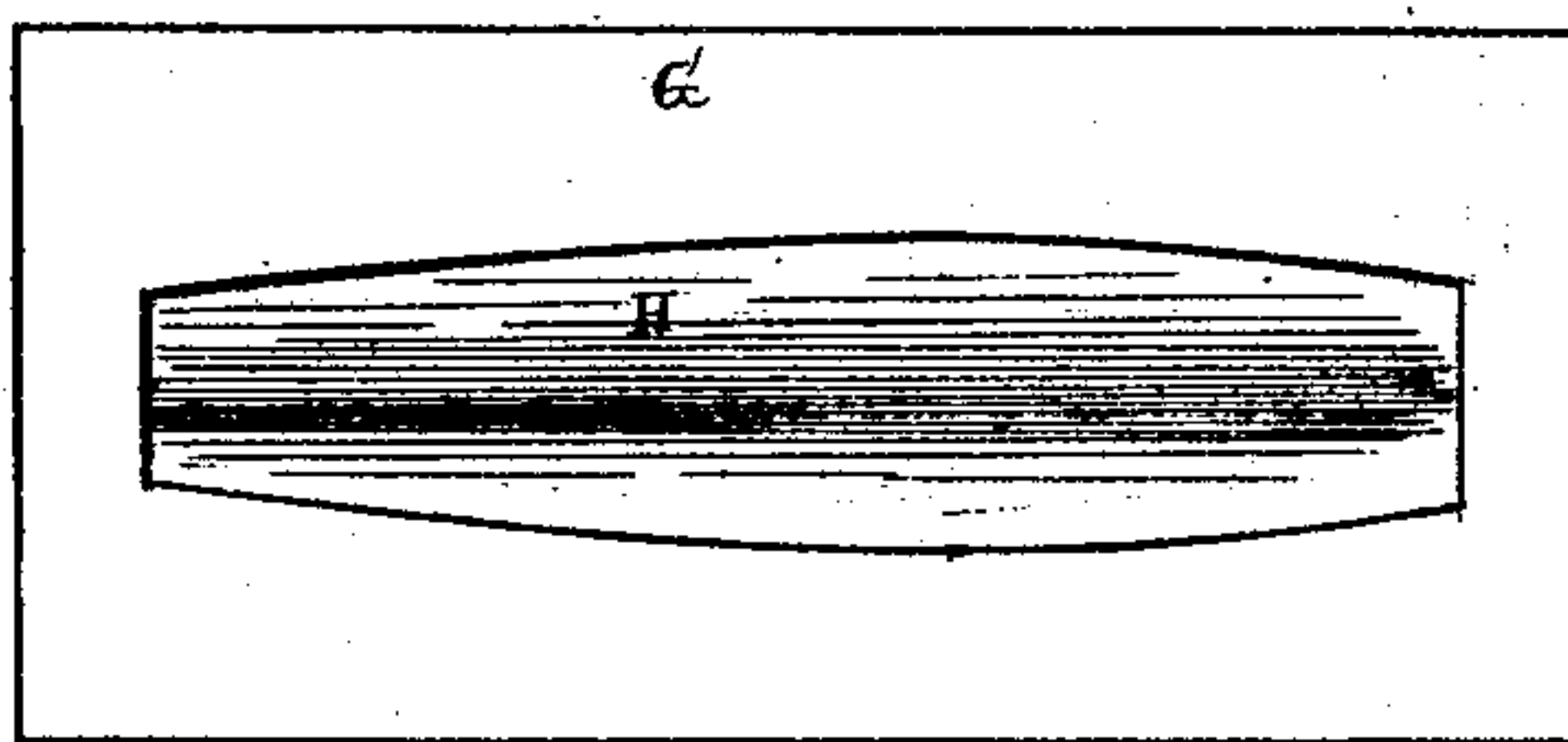
**Fig. 1.**



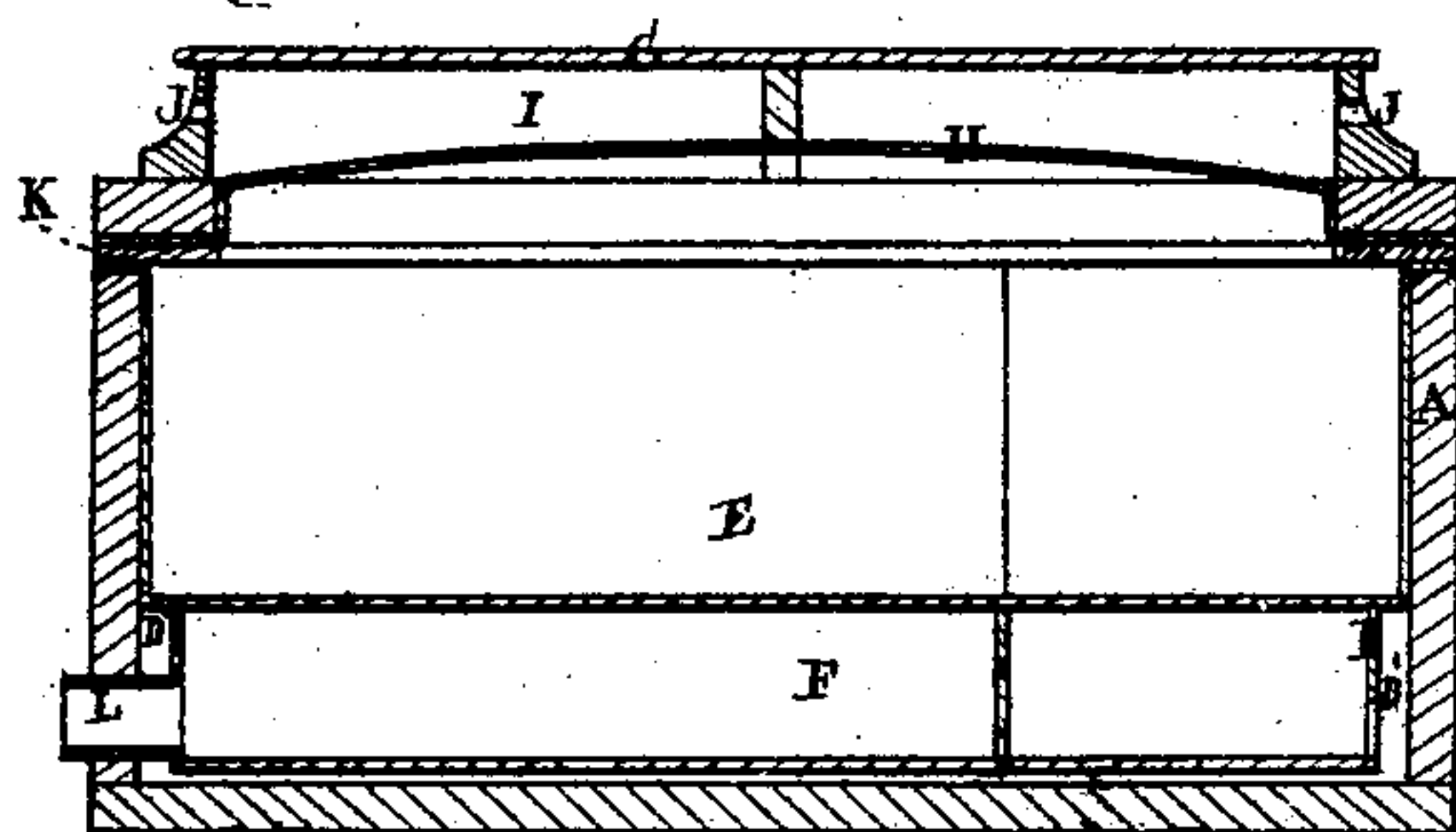
**Fig. 2.**



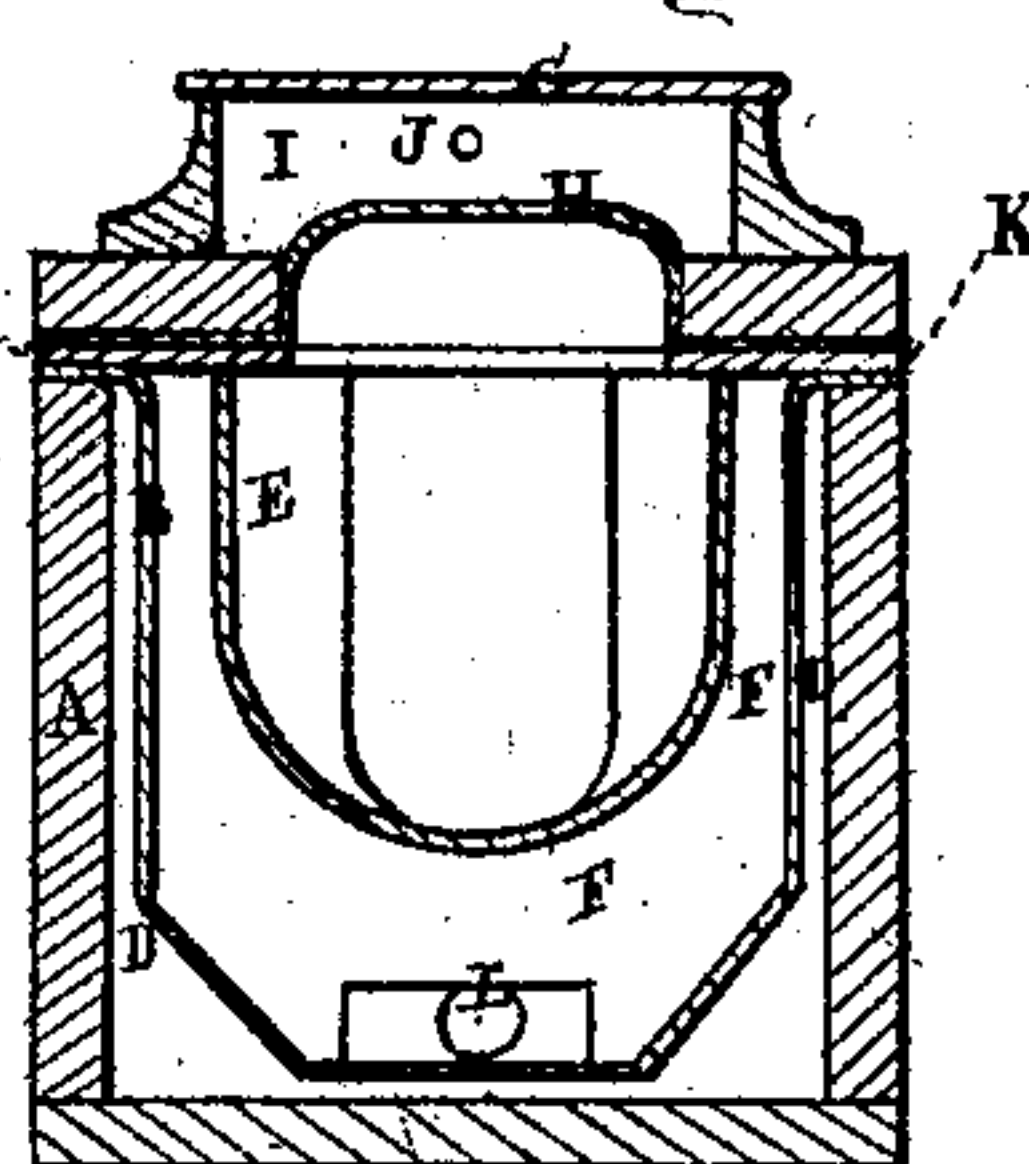
**Fig. 3.**



**Fig. 4.**



**Fig. 5.**



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*Witnesses.*  
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# United States Patent Office.

JAMES Y. BLACK, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 110,337, dated December 20, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CORPSE-PRESERVING 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, JAMES Y. BLACK, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and improved Coffin for Preserving Dead Bodies; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and complete description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the coffin or case.

Figure 2 is an inside view from the top.

Figure 3 is an under-side view of the cover.

Figure 4 is a vertical longitudinal section in direction of the line *x x*.

Figure 5 is a transverse section in direction of the line *x' x'*.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several views.

The nature of this invention relates to a device for the preservation of human bodies for a time previous to their final interment, the object thereof being to keep said bodies in such condition that they may be sent from a distance for burial, or be continued unburied until the arrival of distant friends of the deceased; and

It consists in forming an ice-chamber around the body-receptacle, which chamber is open at both sides at the top, and covered with a rubber gasket attached to the edge of the cover, the latter having a space for antiseptics, and a lining of some fibrous material.

The device above referred to is constructed in the following manner:

In fig. 1—

A represents an oblong square case, somewhat exceeding in length the stature of a human being, with a depth and width proportionate thereto.

Said case is constructed of wood and lined with sheet metal, B, fig. 5, between which and the sides of the case is a space, D; so also between the lining of the ends and the ends of the case is a space, D'; and so also between the bottom of the lining and case, thereby forming an air-space or chamber around between the entire inside of the case and lining, as shown in figs. 4 and 5.

Within said case is arranged a casket, E, fig. 2, in which the body is placed for preservation.

It will be observed that said casket is so constructed and arranged within the case that it does not touch the sides and bottom thereof, but that there is a wide space, F, between them, as shown in fig. 5, the purpose of which will presently be shown.

G, fig. 1, is the cover of the case, which is also lined, not with sheet metal, but with some textile fabric, H, fig. 4, between which and the top of the cover is a space, I, communicating with the outside by means of apertures J.

The practical operation of this device is as follows:

As aforesaid, the body is laid in the casket E. This being done, the space F immediately surrounding the casket is then filled with a freezing mixture of ice and salt, or with ice only, as the temperature of the weather may determine.

The cold air from the ice-chamber is prevented from coming in contact with the corpse by the casket being air-tight where it comes against the ice-chamber.

The space I of the cover, on being filled with some antiseptic agent, the top plate of which may be taken off for that purpose, is now secured to the case. A gasket, K, is placed between it and the edge of the case, thereby making an air-tight joint.

The body thus incased and surrounded by the freezing mixture is soon frozen solid, thereby arresting its further decomposition, and which can be preserved in this condition as long as may be necessary for the purpose required.

The water from the ice, as it may melt away, flows from the case through the eduction-pipe L, and all moisture will be carried off through the vents J, or absorbed by the lining H, or the contents of the cover.

In this condition of the body it can be transported with safety from and to any distant place for interment, and, should the freezing mixture become wasted while in transit, it can easily and conveniently be replaced by a fresh supply, and thus continue the preservation of the body so long as may be desired, which is then removed from the case for its final interment.

### Claim.

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

The case A, containing the air-chamber D, ice-chamber F, eduction-pipe L, and casket E, in combination with the cover G, containing the space or chamber I, with its vent-holes J, cover H, and gasket K, when all the parts are constructed and arranged in the manner and for the purpose substantially as described.

JAS. Y. BLACK.

Witnesses:

W. H. BURRIDGE,  
J. H. BURRIDGE.