

H. M. Diggins,

Corpse Cooler.

No. 113,861.

Patented Apr. 18. 1871.

FIG. 1.

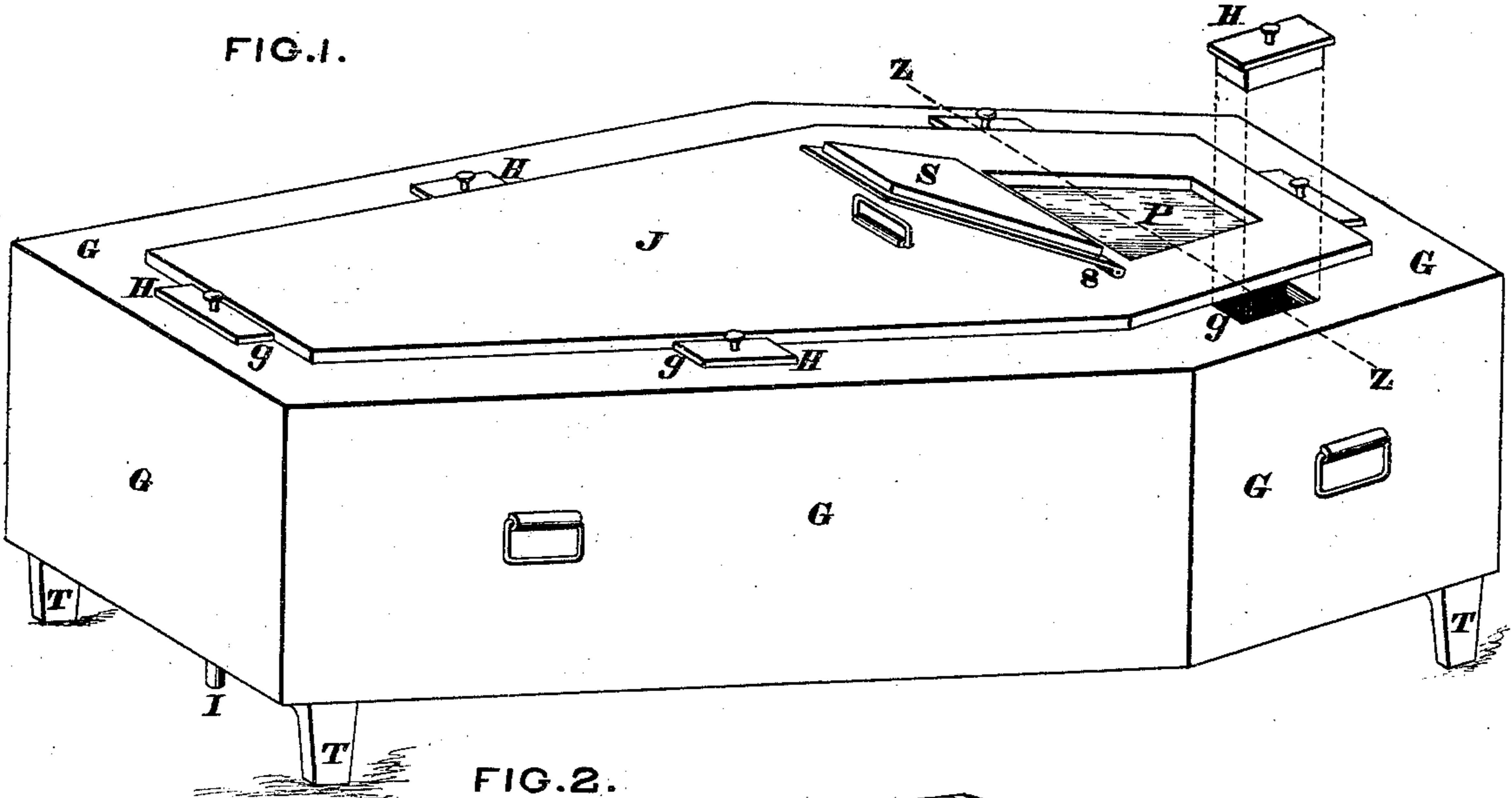


FIG. 2.

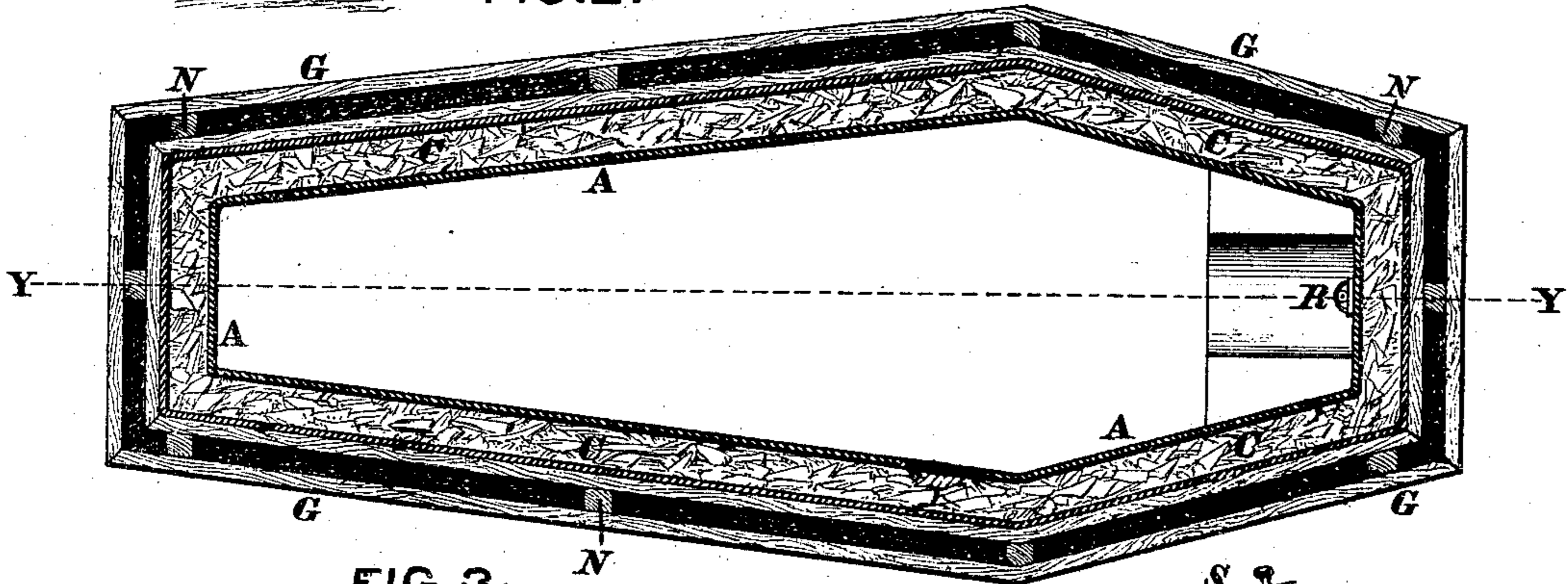


FIG. 3.

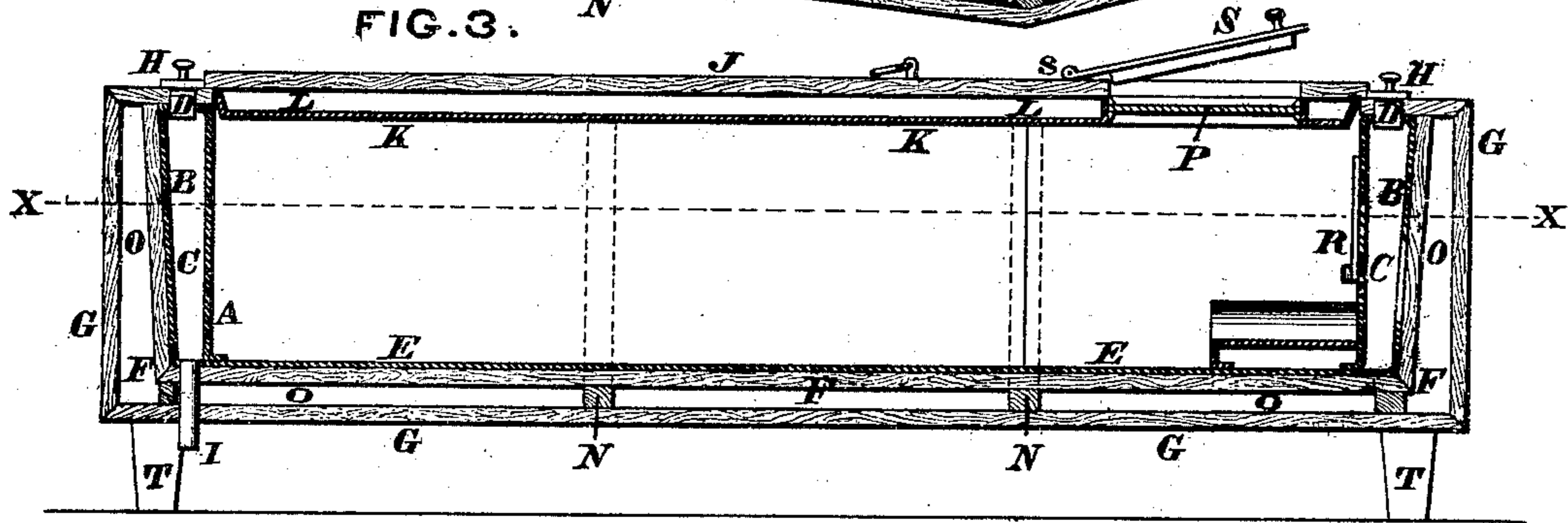
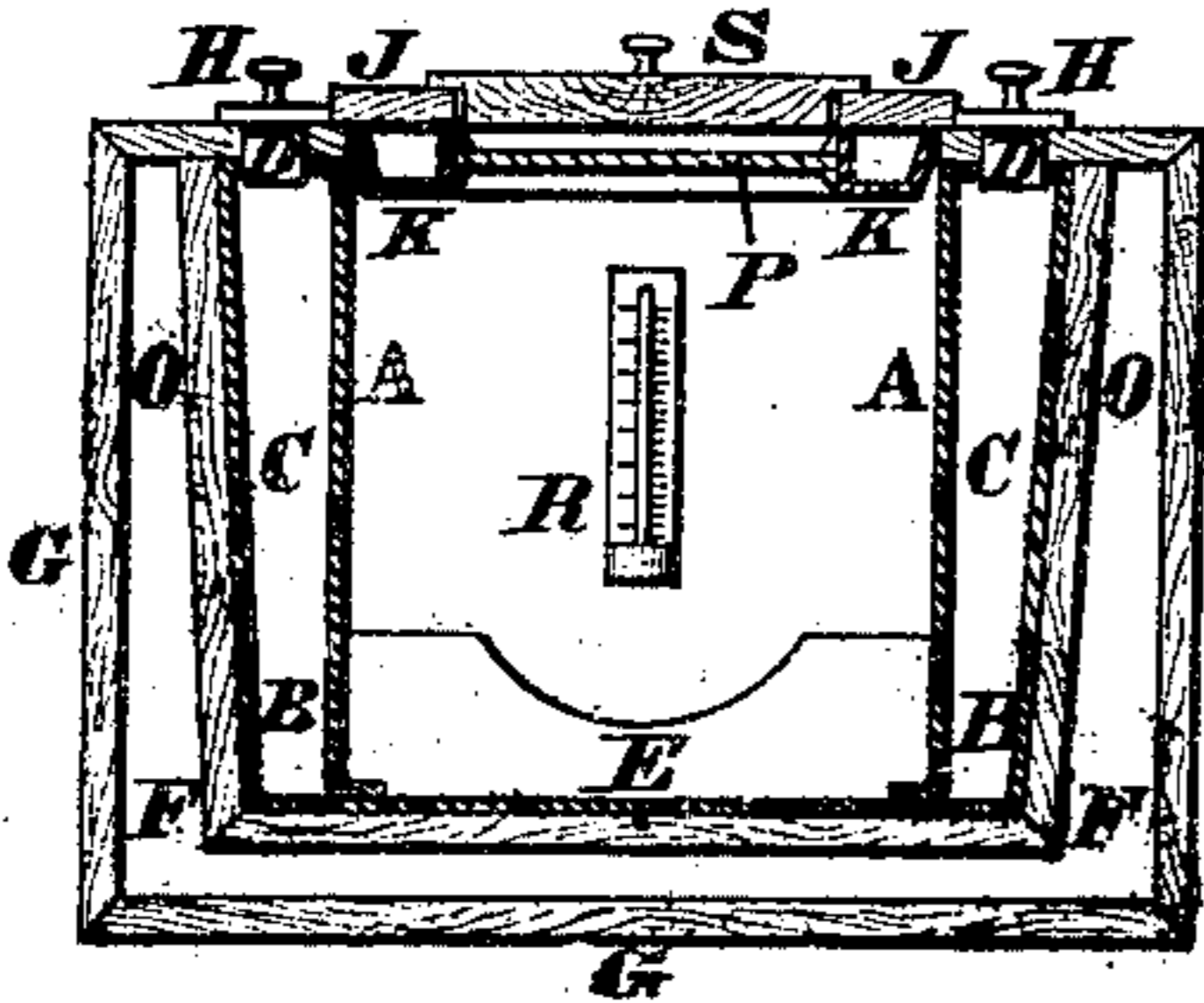


FIG. 4.



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HENRY M. DIGGINS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 113,861, dated April 18, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORPSE-PRESERVERS.

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

I, HENRY M. DIGGINS, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Corpse-Preserver, of which the following is a specification.

Nature and Objects of the Invention.

This is an improved form of shell or case for the preservation of human remains previous to sepulture, and is intended to combine more effectually than in pre-existing devices the advantages of uniform coolness, with the requisite portability and other essentials.

General Description with Reference to the Drawing.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a casket or case embodying my invention, a cap being removed from one of the ice-replenishing apertures.

Figure 2 is a horizontal section of the same on the line $x x$, showing the non-conducting filling and the ice in their proper receptacles.

Figure 3 is a vertical section at the line $y y$.

Figure 4 is a transverse section at the line $z z$.

In the last two views the receptacles for the filling and ice are shown empty.

My shell consists interiorly of a double wall of zinc or of zinned iron, A B, whose shape and dimensions are adapted to receive human remains either with or without a coffin.

The annular receptacle C thus formed has openings D at top, through which to insert ice or other refrigerant. This receptacle C is preferably somewhat narrower at bottom than at top, for the purpose of confining the ice more effectually to its upper part, and of opposing a greater thickness or body of refrigerant to the upper part of the receiver or body-chamber, where it is most needed, and to which the heated currents of air in said receiver naturally rise, promoting circulation and a uniform temperature within said receiver.

E is a piece of sheet metal, which constitutes both the floor of the ice-receptacle and of the central chamber or receiver.

F is a wooden sheathing, which envelops the sides, ends, and bottom of the ice-receptacle.

G is an outer shell of timber, whose top portion has apertures g , which correspond with the openings D.

H are plugs or caps which close the said apertures g and D.

I is a small ventage-pipe to carry off the water of condensation from the receptacle C.

The interior or body-receiving chamber is closable at top by means of a wooden cover, J, which has secured to its under side, and parallel therewith, a sheet-metal plate, K, inclosing a space, L, to be filled with feathers or other non-conductor.

The receptacle C is so supported by cleats N within the outer shell G as to leave an interstice, O, which entirely envelops the sides and bottom of said vessel. This interstice and the space inclosed between the upper and lower plates of the cover are filled with feathers, so as to constitute a light non-conducting envelope or jacket, which, while adding very little to the weight, effectually protects the interior from the heating action of the surrounding atmosphere.

The wooden sheathing which surrounds the ice-receptacle prevents the chilling of the air and consequent precipitation of moisture in outer jacket.

A glass pane, P, in the cover, enables inspection of a thermometer, R, secured in any convenient position in the interior of the receiver. This pane P is protected by a lid, S, that is hinged to the cover J at s.

The entire casket is supported at a proper height upon feet or legs T, which legs may, if desired, be furnished with rollers or casters.

I claim herein as new and of my invention—

1. The arrangement of wooden sheathing F, outer wooden shell G provided with plug H, the ice-receptacle C, and non-conducting chamber O, all arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The arrangement of the apertures D, ice-receptacle C, and receptacle g in outer shell G, said receptacle provided with caps-H, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

HENRY M. DIGGINS.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,
JAMES H. LAYMAN.