

C. A. BRETZ.
CORPSE-COOLER.

No. 180,835.

Patented Aug. 8, 1876.

Fig. 1.

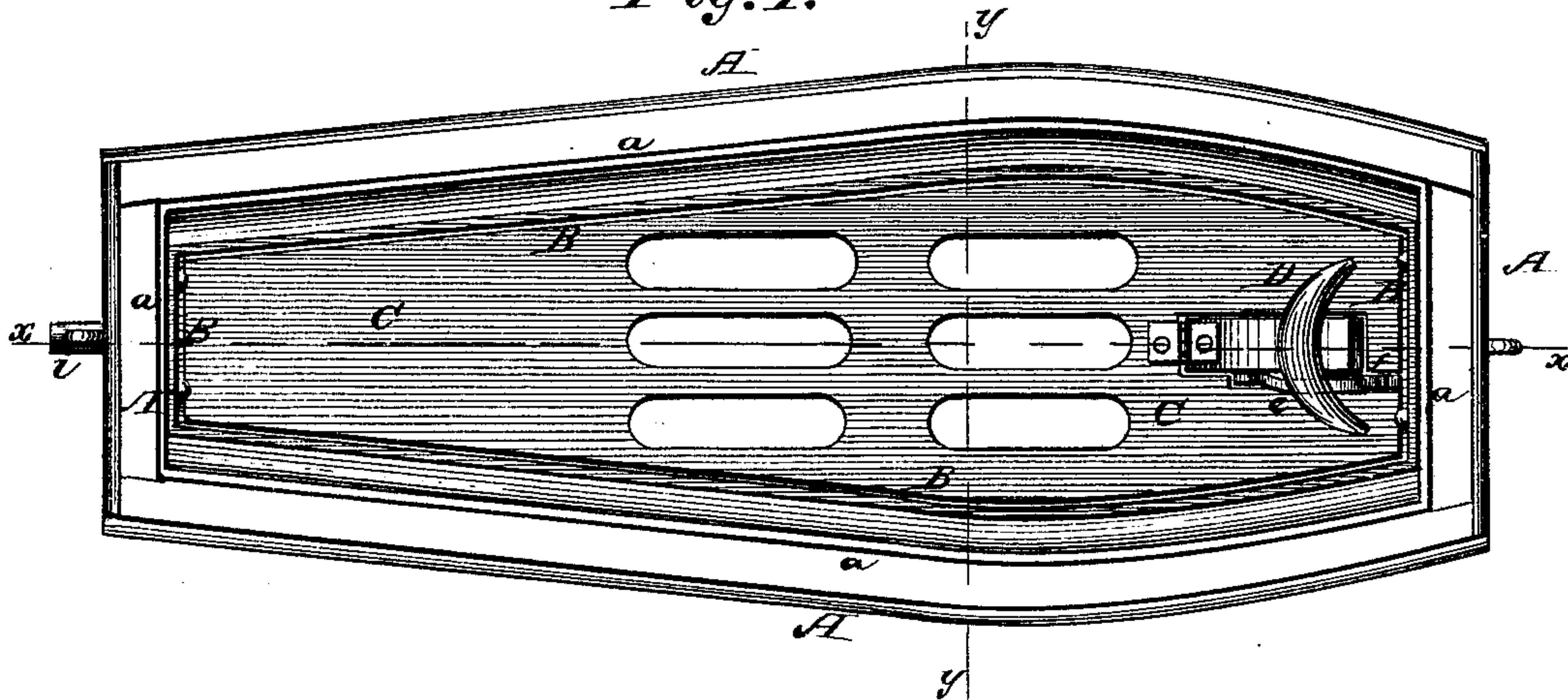


Fig. 2.

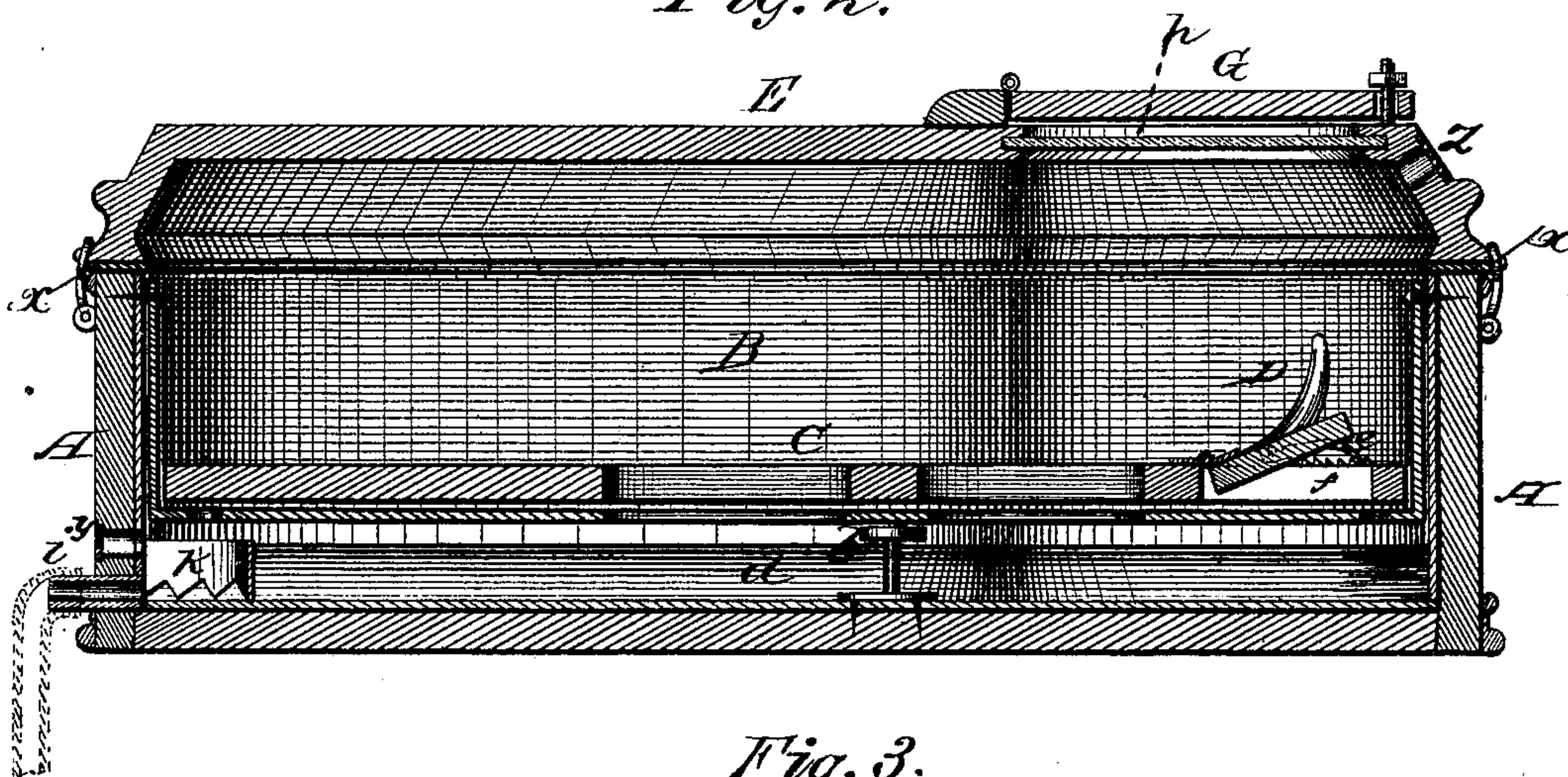
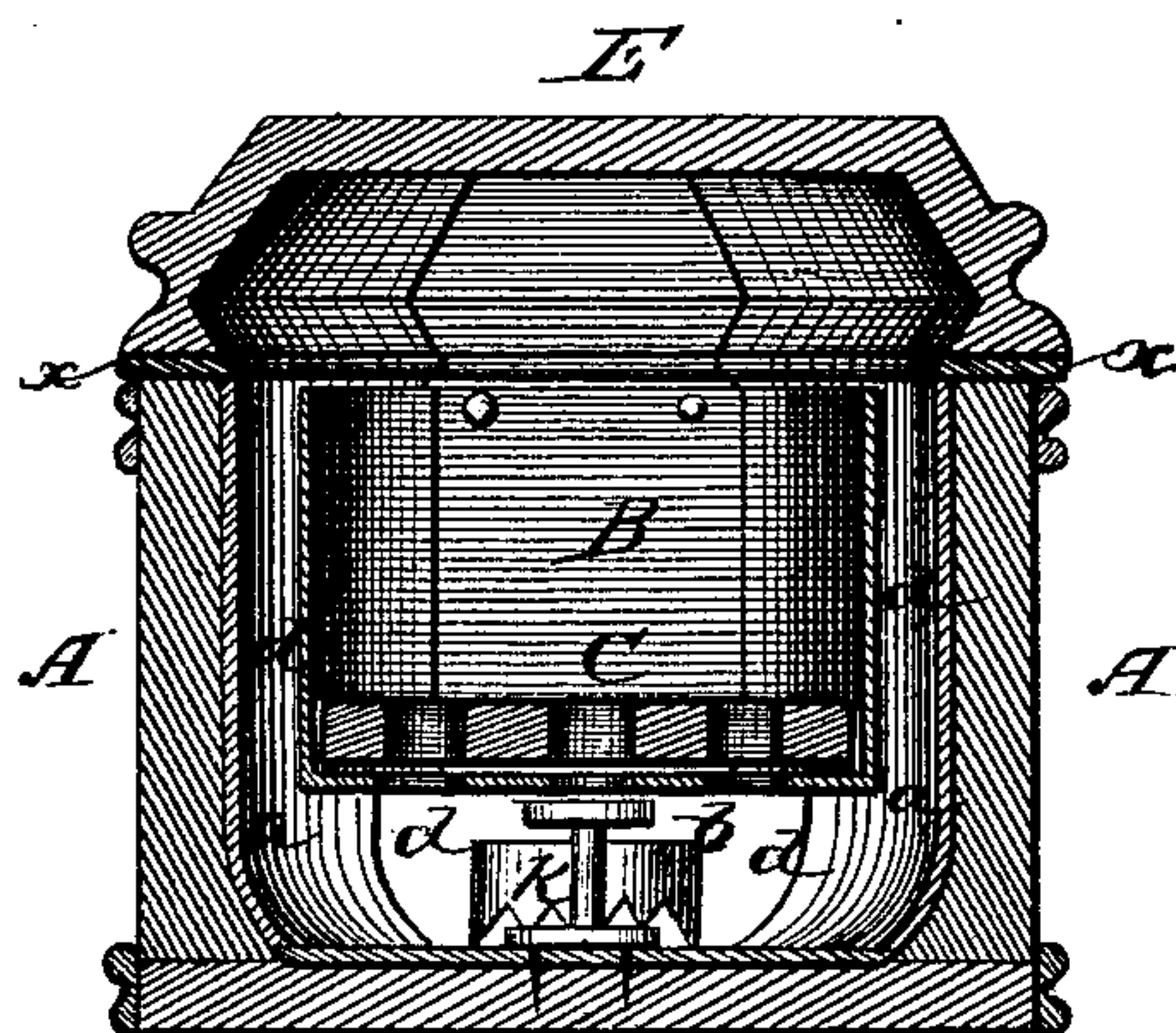


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
P. C. Dietrich.
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Inventor:
Chas. A. Bretz
Per: C. H. Watson & Co. Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. BRETZ, OF ST. CLAIR, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORPSE-COOLERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,835**, dated August 8, 1876; application filed June 28, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. BRETZ, of St. Clair, in the county of Schuylkill and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corpse-Preservers; 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 which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a corpse-preserver, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved corpse-preserver with the lid removed. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same through the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section through the line *y y*, Fig. 1.

A represents the exterior wooden case, made in the usual form for corpse-preservers, and lined on the inside with sheet metal *a*. Within the box A is a smaller sheet-metal case, B, fastened at both ends to the box A, and supported in the center by a suitable support, *b*, leaving a chamber, *d*, under the bottom and along both sides of the case B, in which chamber the ice is to be packed. The bottom of the case B is slotted and perforated in any desired manner, to allow the air to circulate from the interior of the case to the ice-chamber below. On the bottom of the case B is placed a removable wooden bottom, C, which is also slotted to allow circulation of air, and upon this wooden bottom the corpse is laid. At the head end of this bottom C is a hinged head-rest, D, held at any angle desired by means of a hinged pawl, *e*, taking into a ratchet-bar, *f*. E is the lid of the corpse-preserver, provided at the head with an opening

covered with glass *h*, and this closed by a hinged door or lid, G. *i* is the waste-pipe to carry off the water from the ice-chamber *d*, the inner end of said waste-pipe being protected by a guard, *k*. The chamber *d*, between the metal-lined box A and the interior sheet-metal case B, is to be filled with ice and salt, and the body is placed within the case B upon the wooden bottom C, and the head-rest D adjusted as required.

By this construction of the corpse-preserver the body is entirely removed from the ice, and all dampness kept away from the same, the body never being in contact with the bottom of the interior case.

The inside of the interior case B, as well as the wooden bottom C, is painted with a paint composed of beeswax, flour, and alcohol; or, if necessary, japan can be used for the same purpose. The case is to be partly air-tight by means of a rubber strip, *x*, secured to the bottom of the lid E.

At the foot of the exterior case A, near the bottom, is a ventilator, *y*, and near the top, at the head of the case, is a similar ventilator, *z*, causing a constant current or draft of air through the case.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a corpse-preserver, the slotted bottom C, metal case B, and exterior metal-lined box A, having ventilators *t y*, in combination with chamber *d*, formed in the preserver, bottom support *b*, guard *k*, and pipe *i*, all constructed and arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES A. BRETZ.

Witnesses:

THEOBALD RUFFING,
THEODORE THORN.