

J. MAXWELL.  
BURIAL-CASKET.

No. 193,014.

Patented July 10, 1877.

Fig. 1.

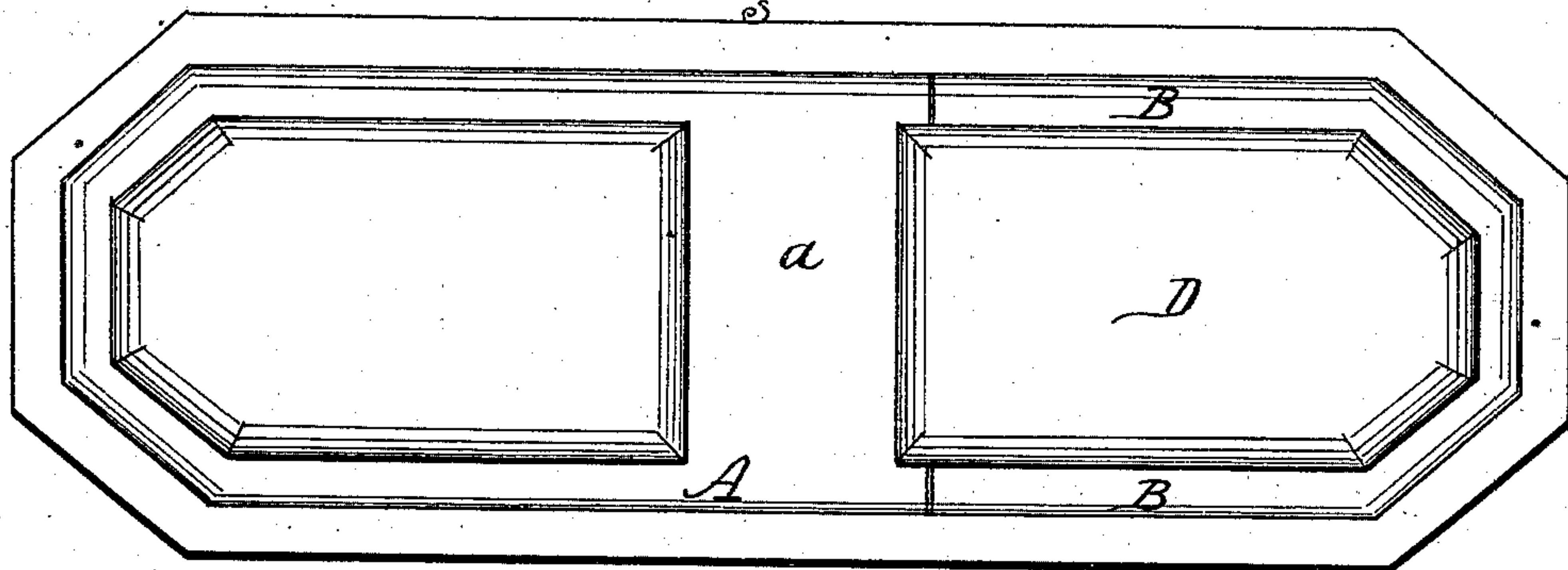


Fig. 2.

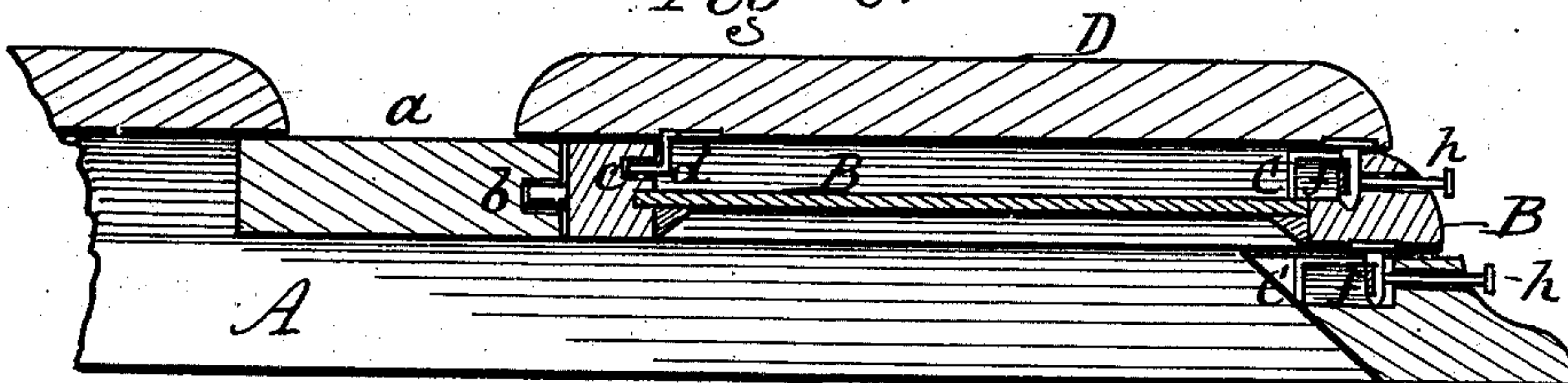


Fig. 3.

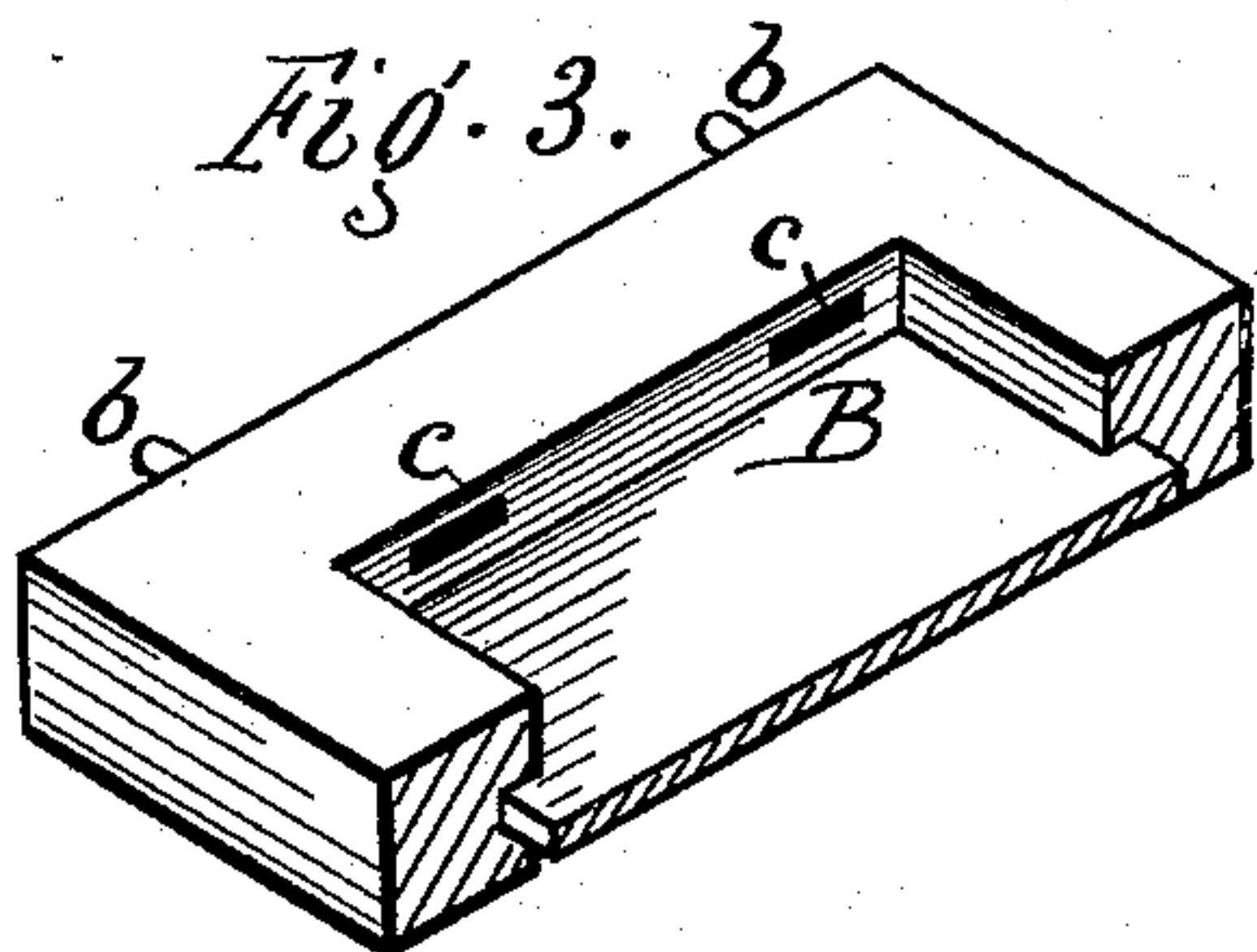


Fig. 4.

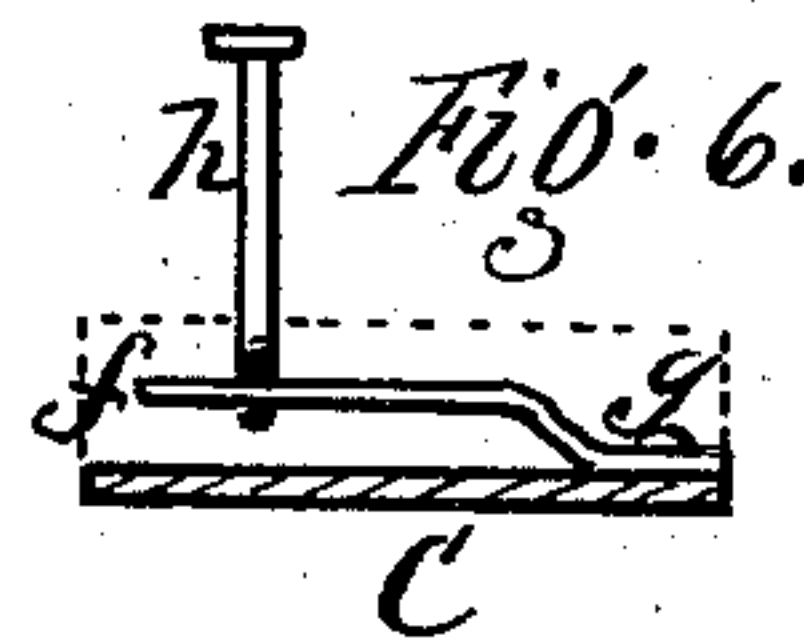
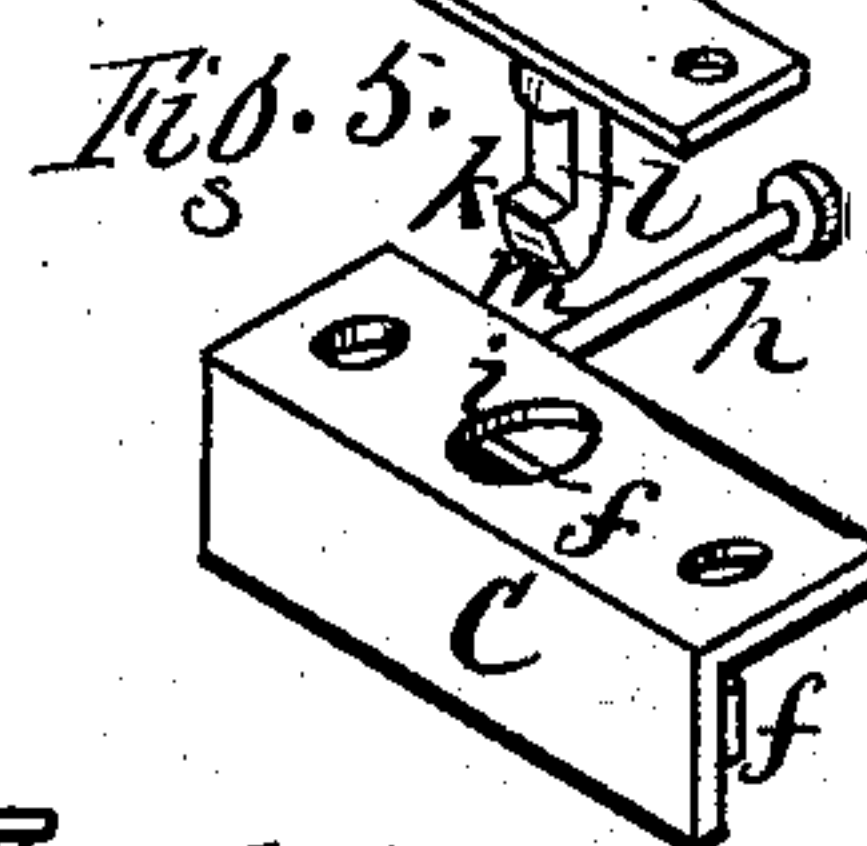
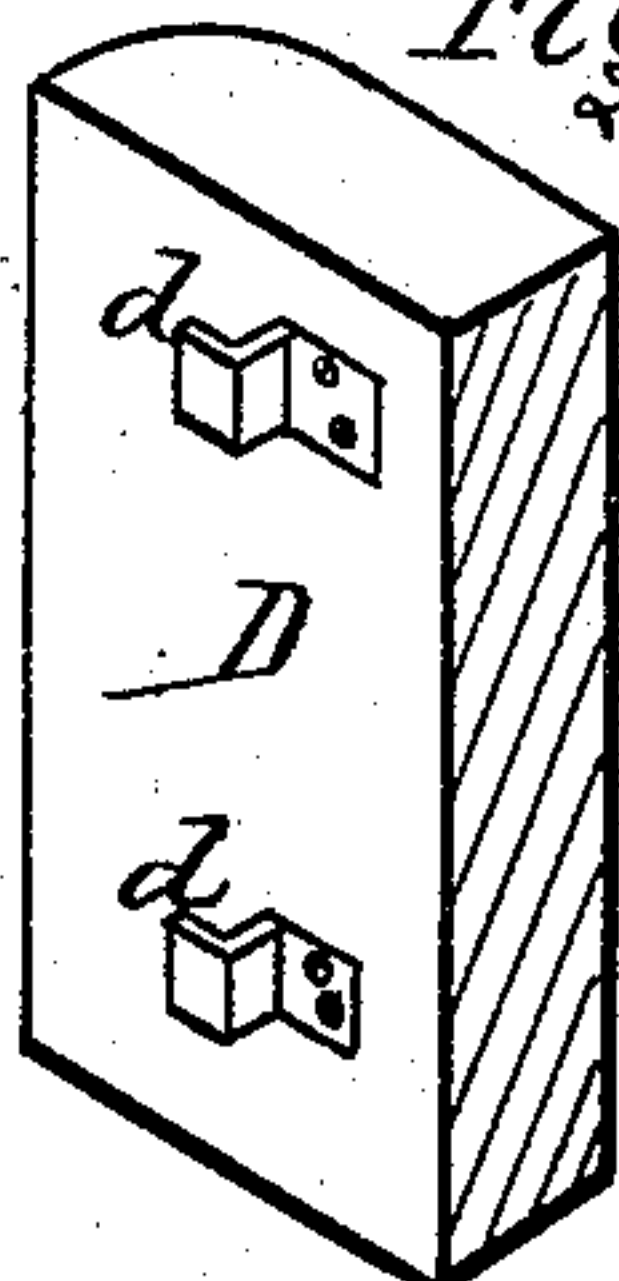
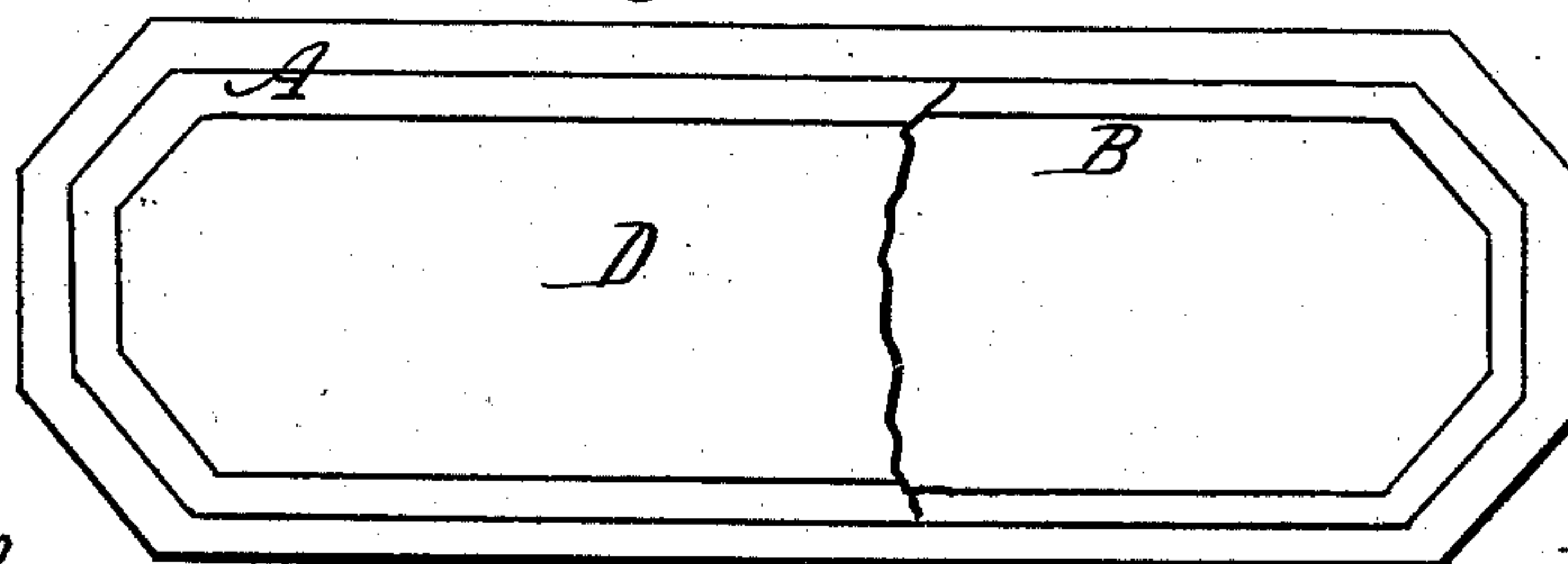


Fig. 7.



Attest.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN BURIAL-CASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **193,014**, dated July 10, 1877; application filed May 25, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN MAXWELL, of the city of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Burial-Caskets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of the lid of a burial-case, showing my improvement. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same on an enlarged scale. Figs. 3 and 4 are perspective views of the glass-frame and its covering-plate, respectively. Figs. 5 and 6 are views of the spring-catch and the hook that connects therewith. Fig. 7 is a plan of a child's casket, showing a modification.

My invention relates to the lid of the casket; and consists, essentially, of a removable glass-frame and its covering-plate, connected by devices of a peculiar kind, whereby said parts are removable together, as hereinafter more fully described and definitely claimed.

A represents the lid of the casket, which may be of any desired form and construction. B is the glass-frame covering the head of the casket, and D is the covering plate or leaf which covers the glass-frame.

In ordinary caskets the glass-frame is made fixed, or a sliding glass plate is used, which is difficult to insert or remove; and the covering-plate is so connected or attached that the two parts cannot be removed together.

I connect them, so that they may be removed separately or together, by the following means: The glass-frame fits in a seat formed at the head of the lid, so sunken that when the glass-frame is in place it rests flush with the center bar *a*. In removing the frame, therefore, it is drawn out bodily endwise, the outer end being a little elevated, to allow the catch to disengage. *b b* are dowel-pins on the outer edge of the glass-frame, which fit in corresponding sockets in the cross-bar *a*. *c c* are slots or mortises on the inner edge of the frame, and *d d* are corresponding right-angled flanges attached to the bottom of the covering-plate, and entering said slots when in proper position, as shown in Fig. 2. When the flanges

are so inserted the covering-plate is locked to the frame, and cannot rise without it. *C C* are two locks used at the outer end of the frame and covering-plate. One is attached to the end of the lid, and the other to the end of the glass-frame. In these locks are springs *f f*, made bent, as shown in Fig. 6, so as to have proper movement in and out, and attached to the locks by pivots *g g*. To the free ends of the springs are attached shafts *h h*, which extend out through the wood-work, and by which the springs are operated. *i i* are holes through the lock-cases, coinciding with the springs, so that when the catches enter the holes they will engage with the springs. *k k* are catches on the under sides of the covering-plate and glass-frame, respectively. They are notched out, as shown at *l l*, Fig. 5, to receive the springs, and have wedge-shaped ends *m m*, which depress the springs in entering, and then catch under them.

When these catches are engaged, as shown in Fig. 2, the covering-plate and frame are locked together, and also to the end of the casket, and as the other end is also secured by the devices before described, said parts form a fixture with the casket; but the covering-plate can be disengaged from the glass-frame readily by releasing its lock, or both can be disengaged as one fixture from the casket by releasing the other lock, said covering-plate and frame being securely fastened together at such removal.

The child's casket shown in Fig. 7 may be secured in the same manner, and, if desired, clamps and screws may be employed. This casket differs from that shown in Fig. 1, by having the glass-frame cover the whole top of the casket, and in such case the lower or inner face of the covering-plate may be lined with cloth or fabric, rayed or arranged in any ornamental form, so that when the lid is thrown open it will show through the glass.

By the means above described I produce a glass-frame and covering-plate which are readily insertible and removable, either separately or together—a desideratum in caskets, since in ordinary caskets, in order to remove the glass, the covering-plate must be first removed, and even then the glass frame or plate is not easily taken out. It will be seen that

these parts are simply lifted off and put on in my invention.

In the child's casket shown in Fig. 7 the glass lid may be hinged to the top of the casket, to enable it to be opened and closed.

What I claim as new is—

In a burial-casket, the combination, with the glass-frame B and covering-plate D, of the dowels *b* and flanges *d* at one end, and the locks C C, with springs *f* and catches *k*, at

the other, arranged as described, and operating in the manner and for the purpose specified.

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

JOHN MAXWELL.

Witnesses:

R. F. OSGOOD,  
JACOB SPAHN.