

(No Model.)

M. GOFF.  
BURIAL CASE.

No. 251,432.

Patented Dec. 27, 1881.

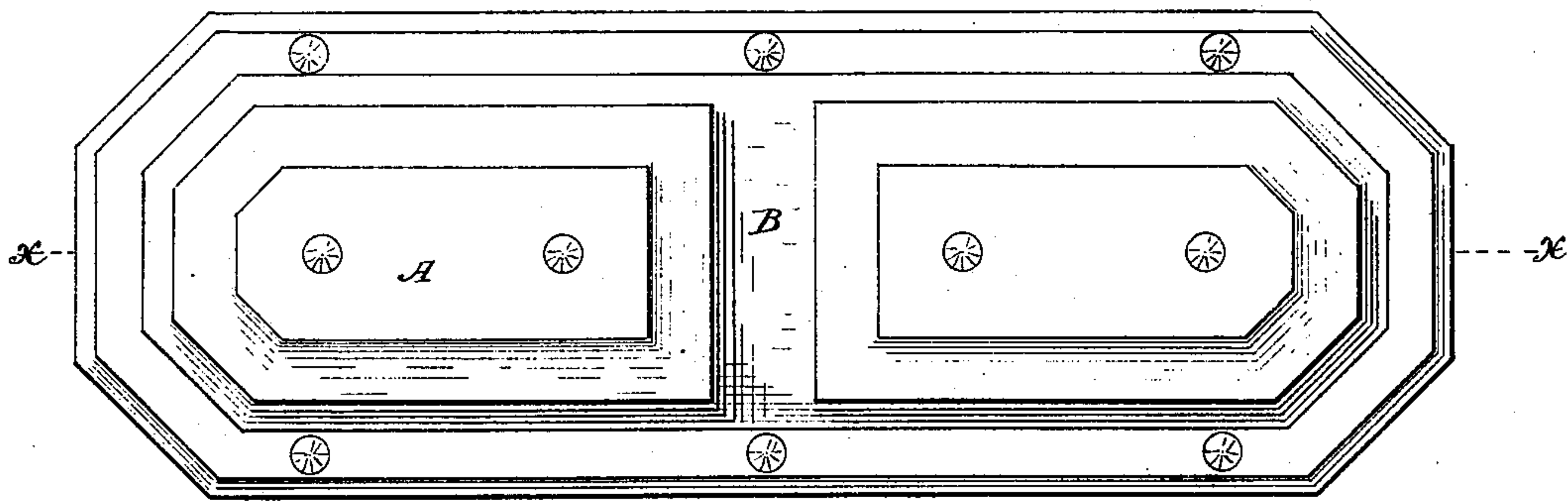


Fig 1

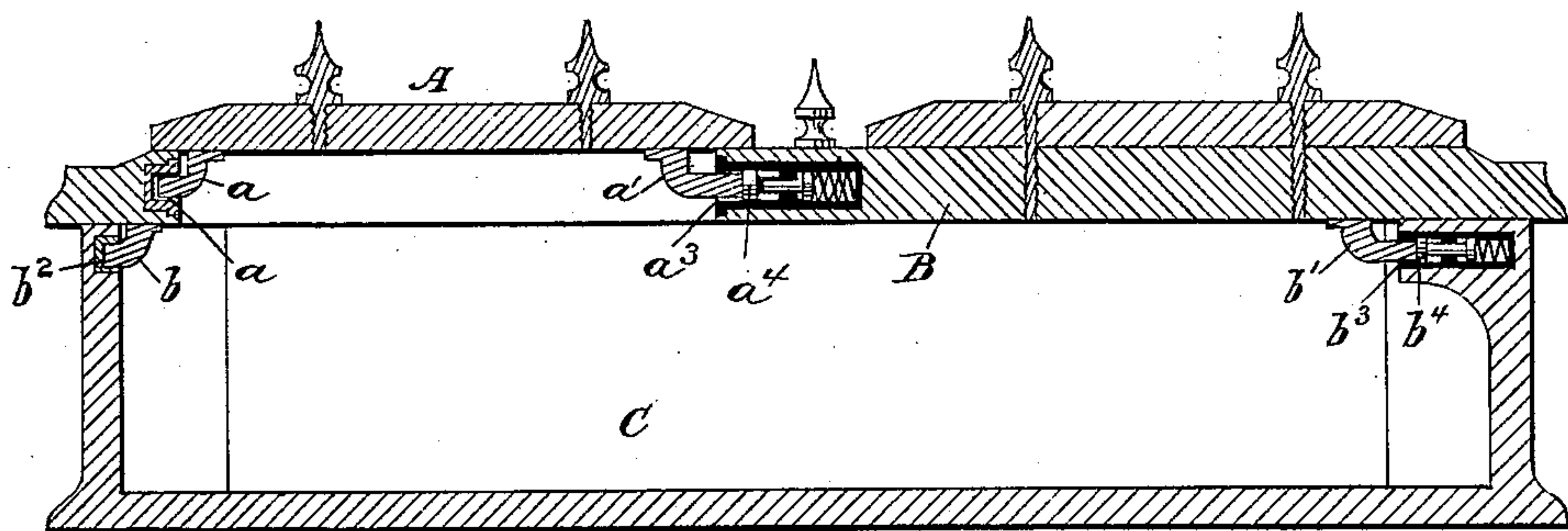


Fig 2

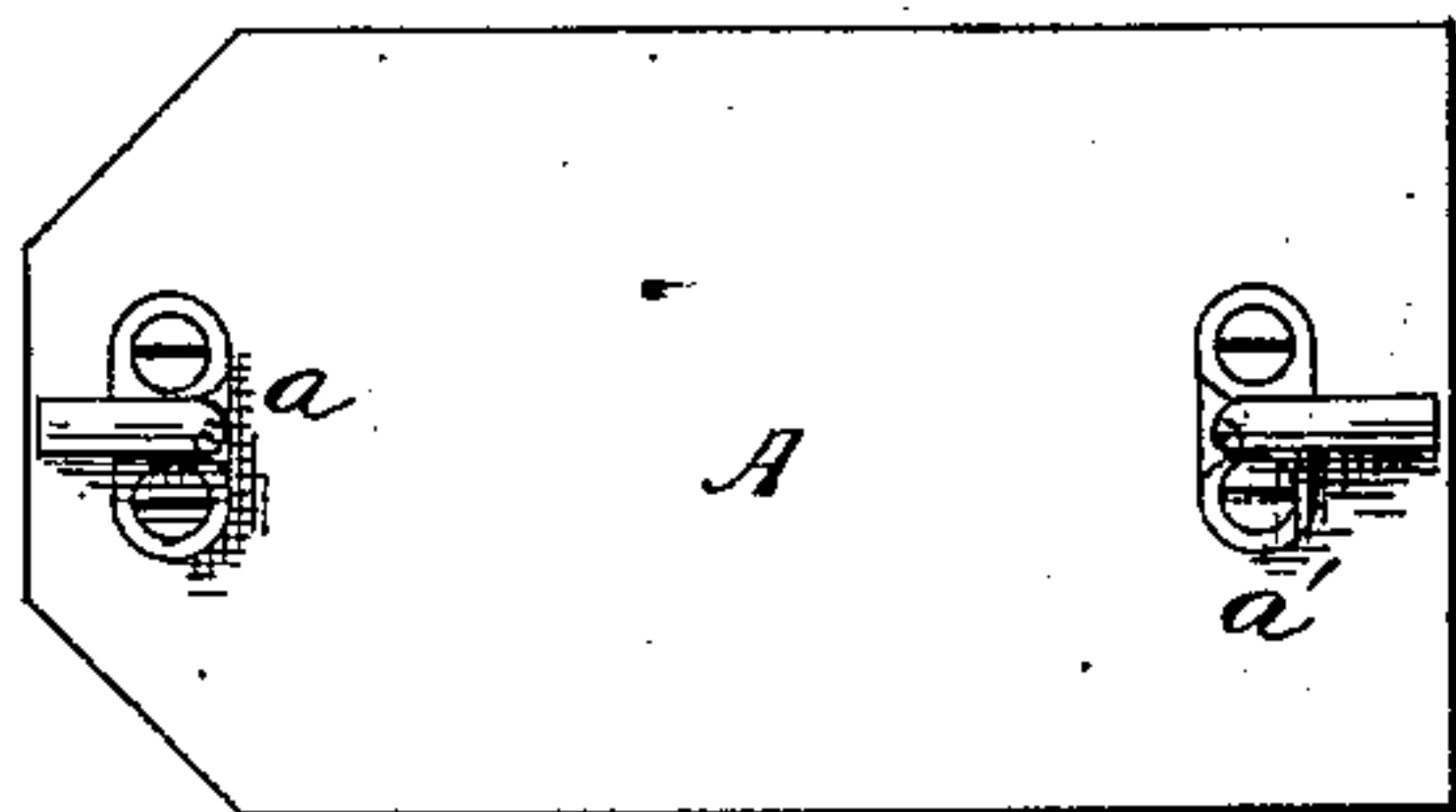


Fig 3

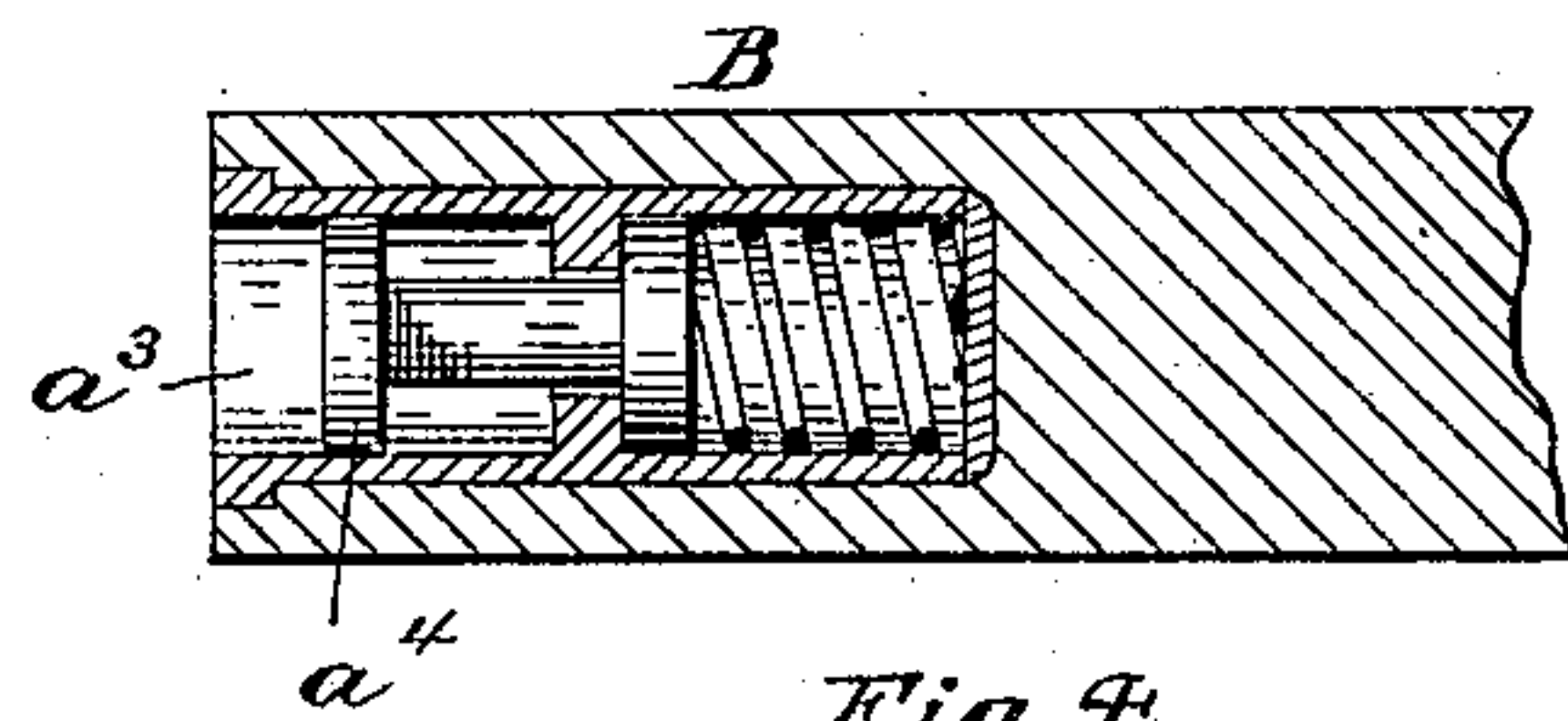


Fig 4

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORTIMER GOFF, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
FRANCIS H. HILL, OF SAME PLACE.

## BURIAL-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 251,432, dated December 27, 1881.

Application filed October 28, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MORTIMER GOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Cases, which are set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a burial-case embodying my improvements; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section of the same, taken on the line  $xx$  of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a bottom plan view of the face-plate, and Fig. 4 a detail view of the dowel and its socket with the surrounding portion of the case.

My invention relates to the mode of fastening the cover of the coffin to the case thereof.

My invention consists of the special fastenings hereinafter described, by which a coffin-top is fastened to the case, or the face-plate is fastened to the coffin-top, when the part to be fastened lies directly upon the part to which it is to be fastened, and can be readily fastened thereto or entirely detached therefrom, substantially as hereinafter fully shown and described.

In the drawings, A represents a face-plate, and B the top of a coffin. To this face-plate are secured, at its ends, the dowels  $a$   $a'$ , which project horizontally in opposite directions.

$a^2$   $a^3$  are sockets in the top B, one of which is provided with a spring-bottom,  $a^4$ , against which one of the dowels is pressed to admit of the placing of the other dowel down opposite its socket in attaching the face-plate to the top of the coffin. The dowels are attached to the under sides of the face-plate, and extend horizontally in opposite directions, their remote ends being so far apart that they cannot both pass in front of their respective sockets at the same time.

To attach the face-plate to the top of the

coffin, it is placed on the top, so that one of the dowels will pass into the socket having the spring-bottom, and by pressing the spring-bottom back the dowel enters that socket far enough to admit of the other dowel passing down in front of its socket. The face-plate then slides along, and this dowel passes into its socket, the spring in the other socket keeping the dowel in place. To remove the face-plate, it is necessary to slide it laterally, causing one of the dowels to compress the spring in the bottom of its socket till the opposite dowel is removed from its socket, when that end of the face-plate can be raised, and then, by a lateral movement of the face-plate in the other direction, it is removed entirely from the top of the coffin.

The top B is secured to the case proper, C, in a similar manner by means of the dowels  $b$   $b'$ , sockets  $b^2$   $b^3$ , and spring-bottom  $b^4$ .

The face-plate has knobs  $a^5$ , by means of which it is handled. The knobs  $b^5$  serve as handles for the top B.

It will be observed that by using my fastening I am able to simply place the top B directly on top of the case of the coffin without ratching or grooving, and in the same manner I place the face-plate directly upon the top of the coffin; and they are readily secured in place without projecting hasps or catches.

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

The combination, in a coffin, of dowels projecting horizontally in opposite directions with sockets for receiving the same and a spring for holding the parts in position, substantially as specified and shown.

MORTIMER GOFF.

Witnesses:

GEO. R. CUTLER,  
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