

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. J. SLEVIN.

REFRIGERATING CATAFALQUE.

No. 273,771.

Patented Mar. 13, 1883.

Fig. 1.

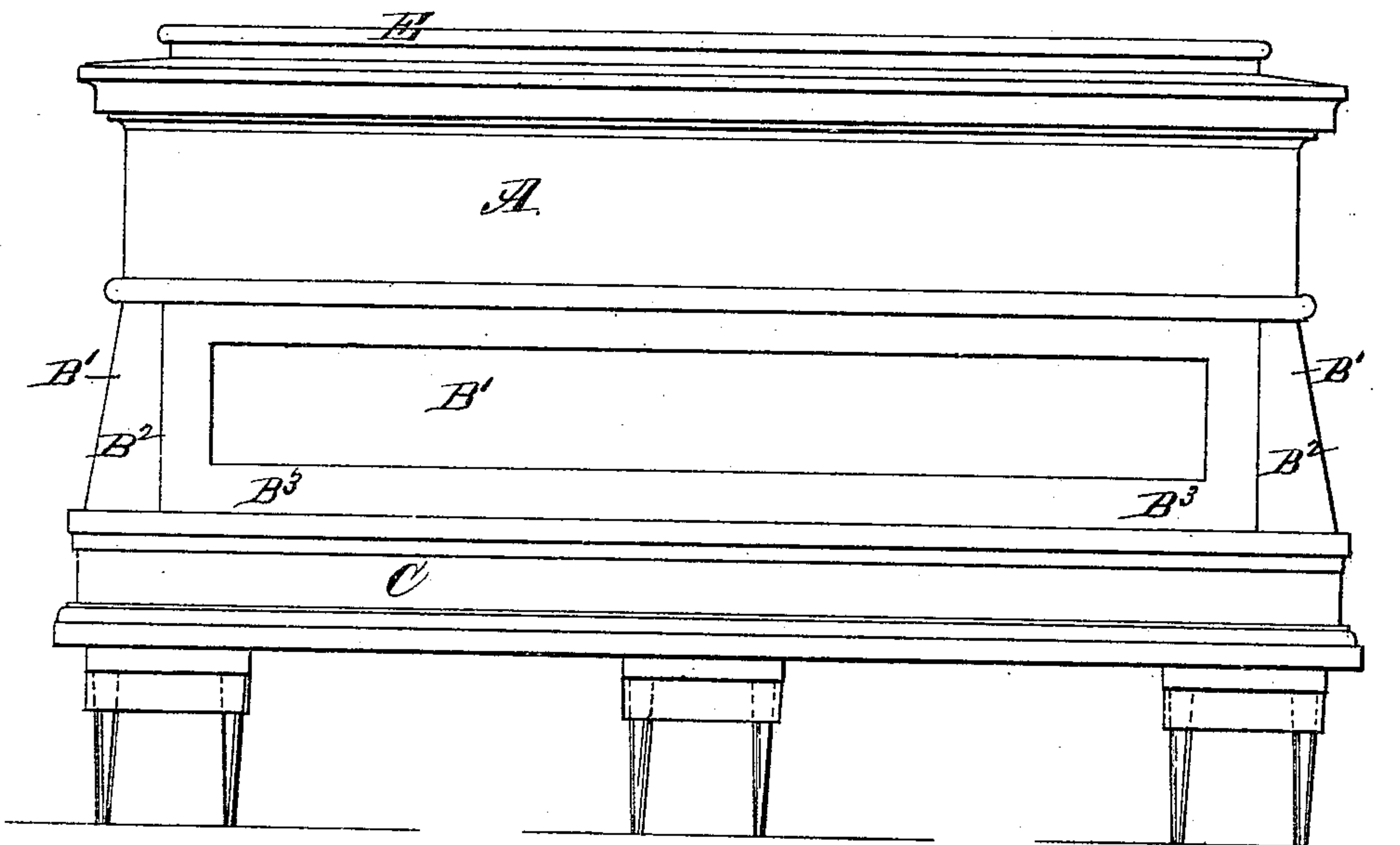
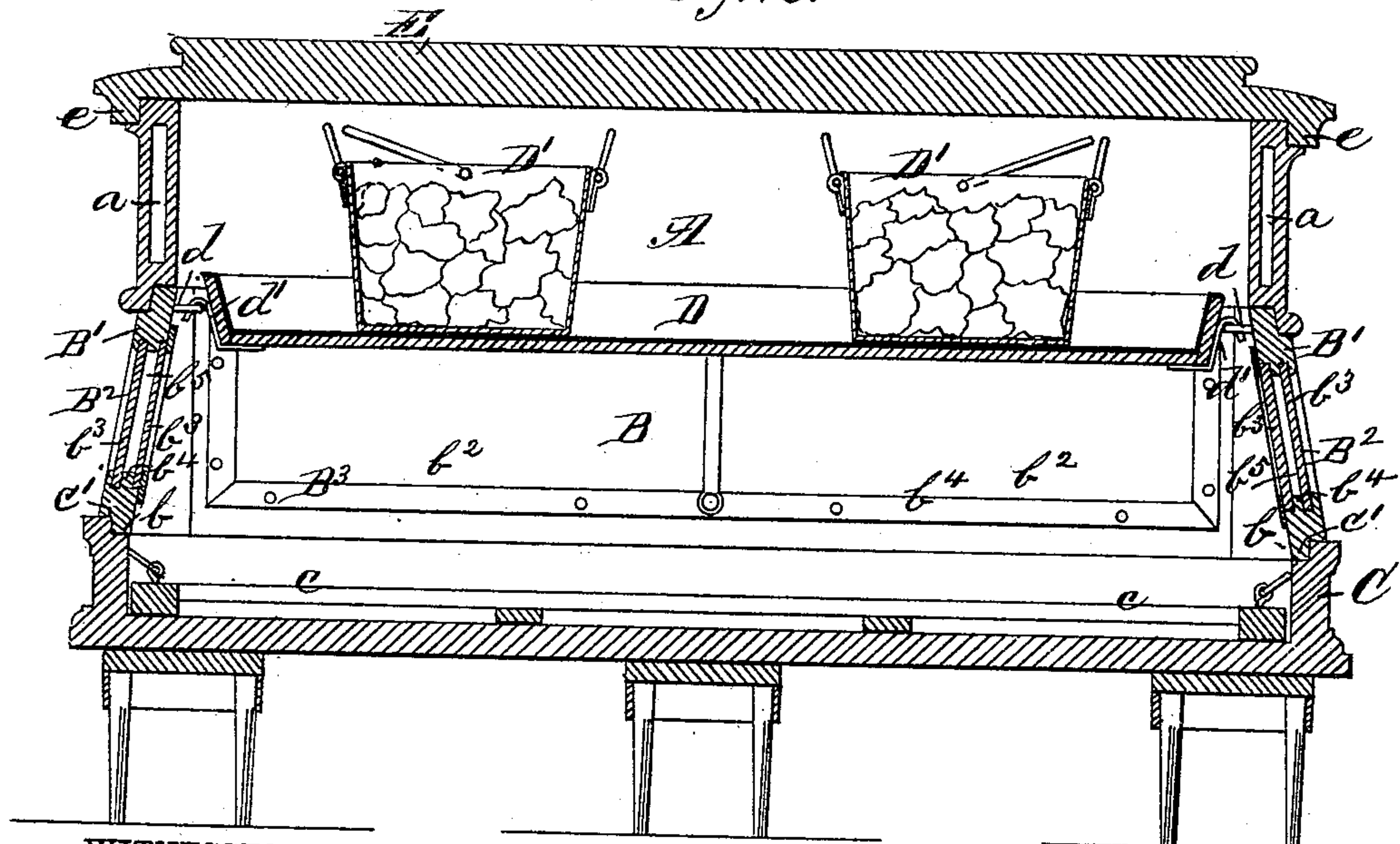


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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H. L. Bennett.

INVENTOR

James J. Slevin

(No Model.)

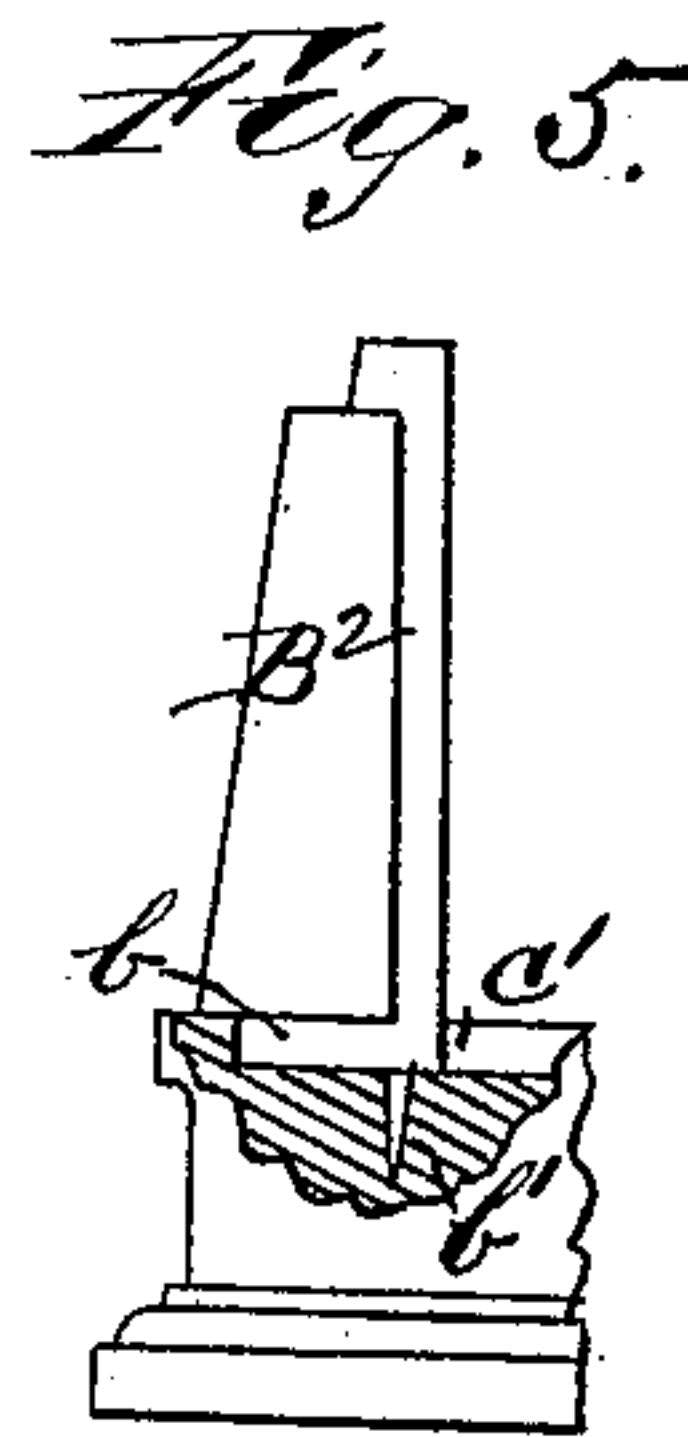
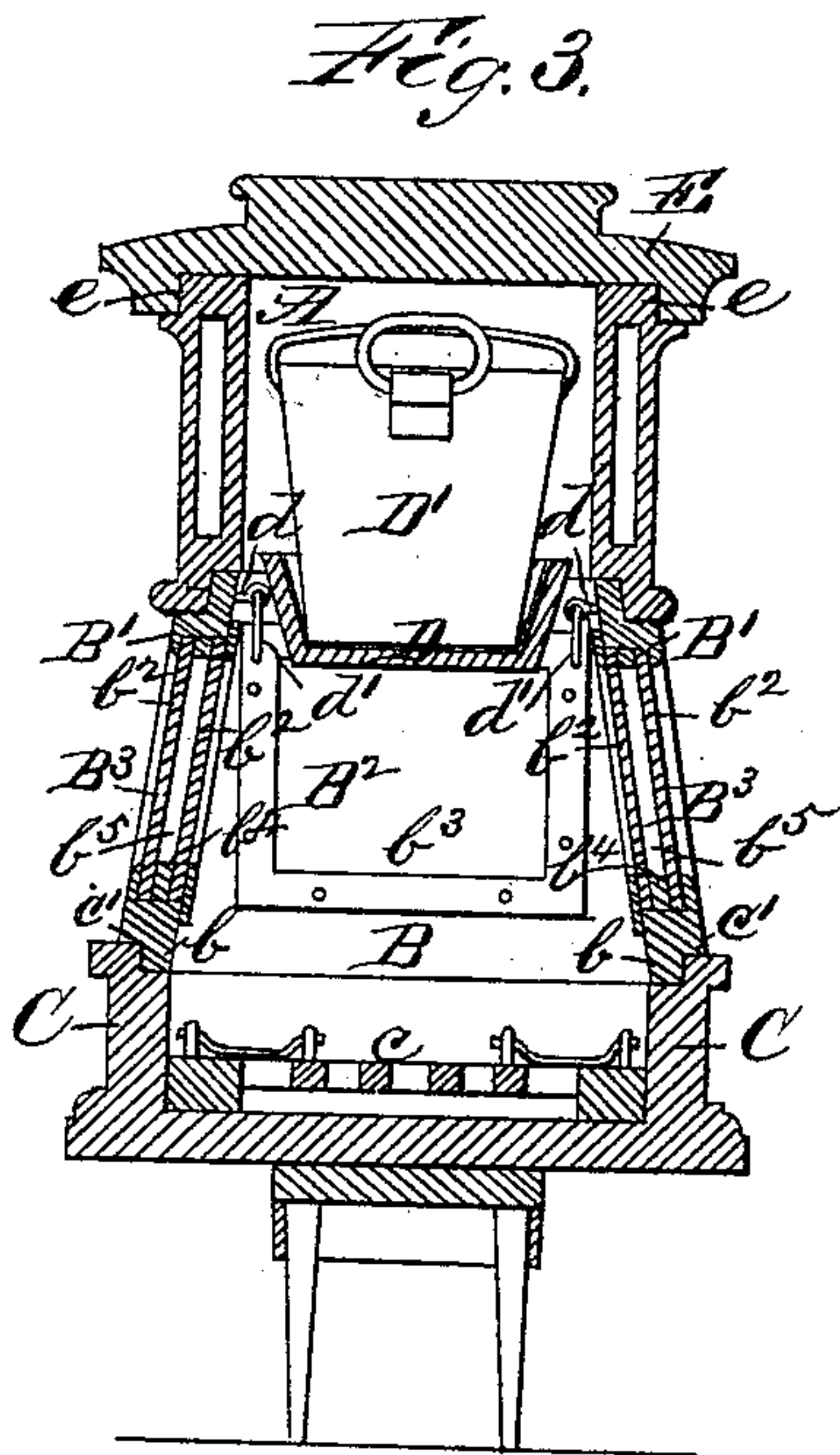
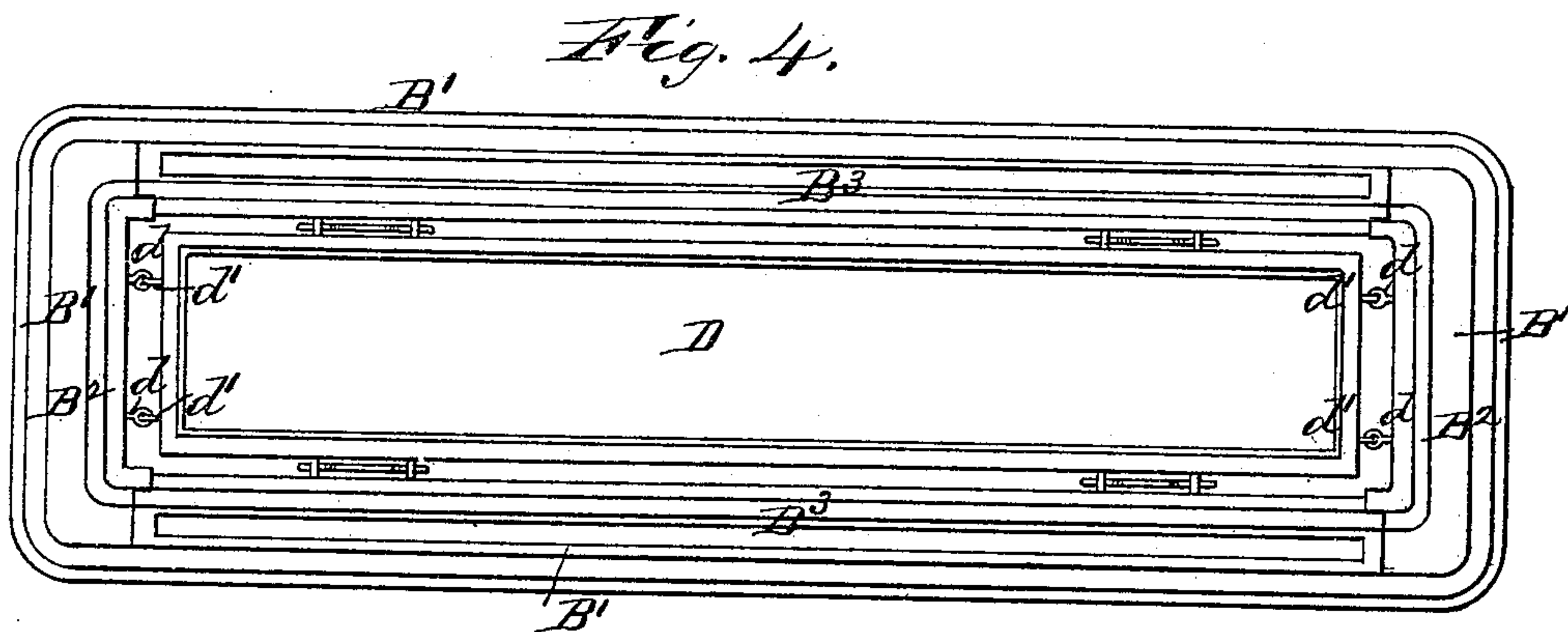
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES J. SLEVIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

REFRIGERATING-CATAFALQUE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 273,771, dated March 13, 1883.

Application filed July 15, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES JOSEPH SLEVIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Refrigerating-Catafalques, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in refrigerating-catafalques or corpse-coolers, such as described in the specification annexed to Letters Patent of the United States granted to me and bearing date on or about the 14th day of July, 1874, and numbered 153,022; and it consists, first, in improvements in the construction of the various parts, whereby the device may be more readily taken apart in small sections for transportation; and it further consists in the peculiar construction of the walls of the respective portions of the device, whereby they are enabled more effectually to preserve an equal temperature within the catafalque, and to the means of supporting, holding, and supplying the ice or refrigerating material within the device.

That my invention may be fully understood, I will describe the same in detail by aid of the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

In the said drawings, Figure 1 is an external side view, Fig. 2 a vertical section, and Fig. 3 a transverse section, of a refrigerating-catafalque or corpse-cooler constructed according to my invention. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the same with the cover and upper chamber removed. Fig. 5 is a detail view of parts.

In each of the views similar letters of reference indicate like parts wherever they occur.

The catafalque is formed with two chambers, A B, the chamber A being the ice or refrigerating chamber and B the corpse-chamber.

C is a foundation-piece, of rectangular form, adapted to receive a stretcher or removable platform, *c*, upon which the corpse is laid out. This rectangular foundation-piece C is also formed with a groove, *c'*, all round its upper edges for the reception of the extensions *b* of the various sections or portions forming the walls B' of the corpse-chamber B, and also with stud-holes for the reception of pins *b'*, extending from the under side of the corner-pieces of the end sections, B², of the walls B' for the purpose of more securely holding the same in

position, as hereinafter explained. Each of the end sections, B², and side sections, B³, of the walls B' is formed with double glass panels *b² b² b³ b³*, which are held apart and fixed air-tight in the sections of the wall B' by means of beads or strips of wood *b⁴ b⁴*, or other suitable material, provided with a suitable packing means, leaving a dead-air space, *b⁵*, between the panels. The edges of the parts B² B² B³ B³ of the walls B', where they come together or against the foundation-piece C or the walls of the upper chamber, A, are so formed that a perfect lap or sealed joint shall be obtained, so that when the parts are in proper position with a corpse laid out within the chamber B the joints shall be practically air-tight.

Each end of the upper portions of the walls B' is provided with loops or eyes *d* for the reception of hooks or catches *d'*, extending from the end of a trough, D, which serves to support the pails or receivers D', in which the ice or other refrigerating material is placed, and also as a receiver to prevent any water of condensation or any watery liquid or material being accidentally dropped or allowed to fall onto the corpse laid out below. The trough D, by aid of the hooks *d'* *d'* and loops *d* *d*, serves to hold the end sections firmly in position, thereby enabling the side sections, B³ B³, by simply tilting the upper structure on one side or alternately one side and the other side, to be one or both removed for the purpose of putting flowers, ornaments, or devices upon the corpse after it has been laid out or for other purposes without in any way disturbing the corpse or any of the other portions of the device.

The ice-chamber A is formed of a rectangular frame or structure, by preference made of wood, the sides being so formed that a hollow or dead-air space, *a*, is formed in each of the walls of the chamber A for the purpose of preventing the effect of the external atmosphere on the refrigerating material and air contained and circulating in the chamber A to and from the chamber B. The chamber A is closed at the upper end by a top or cover, E, which is so formed at *e* as to fit tightly all around the top of the walls of the chamber A, but is capable of being easily lifted off for the purpose of inserting or withdrawing the pails or receivers D', in which the ice or other refrigerating material is contained.

Although I have shown and described the walls B' of the chamber B as formed in four sections or parts, the number of sections or parts may be varied according to circumstances or the fancy of the builder or undertaker. In some cases I can form the walls B' in one piece.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, in a refrigerating-catafalque or corpse-cooler, is—

1. The combination of the refrigerating-chamber A, trough D, a chamber, B, formed with transparent double panels b^2 b^2 b^3 b^3 and dead-air spaces b^5 , and a foundation-piece, C, constructed and adapted for operation substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the refrigerating-chamber A, provided with a suitable cover, of the trough D, receivers D', and sectional corpse-chamber B, provided with removable side sections, B³, substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. The combination, with the refrigerating-chamber A, provided with a suitable cover, of

the trough D, receivers D', loops d , and hooks d' , or their equivalents, sectional chamber B, provided with removable sides B³, having transparent panels, and a foundation-piece, C, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. The combination, with the refrigerating-chamber A, having hollow walls provided with dead-air space a , of the removable trough D, receivers D', and a chamber, B, having transparent panels provided with intervening dead-air spaces, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

5. The combination, with the refrigerating-chamber A, having hollow walls provided with dead-air spaces a , of the removable sustaining-trough D, receivers D', and a chamber, B, formed in sections B² B³, a foundation-piece, C, and stretcher or corpse-support c , substantially as shown and described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of July, 1882.

JAMES J. SLEVIN.

Witnesses:

J. E. WARNER,
W. L. BENNEM.