

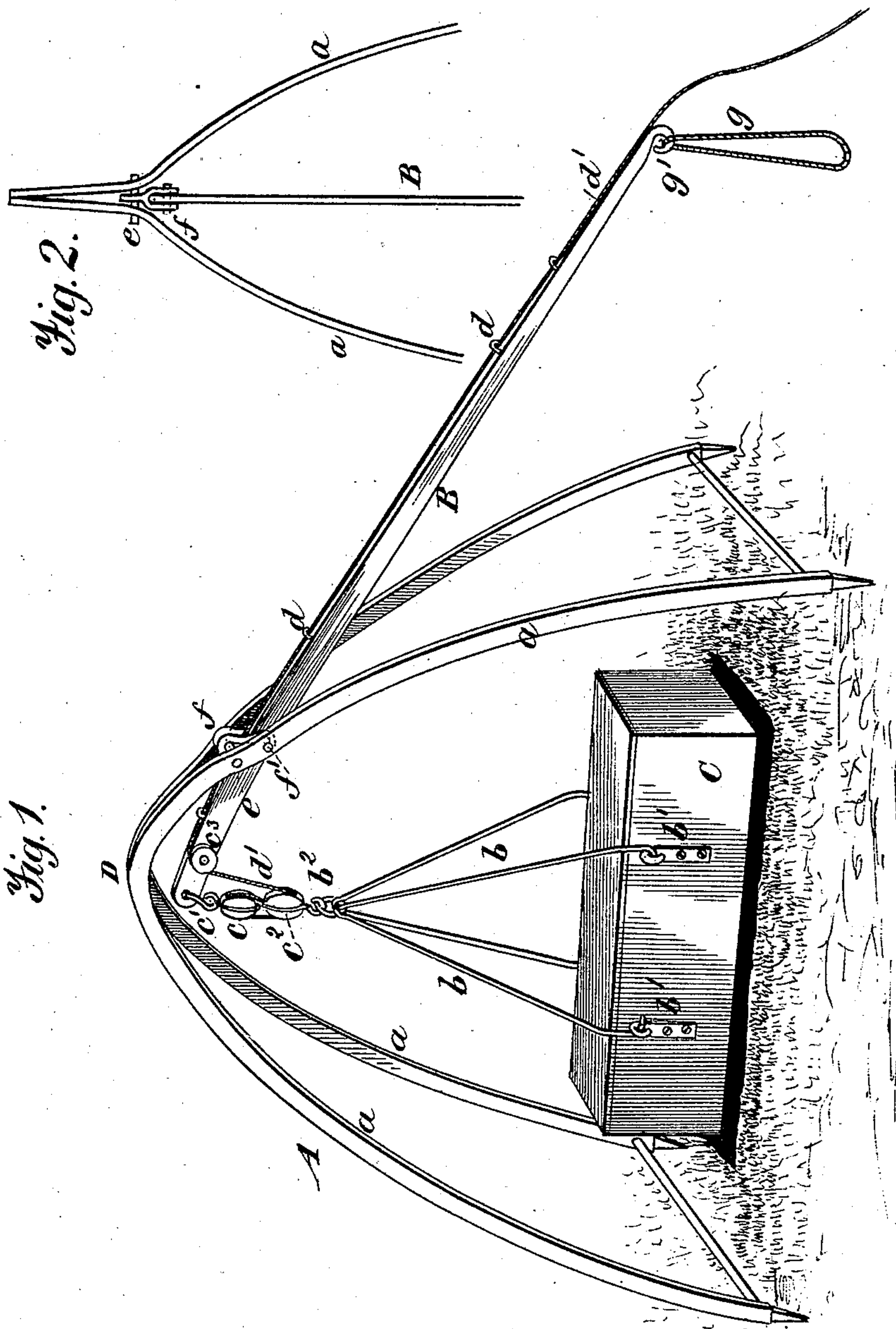
(No Model.)

A. B. MORRISON.

APPARATUS FOR LOWERING COFFINS.

No. 285,149.

Patented Sept. 18, 1883.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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APPARATUS FOR LOWERING COFFINS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 285,149, dated September 18, 1883.

Application filed August 14, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW B. MORRISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Litchfield, in the county of Montgomery and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Lowering Coffins, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in "burial apparatus;" and it consists in arranging a series of hooks, tackle, ropes, frame, and lever whereby a coffin may be lowered into the grave by a single operator.

The object of my invention is to lower a coffin into, or raise the same out of, an excavation formed in the earth by mechanical appliances manipulated by a single operator. I attain this object by means of the peculiar construction and arrangement of the various parts of my improved mechanism, which will be more fully pointed out and described in the specification and claims, reference being had to the drawings accompanying this specification and forming a part of the same, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention, showing the device in place above the grave and coffin-box attached to lifting-rods Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a frame formed of wood or metal, (preferably of metal,) said frame being formed of two bows or half-hoops, the center of the bows being drawn together at the top D and projecting outward in curved form from said center D, making four legs, *a*, said legs terminating in four sharp projecting points, *a'*, said points adapted to pierce the ground to hold the frame steady and prevent any shifting or sliding.

A short distance downward from point D, on one side, a pin or cross-bar, *e*, is secured by its ends to legs *a*, the ends of said cross-bar preferably entering perforations in said legs, holding the same apart and in position, and forming a bearing-space between said legs. A double hook, *f*, one end of which is

bent to fit over the cross-bar *e*, the opposite ends bent to the form of eyes, through which a projecting pin, *f'*, passes. Said pin is formed in the lever B a short distance from its inner end. The top of lever B has secured in its upper edge eyebolts *d*, adapted to receive lifting-rope *d'*. The outer end of lever B is curved backward to form an eye or ring, *g'*, into which is secured a loose loop foot-rope, *g*. The inner end of lever B is provided with an eyebolt, *c'*, adapted to receive a hook on the end of tackle-block *c*, below which is held, raised, or lowered a tackle-block, *c'*, said block having an eye-hook adapted to engage with a ring, *b'*. Metal rods *b* are secured at one end to ring *b'*, and their opposite ends are provided with hooks or lateral projections adapted to engage with eye-plates *b'*, secured to the box C, as shown. One end of rope *d'* is secured to the upper end of tackle-block *c'*. Said rope passes over sheave or tackle block *c*, under block *c'*, upward and over a pulley, *c'*, secured on the side of lever B near its inner end, thence through eyebolts *d* to the outer end of lever B, where it can be readily grasped by the operator.

The operation is as follows: Box C is placed in position above the grave and under the center of the frame A. Hooks or rods *b* are attached to ring-plates *b'*. The operator standing at the outer end of lever B draws the rope *d'* tightly, then placing his foot in loop *g*, pressing downward, the inner end of lever B rises, lifting the box, when, the operator releasing the rope *d'*, the box is lowered into the excavation, irons *b'* unhooked or released from plates *b*, the tackle hoisted, and the frame removed. Thus a coffin is lowered into the grave by a single operator without risk or delay and with ease, thereby dispensing with the four attendants usual in such cases.

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

1. A device for lowering coffins into a grave, consisting of a metal frame having foot-projections, a lever fulcrumed within said frame and near the top of the same, said lever having a foot-rope at its outer end, a lifting-rope, pulley, tackle-blocks, and connecting-

rods, the whole adapted to be placed over an open grave, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the frame A, having four feet, a , the cross-bars a' , and the cross-pine e , with the lever B, projection f' , hook f , pulley c^3 , eyebolt c' , tackle c and c^2 , ring b^2 , connecting-rods b , box C, rope d' , and the foot-rope g , all arranged and operated substantially as shown and specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW BROWN MORRISON.

Witnesses:

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