

(No Model.)

E. HEDGES.

HEAD REST FOR COFFINS.

No. 290,682.

Patented Dec. 25, 1883.

Fig 1.

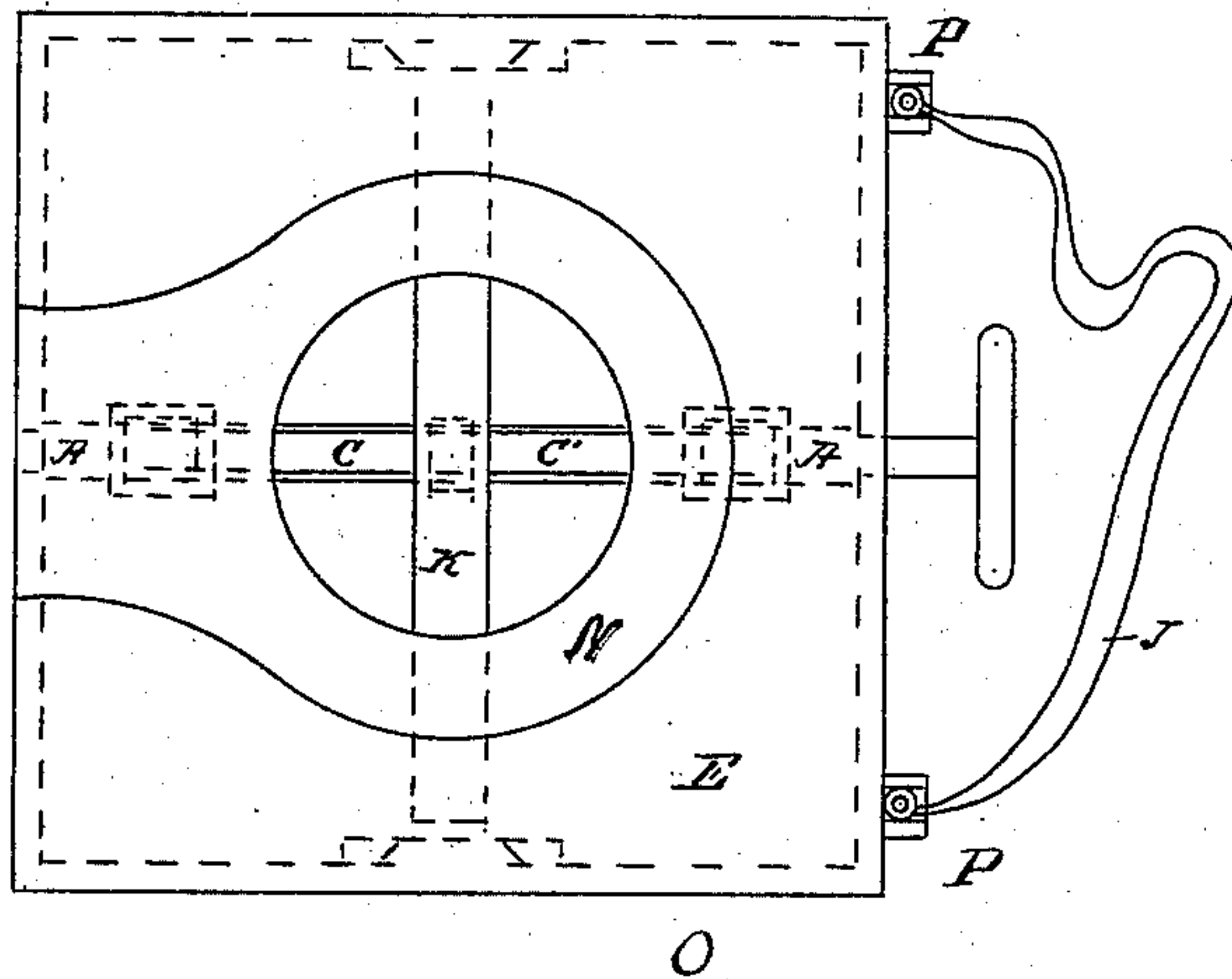
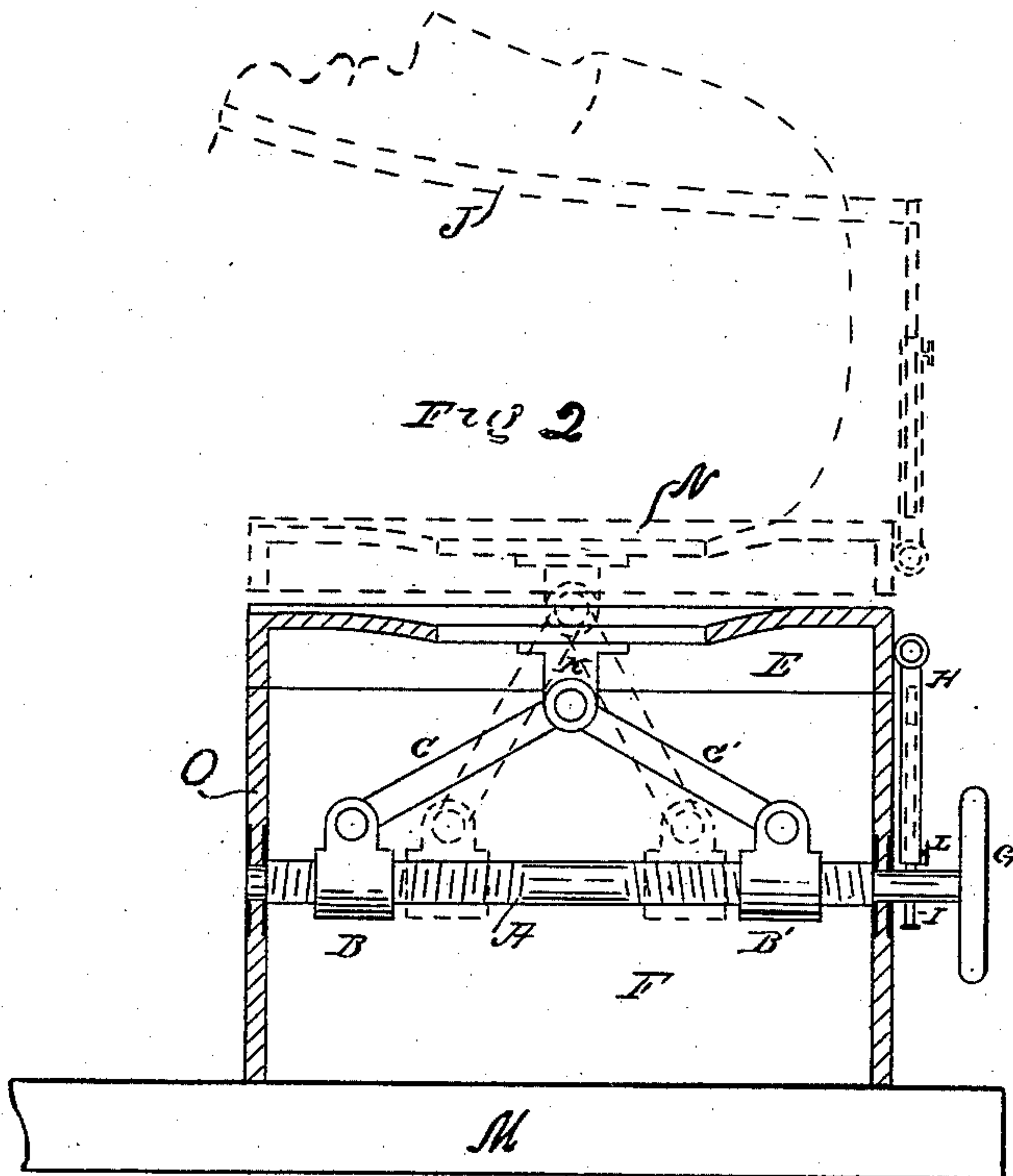


Fig 2.



Attest.
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HEAD-REST FOR COFFINS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 290,682, dated December 25, 1883.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIJAH HEDGES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Head-Rests Attached to Cooling-Boards for the Use of Undertakers, which has never been patented in any country to my knowledge, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and efficient means of adjusting the heads of dead bodies, to give them a natural appearance, upon the cooling-board, at the same time supporting the chin, and thus make easy what has always been a disagreeable and troublesome task to the undertaker. I accomplish this by the simple mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of the machine. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through its center, showing by dotted lines the position of the head upon the rest, the occipital portion fitting into a circular opening or depression on the top of the same, with the chin supported by the elastic strap J.

A more minute description of the invention is as follows: The frame-work of the head-rest may be made of wood or metal, about six inches square, as shown at O O, and firmly attached to the cooling-board M. On the top of the rest is a movable piece, N, circled out to fit the back part of the head, beneath the center of which is a cross-bar jointed to the arms *c c* at point K. The arms *c c* are separately jointed with the nuts B B, through which

passes the right-and-left screw A, and turned by the hand-screw G. The mechanism is as follows: By turning the hand-screw G the right-and-left screw A causes the nuts B B to approach each other, causing the movable plate N to rise by means of the arms *c c*. The same can be lowered by a reverse movement.

In Fig. 2 are shown at H, and in Fig. 1 at P P, two small hollow columns, made of wood or metal, attached to the back part of the rest in a perpendicular position. Within each of these columns is a small rod, I, secured by a thumb-screw, L. The object of these columns with movable rods working in them is to form an adjustable attachment for the elastic chin-supporter J, shown in Fig. 1.

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

1. A head-rest adapted for use with a coffin, consisting of the frame-work O O, adjustable by means of the right-and-left screw A and nuts B B, with arms C C, and movable plate N, substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.

2. A head-rest adapted for use with coffin or cooling-board, consisting of the adjustable frame-work O O, with the hollow columns H, with rod I and elastic chin-supporter J, substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.

ELIJAH HEDGES.

Witnesses:

E. G. WHEELER,
WM. RUSSELL.