

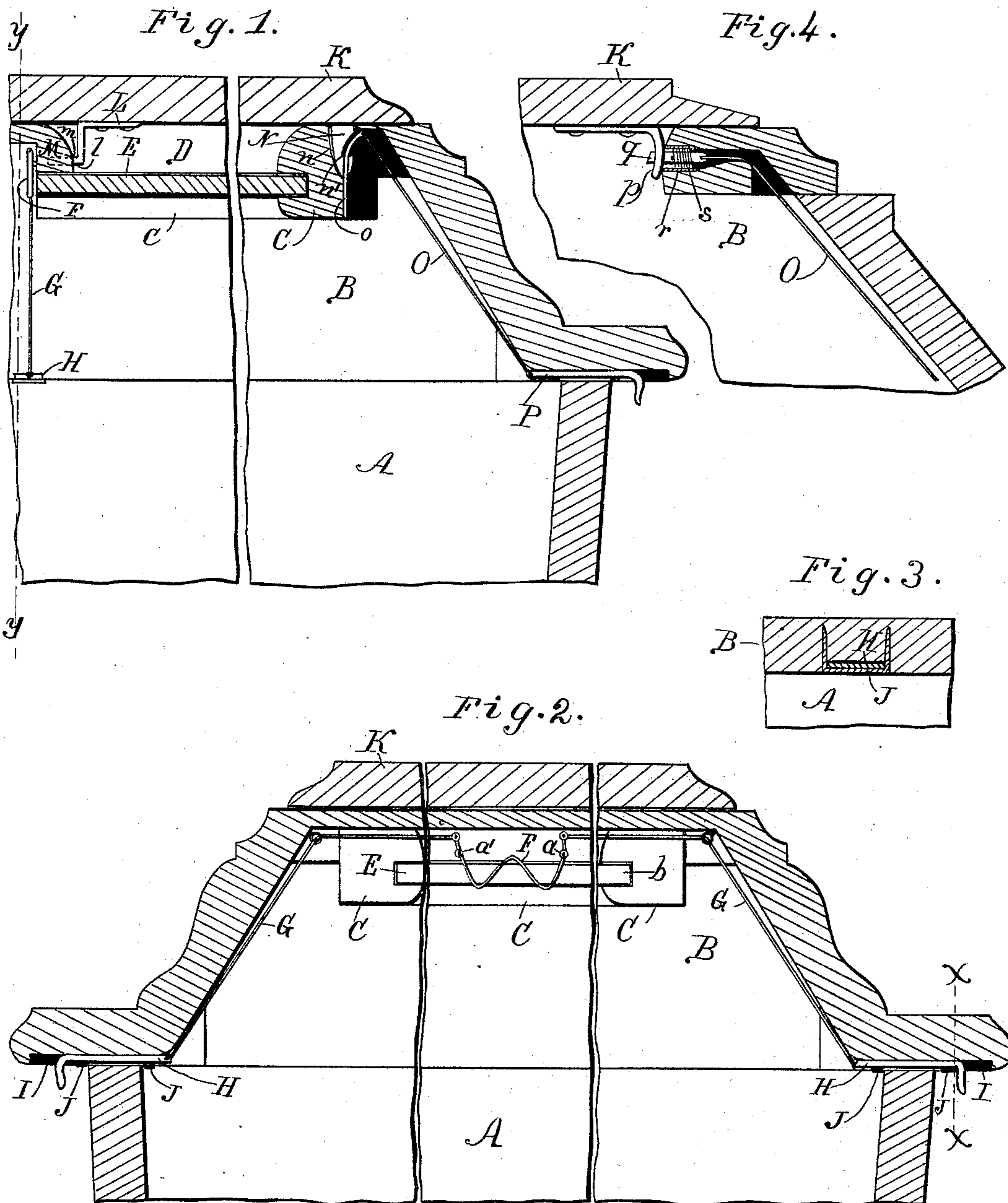
(No Model.)

G. B. MARKLE, Jr.

COFFIN.

No. 314,538.

Patented Mar. 24, 1885.



WITNESSES:

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GEORGE B. MARKLE, JR., OF HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA.

COFFIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 314,538, dated March 24, 1885.

Application filed June 6, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. MARKLE, Jr., of Hazleton, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Coffins and Caskets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming part of this specification.

10 This invention relates to the face plate and cap of a coffin or casket lid.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is part of a central longitudinal section of a coffin or casket, showing means for securing the face glass and 15 cap of the lid. Fig. 2 is part of a cross-section of a coffin on line *y y* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section on line *x x* of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a partial sectional view showing a modification.

A indicates the body of a coffin, and B the 20 lid. The underside of the lid is provided with cleats C on three sides of the opening D for receiving and holding a face-glass, E. The glass is placed in position in the cleats by sliding it toward the head from the foot, and 25 to prevent it from becoming accidentally displaced in case the coffin should be stood up on end, or be otherwise elevated out of horizontal position, I provide a stop for the glass consisting of a bent wire, F, pivoted at two points, *a*, 30 near its ends to one of the cleats C in such manner that the central part of the wire shall extend down and rest against the exposed edge *b* of the glass. The wire being flexible, if the ends thereof are spread apart, the central part 35 will bend up between the pivotal points *a* out of contact with the edge of the glass, so that the latter may be drawn out of the cleats.

To adapt this wire stop to be operated from without the coffin after the lid is secured down 40 so that the coffin may be opened, if desired, without the necessity of removing the lid, I connect a wire or cord, G, to each end of the wire stop and extend these cords to opposite sides of the coffin, where they are attached to 45 slides H, loosely confined in recesses I in the lower edge or surface of the lid. The slides H are confined in the recesses I by staples J. With this construction, by drawing both slides outward in opposite directions at the same 50 time, the wire stop will be elevated above the glass, so that the latter may be pushed par-

tially out of the cleats by hand when it is desired to open the coffin temporarily for any purpose.

K indicates the cap or plate for covering the 55 face-glass E. Such a cap is ordinarily secured to the lid by screws, requiring much time for removing and replacing the same. To adapt the cap to be quickly secured in place or removed therefrom, I secure to the under sur- 60 face of the cap a bent catch, L, having a lip, *l*, which is adapted to be set in a recess, *m*, in the projection M on the lid in the act of placing the cap over the glass. This catch is located near the edge of the cap, which is turned 65 toward the foot, and there may be two or more of such catches, if desired. Near the opposite edge of the cap, on the under side, is secured a pin or bolt, N, which passes down through a perforation, *n*, in the lid when the 70 cap is pressed down to place. This bolt is provided with a shoulder, *n'*, which is engaged by a spring-catch, *o*, secured in an upright position to the cleat C. To the upper or free end of the spring-catch is connected a 75 wire or cord, O, which is extended to the head end of the coffin, and is attached to a slide, P, arranged in the edge of the lid in the manner of the slides above described. By pulling the slide P outward the catch *o* is drawn out of 80 engagement with the shouldered bolt N, so that the cap may be removed.

It is evident that the above-described fastening for the cap may readily be modified without changing the character of the invention. 85 In Fig. 4 I have shown a modification in which the cap is provided with a keeper, *p*, for a bolt, *q*, which latter is located in a seat, *r*, and is provided with a spiral retaining-spring, *s*. The wire or cord O is attached to the outer 90 end of the bolt *q*, and is to work in the manner above described.

Various other modifications of the fastening will suggest themselves; but the above is 95 thought sufficient to indicate the scope and intention of my improvement.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with a coffin-lid, of a removable face-glass, a flexible wire stop for holding the glass in place, which stop is sus- 100 pended or fulcrumed at two points near its ends, and the wires or cords connected to said

ends and to slides located in opposite sides of the coffin, which slides project outside the coffin, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, with a coffin-lid and a
5 cap for covering a face-glass, of a shouldered bolt at the forward end of the cap, a spring-catch for engaging the shouldered bolt, a slide projecting outward through the head of the

coffin, and a wire or cord connecting the spring-catch and slide, substantially as herein 10 shown and described.

GEO. B. MARKLE, JR.

Witnesses:

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