

(No Model.)

S. COOMBE.
COFFIN.

No. 321,280.

Patented June 30, 1885.

Fig. 1.

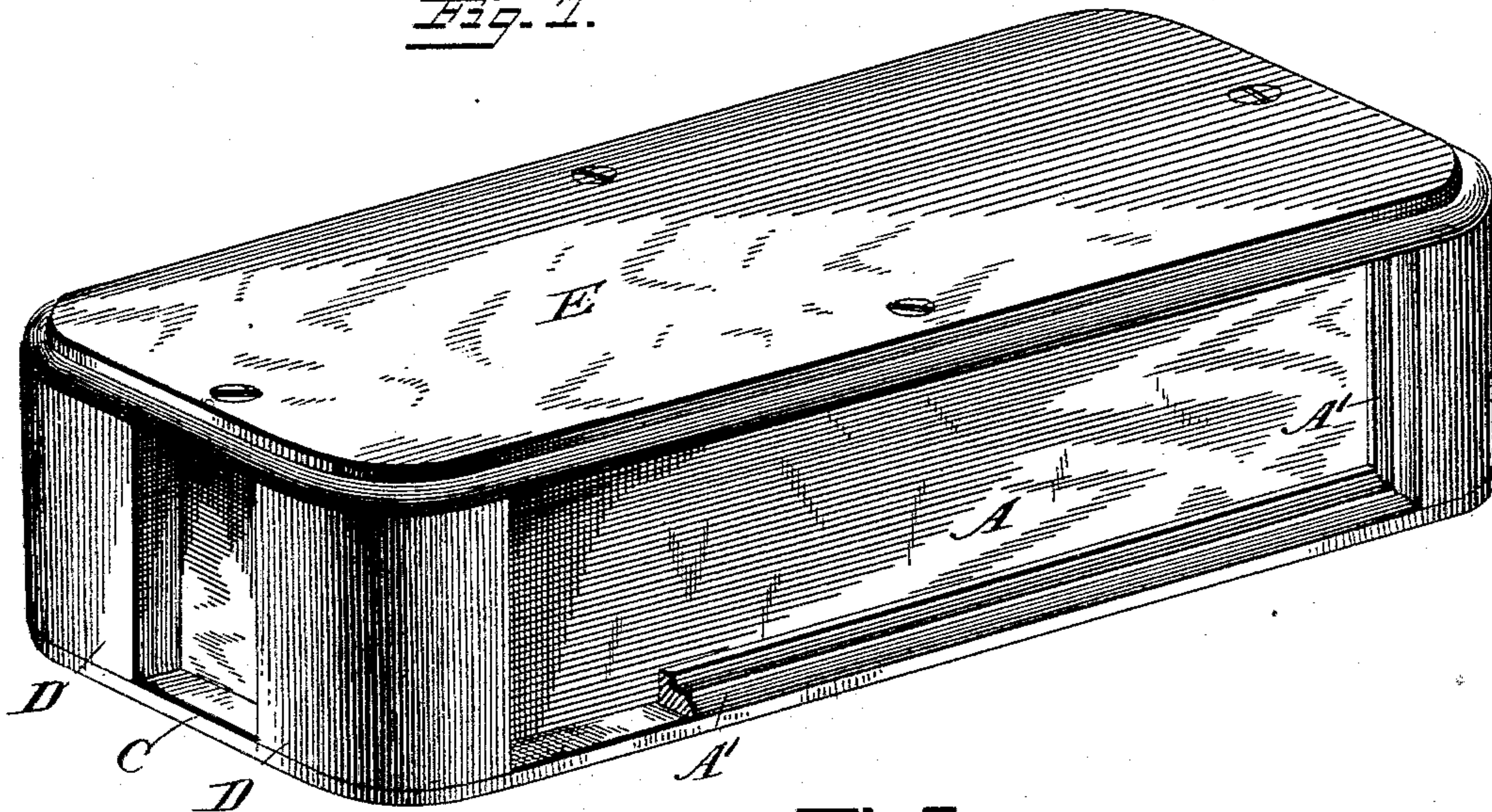


Fig. 2.

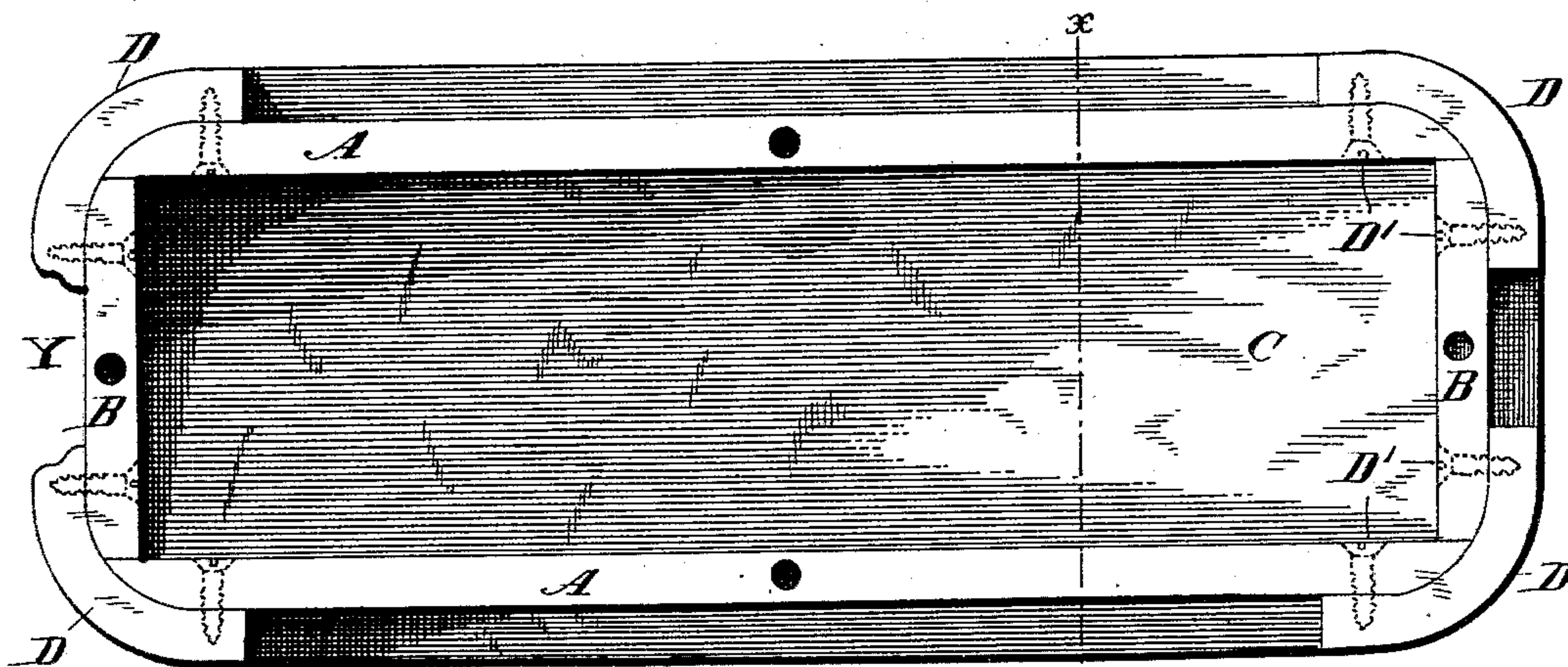
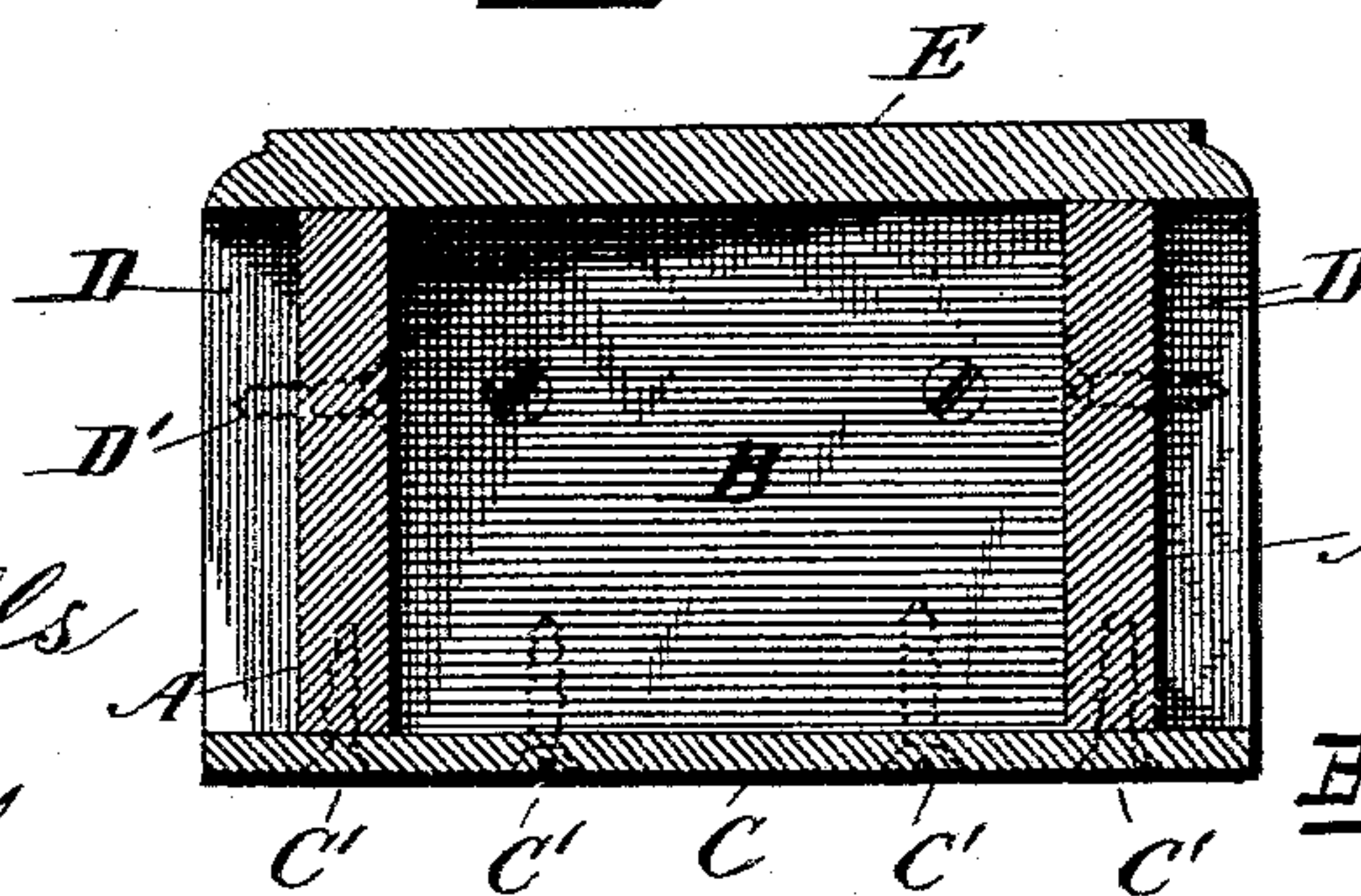


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL COOMBE, OF POULTNEY, VERMONT.

COFFIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 321,280, dated June 30, 1885.

Application filed March 30, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL COOMBE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Poultney, in the county of Rutland and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coffins, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention has relation to coffins of that class which are constructed of slate, marble, or other natural or artificial stone; and it consists in certain features of construction hereinafter described, and specifically set forth in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective, Fig. 2 a plan, and Fig. 3 a transverse section on the line X of Fig. 2, of a coffin constructed in accordance with my invention.

Like letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

The sides A and ends B, each of a single piece, are arranged upon the bottom C, as shown, and screws, bolts, or other suitable fastening devices, C', are passed through the bottom upwardly into the lower edges of the sides and ends. In this instance the sides overlap the ends, and the outer corners are rounded, as shown, and re-enforcing corner-pieces, D, having interior curved faces, by which they are adapted to fit the rounded corners of the sides and ends, are secured at each of the corners of the coffin by means of screws, bolts, or other suitable fastening devices, D', passing through the sides and ends into said corner-pieces.

If desired, the ends B may overlap the sides A in the same manner as the sides are shown as overlapping the ends, in which case the same results are secured as by the arrangement shown.

As shown in Fig. 1, the bottom C projects beyond the outer face of the sides at all points between the corner-pieces D, so that any suitable molding or ornamentation, A', may be arranged in the recesses thus formed at the sides and ends of the coffin; or, if desired, all of the said projecting portions of the bottom may be removed, as at Y, Fig. 2, and in such case the edges of the corner-pieces may be ornamented by forming them in the shape of molding, or in any other desired manner. So, also, may the faces of the corner-

pieces or of the sides and ends, as well as of the top of the coffin, be ornamented by cutting, carving, or other suitable means, if desired.

By the construction above described, the lateral pressure of the earth against the sides and ends of the coffin is, in regard to the first, resisted by the pressure of the sides upon the ends at the corner-joints, and by the interposition between the earth and said joints of the corner-pieces; and in like manner in regard to the second—that is, the ends—the corner-pieces receive the pressure, and are re-enforced by the sides to prevent the inward crushing of the ends, so that great strength is attainable while using comparatively light or thin material for the different parts of the coffin, whereby excessive weight naturally accompanying coffins of this class is avoided.

I do not claim, broadly, separate corner-pieces; but by reason of the comparatively thin side and end slabs I do not fasten them directly to each other, but to other parts which are thicker, like the corner-pieces, or, being thin, by devices which pass directly through the same, and away from its edges, like the bottom.

Having described my invention and its operation, what I claim is—

1. A coffin made of slate or its equivalent, and having a side overlapping an end at its corner, and secured to the bottom, said bottom extending out beyond the joint thus formed and secured to a re-enforcing corner-piece, substantially as specified.

2. A coffin made of slate or its equivalent, having two of its opposite sides or ends overlapping the remaining sides or ends, all of which are rounded at the corners and provided with re-enforcing corner-pieces adapted to fit the same, substantially as specified.

3. A coffin made of slate or its equivalent, and having a projecting bottom, re-enforcing corner-pieces, a projecting cover, and molding arranged in the recesses at the sides and ends, substantially as specified.

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

SAMUEL COOMBE.

Witnesses:

ALONZO HERRICK,
FRED S. PLATT.