

(No Model.)

L. K. SMEDES.

COFFIN.

No. 354,749.

Patented Dec. 21, 1886.

Fig. 1.

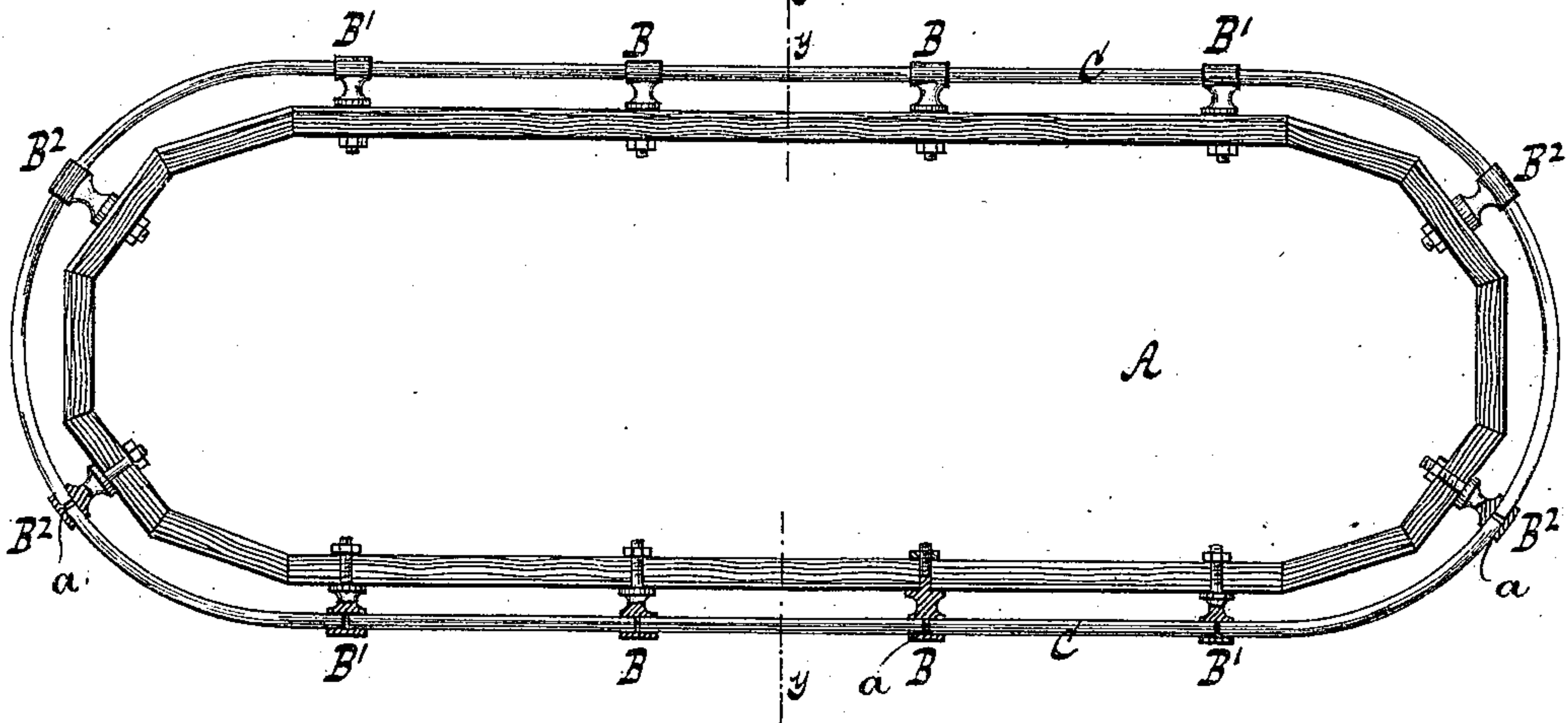


Fig. 2.

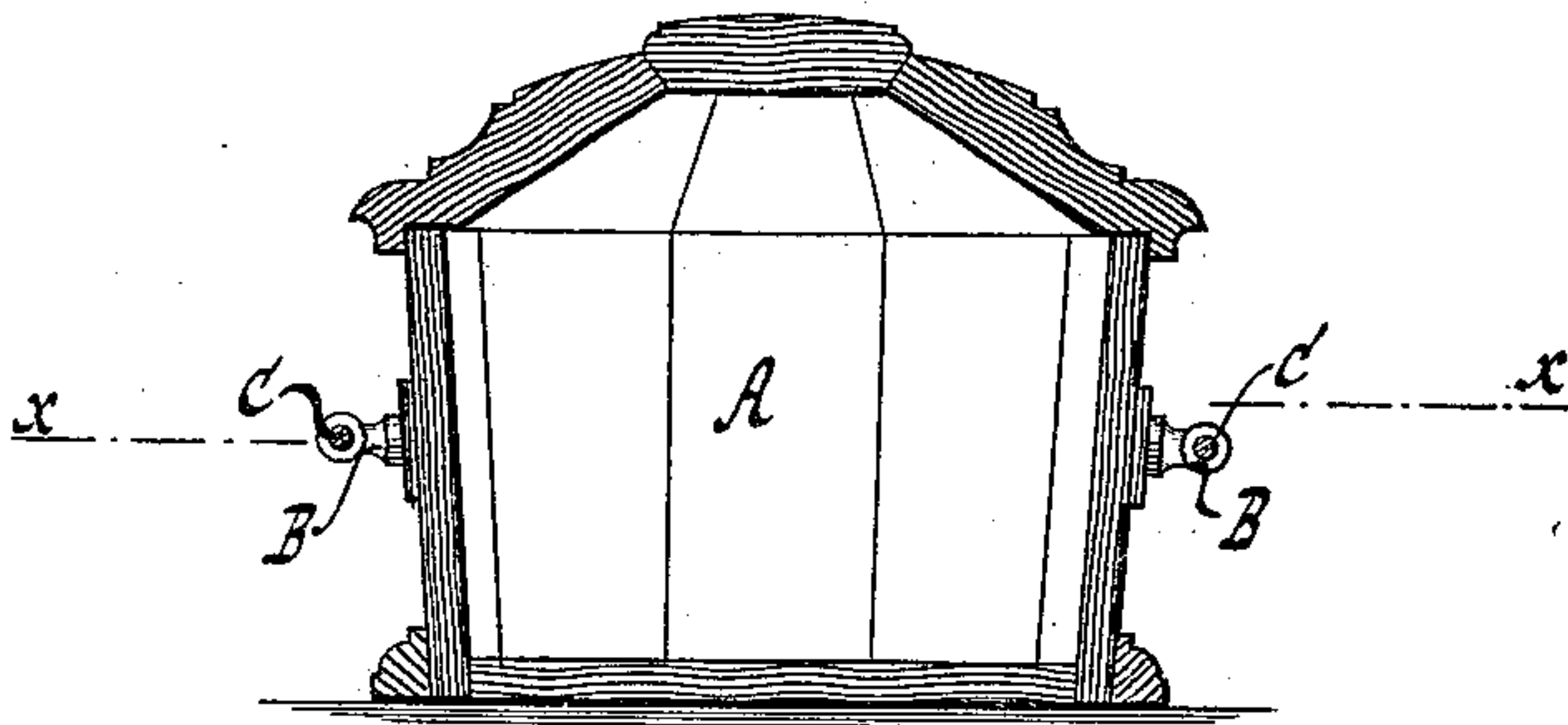
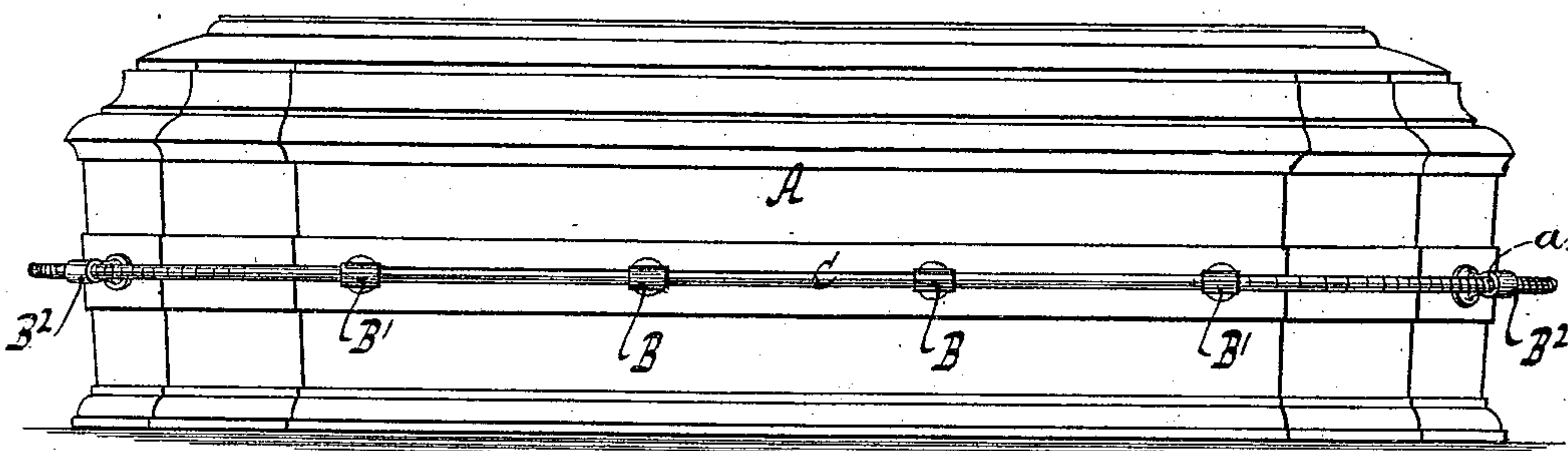


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Alfred du Rant
William Miller

INVENTOR

Levi K. Smedes.

BY

Van Gantvoord & Hauck

his ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI K. SMEDES, OF MOUNT VERNON, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY E. TAYLOR, OF
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

COFFIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,749, dated December 21, 1886.

Application filed September 30, 1886. Serial No. 214,973. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI K. SMEDES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mount Vernon, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a novel hand-rail for burial-caskets; and it consists in the features of construction and combination of devices hereinafter described and claimed, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a horizontal section in the plane $x x$, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a transverse section in the plane $y y$, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an elevation.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

In the drawings, the letter A designates a burial-casket with curved or polygonal ends. On the sides and ends of this casket are secured a series of brackets, B B' B², which are provided with sockets a , extending clear through the same. The brackets represented in the drawings are provided with screw-shanks, which extend through the sides and ends of the casket, and are secured in position by means of nuts fitting their inner ends. I do not wish to confine myself, however, to this precise form of a bracket, and I reserve to myself the right to substitute for the same any bracket suitable for the purpose.

The brackets B B' B² serve to support the hand-rail C, which is made in sections, each section extending from the middle of the socket in one bracket to the middle of the socket in the next succeeding bracket. Of course those portions of the hand-rail which extend along the sides of the casket, and which are rectilinear, can be made continuous from one of the brackets B' to the next bracket B', since the same can be readily passed through

the brackets B' B B, and the sections of the hand-rail which extend round the ends of the casket, which must necessarily be curved, can be made to extend from either of the brackets B' on one side of the socket, through the brackets B² B² to the bracket B' on the opposite side of the bracket; or they can be made in two or more sections, if desired. By making each of these curved portions of the hand-rail in three (more or less) sections, each of which extends from the middle of the socket in one bracket to the middle of the socket in the next bracket, I am enabled to secure them in position speedily, and to make a neat finish.

I am aware that removable hand-rods have been attached to a casket by means of eyes; but such hand-rods cannot be applied to caskets with curved polygonal ends.

I am also aware that hand-rails have been attached to each side of a casket, and I do not claim such as my invention.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with a burial-casket, of a series of brackets, B B', secured to the sides of the casket, and a series of brackets, B², secured to the ends of said casket, sockets formed in said brackets, rectilinear rail-sections extending through the brackets B B and terminating in the middle of brackets B' B', and curved rail-sections extending through the brackets B² B² and terminating in the middle of the brackets B' B', substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LEVI K. SMEDES. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.