

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

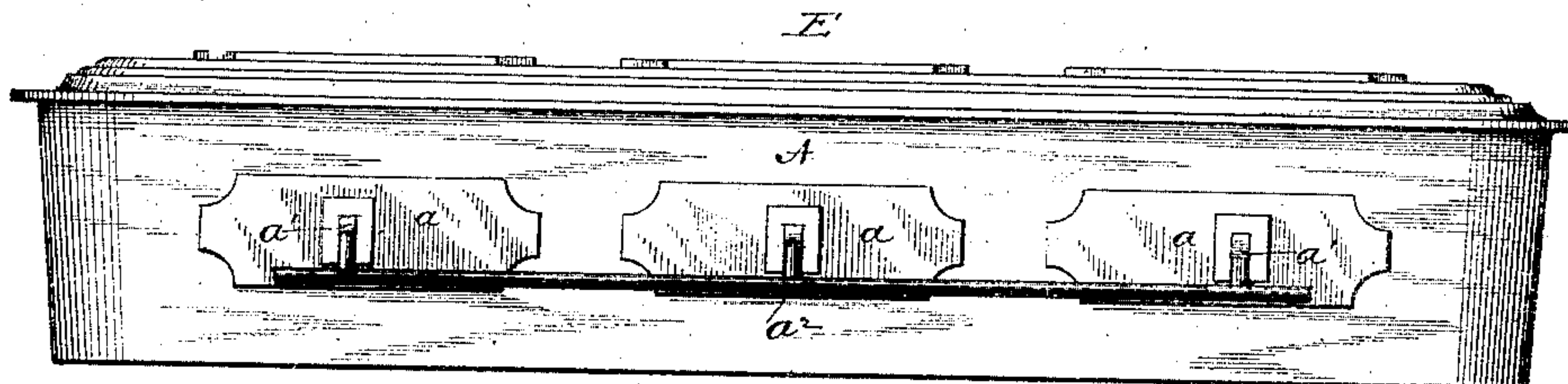
A. R. REESE.

COFFIN.

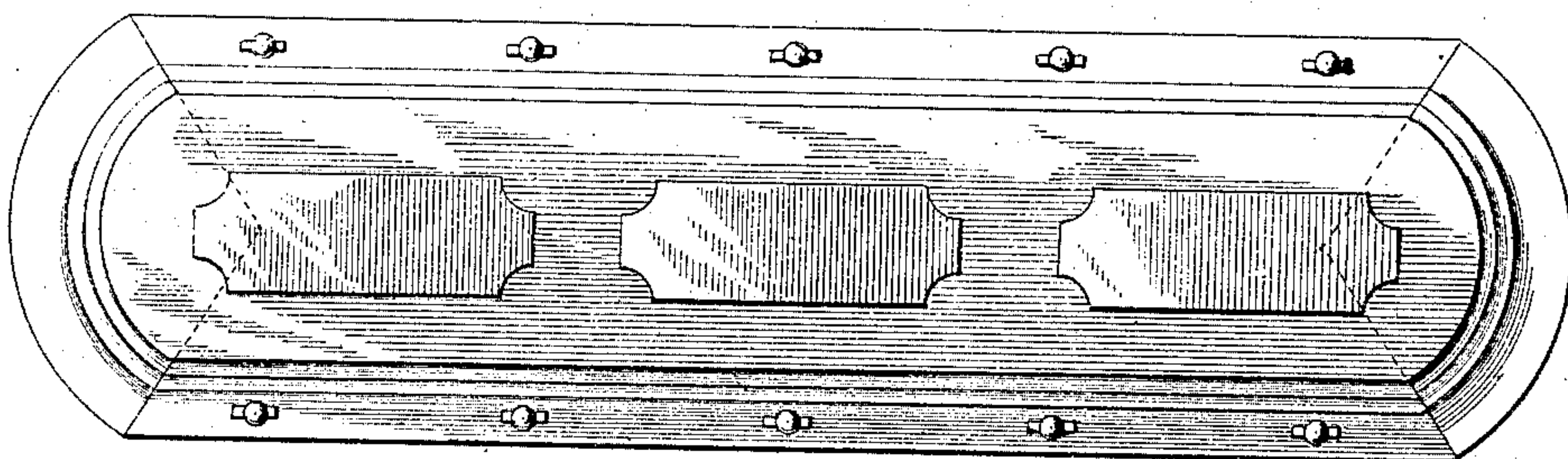
No. 367,728.

Patented Aug. 2, 1887.

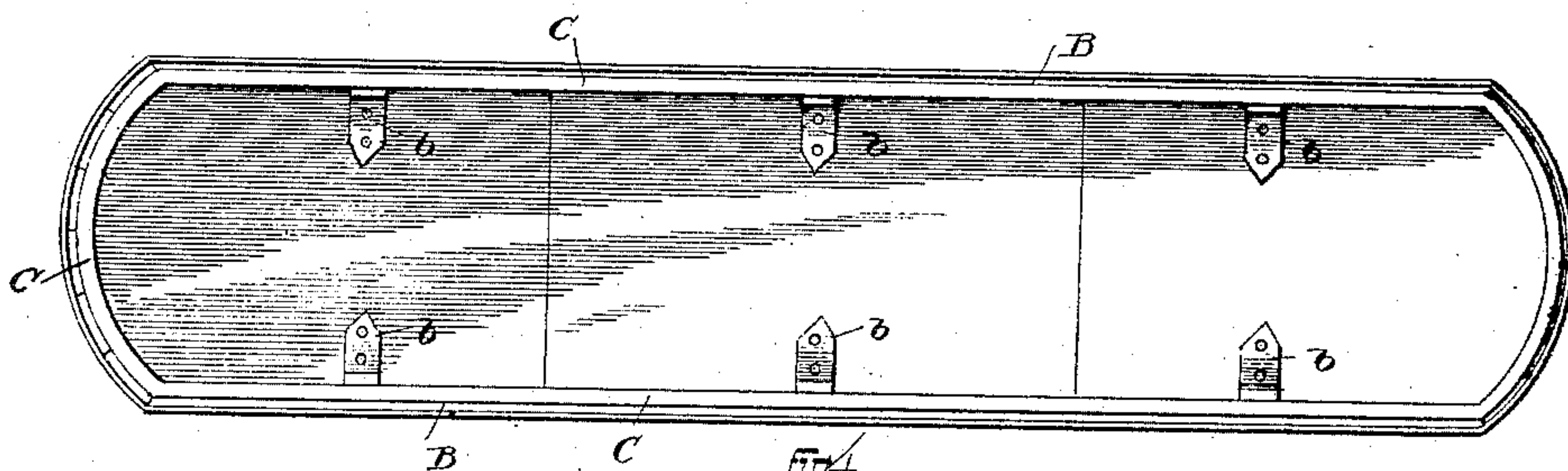
—Fig. 1.



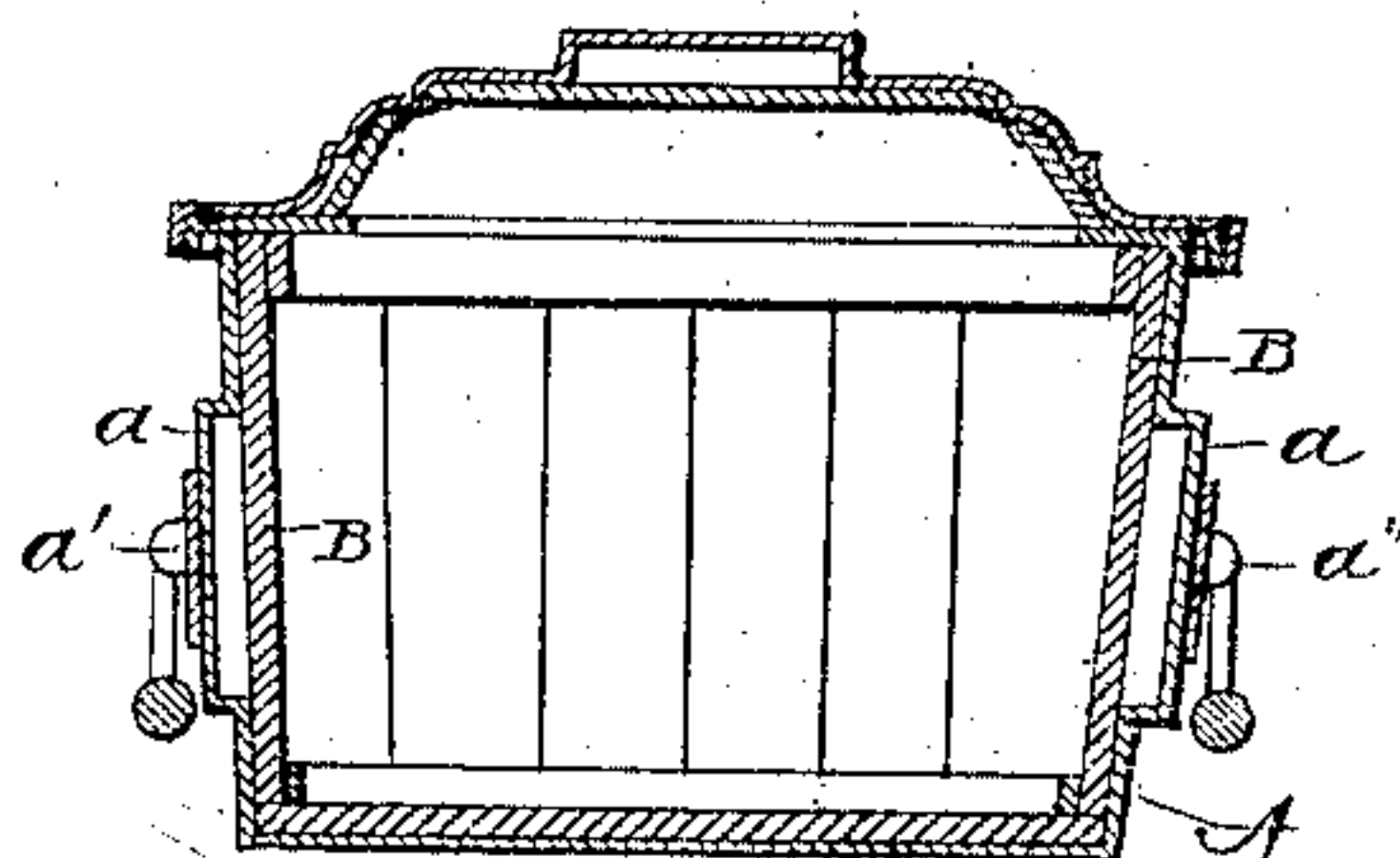
—Fig. 2.



—Fig. 3.



—Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

W. H. Mortimer
David S. Mead

INVENTOR

Adam R. Reese,

BY

R. G. Wyrenforth

Associate ATTORNEY

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

A. R. REESE.

COFFIN.

No. 367,728.

Patented Aug. 2, 1887.

Fig. 5.

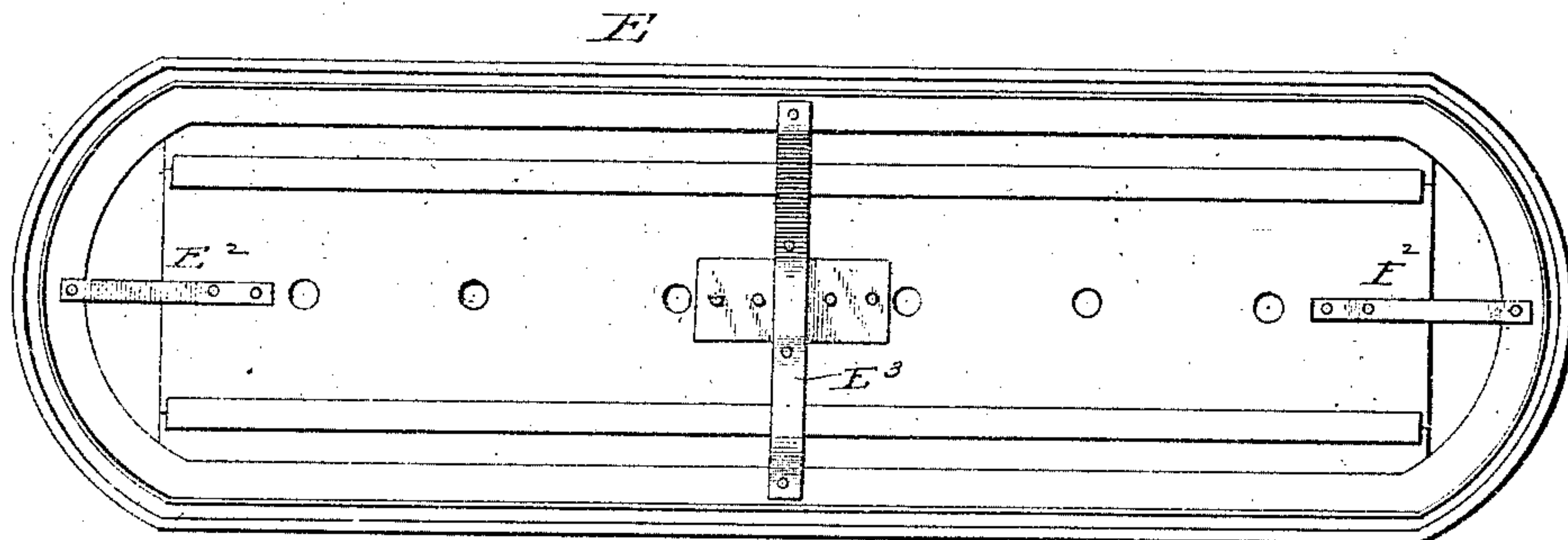


Fig. 5.

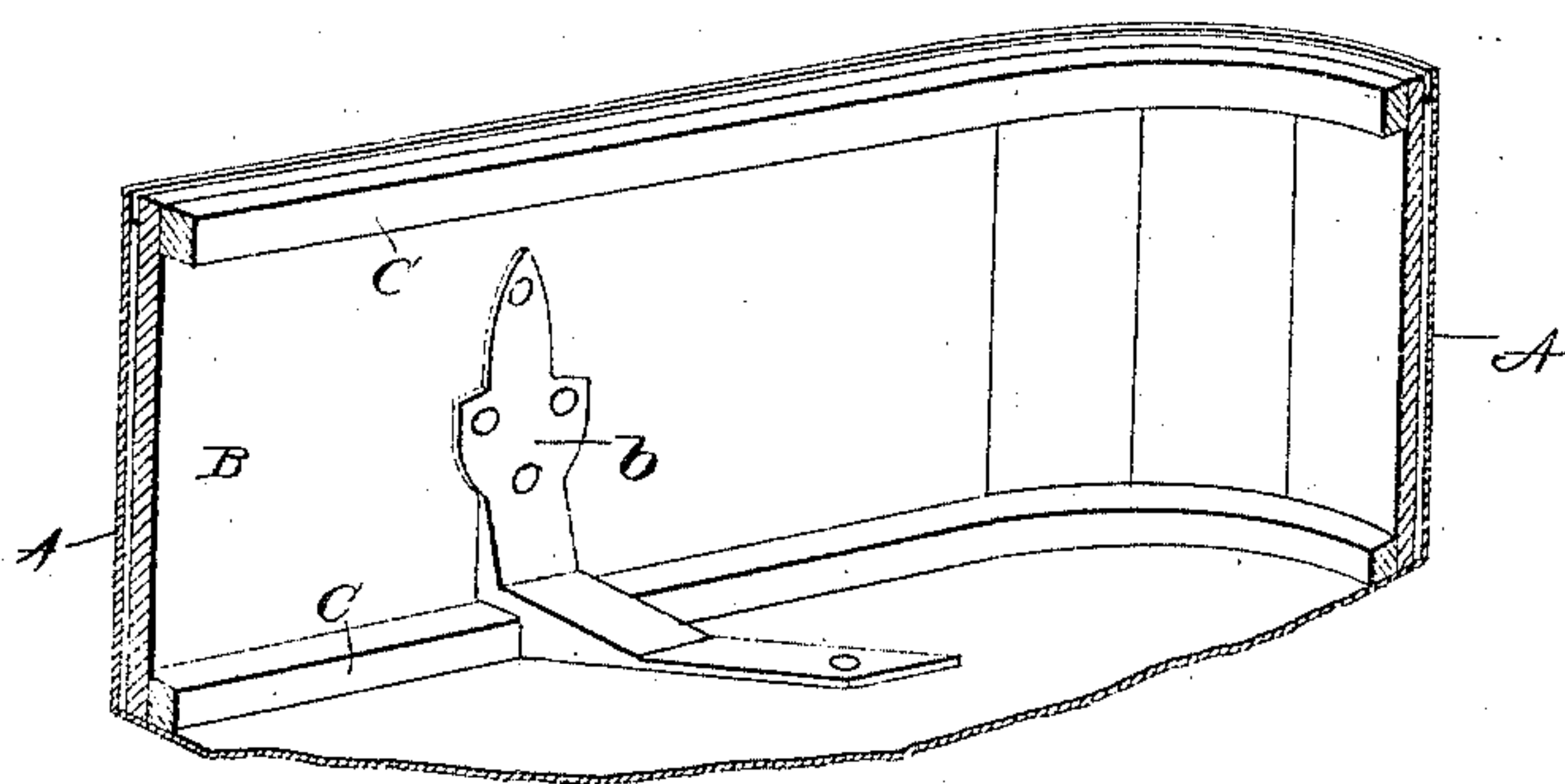
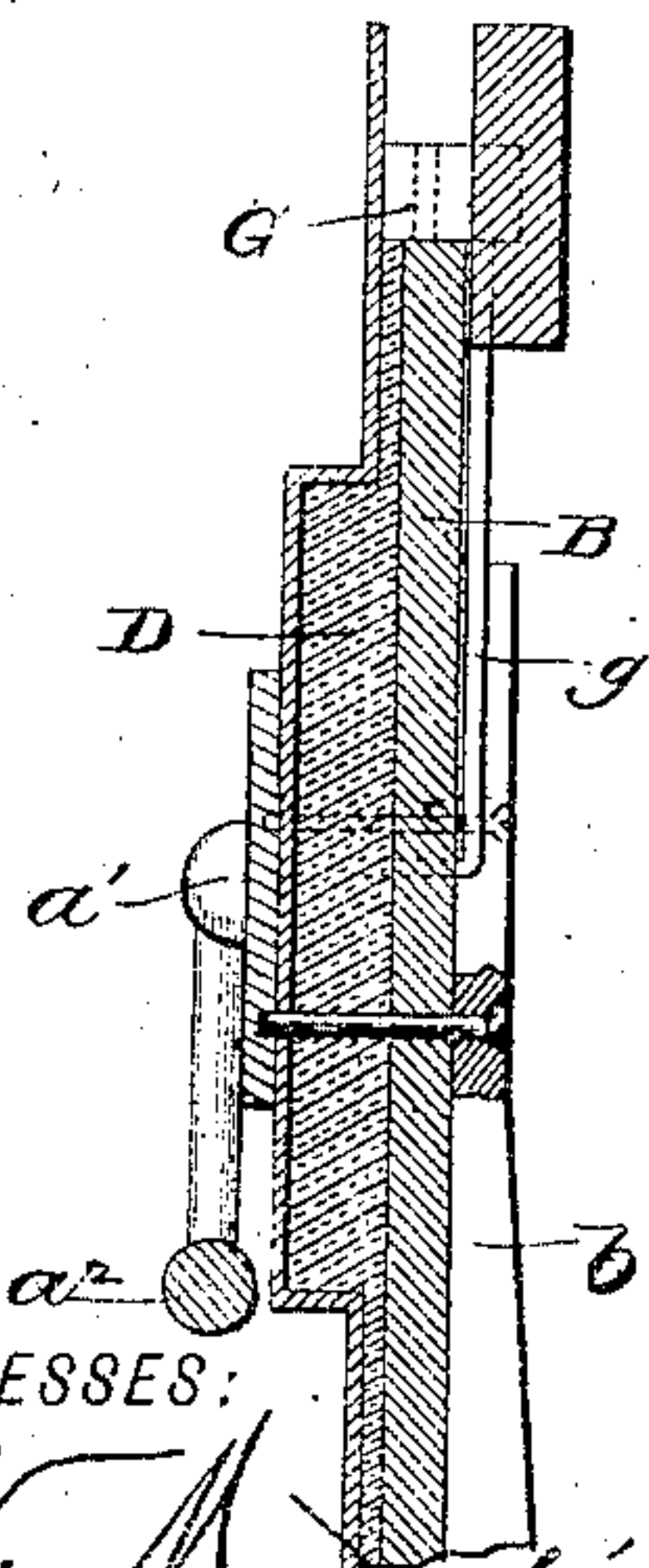


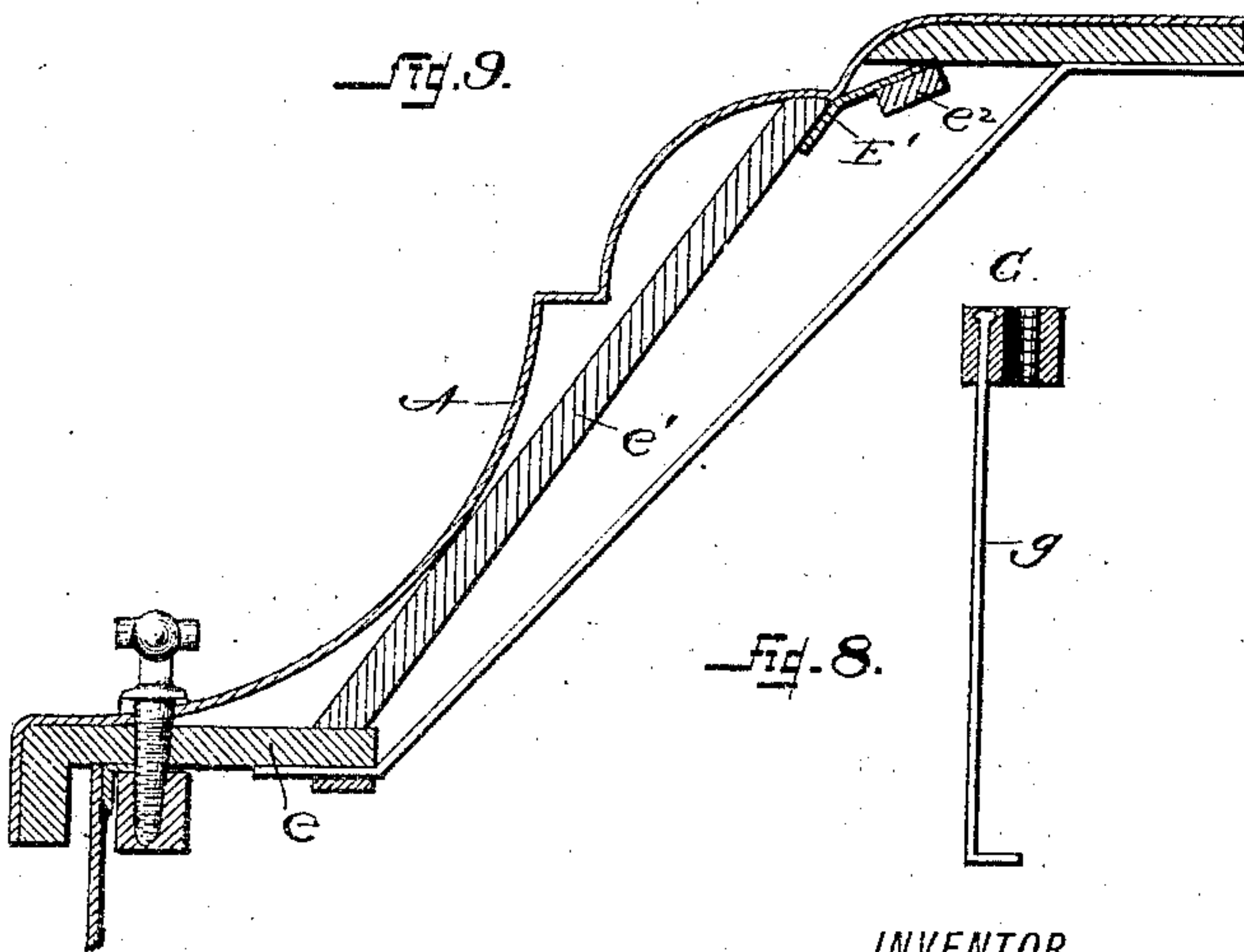
Fig. 7.



WITNESSES:

W. W. M. Fisher
David H. Mead

Fig. 9.



INVENTOR

Adam R. Reese,

BY *R. G. Wykeforth,*

Associate ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADAM R. REESE, OF PHILLIPSBURG, NEW JERSEY.

COFFIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 367,728, dated August 2, 1887.

Application filed April 29, 1886. Serial No. 200,496. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADAM R. REESE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Phillipsburg, in the county of Warren and State of New Jersey, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to burial-caskets, and particularly to that class known as "metallic" coffins.

The object of the invention is to produce a burial-casket which shall be of ready construction, and which shall be composed of such substances as to render it practically non-destructible by the action of moisture, thus qualifying it to remain intact and in good condition for an indefinite period after being placed in the ground; furthermore, the object is to produce a coffin having these characteristics which shall be quite light, thus facilitating its handling.

With these objects in view the invention consists, essentially, in a coffin composed of an outer shell of metal, preferably of copper, bronze, or brass, and an inner layer or lining of natural stone.

Furthermore, the invention consists in a coffin formed of an outer casing of metal and an inner lining of natural slate.

Furthermore, the invention consists in a coffin formed of an outer casing or shell of metal and an inner lining of split slate.

Furthermore, the invention consists in a coffin formed of an outer casing of metal and an inner lining of natural stone, the two being joined and firmly held together by a resinous cement.

Furthermore, the invention consists in various novel details of construction whereby the objects of the invention are attained and the effectiveness of the device insured.

I have illustrated the invention in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a complete coffin made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the coffin, showing the cover in position. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the bottom of the casket, showing the manner of attaching the stone lining. Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view, the section being taken through one of the panels of the coffin. Fig. 5 is an inverted plan view of the lid, showing the man-

ner of strengthening it. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of the body of the coffin, showing the manner of attaching the stone to the outer shell. Fig. 7 is a sectional view showing the manner of attaching the lid and of constructing the coffins around the panels. Fig. 8 is a detail view showing the receptacle for one of the screws by which the lid is secured in place, and Fig. 9 is a sectional view showing the construction of the lid.

In the drawings, A represents the outer shell or casing, which is composed of thin metal, and preferably of metal which is not subject to corrosion, and may therefore be placed in the earth and not be affected by the dampness. The metal which is most suitable for this purpose is copper, though bronze or brass may be used. This casing or shell is made of sections secured together at their edges by brazing, soldering, or in any other manner as to present a smooth surface at the point of juncture. In order that the coffin may present an ornamental appearance, the metal plates are pressed between dies so formed as to impart any desired ornamental design to the shell. In the present drawings I have shown the shell as formed with panels.

The sides of the coffin are provided with any suitable number of panels, *a*, to which are attached by suitable hinge-joint, *a'*, the side rods, *a''*, designed to be grasped in carrying the coffin.

B presents a lining which is preferably of natural stone, as that substance is very cheap, light compared with the weight of metal, and is entirely unaffected by moisture. It is desirable that the coffin be as light as possible, and therefore that the stone employed should be thin. It has been found that the kind of stone best adapted for the purpose is slate, as this stone may be split in a manner well known into very thin sheets, and I therefore prefer to place plates of this substance next the shell. In order to join the slabs of slate to the shell in such manner that the two cannot be easily separated by the application of force or by the presence of moisture, I employ a cement composed of pitch and coal-tar in about the proportion of seven parts of pitch to one part of coal-tar, as I have found by experiments that this compound is best adapted for the purpose.

As an additional means of holding the stone in the body of the coffin in place, I provide the knees *b*, which are bolted securely in place. The bolts which hold the knee to the side of coffin are of such length as to pass entirely through the side and secure a socket for the handle to the outside of the coffin.

In order to afford means for attaching the padding and lining to the interior of the coffin, I provide the wooden strips *C*, which are attached in any suitable manner to the slate, and are so arranged as to furnish ready means for fastening the trimming at all points necessary to retain it in place.

The ends of the coffin are preferably made curved, and the slate with which the ends are lined is put in in strips, and as these strips are flat there is a small space between them and the inside of the shell. This space I fill in with the cement before described, and thus secure the stone lining in place, and at the same time make such a backing for the shell that it will sound as though of solid material when struck. It may be stated here that all the indentations in the shell which form spaces between the shell and stone are filled with the cement to prevent the shell from becoming indented. The cement is represented by the letter *D* in the accompanying drawings.

The lid *E* of the coffin is made up of metal and stone, and with a lining of cloth secured in place in any suitable manner. The outer portion is formed of metal stamped with any suitable ornamental design, and within this is placed the slabs of stone. The lower edge of the plate forming the outside of the cover rests on the metal strip *e*, and this strip extends inward far enough to furnish a support for the lower edge of the stone strips *e'*. The upper edge of these strips and the plate of stone lining along the top of the lid are held in place by means of cement and of the strip *E'*, which has two flanges, one pressing against the side stone pieces and the other against the stone in the top of the lid. One flange of the strip is provided with the wooden strip *e''*, to which the lining may be attached.

In order to strengthen the lid and prevent any bending of the metal, I provide the braces *E''* and *E'''*. The braces *E''* are placed at the ends of the lid, and are attached at one of their ends to the metal shell and at the other to the stone. The brace *E'''* extends across the lid, and is attached at its ends to the metal strip *e* and at its center to the stone.

In order to furnish a ready means for fastening the lid to the body of the coffin, I provide that portion of the side at which the screws passing through the edge of the lid enter with the blocks *G*. These blocks rest in spaces cut in the sides of the coffin, which spaces are sufficiently large to permit movement to a small degree in either direction, so that when the point of the screw strikes the opening in the block the said block will be moved to present a straight opening for the screw. The block *G* is prevented from being withdrawn by means of a pin *g*, which is attached at its lower end to the side of the coffin.

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

1. A burial-casket comprising a metallic shell and a lining of natural stone.

2. A burial-casket comprising a metallic shell and a lining of split slate.

3. A burial-casket comprising a shell of metal, a lining of natural stone, and an interposed layer of resinous cement for holding the two together.

4. A burial-casket comprising a shell of stamped metal and an inner lining of natural stone, the spaces between the two being filled with a resinous cement.

5. A burial-casket comprising a shell of metal and an inner lining of natural stone, and provided with interior strips of wood, substantially as described.

6. A burial-casket provided with the movable block having the depending projection for retaining it in place, substantially as described.

7. In a burial-casket, the sides provided with an opening, the burr situated and capable of having a slight motion therein, and the pin supporting the burr and attached at the lower end to the side of the casket.

8. A burial-casket provided with a lid composed of the outer metal plate and a stone lining, and provided with the strengthening-ribs extending transversely and longitudinally of the same, substantially as described.

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

ADAM R. REESE.

Witnesses:

R. G. DYRENFORTH,
DAVID H. MEAD.