

(Model.)

J. R. CORBETT.
FASTENER FOR COFFINS.

No. 377,290.

Patented Jan. 31, 1888.

Fig. 1.

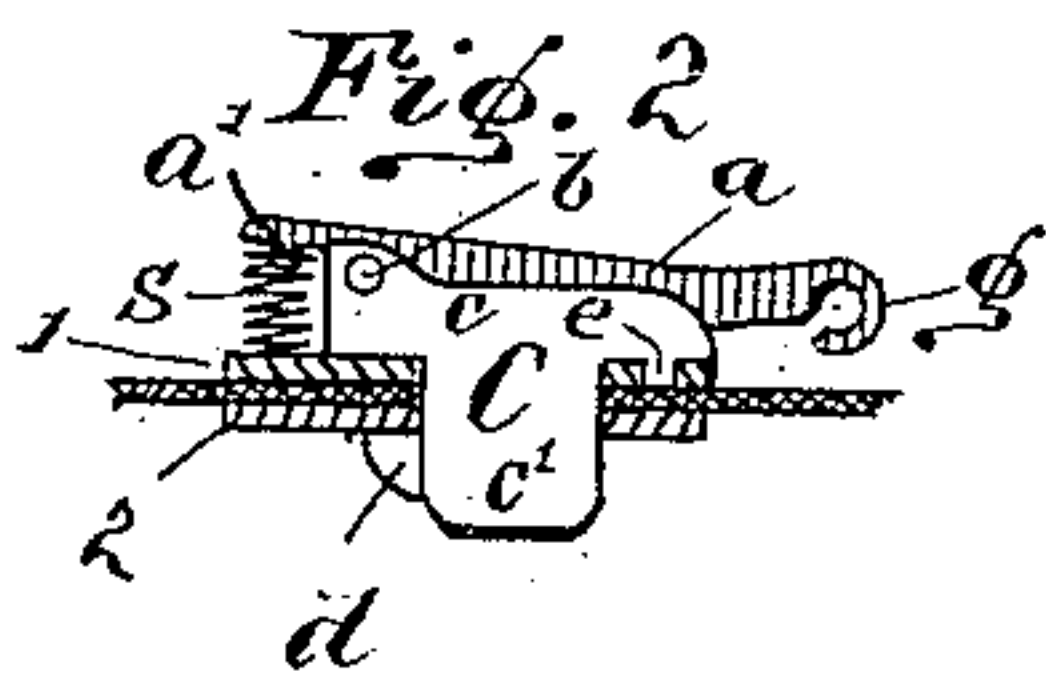
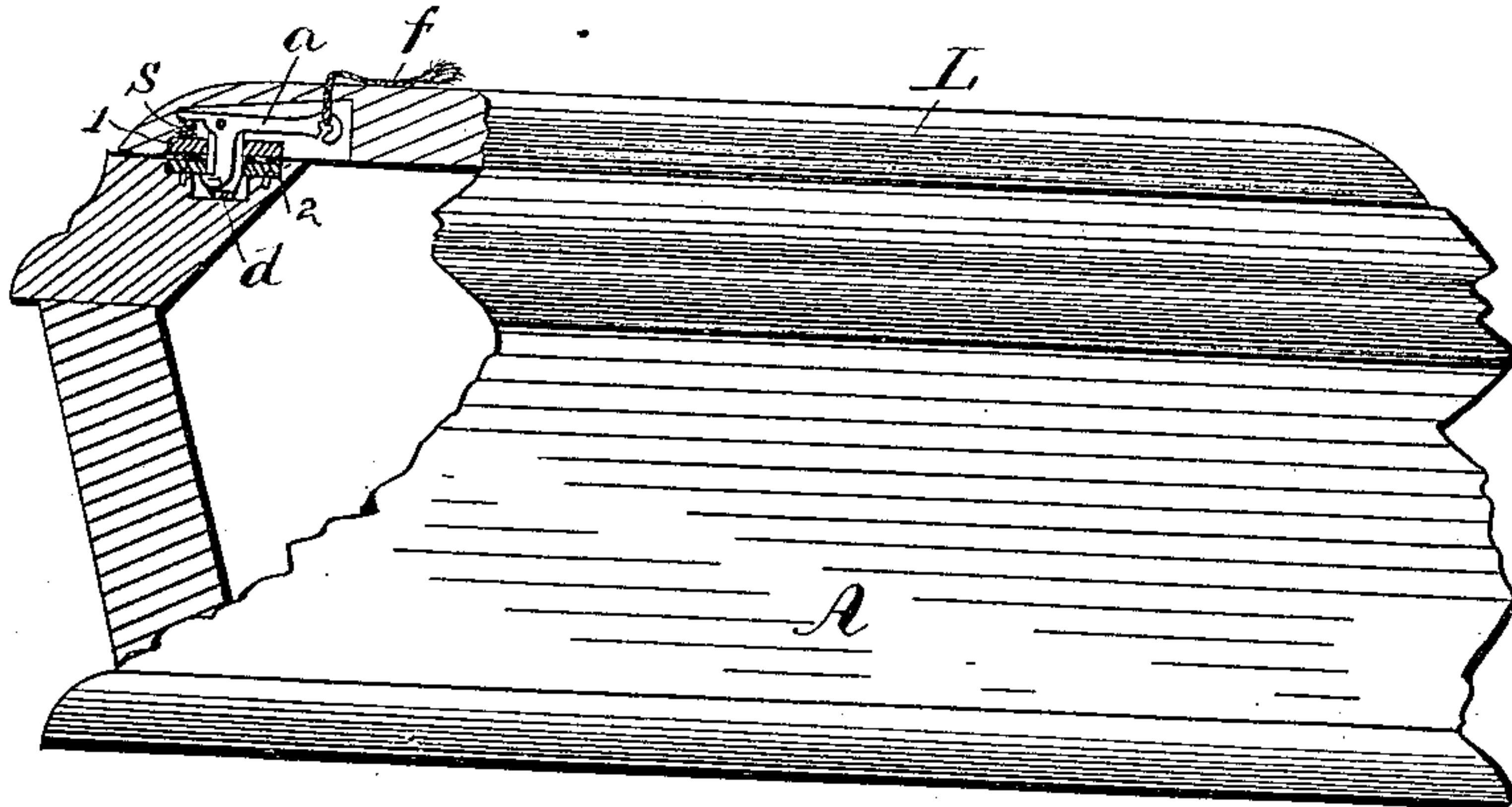


Fig. 3.

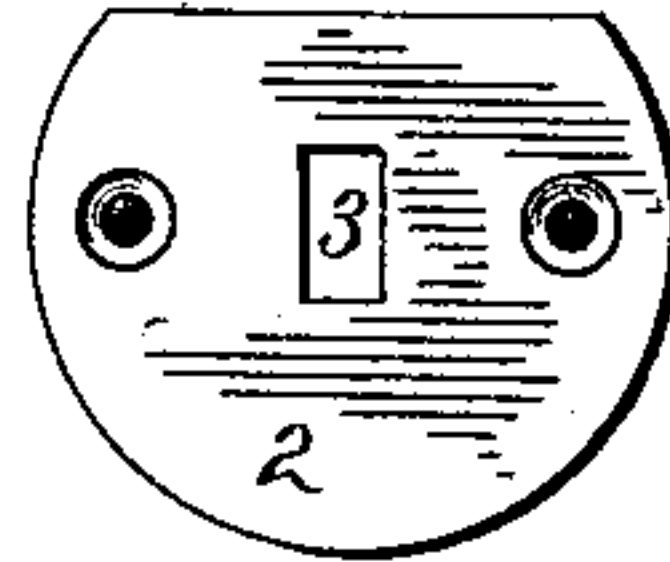


Fig. 5.

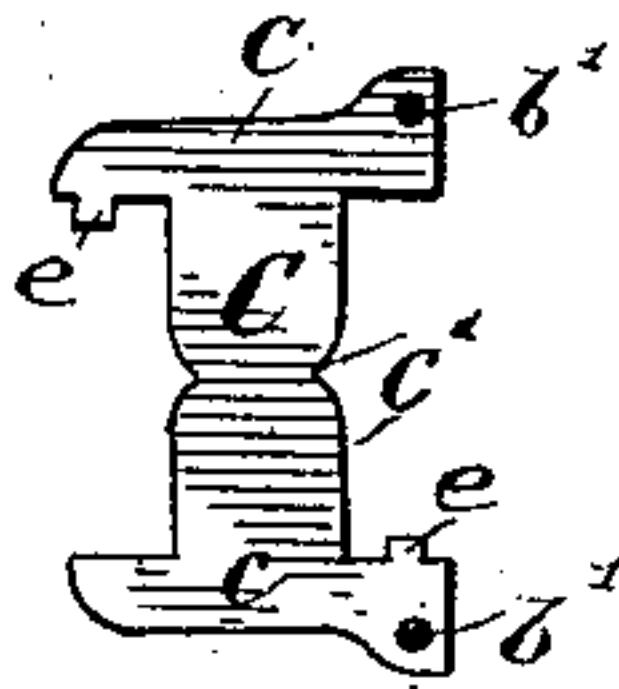


Fig. 6.

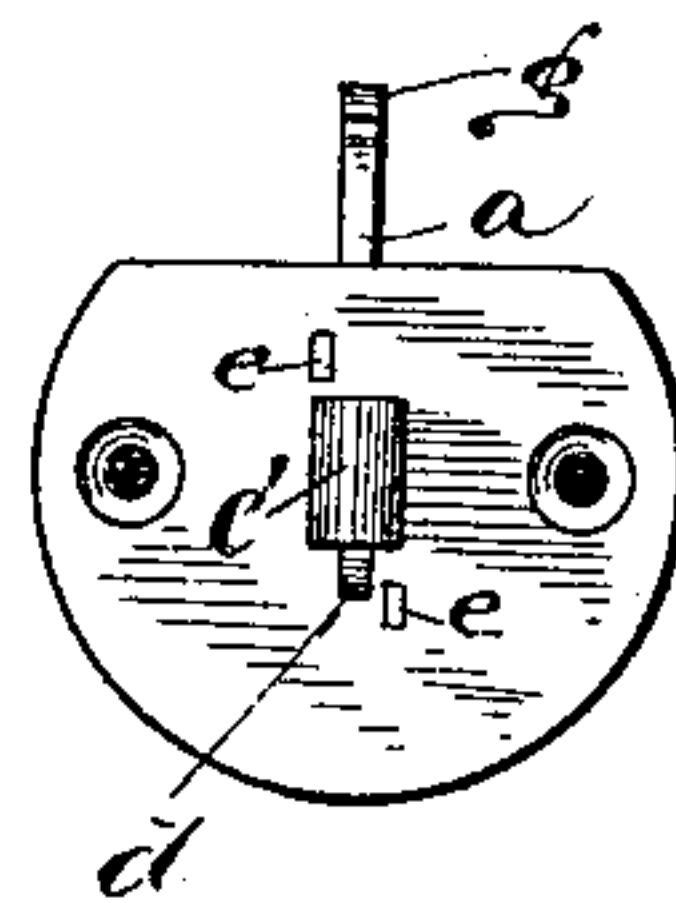


Fig. 4.

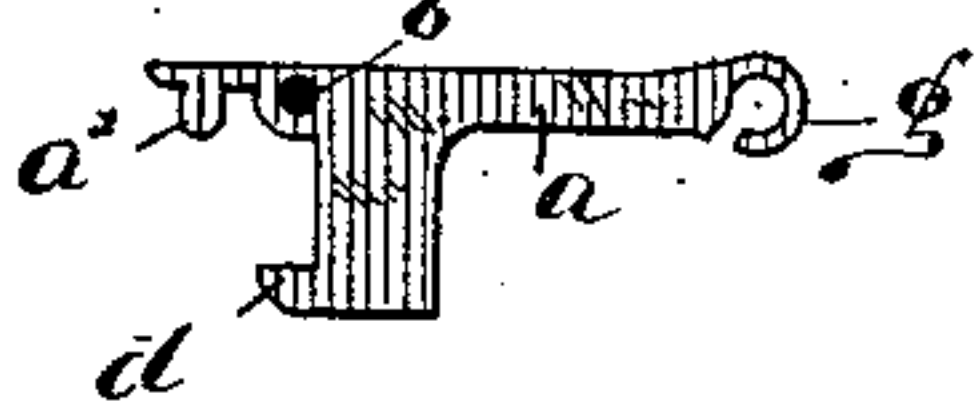
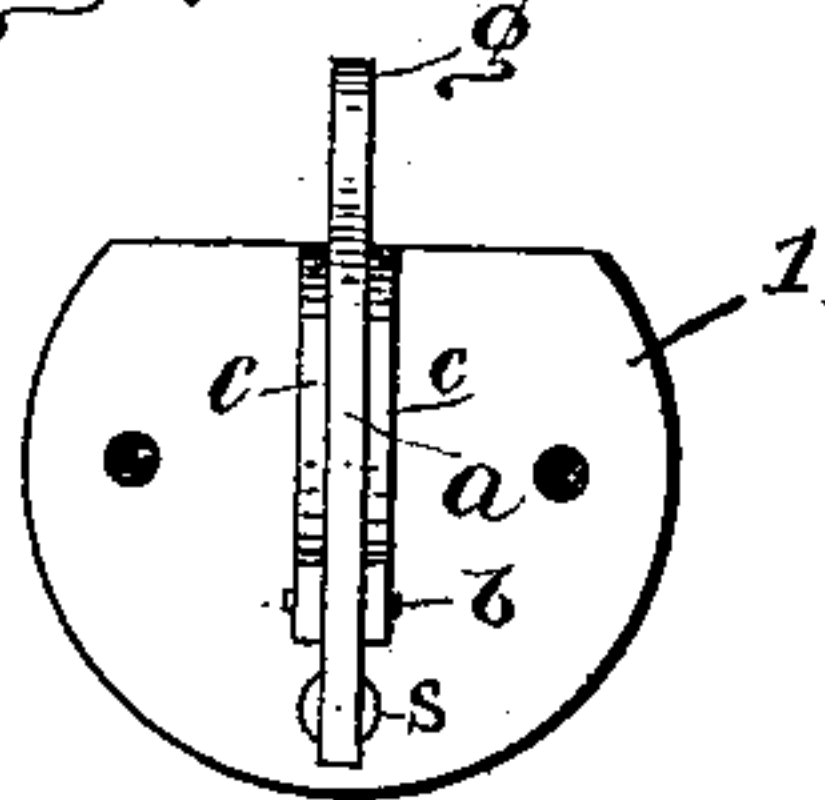


Fig. 7.



Attest:
b. H. H. Brown,
A. C. Parsons

Inventor:
James R. Corbett
By *Hyndal Silber*
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES R. CORBETT, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE STEIN MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

FASTENER FOR COFFINS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 377,290, dated January 31, 1888.

Application filed May 21, 1887. Serial No. 238,945. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES R. CORBETT, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Spring-Catches, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in catches adapted for use on burial-caskets and like articles in which it is desirable to have a concealed catch capable of being operated from the exterior of the casket to release the catch from its hold plate or device, whereby the lid may be removed readily and secured by simply pushing the lid down, so that the catch again takes, the object being to provide a simple, effective, and positive device for the desired purpose; and to this end the invention consists, essentially, in providing an eccentrically-pivoted lever connected to the catch and operating the same with a spring to cause the catch normally to engage the mortise in the securing plate, or in the article to which the catch is applied, all as hereinafter more particularly described.

It consists, furthermore, in the detail construction and arrangement of the parts, as more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In specifying my invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which, like letters of reference indicating corresponding parts in all the views, Figure 1 shows my invention applied to a casket to secure the lid at one end thereof to the casket, the edge of the lid being cut away and the end of the casket in section for the purpose of illustration. Fig. 2 shows an enlarged detached view of the catch, the catch-plates being in section. Fig. 3 shows a plan view of the catch-plate provided with an elongated mortise, the lower edge of which forms a shoulder, against which the catch takes. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detached view of the eccentrically-pivoted lever and the depending catch made in one piece. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detached view of the blank from which are formed the lugs and guide-piece which are secured to the top plate which car-

ries the catch. Fig. 6 is an inverted plan view of the top plate, showing the guide-piece and catch from below; and Fig. 7 shows a top plan view of the top plate, 1, and the eccentrically-pivoted catch journaled or secured in the lugs thereon.

a represents the catch-lever provided with a pivot-hole, *b*, with a depending catch, *d*, and the depending stud *a'*, extending forward of the pivot-hole *b*, and the eye or ring *g* at the opposite extremity of the lever, which is provided for the purpose presently explained. The lever *a*, with its depending catch *d* and other parts, is made preferably in one piece, either stamped out or cast, as desired. The lever *a* is pivoted between the lugs *c*, mounted on the top plate, 1, as presently described. The lugs *c* are constructed as best shown in Fig. 5, being formed of a blank, *C*, provided with the lugs *c* and curved portions *c'* and the projections *e e*, which serve to secure the lugs *c c* to the top plate, 1, when the blank *C* is bent into shape.

It will be observed that when the blank *C* is bent in form the depending parts *c'* form a stirrup-shaped guide, *c'*, into which the depending catch *d* projects through the top plate, 1.

The projections *e e* on the lugs *c c* take in slots oppositely arranged in the top plate, 1, as best shown in Fig. 6, and are headed down, thus firmly securing the lugs *c c* to the plate 1, while the depending stirrup-shaped guide *c'* passes through a slot near the center of the top plate, 1, and forms, as stated, a guide inclosing the sides of the depending catch *d*. The blank *C* is provided with pivot-holes *b' b'*, Fig. 5, and the same form a journal-bearing for the pin which passes through the pivot-hole *b'* in the lever *a*, and the pivot *b* serves to pivot the lever *a*, with its depending catch, eccentrically in the lugs *c c* of the plate 1.

In order to tension the catch *d* so as to hold the same normally into engagement with the locking-shoulder formed on the article to which the catch is applied, or to the bottom plate, 2, which is provided with an elongated mortise, 3, that allows the catch to pass through freely when retracted, I provide a small spiral, *s*, Fig. 2, into which the depending lugs

a' take, as best shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The spiral *s*, as stated, tensions the devices with an upward pressure,* so that the catch *d* is normally held in its engaged or locked position, 5 and is released from this position by raising up the opposite end, *g*, of the lever *a*. For the purpose of accomplishing the lifting of the lever *a* with ease I provide the said lever with an eye or ring, *g*, as best shown in Figs. 1, 2, 10 and 4, and a cord or any other suitable device may be connected thereto and the catch *d* operated thereby.

My invention, as previously stated, is designed chiefly for use upon burial-caskets and 15 like articles where a concealed catch is desirable, and at Fig. 1 of the drawings I have illustrated my improved catch thus applied to a casket for the purpose of securing one end of the lid, or, rather, the head of the lid, in position. 20

It will be observed that the head of the lid is recessed and the top plate, 1, secured to the under side of the lid, and a cord, *f*, secured to the eye *g* of the lever *a*, whereby the catch may 25 be operated from the exterior of the casket, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The bottom plate, 2, is secured to the edge of the casket, and the depending catch *d* engages with the under side of the bottom plate 30 as a shoulder. The bottom plate, however, may be dispensed with by simply forming an elongated mortise in the material of the edge of the casket or other article to which the catch is applied. I therefore do not restrict myself 35 to the use of the bottom plate, 2; but the same affords a very desirable and merchantable article, since the entire catch is comprised in the two plates, which may be applied for use upon burial caskets and other like articles without 40 any other fitting to the casket, with the exception of recessing the parts, as already described.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood from the foregoing and a consideration of the drawings.

The catch is normally engaged, and is dis- 45 engaged by pulling upon the cord or pull *f*, which is attached to the ring or eye *g* of the eccentrically-pivoted lever *a*, and owing to the constant tension on the catch *d* exerted by the spiral the catch is normally engaged with a 50 locking-shoulder.

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

1. The combination, in a spring catch, with 55 a top plate slotted, as shown, of the lugs *c c*, secured on top of the plate and connected by an integral bend, *c'*, which extends through the slot in the plate to form a guard for the latch, substantially as shown and described. 60

2. The lugs and guide-pieces *c c'*, provided with the projections *e e*, struck up in one piece and secured to the plate 1, substantially 65 as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The plate 1, formed with a slot, as shown, 65 and the blank *C*, bent to form in one piece the lugs *c c* and the guard *c'*, in combination with the lever *a*, pivoted in the lugs *c* and provided with the spring *s* under one end, and the latch *d*, formed integral with the lever and 70 depending within the guard *c'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at Rochester, in the county of Monroe, 75 in the State of New York, this 17th day of May, 1887.

JAMES R. CORBETT.

Witnesses:

P. A. COSTICH,
GEO. P. HESS.