

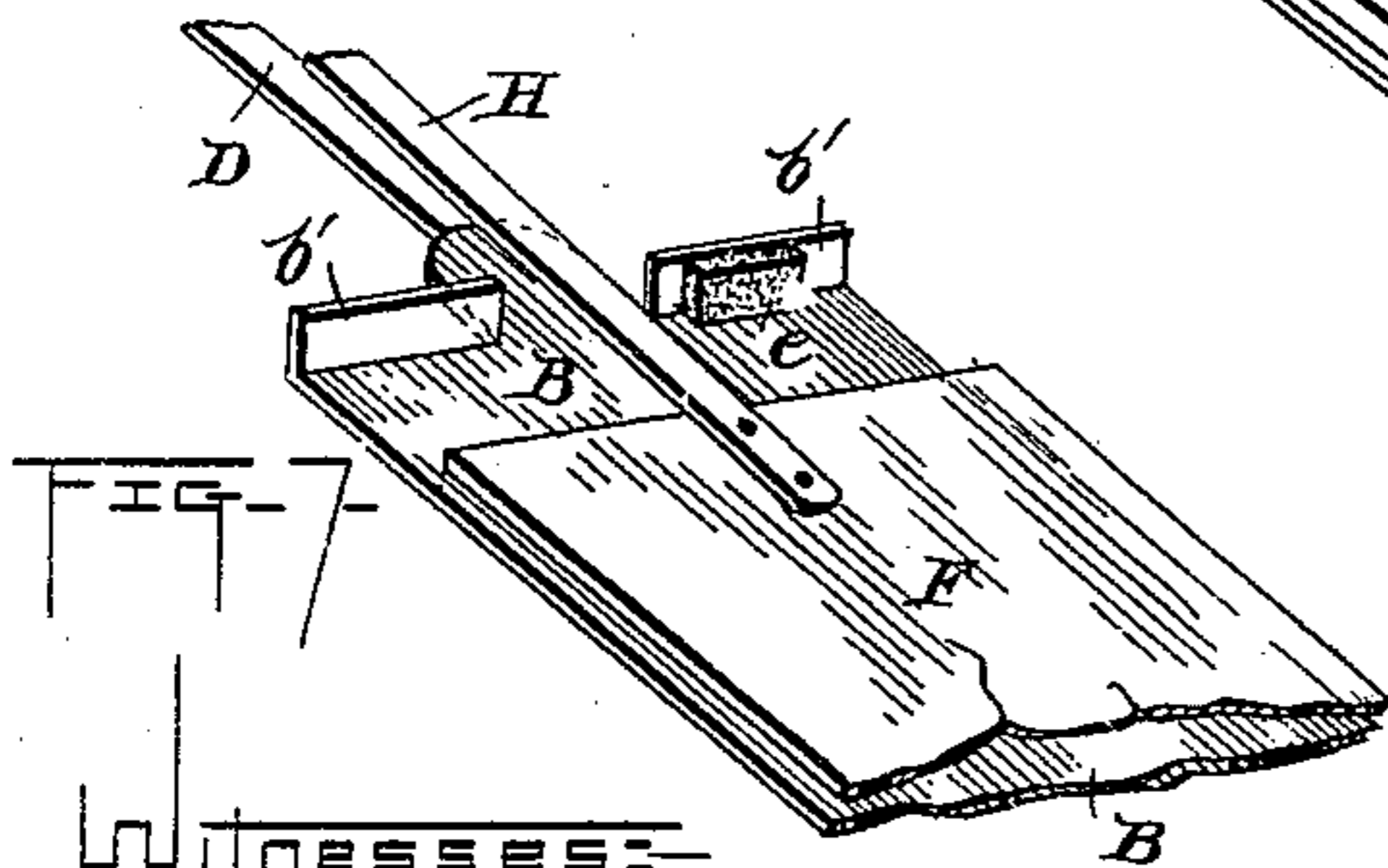
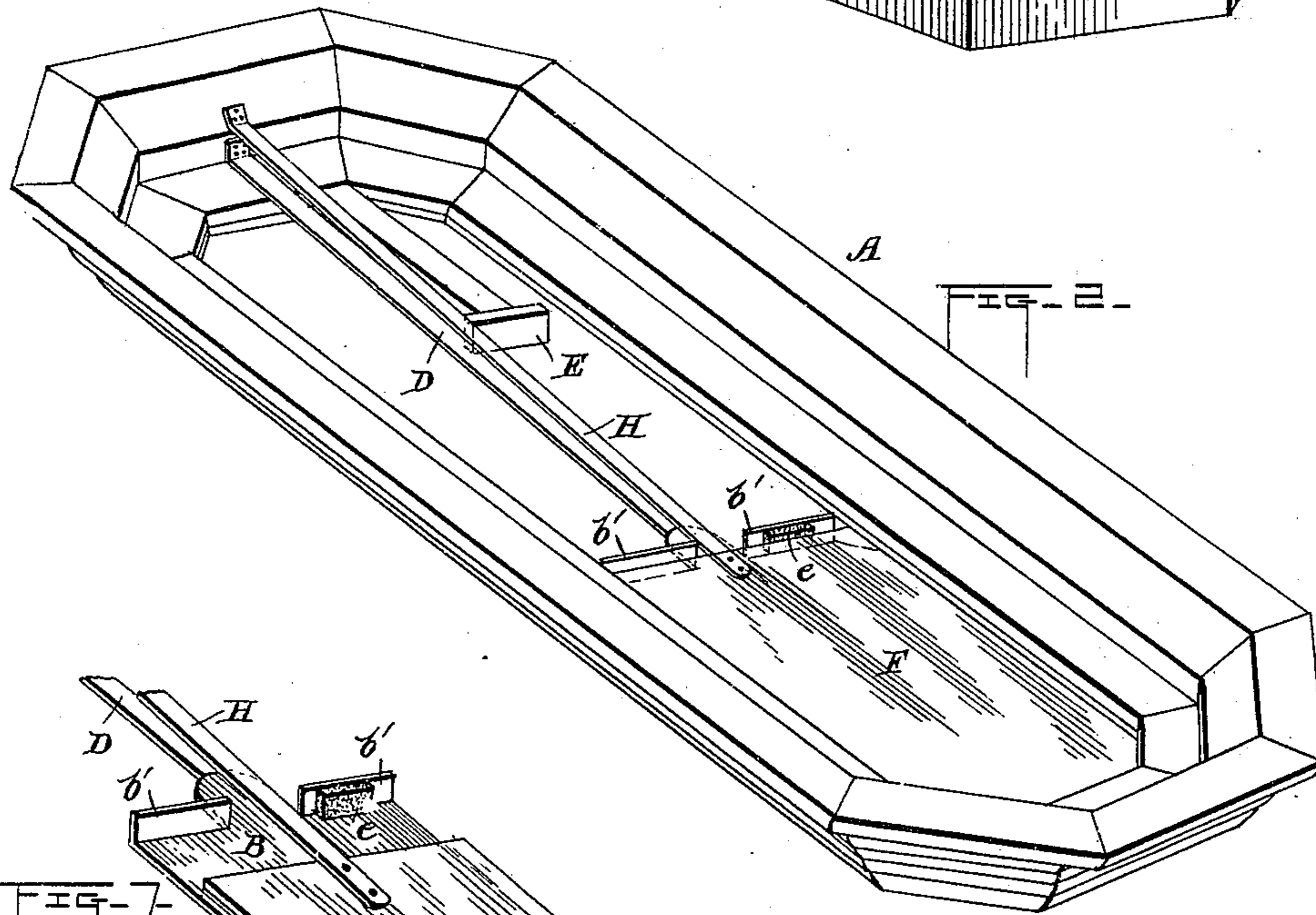
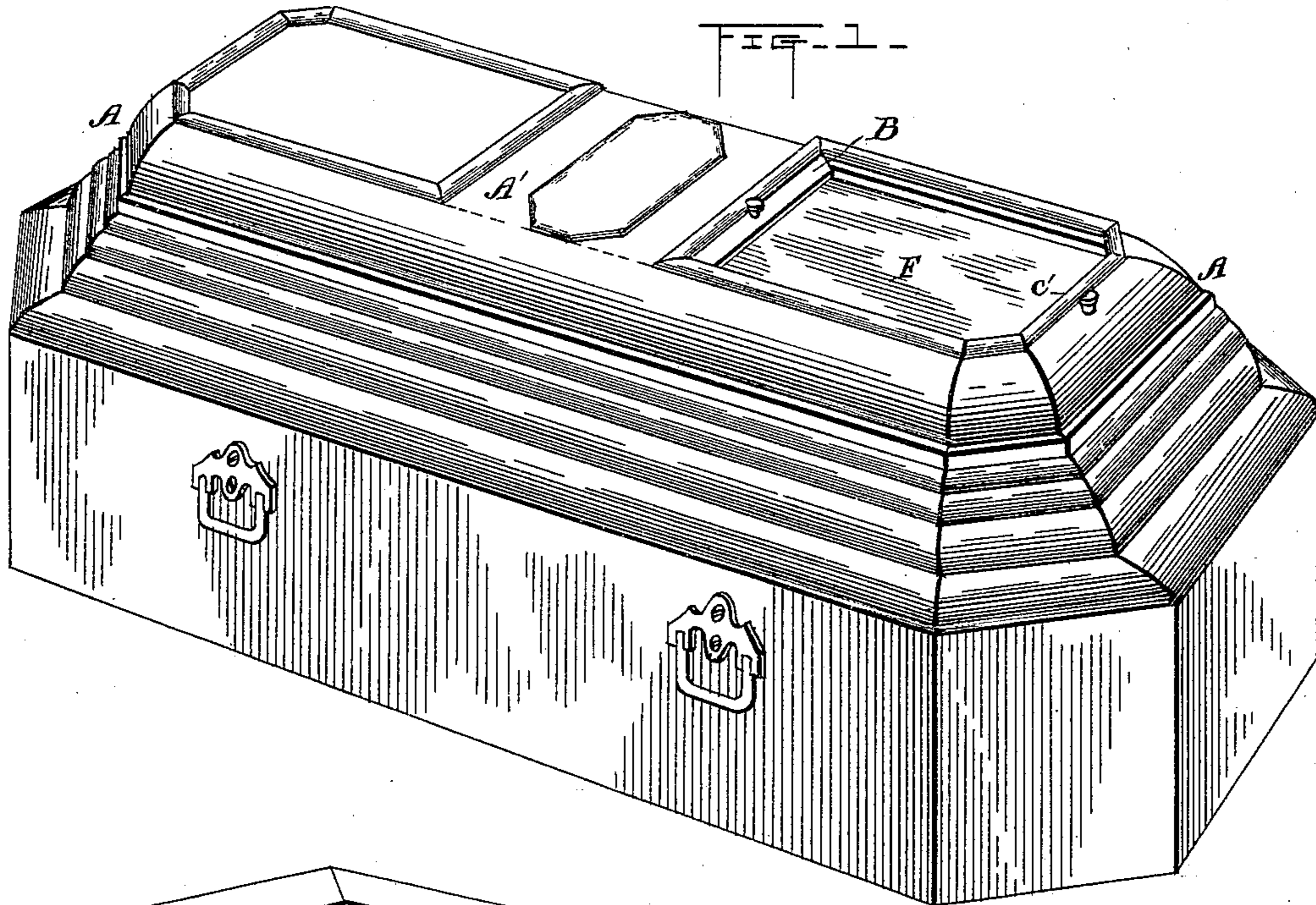
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. D. RIPSON.  
BURIAL CASKET.

No. 420,920.

Patented Feb. 4, 1890.



*Inventor*  
J. D. Ripson  
By *W. W. Deane*

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By *W. W. Deane*  
his Attorney.

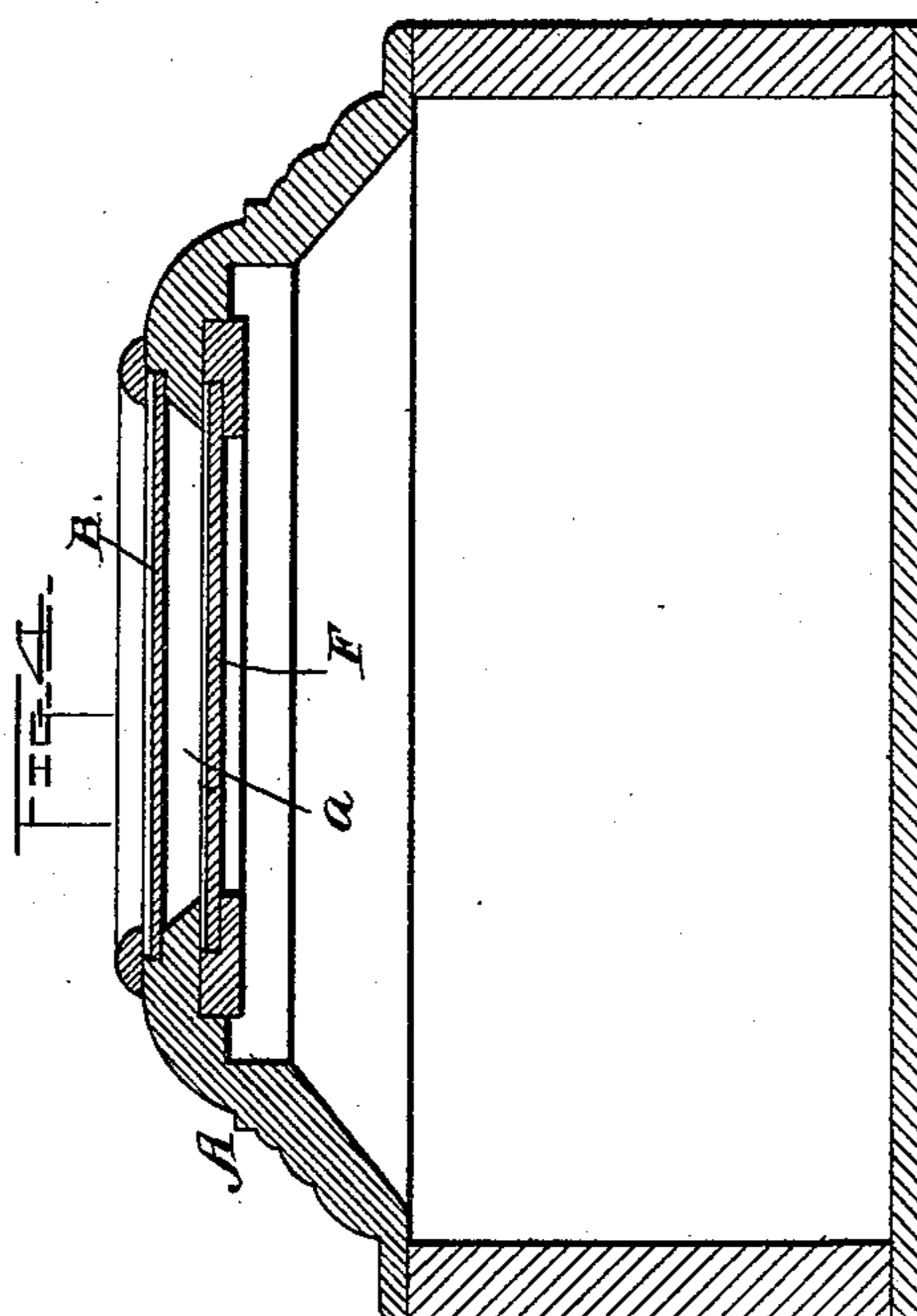
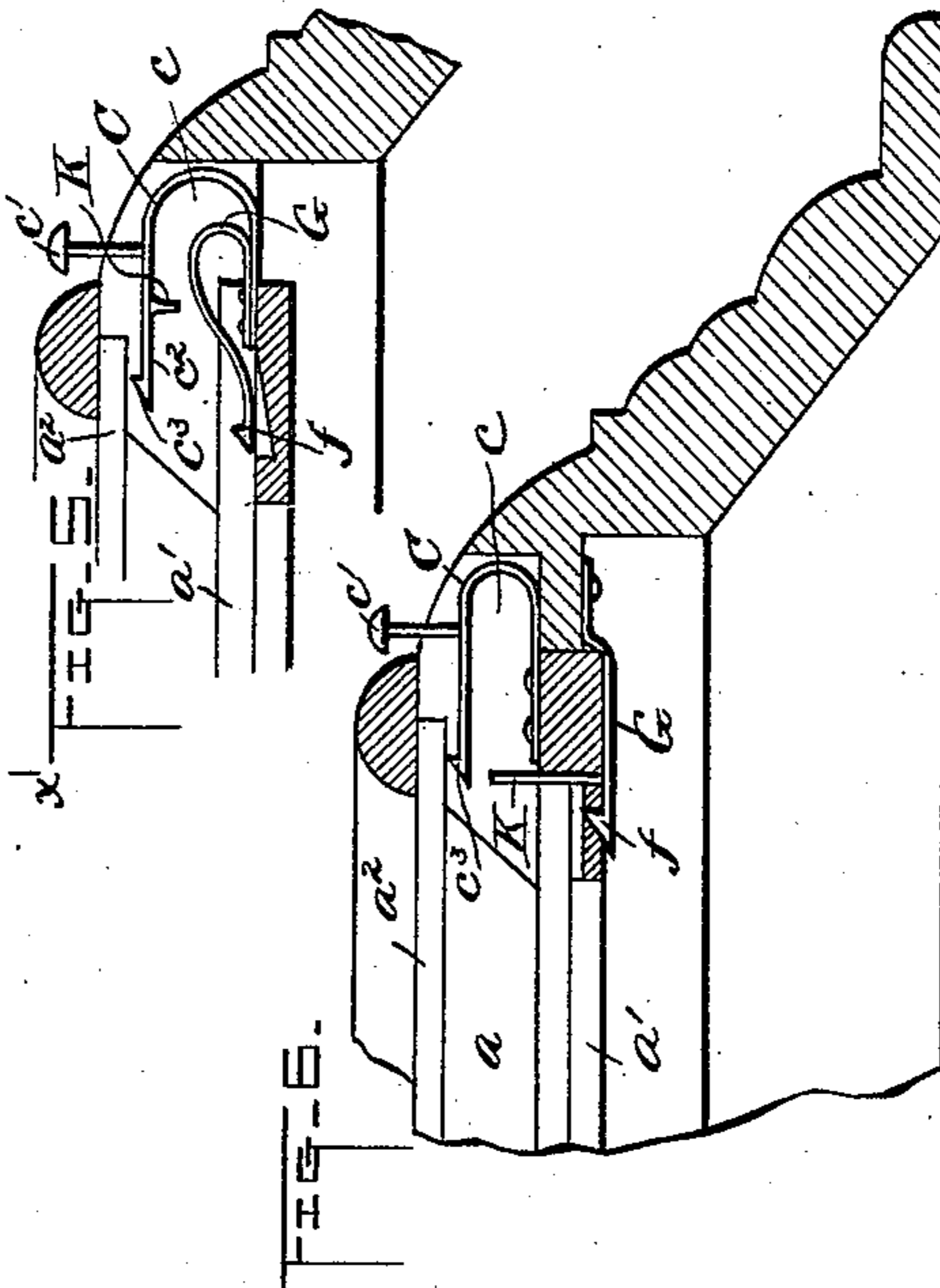
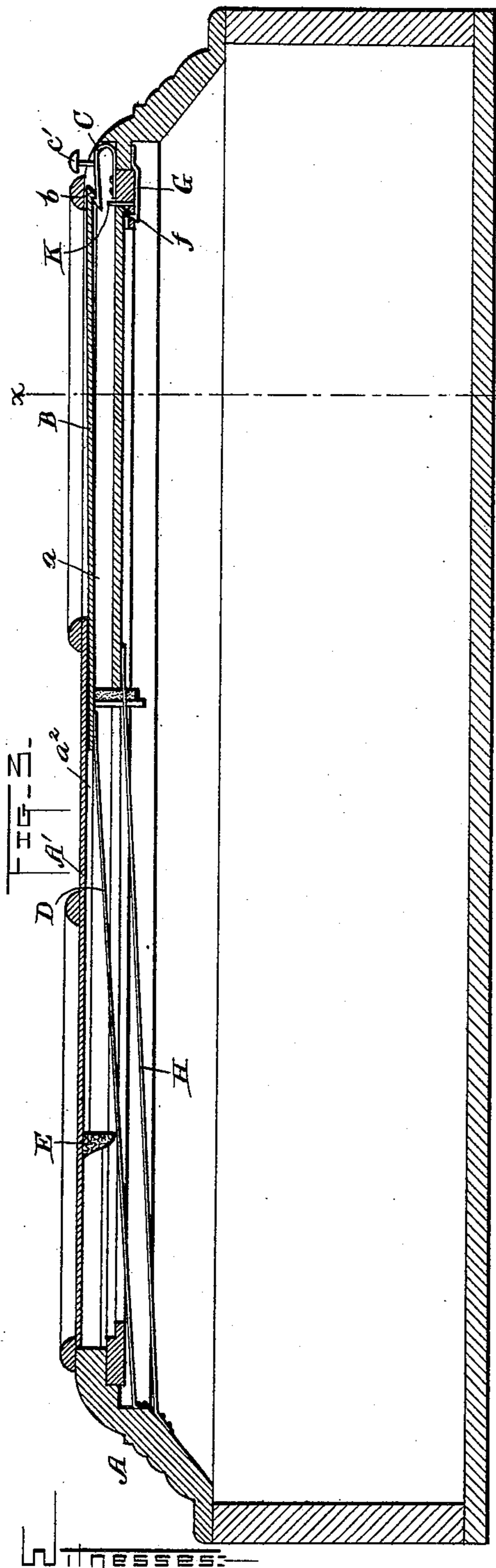
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Witness:  
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W. D. Deane.

John D. Ripson.  
By *W. D. Deane*  
his Attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN DANFORTH RIPSON, OF SUSPENSION BRIDGE, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR  
OF ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM A. FRAZER, OF SAME PLACE.

## BURIAL-CASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 420,920, dated February 4, 1890.

Original application filed July 30, 1889, Serial No. 319,195. Divided and this application filed December 28, 1889. Serial No. 335,212. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN D. RIPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Suspension Bridge, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Caskets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in burial-caskets, and is largely an improvement on what is shown in the patent granted me July 30, 1889, No. 407,792. In that patent provision is made for the movement in a generally horizontal plane of the sliding panel or lid and glass face-plate over the face-opening without depressing either. In this case provision is made for the automatic movement of the panel and glass, either or both, when the detent or detents which holds one or both closed have been released. There is also a further improvement in the construction of the detent or springs that hold the panel and glass closed; also an improvement in the combination of the movable panel and the movable glass face-plate. These and many other points of improvement will be fully pointed out in the description and need not now be recited any more in detail.

As the invention relates more particularly to the points or features in the casket lid or cover, it is not necessary to fully illustrate other parts in all the figures in the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a burial-casket embodying the invention. Fig. 2 represents a reversed perspective view of the lid. Fig. 3 represents a central longitudinal section of the lid or cover and casket. Fig. 4 represents a transverse section of the same on the line  $x$  of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 represents a sectional detail of the lid or cover, showing the spring catches or detents for holding the panel and glass face-plate closed. Fig. 6 is a detail view showing a modification of the construc-

tion of the said catches or detents. Fig. 7 is a detail in perspective showing the under side of the glass and panel, the former slightly removed from the rear of the latter.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates a casket lid or cover of usual construction, except in the matters and invention which will now be described. It is provided with the face-opening  $a$  and the longitudinal grooveways  $a'$   $a^2$  for the glass face-plate and sliding panel, respectively. The top part  $A'$  of the lid, (see dotted lines Fig. 1,) by which term I include also the head and foot panels of the lid, is preferably of sheet metal or other thin material.

B is the sliding head-panel with its side and front edges resting in the grooveways  $a^2$  made for its accommodation. The said panel has on its surface centrally below its front edge a catch  $b$ , made in any suitable way. The rear or inner edge of the panel is bent downward to form a flange  $b'$ , and the panel is preferably made of similar sheet metal to that constituting the head and foot portions of the lid.

C is a leaf-spring seated and secured in a central recess  $c$ , extending from the front edge of the face-opening  $a$ . The said spring is preferably bent into a semicircular curve at its middle portion, and has its lower leg secured within the recess, while from its upper leg rises the press-button  $c'$ , the stem of which passes out of the recess  $c$ , the covering of cloth or other suitable material hiding the recess, so that nothing but the head of the button is seen from the outside. The free end  $c^2$  of the upper leg of the spring is bent first upward and then downward to form a shoulder  $c^3$ , adapted to engage with the shoulder  $b$  and retain the sliding panel closed.

The spring D, preferably of elastic rubber cloth, connects the rear edge of the sliding panel and the rear or foot end of the lid, which spring is extended when the panel is closed over the face-opening, and the spring C engages the catch  $b$ .

E is a transverse stop block or buffer, preferably of soft rubber, situated a suitable distance from the foot or rear end of the casket-

lid and held in place by any suitable support, substantially as shown. The said buffer receives the impact of the flange *b'* of the sliding panel when it is released, and thus noise and jar are prevented; but if there were no flange on the panel both glass and panel would, when released, strike against the buffer.

The glass face-plate *F* is situated below the sliding panel and slides in the groove-ways *a'*. It is provided near its front edge with a catch *f*, which is adapted to engage a spring *G*, similar in all respects to the spring *C*, and secured in a recess in the lid in a similar manner, as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

The spring *H*, preferably of elastic rubber cloth, connects the rear edge of the glass face-plate and the rear or foot end of the lid and draws inward—that is, opens the said plate when it is released from its detent or catch. The rear or inner edge of the glass plate, striking against the soft material *e* or buffer inside the flange *b'* of the panel, prevents any noise or jar when the plate is retracted. The under side of the lid below the rubber springs is preferably covered with cloth to prevent said springs from sagging when the panel and glass have been drawn back and the face-opening in the lid is thus at any time necessarily uncovered.

The springs *C* and *G* may be secured in different recesses situated side by side, or one above the other and having separate press-buttons; but the spring *G* is preferably bent more acutely than the spring *C*, secured within the same recess by the same means, and has its upper leg below the upper leg of the spring *C*, so that by pressing lightly on the button *c'* the sliding panel only will be released, while by pressing the button farther down the depending lug or pin *K* on the upper leg of the spring *C* will press down the upper leg of the spring *G* and release the detent-block *f* of the glass plate without the upper spring binding thereon.

In the modification shown in Fig. 6 of these springs, &c., there are some merely mechanical changes in their adaptation and adjustment, and the pin *K* has been placed on the spring *G*, but the construction is substantially similar and the results attained the same.

Instead of the detent or catch block near the front end of the panel and face-plate, a hole will answer, and may in many instances be more desirable than the detent-block.

The many and obvious advantages of this invention need not be here enumerated further than to say that all noise, delay, or trouble in exposing the face of the deceased or allowing access to it when desired are avoided, and that a casket made according to my invention is much more convenient for all its necessary purposes than any other with which I am acquainted.

In my application for patent filed July 30,

1889, Serial No. 319,195, of which this is a division, I have more fully described the peculiar uses and advantages of the flange *b'*, and made suitable and broad claim to cover said flange.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. In a burial-casket, as described, a sliding panel, combined with a detent or catch and spring, whereby it may when released from the catch be automatically caused to slide away from the face-opening, substantially as specified.

2. In combination with a burial-casket, as described, a sliding glass face-plate and spring and catch or detent in connection therewith, substantially as set forth, whereby on release of the detent the glass automatically slides away from the face-opening.

3. In combination with a burial-casket, as described, a sliding panel and glass to cover the face-opening and springs and detents operating in connection with said panel and glass, whereby when the panel and glass are released from said detent said panel and glass will be automatically drawn back from the face-opening by said spring, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

4. The combination of the panel, the glass face-plate, the catch, the spring, and the buffer, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

5. The combination of the panel having flange *b'* and elastic material on the inner side of it, with the glass face-plate and elastic, substantially as and for the purposes described.

6. In a burial-casket, substantially as described, the combination, with the lid of the sliding panel and the sliding glass face-plate, each provided with a catch or detent on its under surface below the front edge, of the spring secured in a recess in the lid engaging the catch-block on the sliding panel and provided with a depending lug, and the spring secured within the former spring in the recess engaging the catch-block on the glass plate and having its upper leg in such relative position to the upper leg of the panel-spring that the latter can be depressed a sufficient distance to release the panel without releasing the glass face-plate, substantially as specified.

7. In a burial-casket, substantially as described, the combination of the lid, the transverse rubber stop-block, the sliding panel, the sliding glass face-plate, the detents to hold said panel and glass face-plate closed, and the springs retracting or drawing inward the said panel and glass face-plate, substantially as specified.

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

JOHN DANFORTH RIPSON.

Witnesses:

FRED G. SHRIMPTON,  
PETER LESHER.