

(No Model.)

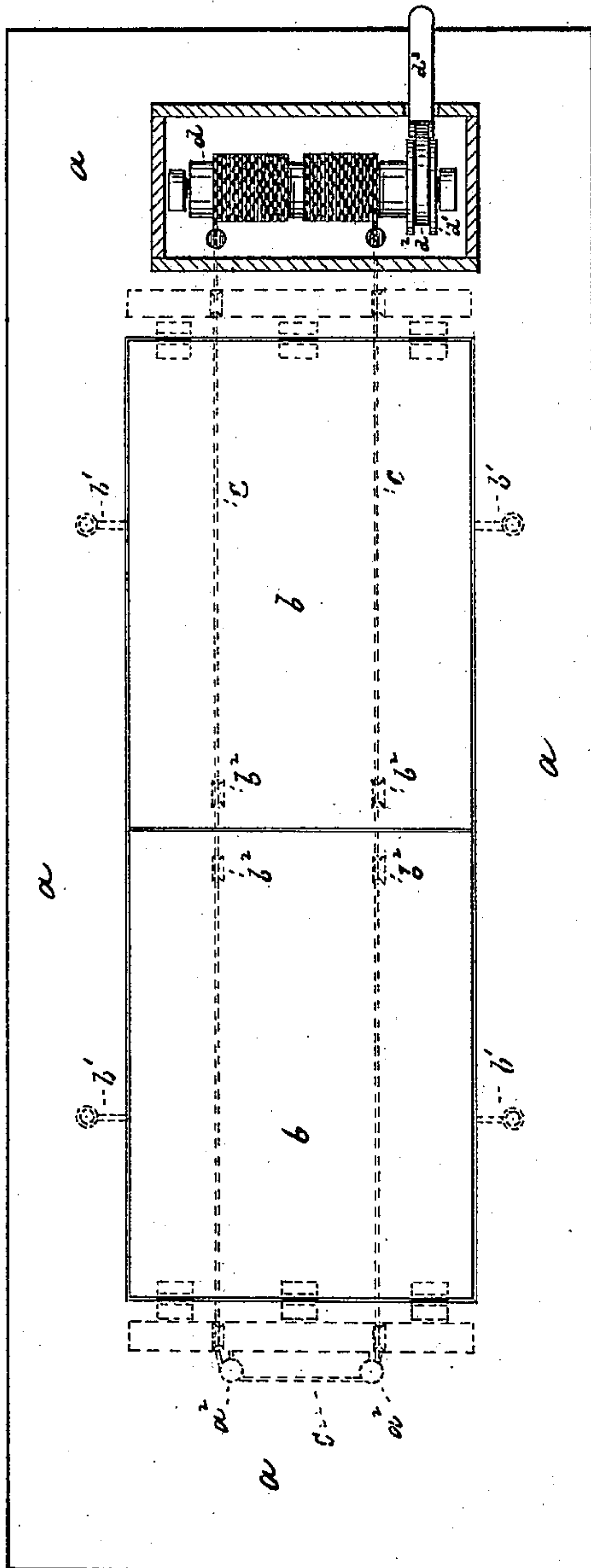
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M. C. SCHERER.
BURIAL APPARATUS.

No. 451,173.

Patented Apr. 28, 1891.

FIG. 1



WITNESSES

Wm. H. Lowe
Wm. Wagner

INVENTOR

Maria C. Scherer
by her attorney
Roeder & Priebe

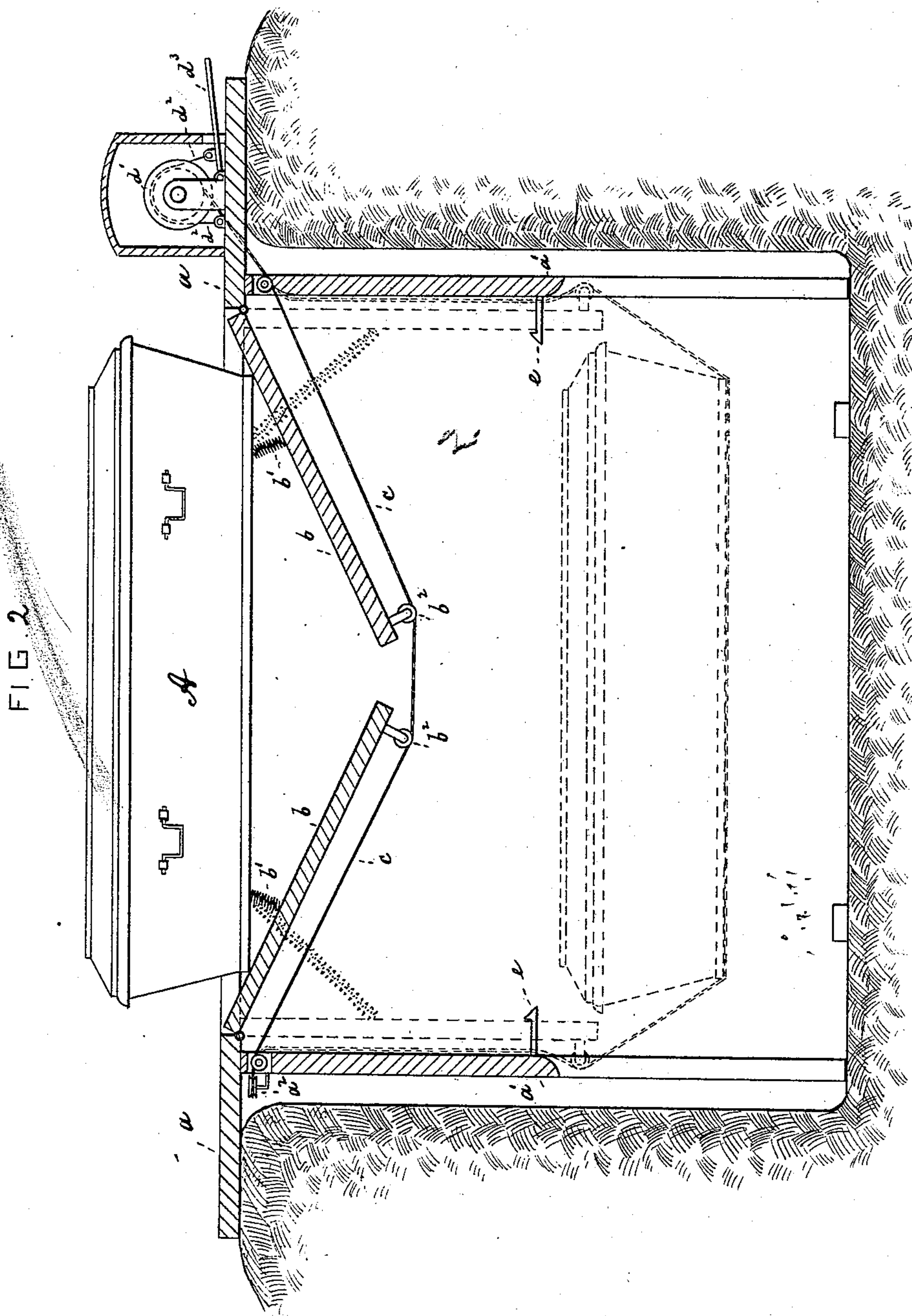
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Wm. Wagner

INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARIA C. SCHERER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BURIAL APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 451,173, dated April 28, 1891.

Application filed April 28, 1890. Serial No. 349,757. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern

Be it known that I, MARIA C. SCHERER, of New York city, New York, have invented an Improved Device for Lowering Coffins, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved device for lowering coffins into the grave; and it consists in the various features of construction, more fully pointed out in the claims.

10 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top view of my improved device for lowering coffins, and Fig. 2 a vertical longitudinal section of the same.

15 The letter *a* represents a square platform open at the center, where it is provided with two hinged trap-doors *b*. At the corners the platform *a* is supported by feet *a'*, which are of a height to reach to the bottom of a grave. The trap-doors *b* are connected by coiled
20 springs *b'* to the lower face of the platform.

c is a rope passing around a drum *d*, thence around friction-rollers *b²* on doors *b*, thence around rollers *a²* on frame *a*, and thence back to the drum. The drum *d* is provided with a
25 sheave *d'*, around which is placed a metal band *d²*, one end of which is fixed, while the other end is connected to a lever *d³*. The sheave, together with the band and lever, constitute a brake.

In use the apparatus is placed into an open 30 grave and the coffin *A* is placed upon the trap-doors. The brake being released, the weight of the coffin will cause the trap-doors to gradually open against the action of springs *b'*, thus permitting a gradual descent of the cof- 35 fin. When the coffin has completely opened the doors and has descended to the bottom of the grave, the doors are held in their open position by spring-hooks *e*. One end of the rope *c* is now detached from the drum, and 40 the rope is drawn from under the coffin, after which the entire device is withdrawn from the grave.

What I claim is—

1. The combination of frame *a* with trap- 45 doors *b*, hinged thereto and having rollers *b²*, and with a rope *c*, that passes over such rollers, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of frame *a*, having rollers *a²*, with hinged doors *b*, having rollers *b²*, 50 and with drum *d* and a rope *c*, passing over the drum and the rollers *a² b²*, substantially as specified.

MARIA C. SCHERER.

Witnesses:

F. V. BRIESEN,
A. JONGHMANS.