

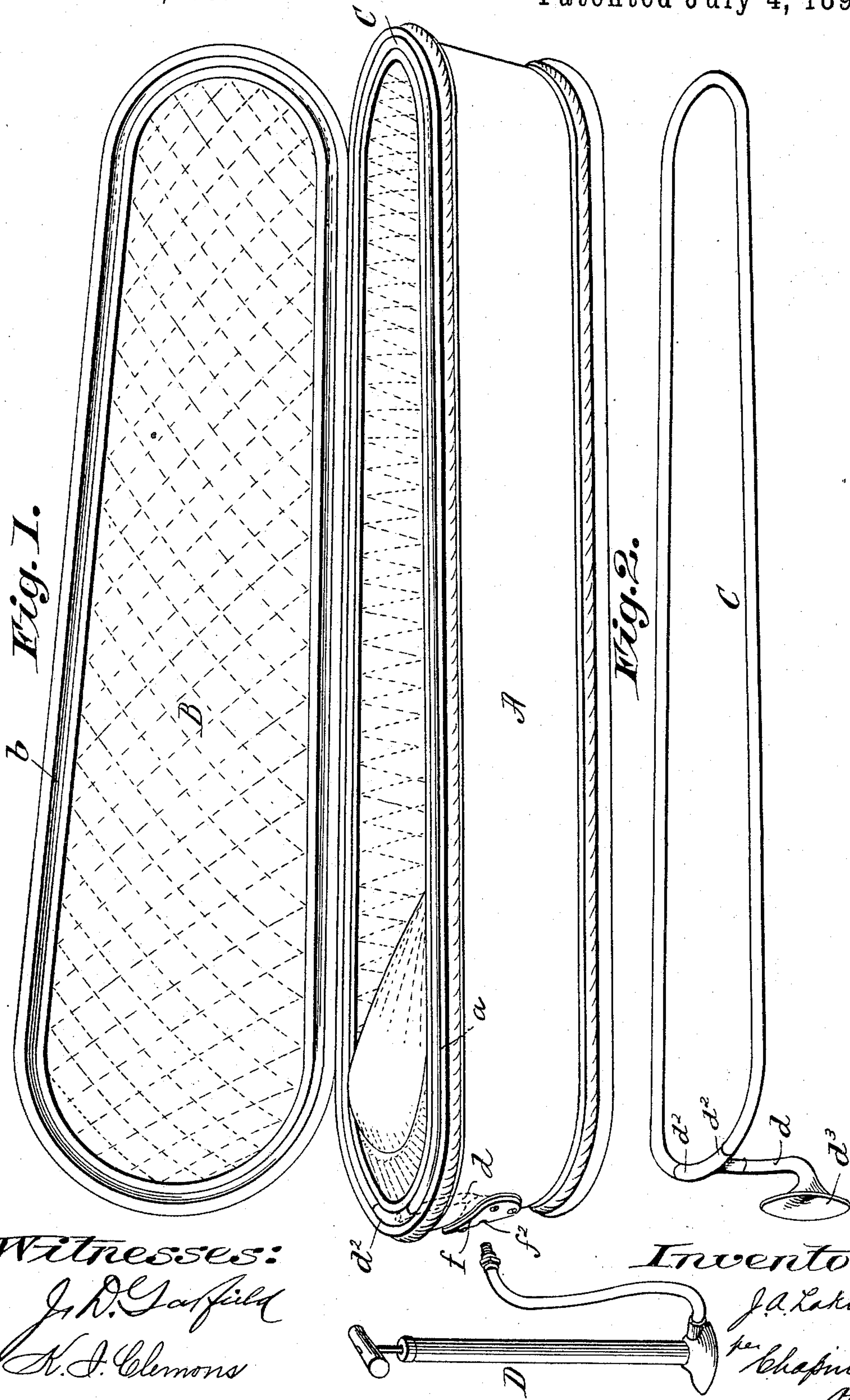
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. A. LAKIN.
BURIAL CASKET.

No. 500,809.

Patented July 4, 1893.



Witnesses:

J. R. Garfield
H. J. Clemons

Inventor,

J. A. Lakin
per *Chapman & Co.*
Attys.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3

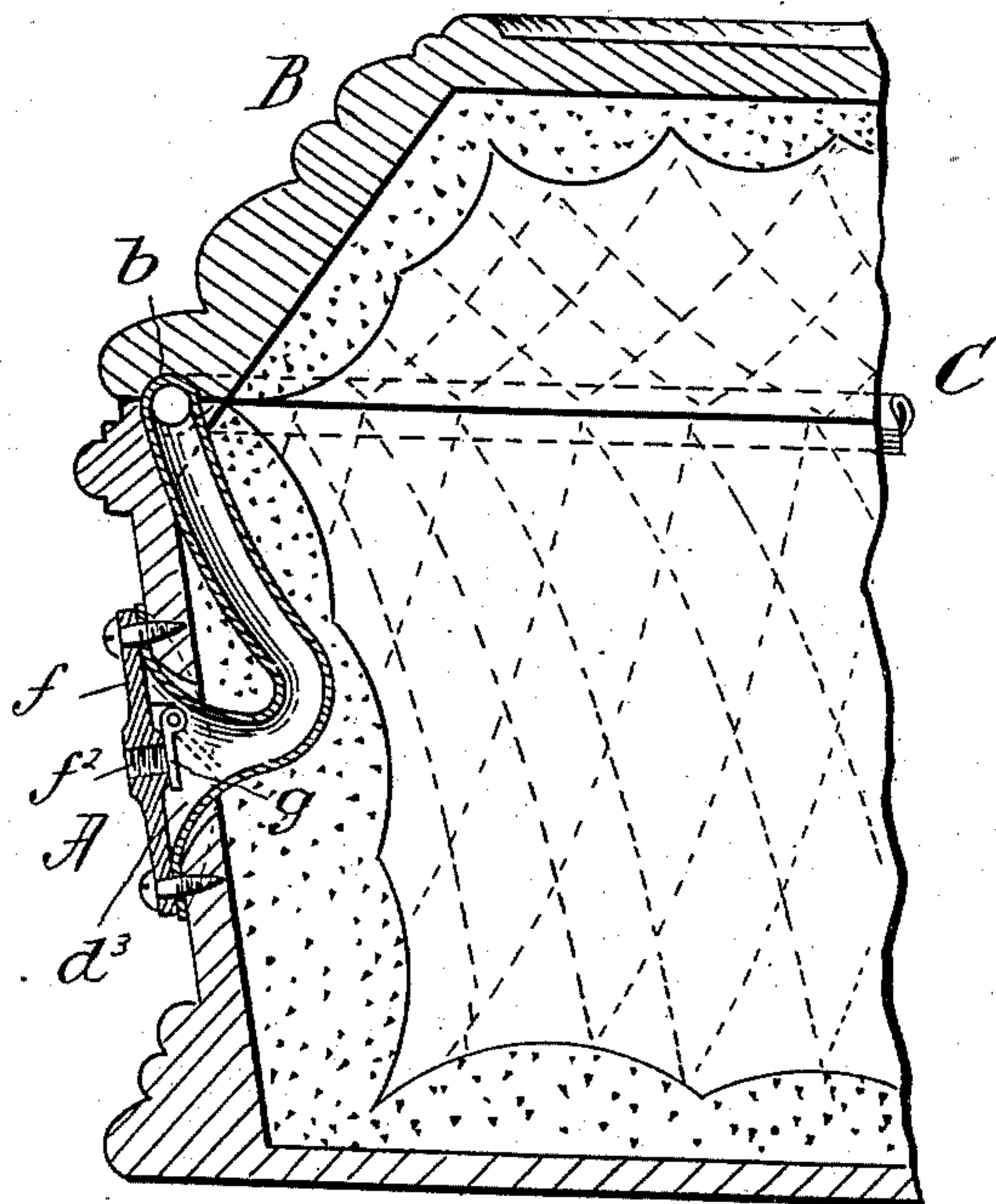


Fig. 3a

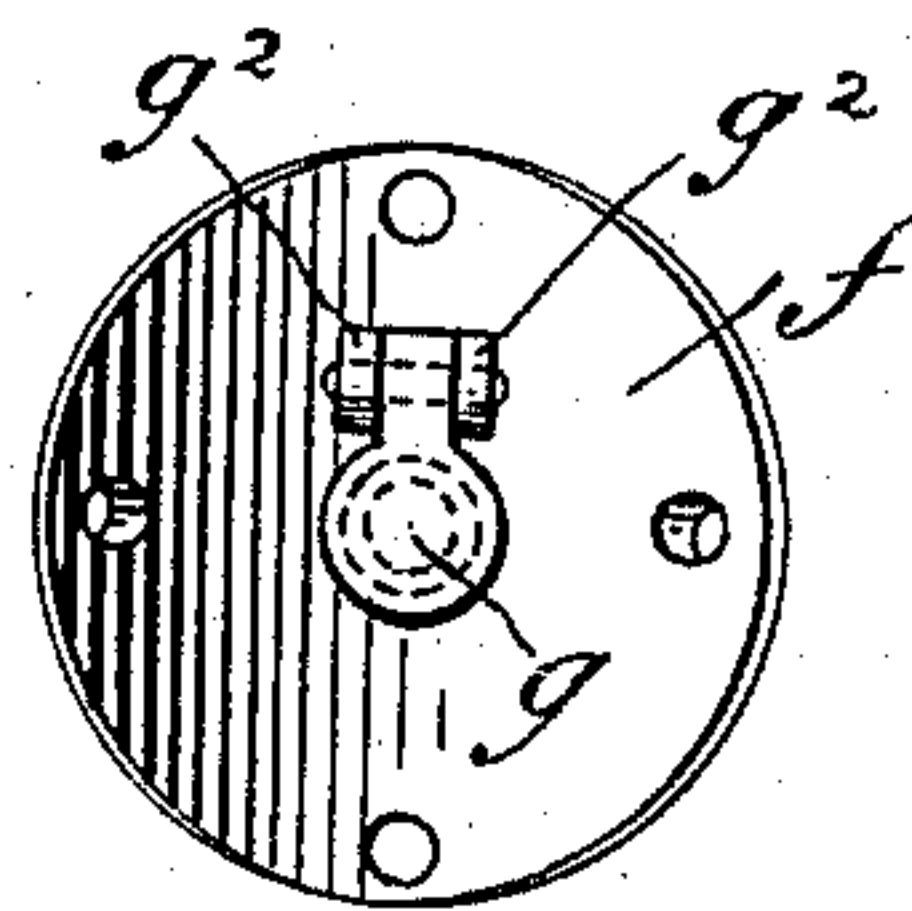
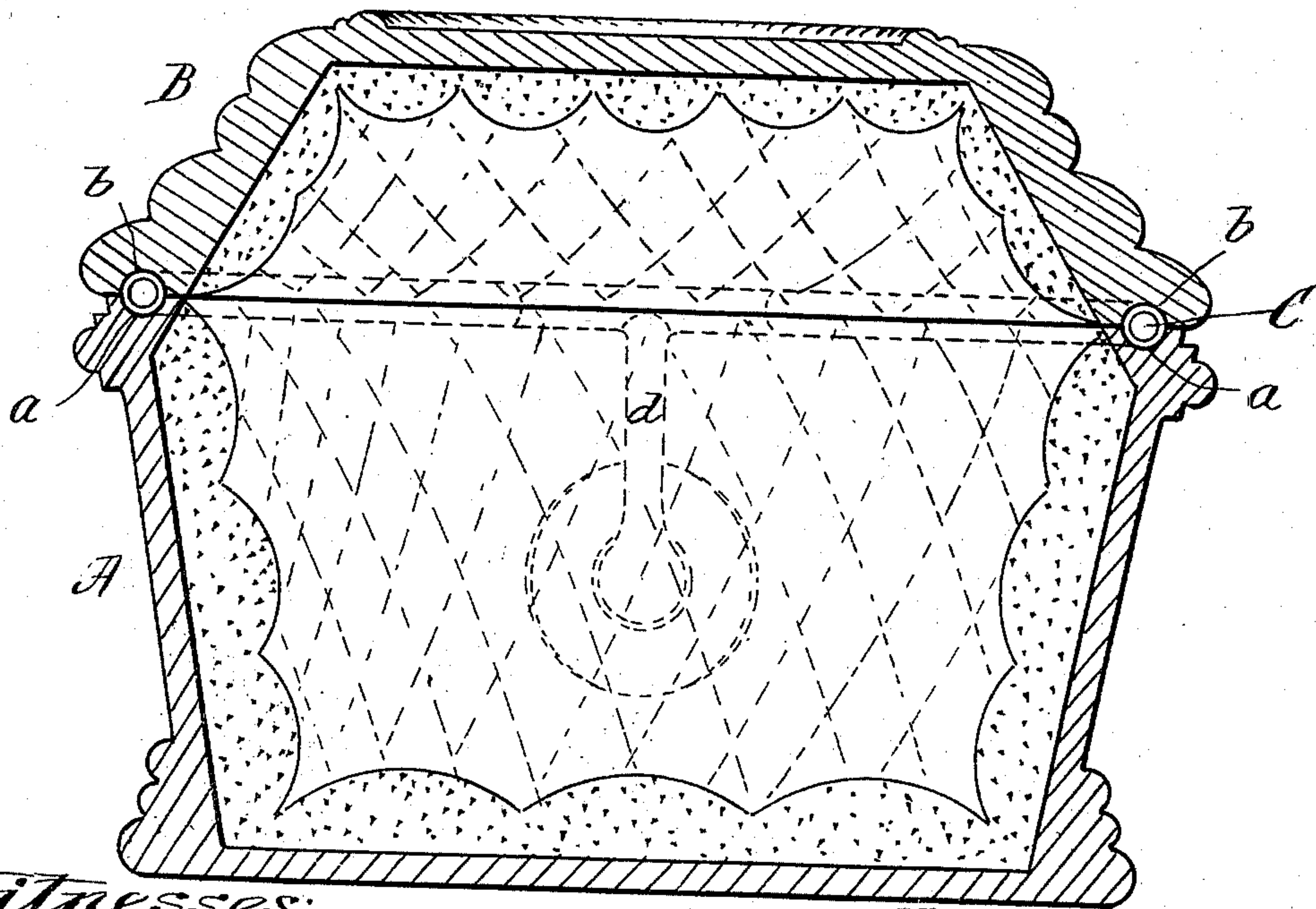


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES A. LAKIN, OF WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

BURIAL-CASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 500,809, dated July 4, 1893.

Application filed December 10, 1892. Serial No. 454,719. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. LAKIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Westfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved and unusually effectual means for hermetically sealing the lid of a casket or other form of burial case, the advantages of which manner of sealing are obvious, and need no mention herein. And the invention consists in a burial case comprising the receptacle and the lid, the one or both having a groove along the line of closure and an inflatable air-tube in the groove-constituted space, and an air-conduit leading from the exterior of the case, and communicating with the air-tube and having a check-valve.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a casket, showing the lid open and having applied thereto the features of novelty comprised in or pertaining to the present invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the air-ring and inflating conduit connected thereto. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken centrally and longitudinally, and comprising but a small portion of the length of the closed casket. Fig. 3^a is a face view of an external plate, or bushing, which has a connection with the inflating air-tube, combined with which is shown a check-valve, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged cross-section of the closed casket.

In the drawings A represents the body of the casket and B the lid, hinged or connected, and both of metal, or any suitable impervious material, as usual, but it will be noticed that the adjoining edges of both the body and cover have grooves, *a* and *b*, which together form a space extending entirely around the casket, and at the place of closure, in which the air-tube, C, is placed. This air-tube may be composed solely of india rubber at a proper condition of vulcanization, or it may be composed of india rubber in any of its elastic compounds, or of rubber in combination with a reinforcing thickness of textile or other material. This air-tube is inflated, or inflatable, so that when the lid is closed the expansive

tendency of the air-tube will insure the complete filling of the continuous space constituted by the matching grooves and insure the exclusion of air to or of gases from the closed burial case.

d represents a conduit which communicates with the air-tube and leads to a suitable external part of the case whereby connection therewith of an air-pump may be had for the inflation of the air-tube to the proper degree of distention, and at the left of Fig. 1, and indicated by D, is shown an air-forcing-pump, the construction of which may be as already well known, and hence requiring no special description herein. As shown the conduit, *d*, has something the form of a T-coupling and the median member thereof may be of metal and is flaring or bell-mouthed at its one end; to the branches, *d*², *d*², which are of rubber or other yielding material, the ends of the air-tube are cemented or otherwise connected, and the flaring portion, *d*³, as here shown, terminates at the outer surface of the body of the casket and receives the bushing or plate, *f*, which is secured in place by screws, or otherwise, and may, if deemed desirable, be lead-jointed or otherwise packed and will be plated or finished as deemed appropriate. This bushing or plate has through it an opening, *f*², here indicated as being screw-threaded, although not necessarily so,—for the reception of a nozzle of the air-pump; and a check-valve is provided for the inflating conduit, *d*, so that air forced therethrough may not escape, and to this end the hinged valve, *g*, is pivotally hung between the ear-lugs, *g*², to swing at the inner side of the aforesaid plate, *f*. Valves of other description might be applied for the stated purpose and the application or arrangement thereof might be otherwise than as specifically shown, the primary purpose being to securely retain, for an indefinite period, practically all of the air within the air-tube which shall have been forced thereinto.

While, as shown and as will be manifest, it is preferred to have an approximately semi-circular groove and the contiguous edges of both lid and body of the casket limitation is not intended to be made with respect to the duplicated grooving for either the case or the lid might be provided with a groove having

a depth almost or quite as great as the diameter of the inflated air-tube into which the latter might be placed without departing from the invention.

5 In some kinds of burial cases it may be desirable to form the tube-receiving groove or grooves and provide the air-tube therein lengthwise along but part of the edge of the case. And, again, of course, the conduit, *d*,
10 might be extended to the outside of the lid from its connection with the air-ring; but such arrangements, as just above mentioned, merely involve judgment and expediency.

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

1. A burial case comprising the receptacle and the lid, the one or both having a groove along the line of closure and an inflatable air-

tube in the groove-constituted space, and an 20 air-conduit leading from the exterior of the case, and communicating with the air-tube and having a check-valve, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the burial case 25 with the lid, grooved, substantially as described, and the air-tube, of the conduit, *d*, having the flexible branches, *d*², *d*², to which the terminals of the air-tube are connected, said conduit also having the flaring extremity 30 terminating at the exterior of the case and the bushing plate, *f*, having the opening and a check-valve thereat, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

JAMES A. LAKIN.

Witnesses:

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E. O. GIBBS.