

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. A. RUEBEKAM.
LID FOR BURIAL CASKETS.

No. 545,176.

Patented Aug. 27, 1895.

Fig. 1

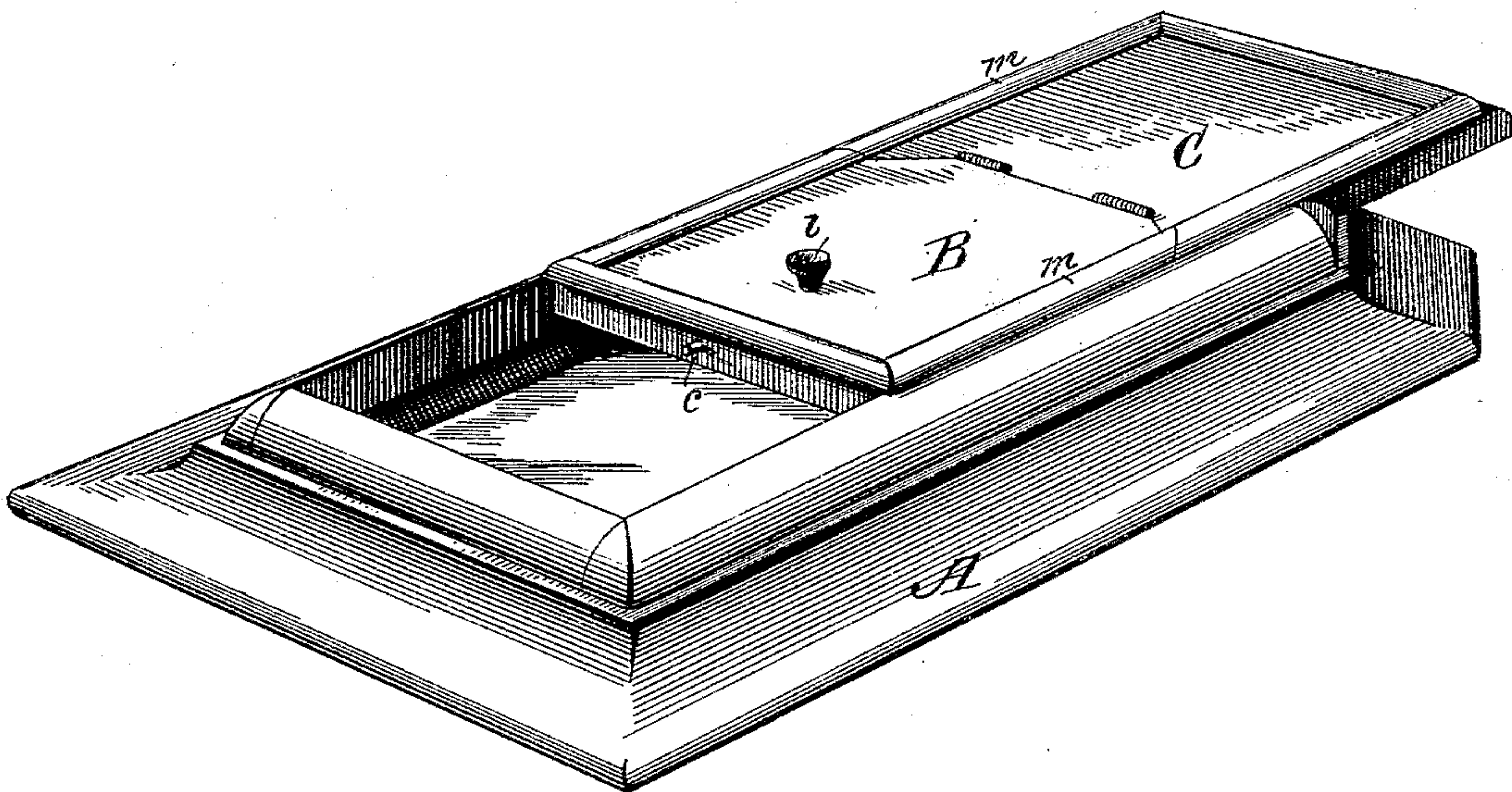


Fig. 2

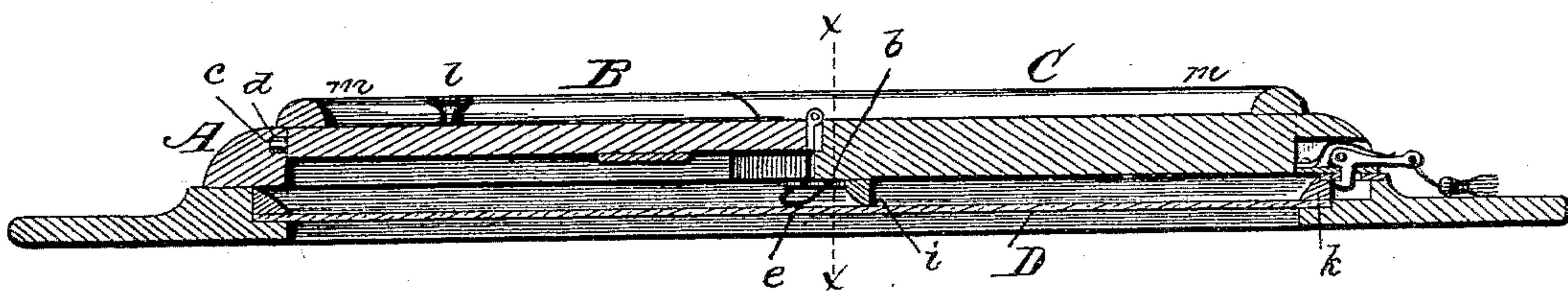
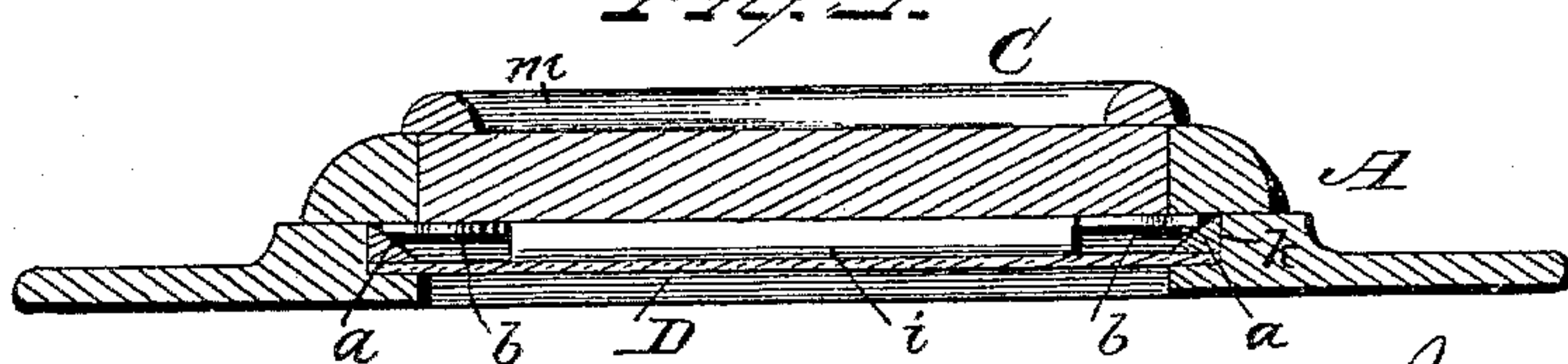
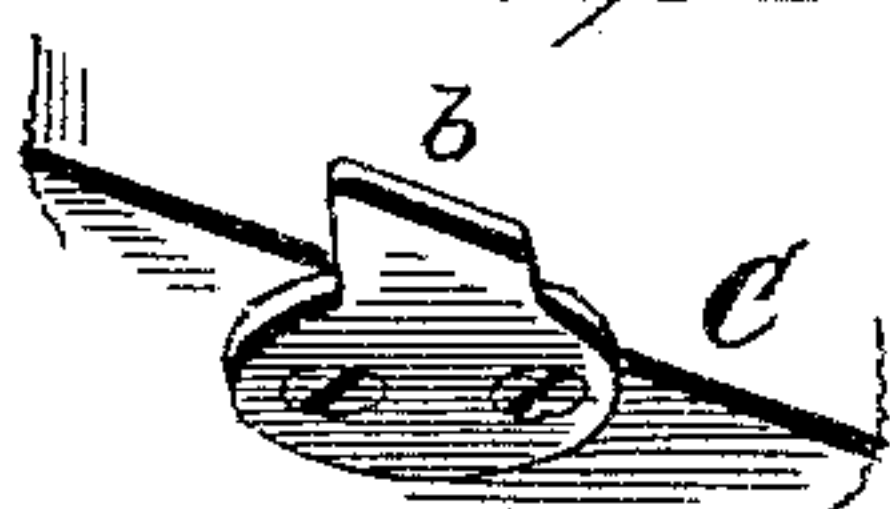


Fig. 3



Witnesses
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per Cha. H. Fowler
Attorney.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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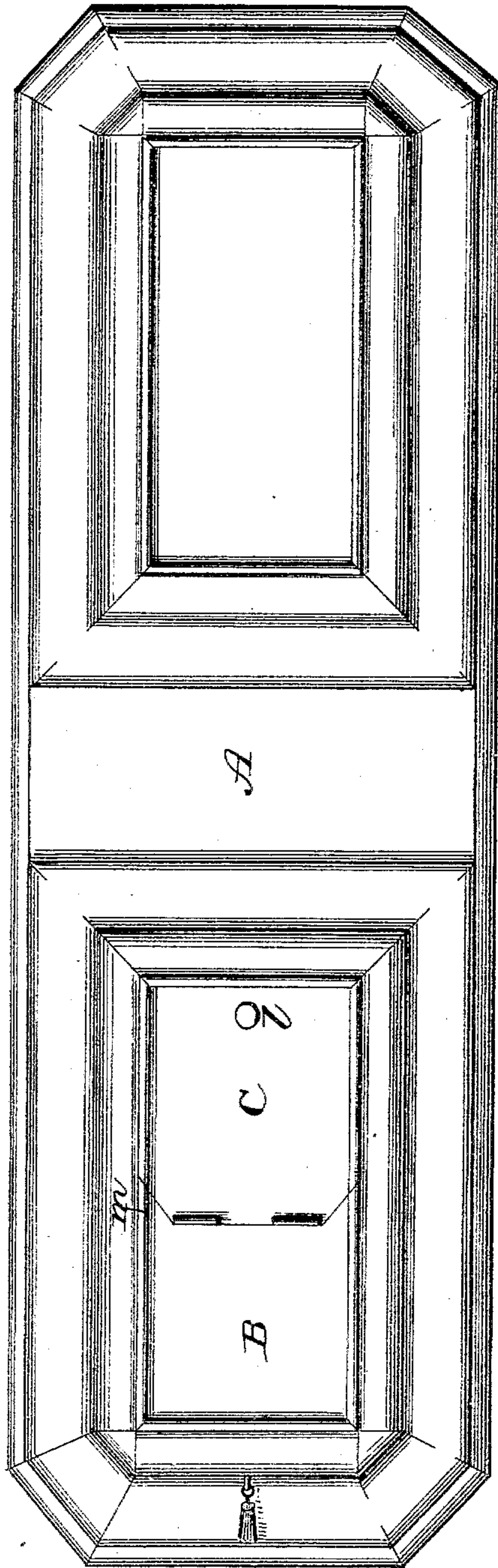


Fig. 5

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. RUEBEKAM, OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO LYMAN
E. WOODWARD, OF SAME PLACE.

LID FOR BURIAL-CASKETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 545,176, dated August 27, 1895.

Application filed February 8, 1895. Serial No. 537,714. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. RUEBEKAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Owosso, in the county of Shiawassee and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lids for Burial-Caskets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has relation to that class of burial-caskets provided with hinged or sliding lids, and the object thereof is to improve the construction of the lid, as will be hereinafter described and subsequently pointed out in the claim.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a portion of the top of a burial-casket in perspective, showing the sliding and hinged lid partly open; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section with the lid closed; Fig. 3, a transverse section taken on line *x x* of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a detail view in perspective showing one of the guides upon the under side of the lid. Fig. 5 is a perspective of a casket, showing the cover complete.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a portion of the top of a burial-casket, which may be of any suitable design and ornamentation, and, if desired, covered with black cloth or other material, as found preferable. This top, as shown in the drawings, is located at the head of the casket and has the usual face-opening, in which slides the hinged lid-sections B C, said opening having the usual glass face-plate D, which is secured in place in any well-known and desirable manner. The top A upon the sides of the opening has longitudinal grooves *a* to receive guides *b*, secured to the under side of the lid-section C, whereby said section is held in position when closed and also guided in its sliding movement.

Any suitable guides or arrangement of grooves or recesses may be provided in place of those shown, and to lock the lid-section B in position when closed the end of the section is provided with a pin *c*, which engages a hole *d* in the end of the casket-top A, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The lid-section B is made thinner than the

section C, in order to enable a raised name-plate to be used without interfering with the glass face-plate D, so that when said section is thrown up and back into position the plate will be exposed.

Suitable flexible connections *e*, of black ribbon, cloth, or other material, may join the two lid-sections at the point where they are hinged, to serve as means in preventing the section B from being thrown too far back and hold it in an inclined position.

The hinged lid-section C is secured in its closed position by means of a suitable catch E, which is spring-actuated and is preferably provided with a cord *f* for operating it and a spring *g* for retaining the catch in engagement with the keeper *h*, which may be of any well-known form, as may also the spring-actuated catch. When it is desired to open the lid, the catch is raised by the cord until it is out of engagement with the keeper, which will also raise the end of the section C to a slight degree. In this position the lid-section C, as well as the section B, is moved forward until the stop *i* upon the under side of the section C strikes the abutment or portion of the top A, as shown at *k*. The lid-sections will now be brought forward to their greatest extent, after which the section B is thrown up and back in position to expose the face-plate D nearly its entire length. When closing the lid, the knob *l* is taken hold of and the lid-section to which it is connected is lowered and the two sections moved back in a closed position, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the pin *c* of the section B engaging with the hole *d* to lock the section and prevent its being raised except when both sections are moved forward.

Any suitable means may be employed for automatically locking the lid-section B in a closed position, although in the present instance the pin is considered the most simple means for attaining this result.

The sections B C may have an ornamental bead *m* around their edges and projecting therefrom a sufficient distance to overlap the upperside of the casket-top A, and thus form a support for said sections. The inner ends of the sections B C, which are hinged together, are cut in the form shown, or may be curved,

semicircular, elliptical, octagon, or any other preferred shape found most desirable.

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

5 A casket cover having an opening through it that is closed with the glass D, and suitable raised guides applied to the top of the cover around the opening above the glass; combined
10 with a sliding cover composed of two sections hinged together and placed in the guides; the front section having a sliding movement, and

also adapted to be raised at one end, while the rear section has only a sliding movement for the purpose of moving the front section 15 backward, substantially as shown.

In testimony that I claim the above, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

CHAS. A. RUEBEKAM.

Witnesses:

LOUIS FLICKINGER,
GRACE MERSHON.