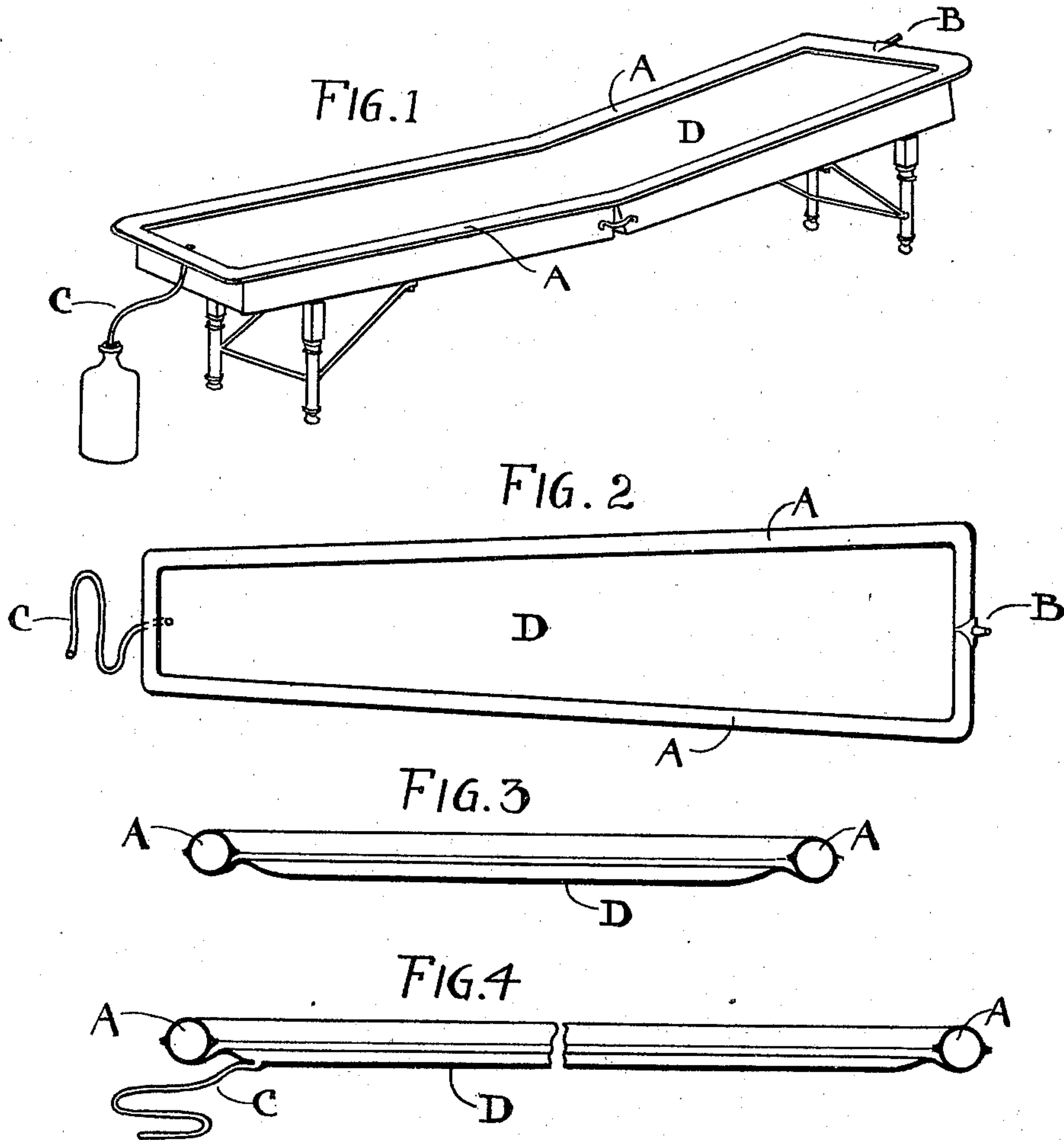


(No Model.)

W. A. GRIFFITH & S. LOVELL
UNDERTAKER'S SANITARY SHEET.

No. 590,188.

Patented Sept. 14, 1897.



William A. Griffith
Edney Lovell
Inventors

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. GRIFFITH AND SIDNEY LOVELL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

UNDERTAKER'S SANITARY SHEET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,188, dated September 14, 1897.

Application filed February 12, 1897. Serial No. 623,206. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM A. GRIFFITH and SIDNEY LOVELL, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in an article known as an Undertaker's Sanitary Sheet; and we 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.

Our invention relates to an improvement in undertakers' sanitary sheets for use on cooling-boards while preparing a corpse for burial. Heretofore undertakers have used merely a plain sheet of rubber or other material, or nothing at all, and it is obvious that while washing the corpse, using embalming fluids, or in dropsical cases, where there are drip- pings from the corpse, it was difficult to take care of these fluids, prevent them from ruin- ing carpets, and possibly spreading conta- gious diseases.

The present invention obviates these diffi- culties, and consists of a sheet of rubber or other material impervious to moisture, around the outer edge of which is formed an inflat- able tube. This tube is provided with an air- valve, to which may be attached an air-bulb or air-pump, and when the tube is inflated the sheet becomes practically a shallow pan, which prevents all liquids from escaping ex- cept by way of the drainage-tube, which is attached at a convenient place in the sheet and conducted into a bottle or other recep- tacle. The air-tube is made easily collapsi- ble so that when the air is released the sheet may be folded into a very small package and thus be convenient for transportation.

The parts and combinations of parts will be hereinafter more fully described and pointed out.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the improved sheet ready for use as it rests upon an ordi- nary cooling-board, showing the inflated tube A, the air-valve B, and the drainage-tube C. Fig. 2 represents a plan of the improved sheet, looking at it from above. Fig. 3 represents a transverse section, on a larger scale, of the improved sheet, showing the air-tube A in- flated. Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal sec- tion, reduced in length, of the improved sheet,

showing the inflated tube A and the drainage- tube C.

A represents the inflatable tube, surround- ing sheet. The tube is either an integral part of the sheet or made separate of rubber or other impervious material and secured to the sheet. The sectional form of the tube is not necessarily round or oval. It may be of any form that will best serve the purpose.

B represents an ordinary air-valve such as is used on rubber pillows, air-cushions, &c., which is provided with means for confining and releasing the air in the tube and a nipple for the attachment of an air-bulb or air-pump or for inflation by the lungs.

C represents the drainage-tube, which is of rubber or other flexible material, one end of which is imperviously secured to the sheet under an annular opening, which is most con- veniently located to properly carry off the liquids.

D represents the body of the sheet proper, which is of rubber or other material imper- vious to moisture, and it is either an integral part of the tube or made separate and secured to the tube.

Having fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to protect by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture for the use of undertakers, a sanitary sheet of such form and size as to adapt it to cover the usual un- dertaker's cooling-board, and having a body portion of rubber or other material impervi- ous to moisture, and a marginal tubular por- tion adapted to retain air under pressure and affording when inflated a continuous raised or thickened edge or margin, adapted to sur- round the body and to prevent the escape of liquids, said inflatable portion having an air- valve to allow inflation by a pump, bulb, or the lungs, and the body portion or sheet hav- ing a drainage-tube imperviously secured thereto, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof we have signed this specification in the presence of two subscrib- ing witnesses.

WILLIAM A. GRIFFITH.
SIDNEY LOVELL.

Witnesses:

FRANK W. GRIFFITH,
W. S. ROBINSON.