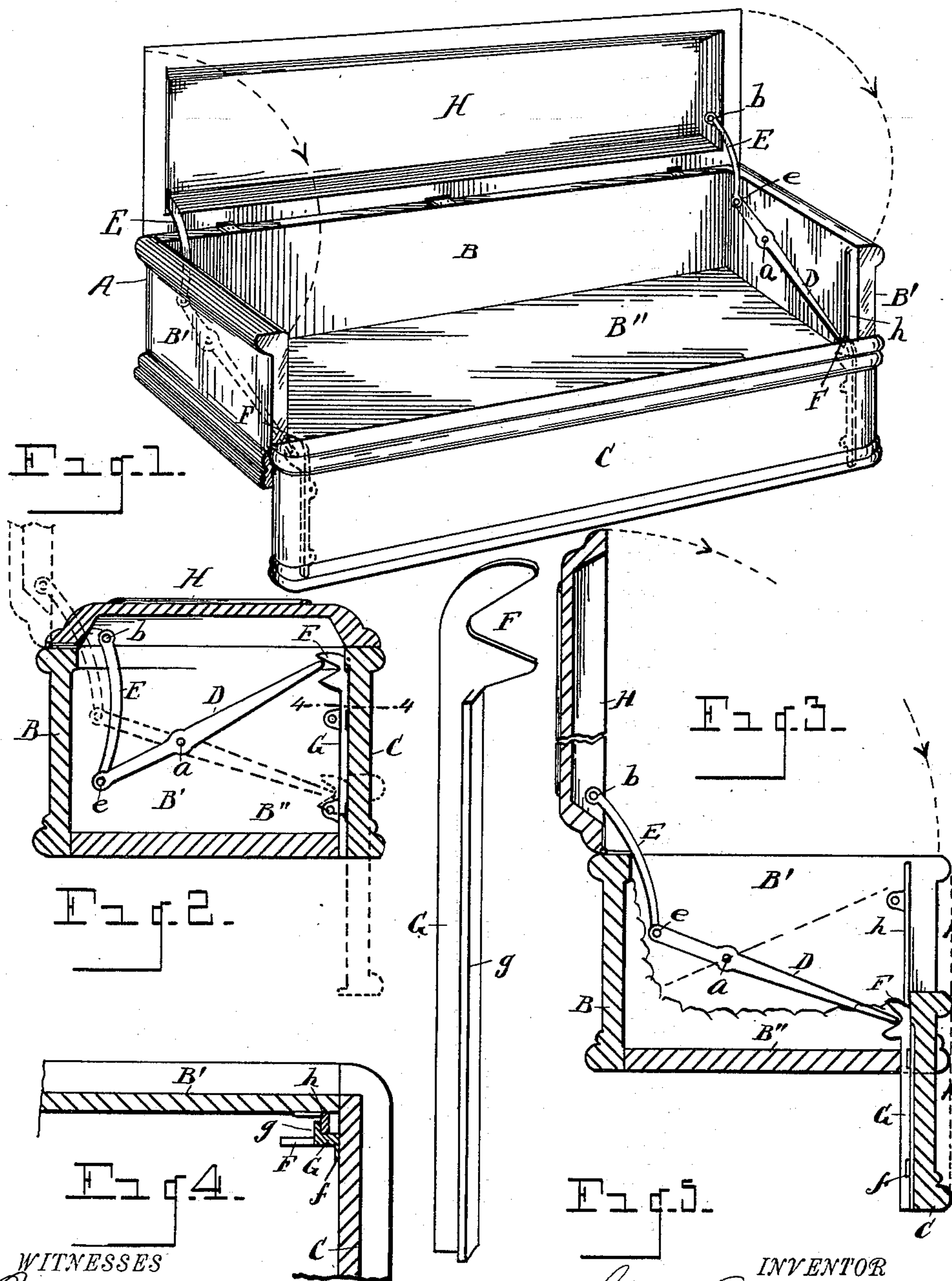


(No Model.)

C. E. MYERS.
BURIAL CASKET.

No. 604,334.

Patented May 17, 1898.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. MYERS, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
JAMES G. BARTON, OF SAME PLACE.

BURIAL-CASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 604,334, dated May 17, 1898.

Application filed October 16, 1897. Serial No. 655,383. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. MYERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Caskets; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to burial-caskets; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter set forth, and pointed out particularly in the claims.

The object of the invention is to produce a burial-casket in which the arrangement is such that the front side of the casket may be dropped or caused to slide vertically downward when the casket-lid is opened and raised to its normal position when said lid is closed, producing by simple and effective means a couch casket when open and a state casket when closed. This object is attained by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved casket, showing the hinged lid raised and the front side dropped, presenting the appearance of a couch. Fig. 2 is a transverse section through the casket closed. Fig. 3 is a like section through the casket opened. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail in horizontal section, as on line 4 4 of Fig. 2, showing means for uniting the movable front side of the casket to the ends thereof. Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective of one of the jaws and angle-irons located at the ends of the movable side of the casket, affording means for raising and lowering said side and guiding it in its vertical movement.

Referring to the letters of reference, A designates the body or shell of the casket, the back B and the ends B' of which are firmly united and fixedly secured to the bottom B". The front side C of the casket shell or body is mounted thereon so as to slide vertically, being adapted to be depressed until the top thereof shall stand nearly on a plane with the

bottom of the casket, as shown in Fig. 1, or raised to its normal position, as shown in Fig. 2.

The vertical movement of the front side of the casket is effected through the medium of the levers D, pivoted at *e* to the ends of the shell and having pivoted to their inner ends the links E, which are pivoted at *b* to the lid of the casket. The outer ends of said levers D lie freely in the jaws F, formed on the upper ends of the standards G, which are secured vertically to the inner face of the movable side C of the shell, near each end thereof, said standards being retained in place by means of bolts passing through the ears *f* thereon.

The lid H of the casket is hinged at its rear edge to the top of the back of the casket-shell, and by means of the pivoted levers and connecting-links, as above described, when the lid of the casket is opened the outer end of the levers D are thrown downward, thereby forcing downward the front side C of the casket-shell through the engagement of the outer ends of said levers with the jaws F, carried by said movable side. Upon the closing of the casket-lid the outer end of the levers D are raised, thereby carrying upward the movable side C to its normal position, as shown in Fig. 2.

To hold the movable side C of the casket-shell in place during its vertical movement, the standards G, secured to the opposite ends thereof, are provided with a lateral flange *g*, which projects from the edge thereof, forming an L in said standards, adapted to receive the vertical ribs *h*, secured to the ends of the shell, which serve as a track or guide for the side C in its vertical movement and prevent said side from being pushed outward or away from the ends of the shell by the action of the levers D.

It will now be understood that by means of the arrangement of parts as above described a simple and efficient provision is made for dropping the front side of the casket-shell when the lid of the casket is raised and for raising said side to its normal position when the lid is closed, enabling a couch effect to be produced in an inexpensive manner in a casket which is firm and durable and pro-

ducing when closed the substantial and solid effect of a state casket.

Having thus fully set forth my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a burial-casket, the combination with the casket-shell, of the vertically-movable side, the hinged lid mounted on the fixed portion of the casket, and means connecting said movable side with said hinged lid to effect a vertical movement of said side as said lid is opened and closed.

2. In a burial-casket, the combination of the rigid portion of the casket-shell, of the vertical movable side thereof, the hinged lid mounted on the fixed portion of the shell, and the levers and links connecting said lid with said movable side.

3. In a burial-casket, the combination with

the casket-shell, of the side mounted to move vertically thereon, the hinged lid, the pivoted levers connected with said lid, and the jaws carried by said movable side engaged by the ends of said levers.

4. In a casket, the combination with the fixed portion of the casket-shell comprising the bottom, ends, and one side, of the complementary portion of said shell consisting of a movable side, the lid hinged to the fixed side of the shell, and means connecting said lid with said movable side to effect a movement thereof as the lid is opened and closed.

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

CHARLES E. MYERS.

Witnesses:

JAMES G. BARTON,
EDGAR S. WHEELER.