

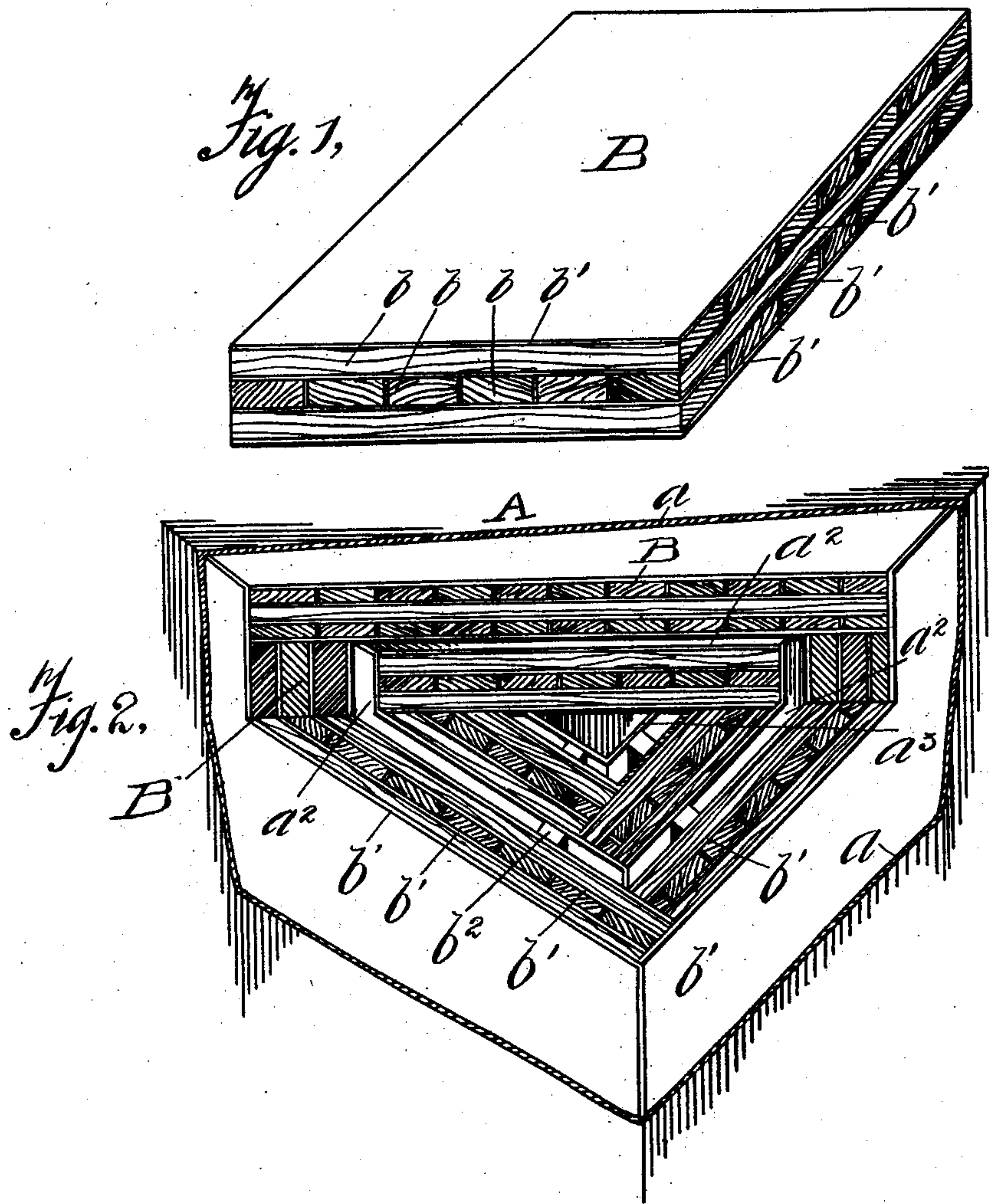
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C. A. BARBER.  
SAFE.

(Application filed Mar. 29, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SAFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 716,853, dated December 30, 1902.

Application filed March 29, 1902. Serial No. 100,570. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. BARBER, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Montreal, in the county of Hochelaga, Province of Quebec, Canada, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Safes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in safes; and it has for its object to provide a safe the construction of which shall render it not only fireproof, but shall also render it an absolute non-conductor.

A further object is to provide a fireproof safe which is simple in construction, light in weight, and which can be manufactured at a very moderate cost.

To these ends the invention consists of a safe constructed substantially as hereinafter illustrated and described, and defined in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a portion of the material used in the construction of the safe. Fig. 2 is a similar view, partly in section, of a corner of a safe constructed in accordance with this invention.

The primary purpose of this invention is to provide a small safe for the preservation of jewels and important papers, which by reason of its light weight can be conveniently carried in a trunk or valise while traveling. The ordinary jeweler's safe, by reason of its excessive weight, cannot be utilized in this manner. Moreover, its great cost places it beyond the means of most people.

The safe constructed in accordance with this invention is so light as to be conveniently carried in an ordinary trunk or valise, thereby affording travelers protection from loss by fire or other accident of valuable papers or jewels carried therein.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a fragment of a safe embodying this invention, which is constructed of an outer shell or envelop  $a$ , of steel or any other suitable metal, the edges of which are practically hermetically sealed by means of a suitable lap-joint, as will be readily understood. Within this outer metal shell  $a$  is mounted one or more partitions B, which are separated a suitable distance from each other, forming one or more

dead-air spaces  $a^2$ , which operate as effective non-conductors.

The partitions B are constructed of a series of layers  $b$  of pieces of wood which have been subjected previously to a suitable fireproofing process. These pieces of wood are slightly separated from each other and are laid cross-grain, so as to give maximum strength, as is well known.

Between the layers of wood and in the spaces separating the individual pieces of wood is placed a fireproof cement which when hardened unites and retains the whole into a solid compact integral mass of great strength and exceeding lightness.

Upon the top and bottom of the partitions B and between the layers  $b$  is cemented a layer of thick paper  $b'$ , which has also been previously rendered fireproof by means of any suitable process.

It will be evident in view of the construction just described that the partitions B are not only perfectly fireproof, but are also practically perfect non-conductors.

The partitions are placed within the outer shell  $a$ , and the ends thereof are fitted together by being oppositely overlapped, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, and the seams are covered by the layers of paper  $b$ , so as to practically hermetically seal the joints.

The several partitions B are somewhat separated from each other, forming the dead-air spaces  $a^2$ , one of which constitutes the space between the inner partition B and the inner metal shell  $a^3$ , which is also hermetically sealed and is similar in construction to the shell  $a$ , which forms the exterior of the safe.

The partitions B are retained in their separated position by means of the strips  $b^2$  and the integrity of the dead-air spaces thus maintained.

It is obvious that as many partitions B may be utilized as may be desired and also that these several partitions may be constructed with as many different layers as the requirements of the structure demand. It is also apparent that by reason of the construction of the partitions B and the employment of dead-air spaces the structure is not only rendered fireproof, but also a perfect non-conductor, thus adapting the invention for use not only as a portable fireproof safe, but also adapting it



for refrigerators and cold-storage buildings or wherever a fireproof structure that is an efficient non-conductor is required.

It is to be expressly understood that this invention is not limited to the details of construction herein illustrated and described, the particular form and construction herein disclosed being intended merely as a simple and convenient embodiment of the principles of the invention for the purposes of description, and they may be varied to suit the requirements of any special case.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A safe constructed with an inner and an outer shell, a series of fireproof and non-conductive partitions interposed between said inner and outer shells, said partitions being separated by suitable strips to form dead-air spaces, each of said partitions being constructed of a series of layers of fireproofed

wood and alternating layers of fireproofed paper, the said layers being bound together by means of a fireproofed cement, substantially as shown and described.

2. A partition for safes and other structures, constructed of a series of layers of fireproofed wooden strips, a layer of fireproofed paper interposed between each of said layers and upon each of the outer surfaces of said partition, and a fireproofed cement interposed between all of the said layers, whereby the whole is bound together and retained in a compact, integral mass, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES A. BARBER.

Witnesses:

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