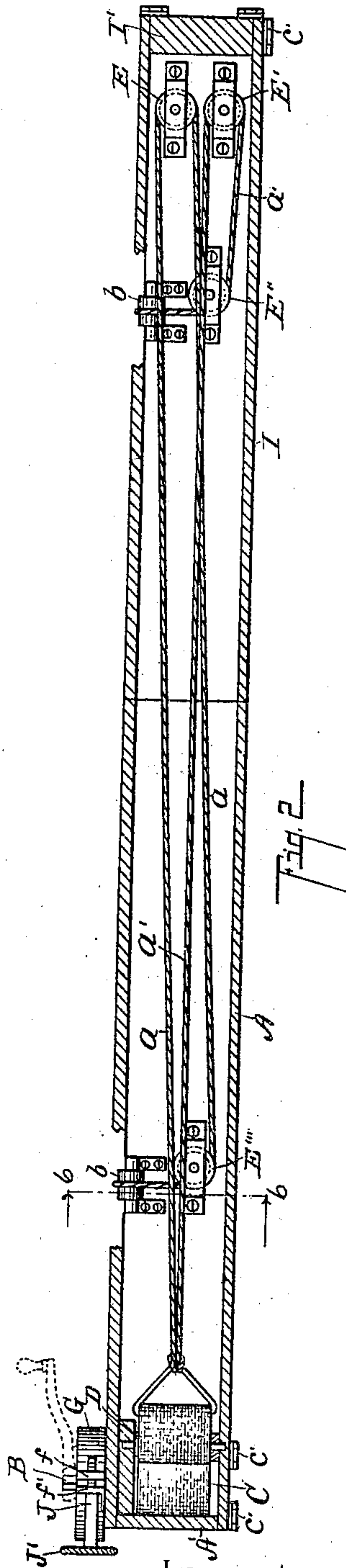
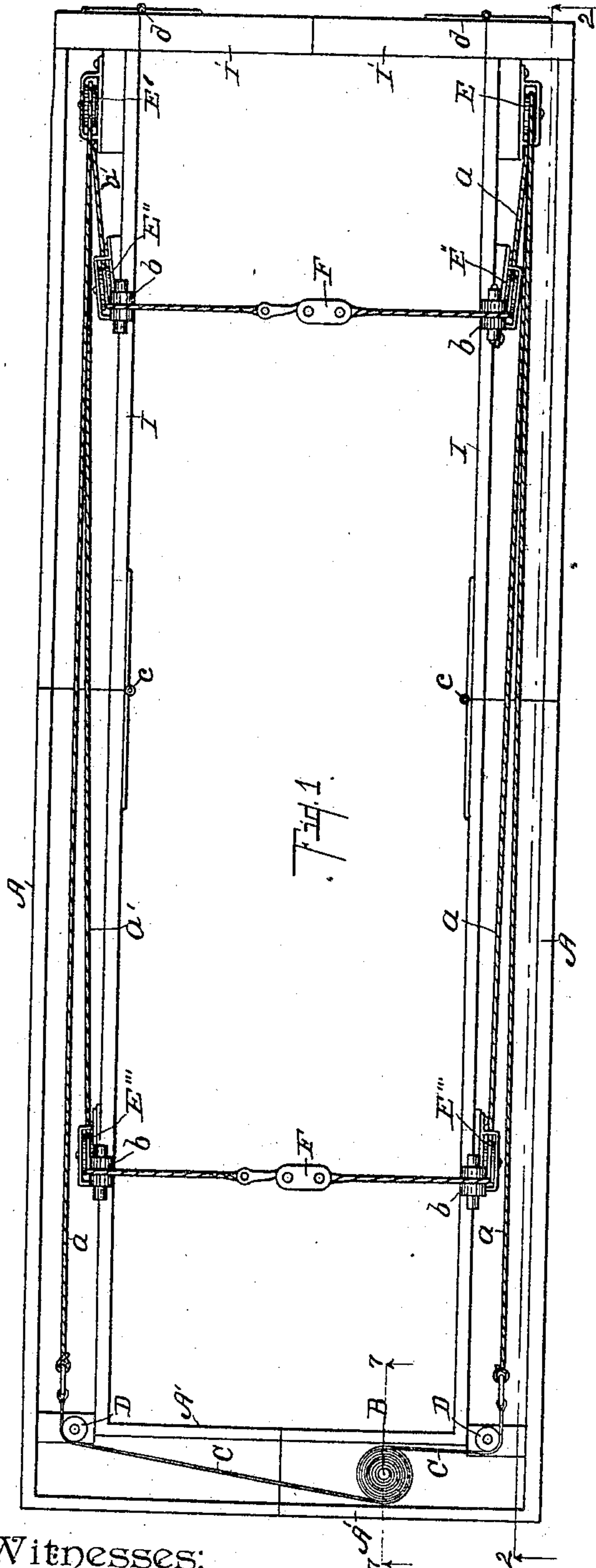


No. 837,645.

PATENTED DEC. 4, 1906.

R. A. SHOESMITH.
BURIAL APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 14, 1902.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:

D. Edward
Chas. B. Earl

Inventor,

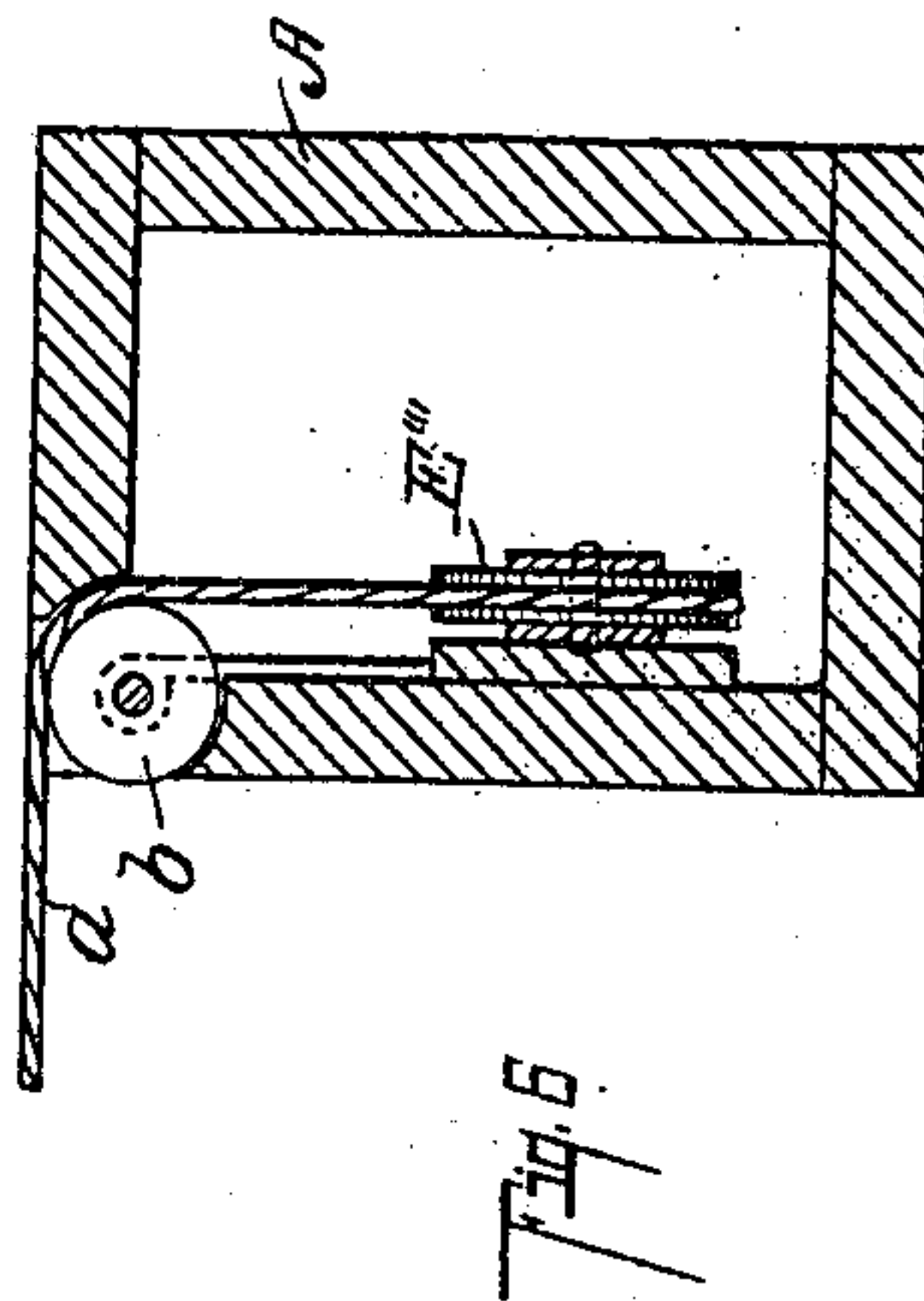
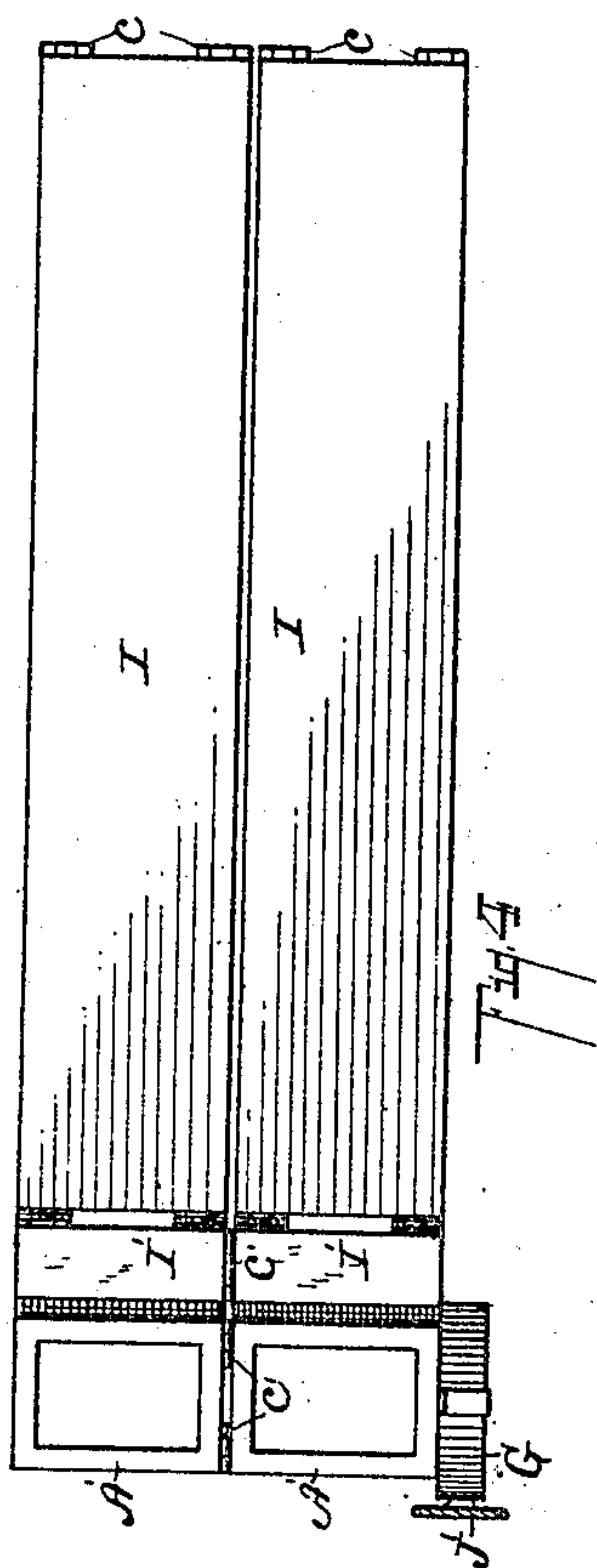
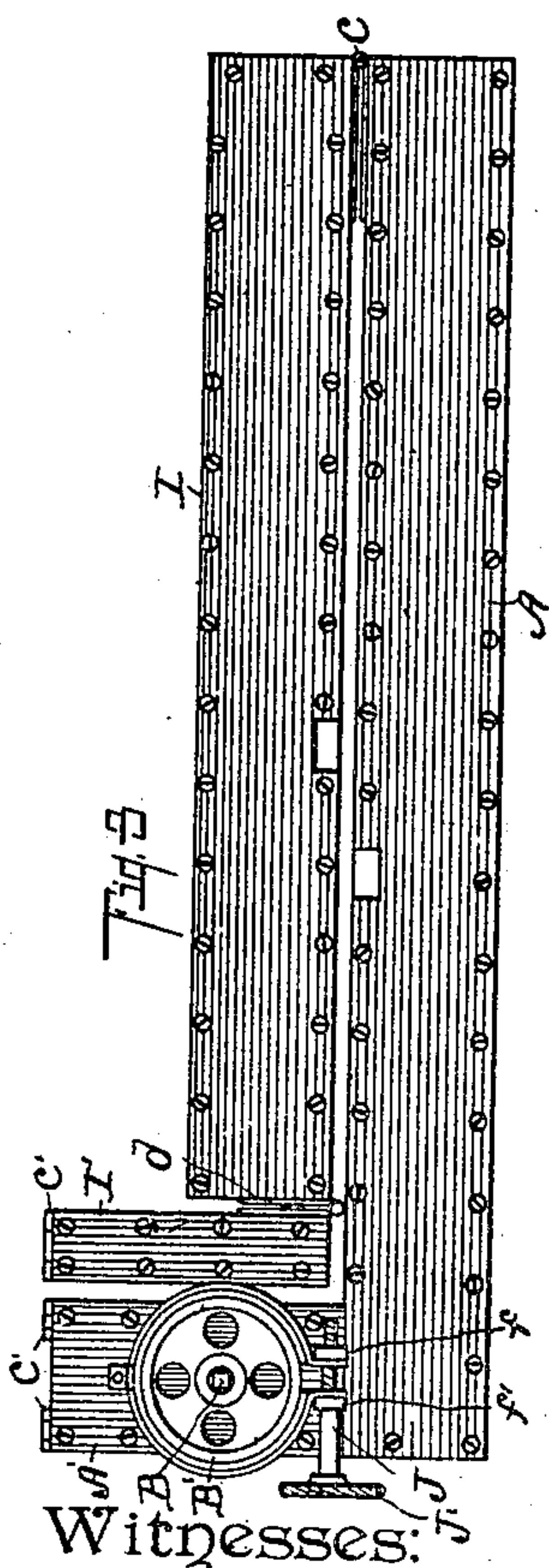
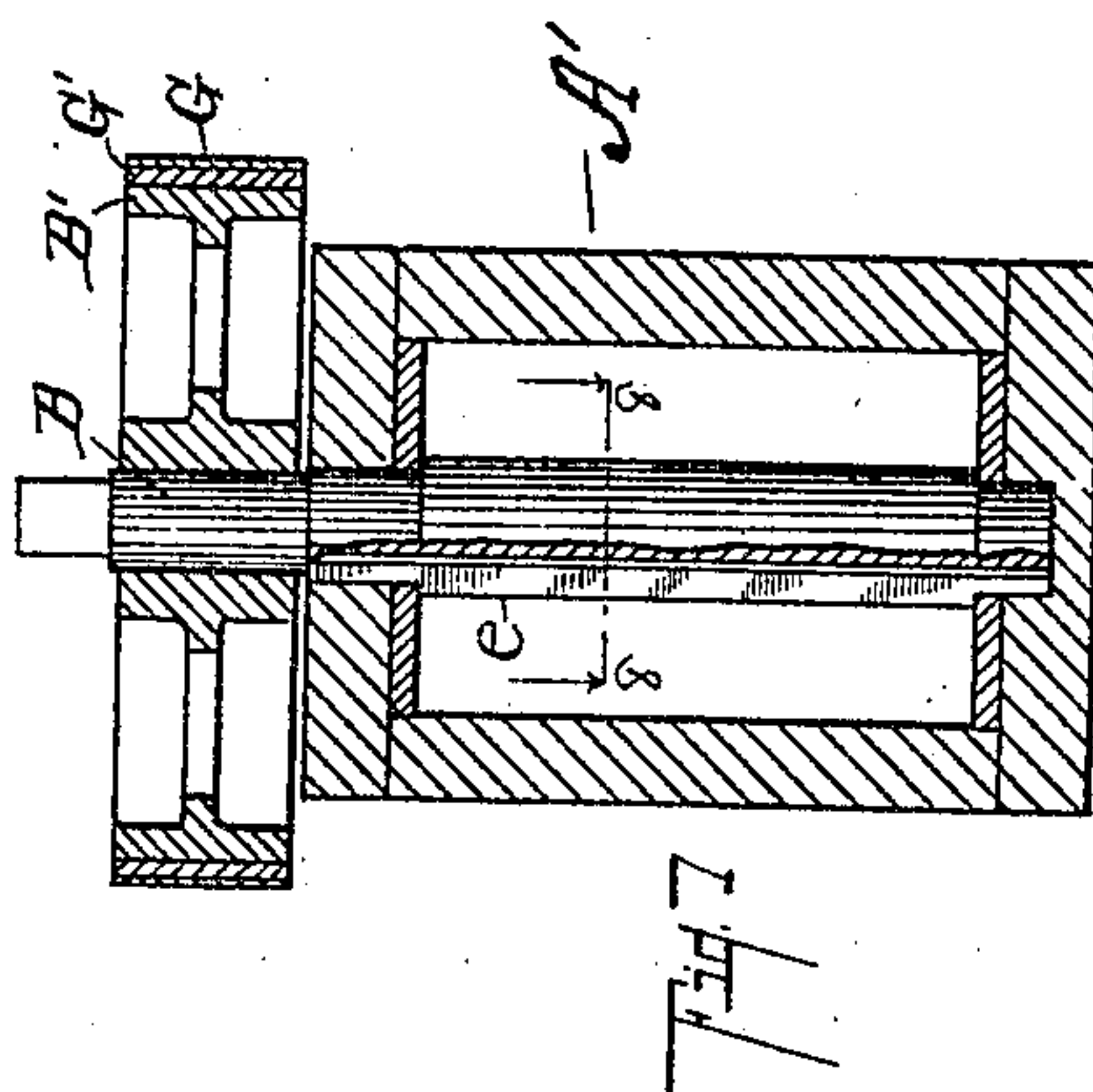
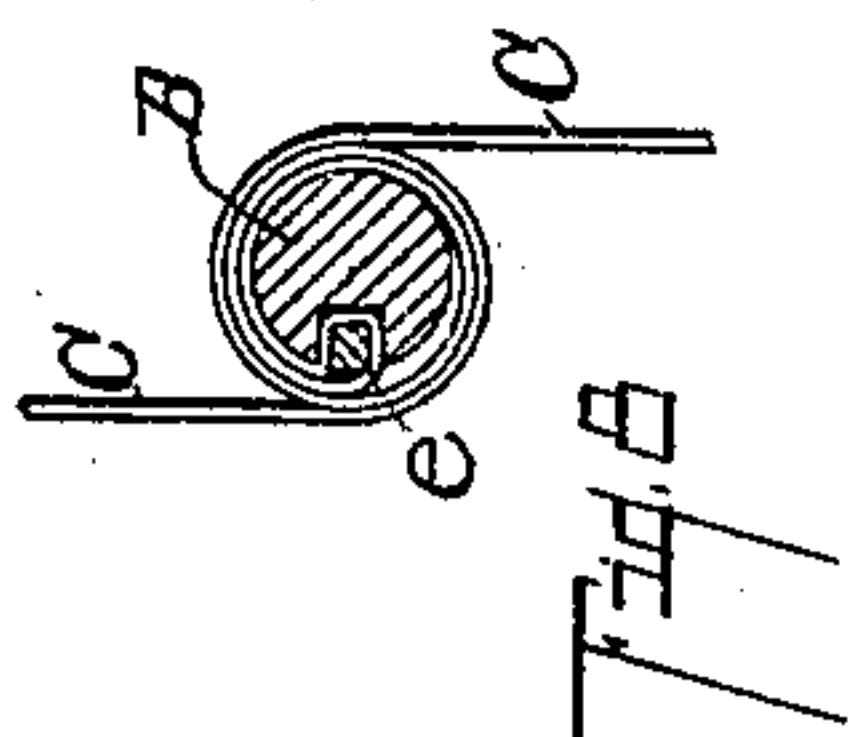
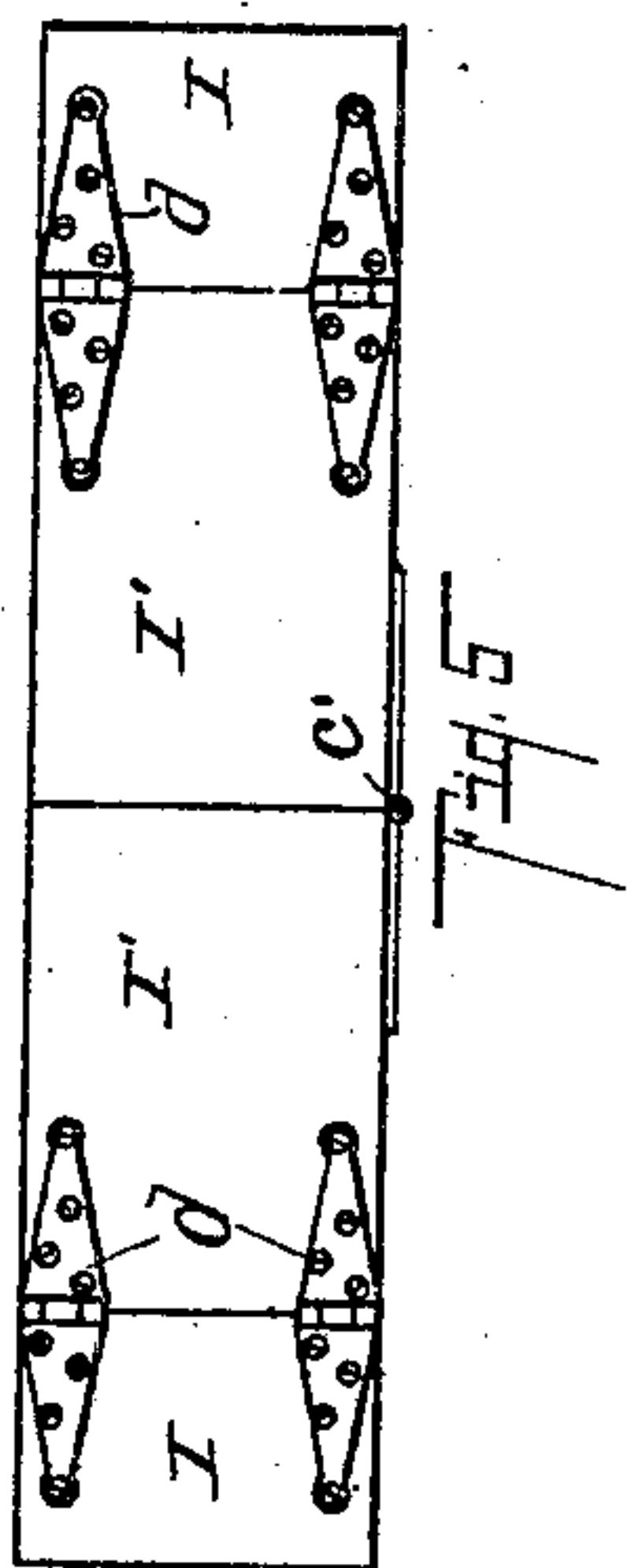
Rollin A. Shoemith
By *Fred L. Chappell*
Att'y.

No. 837,645.

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R. A. SHOESMITH.
BURIAL APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 14, 1902.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:

D. C. Wood.
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Inventor,
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Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROLLIN A. SHOESMITH, OF PAW PAW, MICHIGAN.

BURIAL APPARATUS.

No. 837,645.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 4, 1906.

Application filed July 14, 1902. Serial No. 115,504.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROLLIN A. SHOESMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at the village of Paw Paw, in the county of Van Buren and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in burial apparatus.

The objects of the invention are, first, to provide an improved burial apparatus in which the mechanism for lowering the burial-case is very simple and in which the whole can be folded into a small space; second, to provide an improved burial apparatus the casing of which is capable of being folded into a very small compass or package for convenience in transportation and handling; third, to provide in a burial apparatus an improved mechanism for the lowering of a burial-case.

Further objects will definitely appear in the detailed description to follow.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the devices and combination of devices described in the following specification.

The invention is clearly defined, and pointed out in the claims.

A structure embodying the features of my invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a structure embodying the features of my invention with the top of the frame or casing removed to show the arrangement of the parts. Fig. 2 is a detail longitudinal sectional view taken on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of my improved burial apparatus when folded. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of my improved burial apparatus when folded. Fig. 5 is an end elevation view from the right of Fig. 1, showing the arrangement of the hinged parts. Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail cross-sectional view taken on line 6 6 of Fig. 2. Fig. 7 is an enlarged view showing the arrangement of the shaft D and the brake mechanism on a line corresponding to line 7 7 of Fig. 1. Fig. 8 is a detail sectional view of the shaft D, taken on line 8 8 of Fig. 7, showing the manner of securing the lowering-straps to the shaft.

In the drawings the sectional views are taken looking in the direction of the little ar-

rows at the ends of the section-lines, and similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the lettered parts of the drawings, A I and A I are the sections forming the side portions, and A' A' and I' I' are the sections forming the end portions of the supporting frame or casing, which is of a size and shape to rest about an open grave. The side sections A I are secured together by hinges *c* on their inner faces, respectively. The end sections A' A' and the end sections I' I' are secured together by hinges *c'* on the under side of said sections, respectively. The end sections A' A' are rigidly secured to the side sections A A. The end sections I' I' are secured to the side sections I I by hinges *d d* on the outside of said sections, respectively. This arrangement permits a very compact folding of the structure, the folding being as follows: The side portions are first folded together lengthwise on the hinges *c' c'*. The sections I I are then folded upon the sections A A on the hinges *c*, the end sections I' I' being at the same time swung upwardly, so that they lie within the end sections A' A' upon the hinges *d*, as is illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.

It will be observed that when the apparatus is in its open or operative position it will be impossible to move the sections on their hinges until the structure is folded lengthwise, and, further, that by my improved arrangement of lowering bands or cords the hinged sections are positively locked in their open position when the device is in use, as will fully appear from the description of such parts to follow.

In one of the end sections A' is a vertical shaft or roller B, which projects out of the top of the casing to receive a crank for winding up or controlling the lowering bands or cords. Secured to the shaft B are bands or straps C. These bands are preferably formed of one piece, which is secured to the shaft by forming a groove therein and inserting a suitable key, as *e*. (See Fig. 8.) The straps C are passed over the guiding and supporting pulleys D at each side. By this arrangement both of the lowering bands or straps are wound upon or unwound from the shaft at the same time and to the same extent. The strain on the shaft being in opposite directions offset each other, so that there is practically no strain upon the shaft, and con-

sequently but very little wear upon its bearings, and the shaft may be of small size without danger of breaking.

Secured to the projecting end of the shaft
 5 B is a brake-wheel B'. About this wheel is a brake-band G, one end of which is secured to the bracket *f'* on the casing. Secured to the other end of the band G is a block *f*, which is provided with a threaded perforation to re-
 10 ceive the stem J of the hand-wheel J', which is supported by the bracket *f'*. A friction-band G', of leather or other suitable material, is secured either to the periphery of the wheel or to the inner face of the band G.
 15 This forms a very inexpensive and efficient brake mechanism.

Secured to each band or strap C are cords *a a'*. These cords are passed over pulleys E E' at the opposite end of the casing and back
 20 over the guide-pulleys E'' E''', which are located so that the cords will properly support a casket. A suitable antifriction-roller, as *b*, is provided for each lowering-cord at the point where they are delivered from the cas-
 25 ing. Suitable releasing devices, as F, are provided for the ends of the lowering-cords.

I have illustrated and described my improved burial apparatus in the form preferred by me on account of its economy of
 30 manufacture and convenience in use. I am aware, however, that it is capable of numerous changes in structural details without departing from my invention.

Having thus described the invention, what
 35 is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a burial apparatus the combination with a foldable frame comprising in its construction side sections A and I secured to-
 40 gether by hinges *c* on their inner sides; end sections A' rigidly secured to said side sections A and to each other by hinges *c'* on their under sides; end sections I' secured to said side sections I by hinges *d* on their outer
 45 sides and to each other by hinges *c'* on their under sides; of a vertical shaft B mounted to rotate in one of said sections A'; bands or straps C secured thereto and adapted to

wind thereon; guide-rollers D for said bands, arranged to each side of said casing; pulleys 50 E E' suitably supported at the opposite end of said casing; guide-pulleys E'' E''' ; lowering-bands *a a'* secured to each of said bands, said cords being passed over said pulleys E E' and back to the guide-pulleys E'' E''' re- 55 spectively, all coacting substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

2. In a burial apparatus, the combination of a frame or casing formed of sections; hinge connections on the inner sides of the side sec- 60 tions; hinge connections on the under sides of the end sections; hinge connections for the sections on one end to the side sections secured on the outer sides of the same, for the purpose specified. 65

3. In a burial apparatus, a frame or casing consisting of side and end portions, which end portions are formed of sections; suitable horizontal hingeconnections for the sections of said end portions; and suitable vertical 70 hinge connections for the sections of at least one of the end portions to the side portions, for the purpose specified.

4. In a burial apparatus, the combination of a frame or casing, consisting of side and 75 end portions; a shaft located in one of said end portions; bands or straps extending in opposite directions secured to said shaft, and adapted to be wound thereon; guides arranged at each side of said shaft, adapted to 80 deliver said bands into the side portions of said casing; a pair of lowering-cords secured to each of said bands; pulleys over which said lowering-cords are arranged located at the end of said casing opposite said shaft, 85 and suitable guides arranged to deliver said lowering-cords from the side portions of said casing in the proper relation for use, as specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my 90 hand and seal in the presence of two witnesses.

ROLLIN A. SHOESMITH. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

EVERID J. ROUNDY,

WM. KILLEFER.