

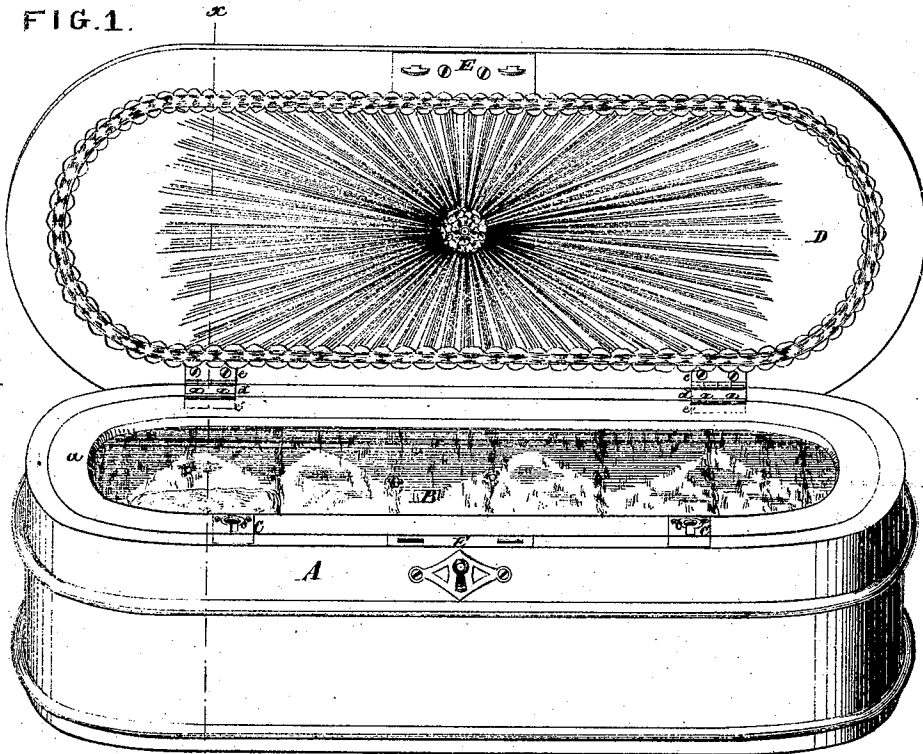
*G. Shilling,*

*Coffin.*

*No. 107,552.*

*Patented Sept. 20, 1870.*

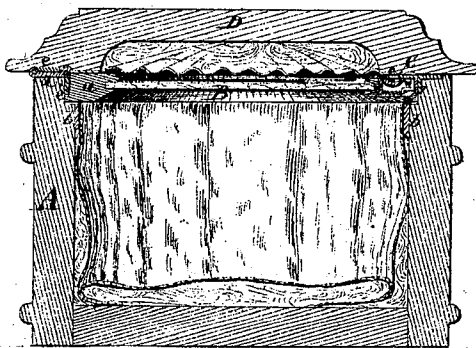
FIG. 1.



WITNESSES:  
*Geo L Ewin*  
*J. Scheitlin*

FIG. 2.

*George Shilling,*  
*by*  
*Knights Bros.*  
*attys*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE SHILLING, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BURIAL-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 107,552, dated September 20, 1870.

I, GEORGE SHILLING, of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Burial-Case, of which the following is a specification:

### *Nature and Object of the Invention.*

This burial-case has a hinged cover, which shuts down upon the top edge of the case, covering a hinged glazed lid. The lid closes down upon an india-rubber gasket, which makes it air-tight. The top of the lid comes flush with the top of the case, and is fastened by flush bolts. When the cover of the burial-case is opened the glass lid is exposed. If it be desired to reach the corpse the glazed lid is lifted, turning back on its hinges.

The body of the case is not disturbed either by the lifting of the cover or the opening of the glazed lid, the cover and lid being separate, but hinged to the body.

### *Description of the Accompanying Drawing.*

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section on the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

### *General Description.*

A is the body of the case, which is shown with rounded ends. The precise form is a matter of taste and not of importance so far as the subject-matter of the invention is concerned. The ends are made of half-inch stuff, steamed, bent, and laid double with lap-joint upon the side portions. On the upper edge is a rabbet, *a*, to receive the glazed lid B, which shuts down flush with the top of the case A, compressing a gasket, *b*, of india-rubber, which seals the case.

C C are spring-bolts, either mortise or flush.

The rings *c* form handles for lifting the lid B, and spring back into their sockets when

released. The handle and bolt are so connected that one spring answers for both, and the lifting of the handle withdraws the bolt.

The cover D is hinged to the burial-case, the hinges being, preferably, double, so that the standing part *d* of the hinge is attached to the body of the case, and affords a place of attachment for the movable leaves *ee'*, to which the cover D and lid B are respectively attached.

E is a mortise-lock, which secures the cover.

The internal upholstering arrangements are according to taste.

It is desirable that a burial-case should possess several features besides the mere capacity for holding a corpse. It should allow the corpse to be exposed to view without exposing the body to the air. It should also permit, when the condition of the body is suitable, the body to be handled, either by the care-takers or the surviving friends, for decent adjustment after being conveyed to a church or to a place of interment. It should be air-tight, so as to prevent the escape of noxious effluvia. It should not be liable to upset when the cover is thrown back when the burial-case is sitting upon trestles or stools. These requirements are all fully met in my burial-case, and in no other with which I am acquainted.

### *Claim.*

What I claim as new is—

The burial-case A, whose body is in one portion, closed by a solid wooden hinged cover, beneath which is a hinged glass lid, which shuts down upon a gasket within the rabbeted upper edge of the coffin, as described and represented.

GEORGE SHILLING.

Witnesses:

ANDREW GEER,  
CHARLES S. MORAN.