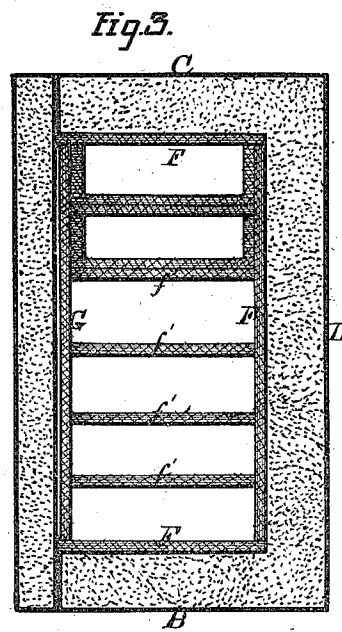
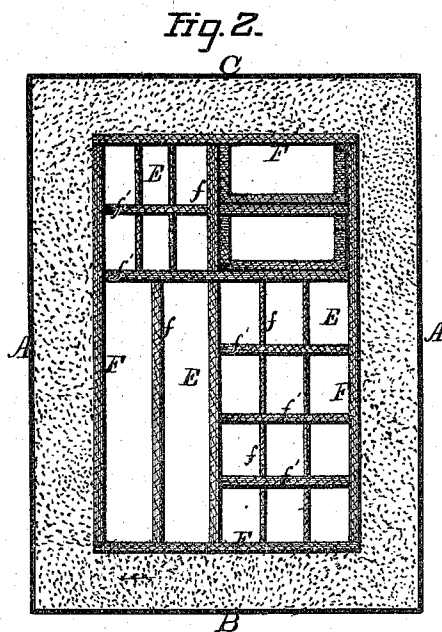
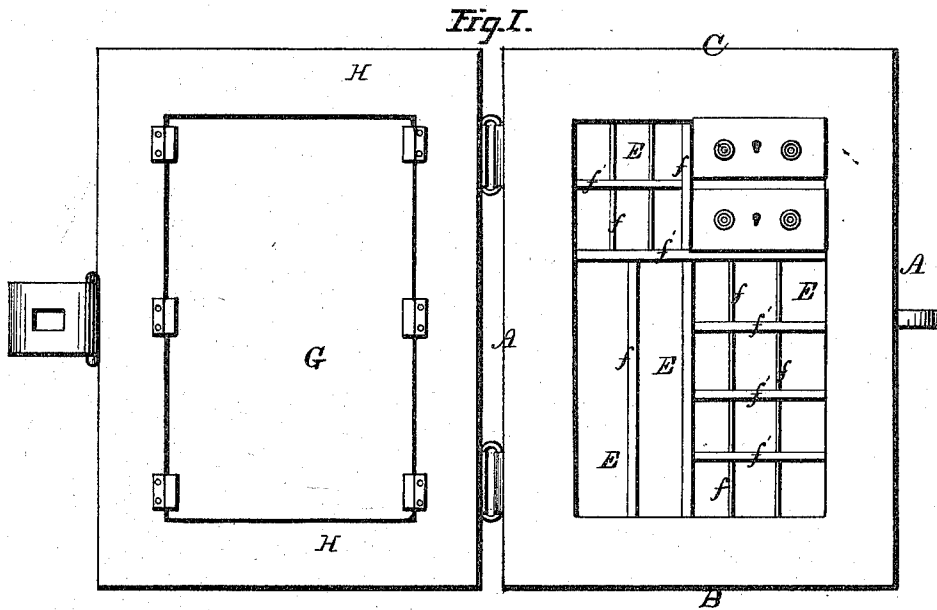


T. HYATT.
Fire-Proof Safes.

No. 142,476.

Patented September 2, 1873.



WITNESSES:

James E. Hutchinson
John R. Young

INVENTOR.

Theodore Hyatt, by
Prindle and Co., his Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE HYATT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-PROOF SAFES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 142,476, dated September 2, 1873; application filed August 21, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE HYATT, of New York, in the county of New York and in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Proof Safes; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved safe, the door being opened so as to afford a view of its interior. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section of the same upon a line parallel to its front and rear sides, and Fig. 3 is a like view upon a line extending from front to rear.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

The design of my invention is to increase the efficiency and durability of a safe by rendering its interior incombustible; to which end it consists in a safe having its book-case constructed of or from sheets of asbestos, substantially as and for the purpose hereinafter specified.

In the annexed drawing, A and A represent the sides, B the bottom, C the top, and D the rear side, of a fire-proof safe, constructed of sheet or cast metal in any suitable form, and containing a central compartment, E, for the reception of books, papers, or other valuables. Between the metal walls of the safe and the exterior lines of the compartment E the space is filled with any suitable material which is a non-conductor of heat; and within said compartment is placed a casing, F, that conforms to and closely fills the same; is open at its front, and is suitably divided, by means of vertical and horizontal partitions *f* and *f'*, respectively, into spaces for the reception of drawers, books, papers, &c. The casing F, its partitions, and the drawers, are constructed of or from sheets of asbestos board or paper, which sheets have a suitable thickness, are joined together in any usual manner, and have their surfaces protected and rendered smooth by means of lacquer, wood-veneering, or any other covering desired. The front of the casing may be inclosed by means of a hinged door of the asbestos paper or board;

or said door G may be secured to or upon the inner face of the safe-door H, so as to closely fill the space within said casing-front when said safe-door is closed together, as shown in the drawing. In the latter case, the door G should be held at its edges only, so as to leave an air-space between it and the face of the safe-door. It may prove advantageous to leave an air-space between the casing and the walls of the safe, in which event the interior face of said walls may be composed of asbestos paper or board, so as thereby to increase the heat-resisting qualities of the safe, it having been proved that asbestos is one of the best non-conductors of heat that is in use.

The advantages possessed by my improved safe, as compared with others in common use, are, first, the interior of the safe is rendered absolutely indestructible and unchangeable by heat, while, in safes having wooden casings, the effect of intense heat is to generate from the wood pyroligneous acid, which, in its action upon papers, is but slightly less destructive than fire; second, the asbestos paper or board is not only proof against change from or by heat, but it is so poor a conductor of heat as to cause the temperature within the safe to maintain a much lower degree than in cases where either wood or metal is employed for the construction of the casings; third, the casing constructed from asbestos board or paper is materially lighter in weight than where wood is employed, while, from its entire insensibility to change from variations in the temperature or humidity of the air, the great annoyance experienced from the warping, swelling, and shrinkage of wood is avoided.

Having thus fully set forth the nature and merits of my invention, what I claim as new is—

In a fire-proof safe, a book-case constructed from sheets of asbestos paper or board, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of August, 1873.

THEODORE HYATT.

Witnesses:

GEO. S. PRINDLE,
EDM. F. BROWN.