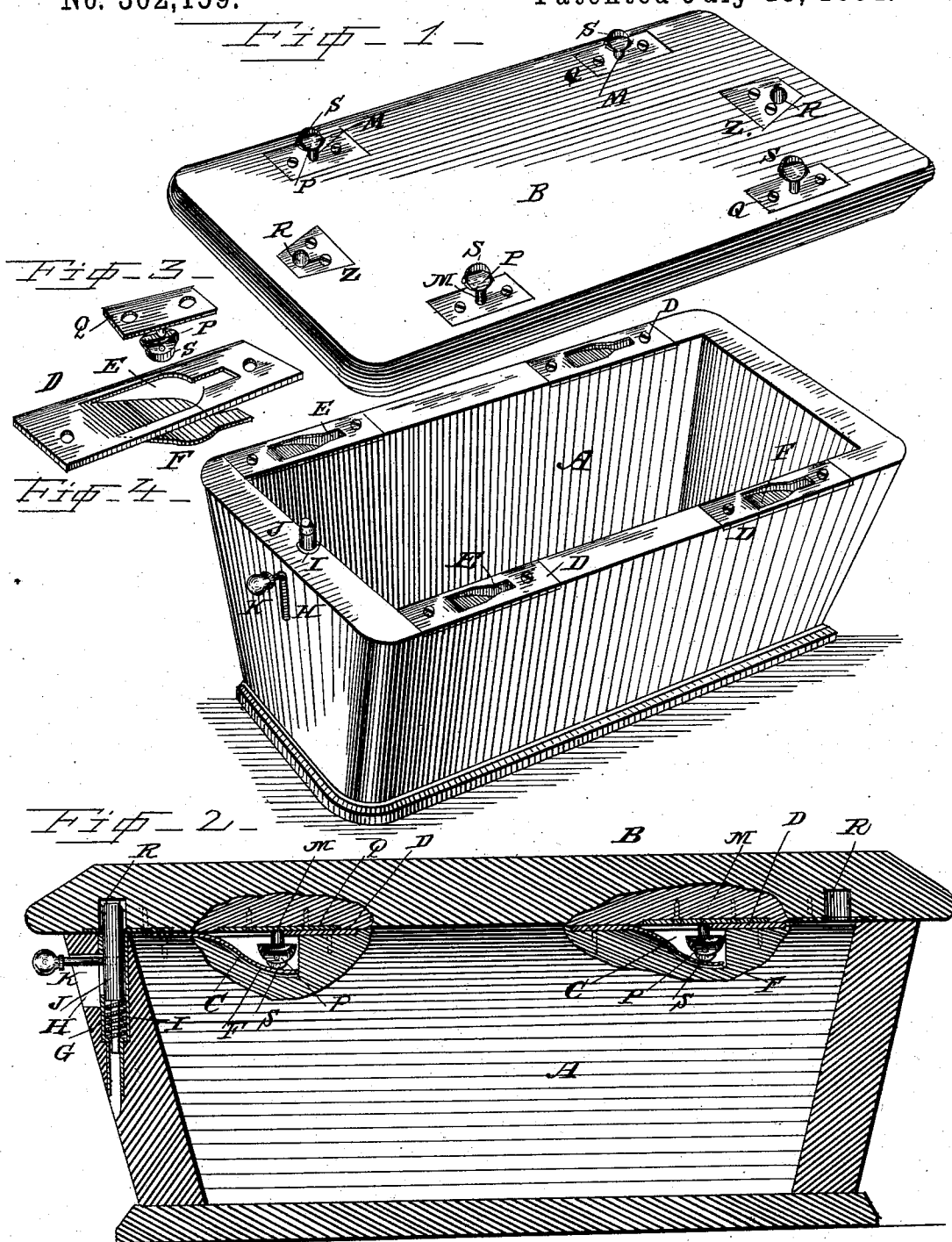


(No Model.)

S. REYNOLDS.
BURIAL CASKET FASTENER.

No. 302,159.

Patented July 15, 1884.



WITNESSES:

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BURIAL-CASKET FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,159, dated July 15, 1884.

Application filed January 12, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STANLEY REYNOLDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Casket Fasteners; 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 and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a casket provided with my improved fastenings, showing the cover detached and removed and placed with its under side upward at the side of the casket. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the casket with portions of the inside of the sides broken away. Fig. 3 is a perspective detailed view of the vertical projecting steel knobs or pins on the under side of the cover, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of the bottle-shaped sunken steel spring track or plate.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention has relation to concealed fastenings for burial-caskets, packing-boxes, or other cases or boxes; and it consists in the improved construction and combination of parts of the same, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A denotes the casket and B the detached cover, which may be of any desired construction. In the upper edges of the sides of the casket are a number of longitudinal bottle-shaped recesses C, each of which is covered by a catch-plate, D, having a slot, E, cut in it corresponding to the shape of the recess covered by the plate, and forming a spring-tongue, F, which is depressed down into the recess and serves as a spring-track for the catch-lug, which operates in conjunction with plate D. One of the end pieces of the casket has a cylindrical vertical recess, G, opening at its lower portion upon the outside of the end piece in an inclined slot, H, and a cylindrical casing, I, is fitted into this recess. A spring-bolt, J, slides inside of casing I, and is pro-

vided with an arm, K, which projects out through the slot H, being provided at its outer end with a knob or button, by depressing which it will be seen that the spring-bolt will be released from the vertical recess R in the under side of the reversible lid, with which it engages. There is one of these vertical bolt-recesses R at each end of the reversible lid, so that either end may be placed toward that end of the casket where the spring-bolt is arranged.

Upon the under side of the reversible cover, near its outer edges and equal distances apart, are placed a number of studs, P, connected by shanks M to plates Q, by means of which they are fastened to the under side of the lid. These studs P are made with beveled or inclined sides, and are slotted longitudinally at their lower ends, where their beveled sides converge to admit of the insertion of a small friction-roller, S. If desired, however, plates Q may be omitted, and by constructing the shanks M with a screw-thread the studs may be screwed into the wood of the lid. The friction-rollers S do not project with their peripheries beyond the ends of the slotted catch-lugs, into which they are inserted, but only project from the lower end of the same in a line with the shank M, as clearly shown on the drawings.

The operation of this device is as follows: The reversible lid being placed upon the casket from either end, with the studs M P resting upon the plates D, it is shoved toward one end, so as to cause the studs to enter the enlarged portion of the slots E and ride down the inclined spring-track F toward and into the reduced part of the slot, which is so narrow that it will prevent the enlargement or head P of the catch from passing up through it. By means of the friction-rollers S the cover will glide easily and noiselessly into its proper position, so as to interlock with plates D; and by the time the head or catch-lug P engages with the narrow or reduced end of slot E the recess R, at the appropriate end of the reversible lid, will engage the spring-bolt J, and thereby lock the lid in position and prevent endwise motion, so that the lid cannot by any possibility become detached, except by depressing the spring-bolt, and thus releasing the lid. The top of the spring-bolt J should

be rounded or beveled, and that part of the under side of the reversible lid in which the vertical recesses R are made has a smooth polished friction-plate, Z, so that the lid may slide easily over the top of the bolt in bringing the lid to its position.

It is obvious that my invention, although chiefly intended for burial-caskets, may be used for any case or box having a removable cover, forming a very simple and effective fastening.

It will be seen that by constructing the studs M P in the manner shown and described, and providing the lid at either end with a vertical recess, R, adapted to receive the upper end of the locking-bolt P, the lid is made reversible, thereby adding to the convenience with which it may be applied to the casket or packing box or case, and also increasing the length of time which the fastening will last when in use on packing boxes or cases, as when one side of the studs M P becomes worn through continued use the lid can readily be reversed. By constructing a vertical locking-bolt sliding in a vertical recess, and by making the recesses R in the reversible lid vertical, the lid will be locked more firmly in position and be more effectually prevented from being forced up and off by any sudden push or shock than would be the case if the locking-bolt were inclined outwardly.

I am aware that caskets have been constructed before with headed lugs adapted to engage slotted plates, as shown in Earley's Patent No. 71,468, dated November 26, 1867; and I am also aware that it is not new, broadly, to use friction-rollers in combination with this class of concealed fastenings; but

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

The herein-described fastener for caskets and similar cases, comprising a stud consisting of the shank M, having a head or enlargement, P, with beveled or inclined sides, and slotted or recessed longitudinally at its lower edge, and provided with a friction-roller, S, inserted into said slot, and projecting only from the head in a line with the shank, so as to leave the ends or points of the head projecting endwise beyond the periphery of the wheel, and the slotted catch-plate D, having a spring-tongue, F, attached to the enlarged end of the said slot, and projecting down under the reduced end of the same, substantially as shown, for the purpose set forth.

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

STANLEY REYNOLDS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. KEELER,
DAVID N. SALISBURY.