(No Model.)

A. McCREERY.

BURIAL APPARATUS

No. 301,381. Patented July 1, 1884.

Fig. 1.

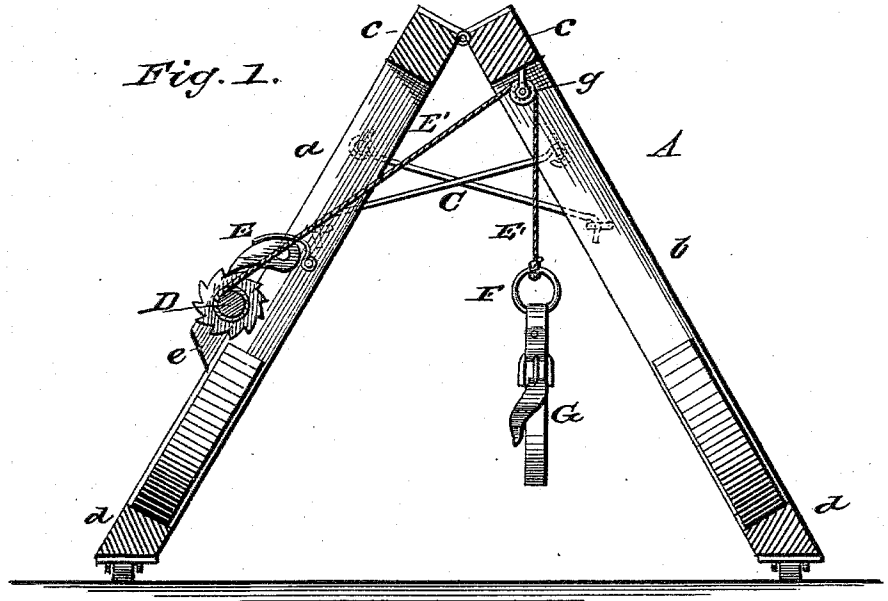
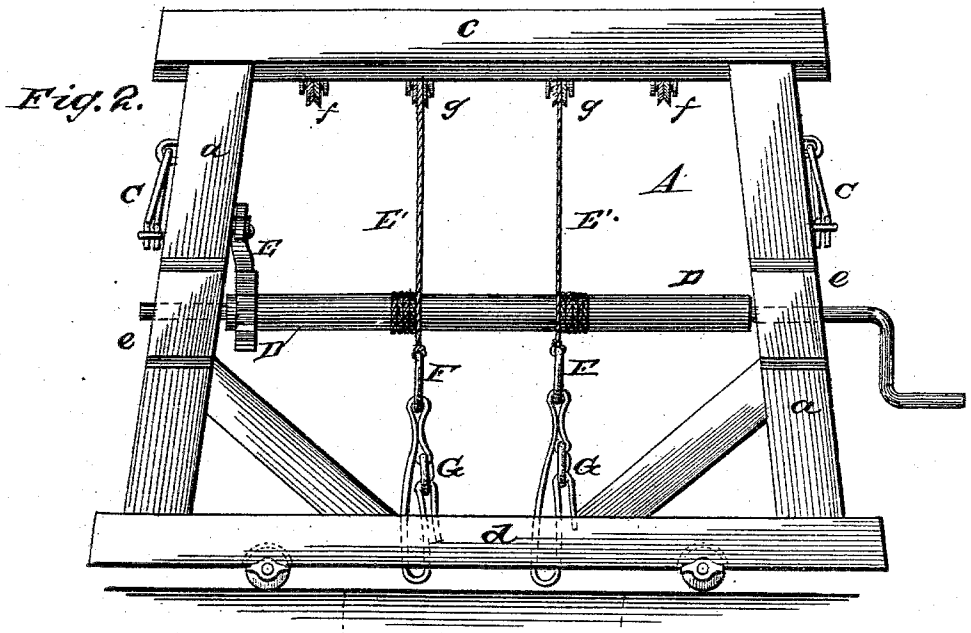


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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BURIAL APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,381, dated July 1, 1884.

Application filed May 3, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ASHBY MCCREERY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Colorado Springs, in the county of El Paso and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial Apparatus; 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 letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a vertical sectional view of my device, and Fig. 2 is a side view of the same.

This invention has relation to improvements in devices for lowering coffins in vaults and graves, for lowering buckets into wells, and other purposes; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A indicates the frame, which is of A form in outline, and consists, essentially, of the parts *a* and *b*, the parts respectively being comprised of timbers placed and properly braced together in a rectangular form. These parts are hinged together at their horizontal crown-timbers *c c*, so that the same may be folded together to form a device of flat rectangular contour. The vertically-inclined beams of the frame may, however, converge from the crown-timbers to the base-beams *d d*, so as to more substantially brace the crown beams or timbers and the weight they are to sustain. The brace-beams *d* may be provided with casters, to provide easy transportation of the device. The vertically-inclined beams are also provided with pivoted hook-arms C, designed to engage and brace at a suitable distance therefrom the opposite hinged section of the frame.

D indicates a drum, which is journaled at opposite ends in boxes *e e*, secured to one of the hinged sections *a*. This drum is provided at one end with a crank-arm for turning it, and near the opposite end with a ratchet-wheel, which is designed to be engaged by a spring or other suitable pawl, E, to prevent the drum from turning in a backward direction.

From the under side of one of the crown-beams, in suitable bearings, are suspended a pair of pulleys, *f* and *g*, the pulleys *f* being those farthest from the central point of the beam, and the pulleys *g* those nearest the same, the object of thus arranging the pulleys being to adapt the device for coffins of various sizes, as will be presently explained.

To the drum D, at a suitable distance apart, are secured ropes E′, which are passed over the pulleys suspended from the crown-beams of the frame and down to rings F, which carry straps G, to be passed around and buckled to a coffin or casket in lowering it into a grave or vault.

I have described my device as being made of wood; but it may be made of metal or gas-pipe and the parts connected by T and elbow joints without departing from the spirit of my invention.

From the foregoing description it will be perceived that the sections are mounted on rollers and adapted to be folded together. Therefore in operation the frame is brought beside a grave or vault, and, by separating or opening, its sections are brought over the same. The operator then, after buckling the straps G around the coffin, can, by grasping the crank of the windlass or drum carefully and steadily, allow the coffin to descend into the grave, after which the straps are unbuckled and drawn up by the reverse movement of the drum or windlass.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The burial apparatus consisting of the frame composed of the hinged sections *a b*, having their lower horizontal beams provided with rollers and their crown-beams provided with suspended pulleys, the winding-drum, and ropes secured thereto, carrying at their opposite ends rings and buckle-straps, and hook-arms C, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

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

ASHBY MCCREERY.

Witnesses:
H. C. MCCREERY,
WM. SAXTON.