

J. DUNN.  
COFFINS.

No. 182,109.

Patented Sept. 12, 1876.

Fig. 1.

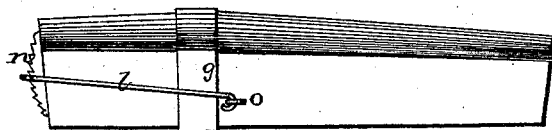
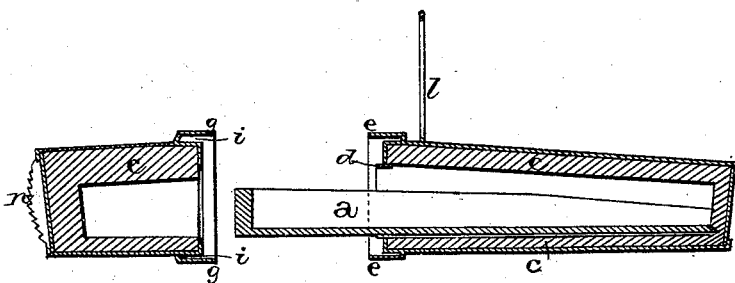


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES.

W. Garner  
F. M. Burnham.

INVENTOR.

Jno. Dunn  
per  
F. A. Lehmann, Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN DUNN, OF OSKALOOSA, IOWA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COFFINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **182,109**, dated September 12, 1876; application filed August 2, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN DUNN, of Oskaloosa, in the county of Mahaska and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coffins; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in coffins; and it consists in holding the two parts of a coffin, that is divided vertically at its widest part, together by means of a ratchet and bail, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The accompanying drawings represent my invention.

A cooling-board, *a*, of the desired size and construction, is first made. A suitable coffin, *c*, is then made to inclose this board, but, instead of being provided with a cover in the usual manner, is divided vertically into two parts, which are made to separate by pulling apart at the broadest part of the coffin. By making the coffin separate at this point there will be just enough of the board *a* left projecting out of the longest part of the coffin *c* to expose the upper part of the body placed therein. Both parts of the coffin *c* are then covered entirely over, on their outer sides, with sheet

metal or other material of any suitable kind or thickness. Extending beyond the end of the longer part of the coffin, immediately around the inner edge, is a flange, *d*, which enters the inside of the shorter part, for the purpose of forming an air-tight joint. Projecting from the outer edge of the longer part of the coffin is a flange, *e*, which passes inside of the flange *g*, on the shorter part, on into a recess, *i*. All these joints are packed with any suitable cement which will make a permanent air-tight joint. On each side of the longer part of the coffin are placed suitable hooks, eyes, or other devices, *o*, to which are attached the two ends of the bail *l*. This bail extends forward and catches over the outer end of the shorter part of the coffin, so as to hold the two parts together, and is held in any desired position by means of the ratchet *n*.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

The frame *C*, made in two or more parts, and provided with the bail *l* and ratchet *n*, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of July, 1876.

JOHN DUNN.

Witnesses:  
HENRY P. NINDE,  
CS. LEASH.