109. SAFES, BANK PROTECTION
AND RELATED DEVICES.
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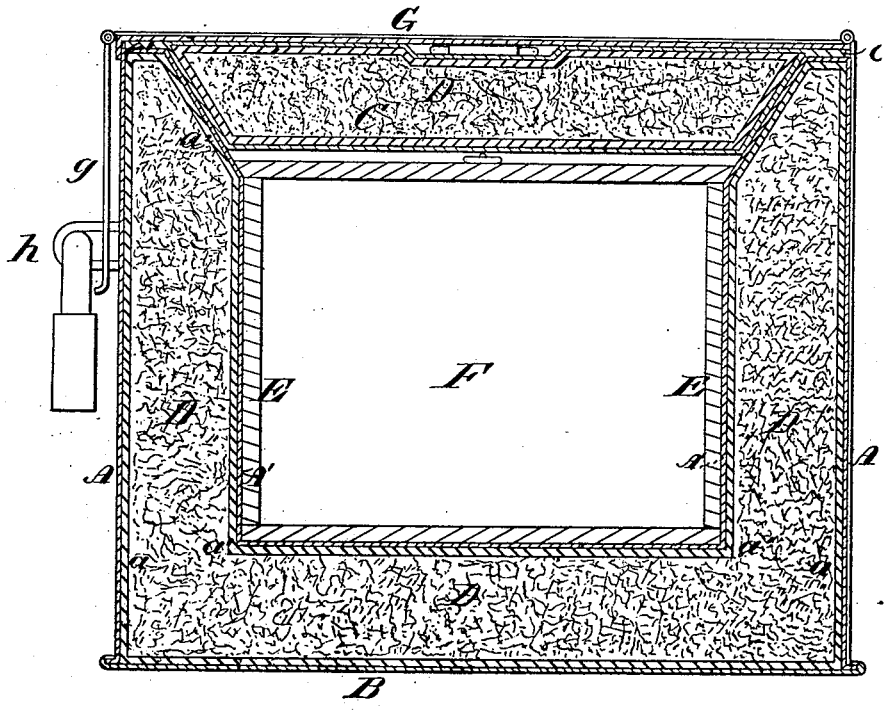
A. SAXE & J. S. HARDING.

FIRE-PROOF SAFE.

No. 191,550. Patented June 5. 1877



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES A. SAXE AND JAMES S. HARDING, OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-PROOF SAFES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **191,550**, dated June 5, 1877; application filed September 1, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES A. SAXE and JAMES SIDNEY HARDING, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Proof Boxes and Safes; and we 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, in which is shown a vertical central section of our improvement.

The object of our improvement is to provide a non-combustible or fire-proof box or safe for the reception of valuable documents, money, &c., said box being designed to be portable and easily carried from one place to another.

Our invention relates, primarily, to the lining and filling of the box, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In carrying our invention into effect, we make a box of any convenient or desired size, said box being formed of tin or other sheet metal, with double walls, between which is left a space for the filling and lining. All of the walls are lined with paper felting saturated with silicate of soda, the intermediate space being filled with infusorial earth. The inner chamber of the box is lined with wood, which, like the paper felting, is saturated with silicate of soda.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, A A′ are the double walls, forming the box, which has a bottom, B, and lifting detachable top C, of similar construction. *a a*^{1} show a lining of paper felting, (for which any proper equivalent may be substituted,) said lining being saturated with silicate of soda. D is a filling of infusorial earth, occupying the space between the lining of the walls and the corresponding spaces in the top and bottom. E is a wooden lining for the inner chamber F, said lining being of wood saturated, like the paper felting, with silicate of soda. G represents a hinged lid fitting down over the removable top C, being furnished with one or more metal straps, *g*, through which pass a staple or staples, *h*, by means of which, and a padlock for each staple, the contents of the box are locked in the chamber F.

The upper edge of the box is beveled, as shown at *a*^{2}, the detachable top C being correspondingly shaped, (forming the inverted frustum of a pyramid,) so as to fit snugly thereon, leaving a projecting flange, *c*′, on which the hinged lid G shuts down.

A box thus constructed, and filled with paper or equivalent combustible material, may be subjected to a fierce fire, equal to that of any ordinary conflagration of dwellings, and will be found to preserve its contents unharmed.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. A fire-proof box or safe provided with a filling of infusorial earth.
2. A lining for the walls of fire-proof boxes, composed of paper felting saturated with silicate of soda.
3. The lining herein described for the internal chamber of a fire-proof box or safe, the same being composed of wood saturated with silicate of soda.
4. The fire-proof box herein described, composed of the double walls A A′, correspondingly-formed bottom and top B C, paper felting *a a*^{1}, infusorial-earth filling D, and wooden lining E, said felting and wood being saturated with silicate of soda, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands this 5th day of August, 1876.

CHARLES A. SAXE.
JAMES SIDNEY HARDING.

Witnesses:
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