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APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING HUMAN BEINGS FROM BEING BURIED ALIVE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 22, 1909.

945,007.

Patented Dec. 28, 1909.

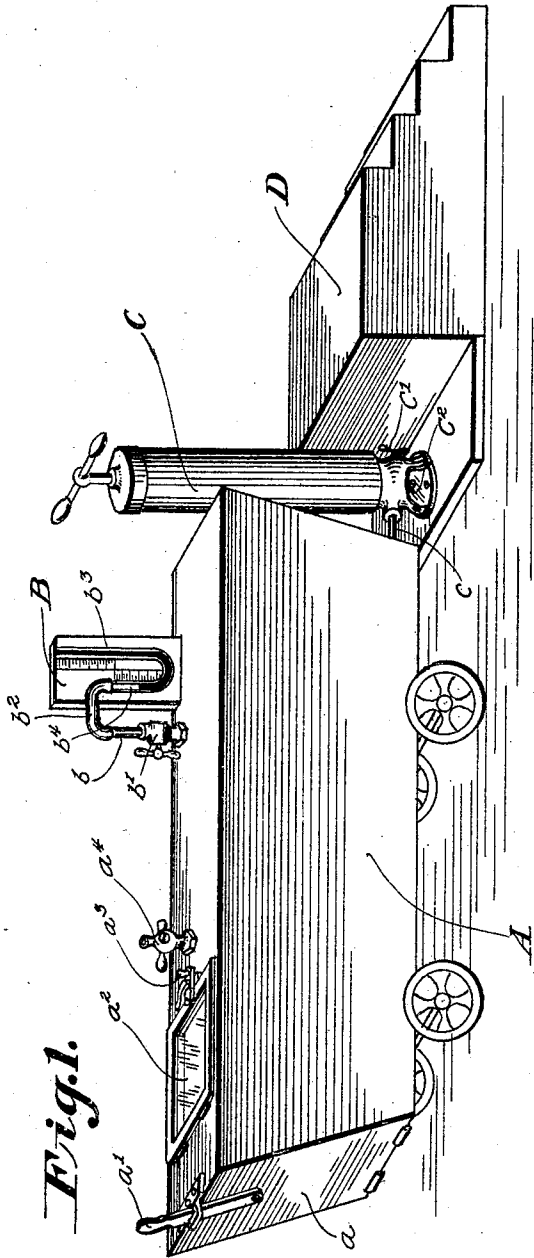


Fig. 1.

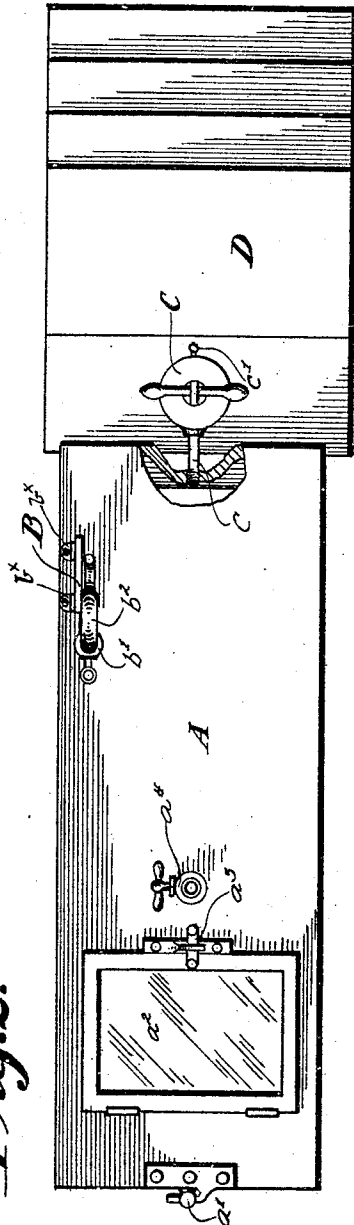


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING HUMAN BEINGS FROM BEING BURIED ALIVE.

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Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Dec. 28, 1909.**

Application filed June 22, 1909. Serial No. 503,712.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY DE CHOIŃSKI, subject of the Emperor of Germany, and residing at Voglerstrasse 34 I, Dresden, A. 21, Saxony, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Preventing Human Beings from Being Buried Alive, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention has for its object to provide an apparatus by means of which it may be determined whether there is life in an apparently dead human body before burial.

In carrying out the invention, a receptacle is provided into which is adapted to be inserted an open coffin containing a human body. Means for admitting the outer air to the receptacle and gaging the air pressure therein are provided and a pump for exhausting air from said receptacle is connected therewith.

An apparatus constructed in accordance with this invention is shown in the accompanying drawing.

The apparatus consists of an oblong, rectangular receptacle A which may be made of heavy sheet iron, or cast iron. The receptacle A is provided at one end with a hinged door a secured in closed position by a lever fastening a' . The top of the receptacle adjacent to one end is provided with a removable window a^2 detachably held in place by a lever fastening a^3 . A valve a^4 is mounted on the top of the receptacle for admitting air to the receptacle. There is also mounted on the receptacle a barometer B, the glass tube b^4 of which, containing the mercury b^3 , is connected by a rubber tube b^2 with the vertical iron tube b communicating with the interior of receptacle A and provided with a cock b' .

An air exhaust pump C is located at one end of the receptacle A and communicates therewith by means of a pipe c . Outer air is admitted to the air pump C by means of a valve C' , and the exhaust air escapes

through an opening C^2 in the bottom of the pump. A platform D is located adjacent to the pump C for conveniently operating the latter.

The apparatus is used as follows: The door a being opened, a body in an open coffin is pushed into the receptacle, with the face and hands of the body visible through the window a^2 . The door a is closed and tightly fastened, and the outer air is admitted to the receptacle by means of the valve a^4 which is then closed, and the air in the receptacle pumped out by pump C until a quarter of the atmospheric pressure therein is exhausted, which is indicated by the rise of the mercury in the barometer. The exhaust of the air, as aforesaid, from the receptacle relieves the external air pressure on the body and the inward pressure in the body, thereby increasing, which will cause the body to give some sign of life, if any remains in it. If not, then it is the best evidence that no life remains. If there is any sign of life, valve a^4 is at once opened to admit fresh air, and the window a^2 and door a are opened, and the body removed. If no sign of life appears when the air has been exhausted as aforesaid, a long pipe may be connected to the valve a^4 , and after the corpse has remained in the receptacle for several minutes, the valve a^4 is turned on and the gas arising from decomposition is carried off to a distance through said tube. The body may then be removed for burial.

I claim:

1. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a receptacle adapted to receive a human body, and having a removable door and window, an inlet air valve, and an exhaust air pump connected with the receptacle.

2. An apparatus of the character described, comprising an oblong casing adapted to receive an open coffin and human body, and having a removable door and window, an air inlet valve, a barometer mounted on the casing, a pipe connecting the inte-

rior of the casing with the tube of the barometer, and an exhaust air pump connected with the interior of the casing.

5 3. An apparatus of the character described, comprising an oblong air tight casing adapted to receive a human body, and having a removable door and observation window, an inlet air valve on said casing, a pipe and controlling valve on said casing, a
10 barometer on said casing having the open

end of its tube connected with said pipe, and an air exhaust pump connected to said casing.

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

ANTHONY DE CHOINSKI.

Witnesses:

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PAUL ARRAS.