

S. S. TUCKER.

CASKET.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 11, 1910.

1,018,853.

Patented Feb. 27, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

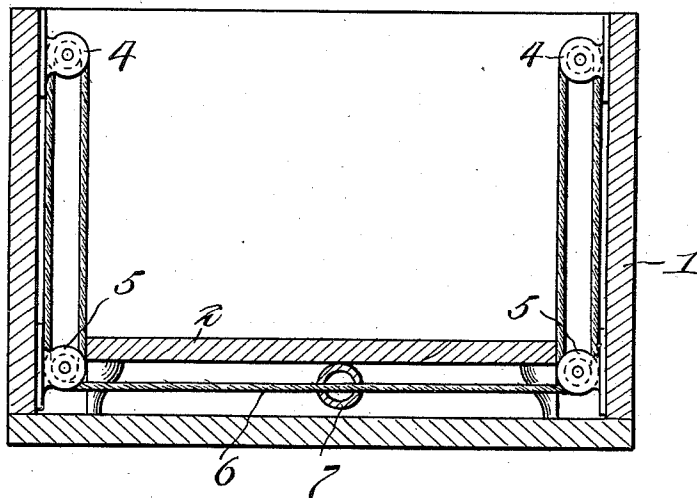
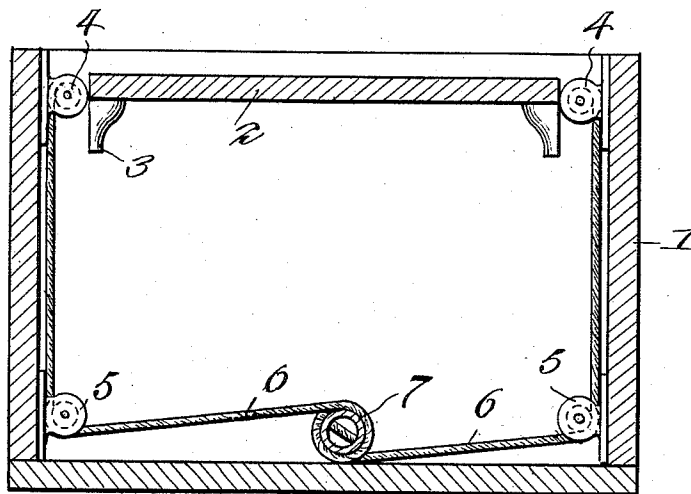


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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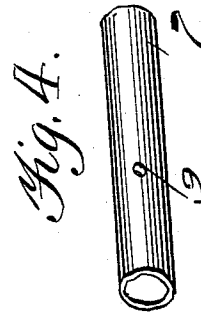
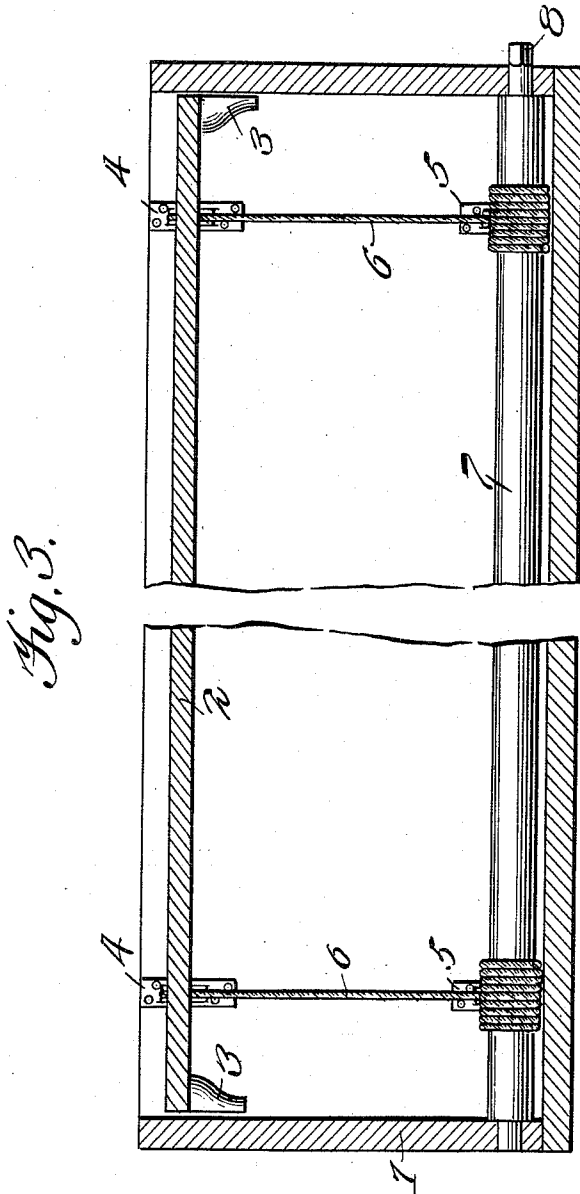
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIMONS S. TUCKER, OF PEEBLES, OHIO.

CASKET.

1,018,853.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 27, 1912.

Application filed January 11, 1910. Serial No. 537,499.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIMONS S. TUCKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peebles, in the county of Adams and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

The purpose of the present invention is the provision of a burial casket or coffin which will admit of displaying the remains to the best possible advantage in substantially the same manner as a couch or catafalque.

The invention contemplates a burial casket or coffin provided with a false bottom upon which the remains of a deceased person may be placed and which false bottom may be raised so as to elevate the remains of the person and support the same in position for observation.

A further object of the invention is to provide a burial casket with a bottom upon which the remains of the deceased may be placed and to combine therewith pulleys or ropes or cords and a shaft acting as a windlass so as to wind the ropes or cords and effect a raising or lowering of the bottom according as the object placed thereon is to be exposed to view or lowered into the casket.

The invention consists in the novel features, details of construction and combinations of parts which hereinafter will be more particularly set forth and finally pointed out in the sub-joined claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification:—

Figure 1 is a transverse section of a burial casket embodying the invention, showing the false bottom lowered. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing the false bottom elevated. Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal section of the casket with the bottom elevated, an intermediate portion being broken away. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the shaft, constituting a windlass for winding the operating ropes or cords.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The numeral 1 designates the casket or coffin which may be of any design or finish. Within the casket is placed a bottom 2 constituting a rest to receive the remains of the

deceased. The bottom 2 is provided with feet 3 which, when the bottom is lowered, rest upon the bottom of the casket and support the part 2 a slight distance above the same.

Guide pulleys 4 are located upon the inner sides of the casket 1 near the upper edge thereof. Other guide pulleys 5 are located upon the inner sides of the vertical walls of the casket near the bottom thereof. The guide pulleys 4 and 5 are in the same plane and give direction to operating ropes or cords 6. Usually two ropes or cords 6 are provided and are located near opposite ends of the casket as indicated most clearly in Fig. 3. A shaft 7 extends longitudinally of the casket and is journaled at its ends in the end pieces of the casket. The shaft 7 is hollow and one end is made angular as indicated at 8 or otherwise constructed to receive a crank or operating handle for rotating the shaft. An opening 9 is formed transversely through the shaft 7 near each end thereof and the ropes or cords 6 pass through the openings 9 thence beneath and around the guide pulleys 5 and over the upper guide pulleys 4 and have their ends attached to the false bottom or rest 2. The ropes or cords 6 are of a length to admit of the bottom or rest 2 occupying the lowermost position within the casket with its feet 3 resting upon the bottom of the casket, as indicated in Fig. 1. Upon rotating the shaft 7, the opposite end portions of the ropes or cords 6 are wound thereon, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3, thereby causing the false bottom or rest 2 to rise so as to support the remains at the top of the casket in position for observation so as to display to the best possible advantage as is the case with couch caskets or catafalques.

The false bottom or rest 2 may be upholstered in any manner so as to constitute the base of a couch upon which the remains of the deceased person may be placed. After the remains have been exposed for observation and it is required to lower the same into the casket, the shaft 7 is turned to admit of the ropes or cords unwinding therefrom with the result that the bottom or rest 2 descends by the combined weight of itself and the weight of the remains placed thereon. A burial casket or coffin of this nature avoids the shifting or the handling of the remains such as is required to move the same from a catafalque or couch to a coffin or cas-

ket. The invention adds but little to the cost of the usual casket or coffin and enhances the value thereof since it combines in one article a couch or catafalque and casket to receive the remains.

I claim:—

10 In combination, with a casket having a bottom and side and end walls, a shaft extending centrally through the end walls and provided with transverse openings, a body supporting member having legs and disposed within the casket, flexible lifting ele-

ments having their ends secured to the body supporting member and their central portion extended through the openings in the shaft, and pulleys mounted on the side walls of said casket for guiding said flexible elements.

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

SIMONS S. TUCKER.

Witnesses:

JOHN PARKER,
JAS. S. BERRY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."