(No Model.)

J. A. WORK.

HANDLE HOLDING GAGE.

No. 558,333. Patented Apr. 14, 1896.

Fig. 1.

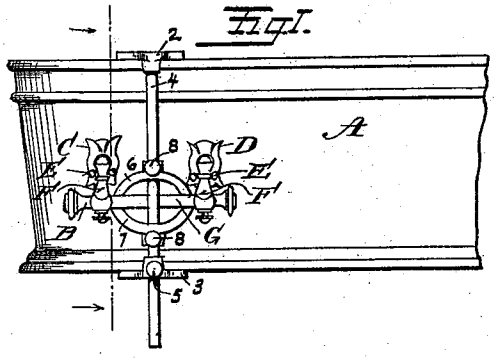


Fig. 2.

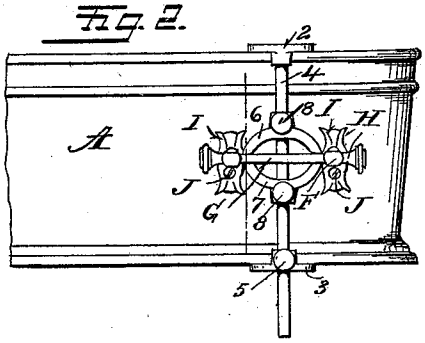


Fig. 3.

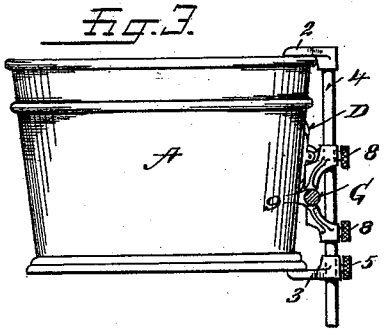


Fig. 4.

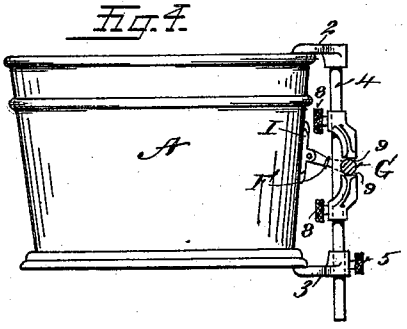


Fig. 5.

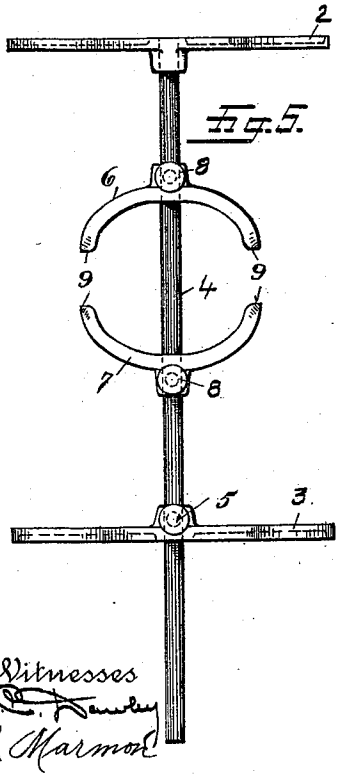


Fig. 7.

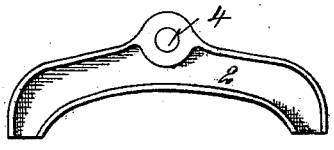
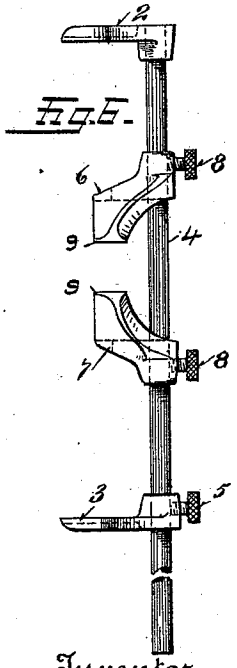


Fig. 6.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH A. WORK, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

HANDLE-HOLDING GAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 558,333, dated April 14, 1896.

Application filed September 23, 1895. Serial No. 563,352. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH A. WORK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Handle-Holding Gages, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in handle-holding gages designed especially for use in connection with burial-caskets and coffins.

In the manufacture of coffins and burial-caskets an unnecessary expenditure of time and labor is involved in locating the handles at the proper place and holding them at such place while being permanently fastened to the structure. They must all be in exact line, and therefore should be attached at the same distance from the top or bottom of the coffin or casket. More or less time is consumed in measuring with the foot-rule for each clip of each handle, so as to bring all the handles on the same line and so as to make each handle stand horizontally. The object of my invention is to do away with these time-consuming measurements, and also to avoid the inconvenience incident to holding the handles in place while fastening their clips to the coffins or caskets. This is handwork, and it is an important desideratum to lessen or avoid it in the manufacture of large numbers of coffins or caskets, because the time and labor thus involved amount to a large expense in a year's business.

My invention therefore consists in what I term a "handle-holding gage," and it is constructed, essentially, of gages adapted to slide along the upper and lower or top and bottom edges of the casket or coffin, of a rod which connects these gages together, and of a clamp or holder composed of adjustable parts mounted on said rod and adapted to embrace and hold the handle while it is being fastened and to locate all of the handles in the same relative position to the casket.

In the accompanying drawings, on which like reference letters and numerals indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a part of a coffin or casket with its handle and my improved device applied thereto, the fastening device passing through the clips at each side of the handle-arms. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the application of the device to that form of handle in which the fastening devices pass through the plates under the handle-arms. Fig. 3 is an end elevation showing the form and arrangement illustrated in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the form and arrangement illustrated in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail face view of the device on a larger scale; Fig. 6, a detail side elevation, and Fig. 7 a detail view of one of the gage-plates in side elevation.

The letter A designates a burial-casket or coffin of the usual or any approved type or pattern, and the letter B one type of handle wherein the clips or plates D have the fastening devices or screws E at each side of the handle-arms F, and are therefore readily accessible when the handle-arms are hanging down. When this form of handle is to be applied, the hand-bar G and arms F are usually allowed to hang down, and the holder of the gage is adjusted to suit that position of the parts, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

The letter H designates the other type of handle, in which the clips or plates I have their fastening devices or screws J under the arms F, which requires the arms to be held out in a horizontal or nearly horizontal position while the fastening devices are being inserted. When this form of handle is being applied, the holder of the gage is adjusted as shown in Figs. 2 and 4.

Describing now my improved handle-holding gage, it will be seen that it consists of gage-plates 2 and 3 of the form shown and adapted to fit against the bottom and top edges of the coffin or burial-casket and to be moved along the same. The rod 4 is fixedly connected with the plate 2 and has the plate 3 slidingly fitted to it, and a set-screw 5, carried by the latter plate, is used to fix it at the proper place on the rod. The holder proper consists of double arms 6 and 7, both slidingly mounted on the rod 4 and each having a set-screw 8, by which it is held to adjusted positions. These arms are turned off to one side, so that their clamping ends or surfaces 9 will stand out of line with the rod 4 to accommodate the handle-bar G of the handle proper. When the form of handle shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is

to be held in place, the arms 6 and 7 are turned so that they will extend inward from the rod; but when the form of handles shown in Figs. 2 and 4 is to be held these arms 6 and 7 are turned so as to extend outward from the bar 4. These two positions are clearly illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.

It will now be seen that when handles are to be applied to a large number of caskets the gage-plates are adjusted to fit the caskets, and the holder proper is also adjusted to the place on the rod 4 and to the position required by the location and the kind of handle to be used. This one adjustment of the device serves for all of the handles to be applied to all of the caskets of like size. Every handle is therefore readily placed and held at the same relative distance from the top or bottom of the casket or coffin, and the hand-bar of every handle is held in a horizontal position during the operation of inserting the screws or fastening devices.

The utility of the device and its value as a commercial article I have established by the actual manufacture and sale of the same in a regular commercial way, and the statements herein made as to the convenience and economy incident to its use are based upon actual practical and commercial experience.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a handle-holding gage consisting of gage-plates 2 and 3 and a connecting and sustaining rod 4 fixed to the plate 2, the other plate being adjustable on the rod to and from the plate 2, and having a fastening device, a holder proper consisting of separate arms 6 and 7 slidingly mounted on said rod 4 and between said plates 2 and 3, and having fastening devices, the arms being extended to one side of the rod 4 and being revoluble on the rod, so as to bring their opposing surfaces inside or outside of the rod, according to the adjustment of the arms.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a handle-holding gage consisting of gage-plates adapted to embrace the top and bottom edges of the casket or coffin; a rod fixed to one plate and on which the other is adjustable to and from the first-named plate, a set-screw for the adjustable plate, a holder proper consisting of two double arms each slidingly mounted on the rod between the said plates and having a binding set-screw, the arms being extended to one side of the rod to bring their holding-surfaces inside or outside of it, said arms being also curved toward each other.

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

JOSEPH A. WORK.

Witnesses:
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