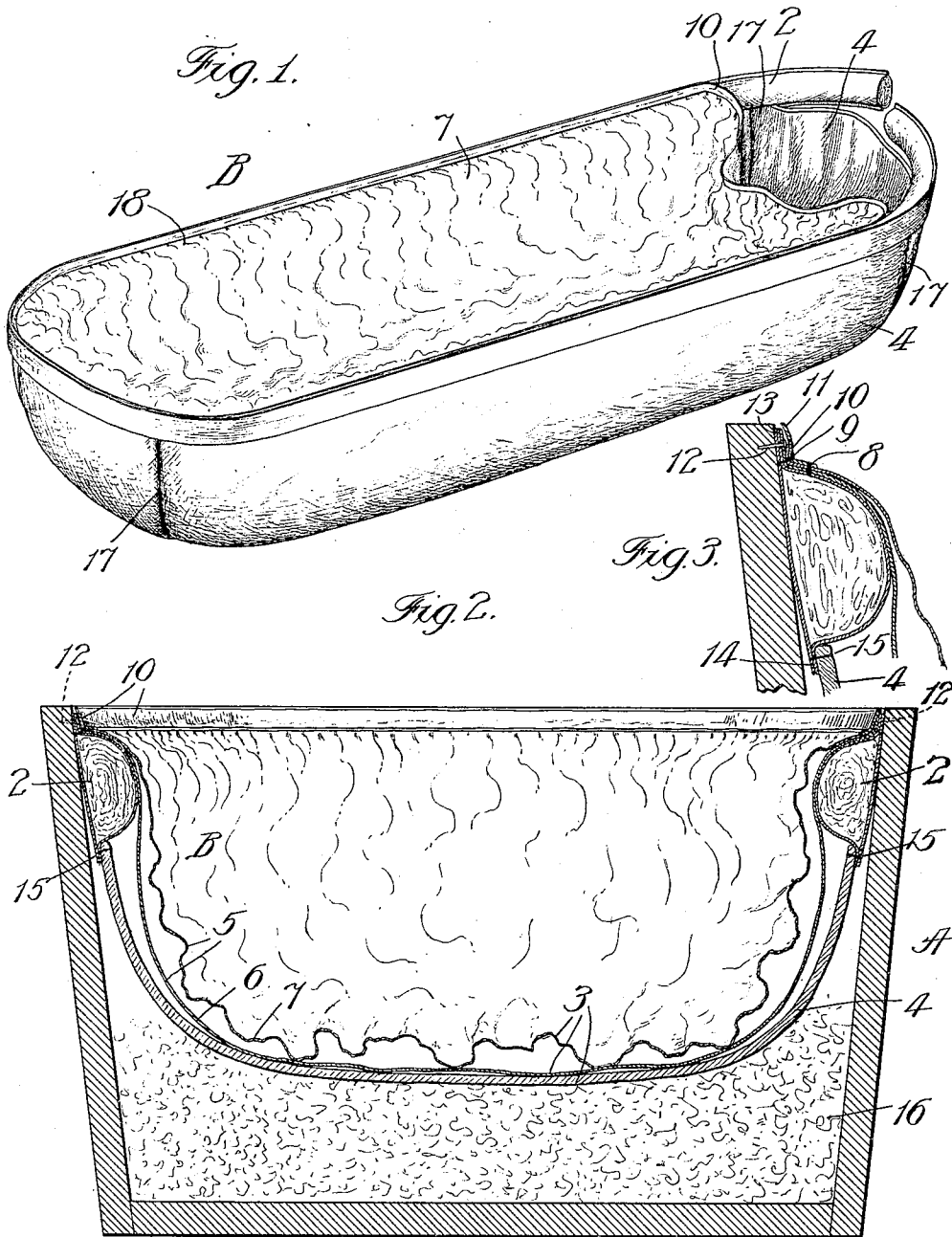


G. H. HOLLISTER.
BURIAL CASKET.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 2, 1910.

1,005,547.

Patented Oct. 10, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:
Edw. C. Chafford,
Chas. H. A. Bull.

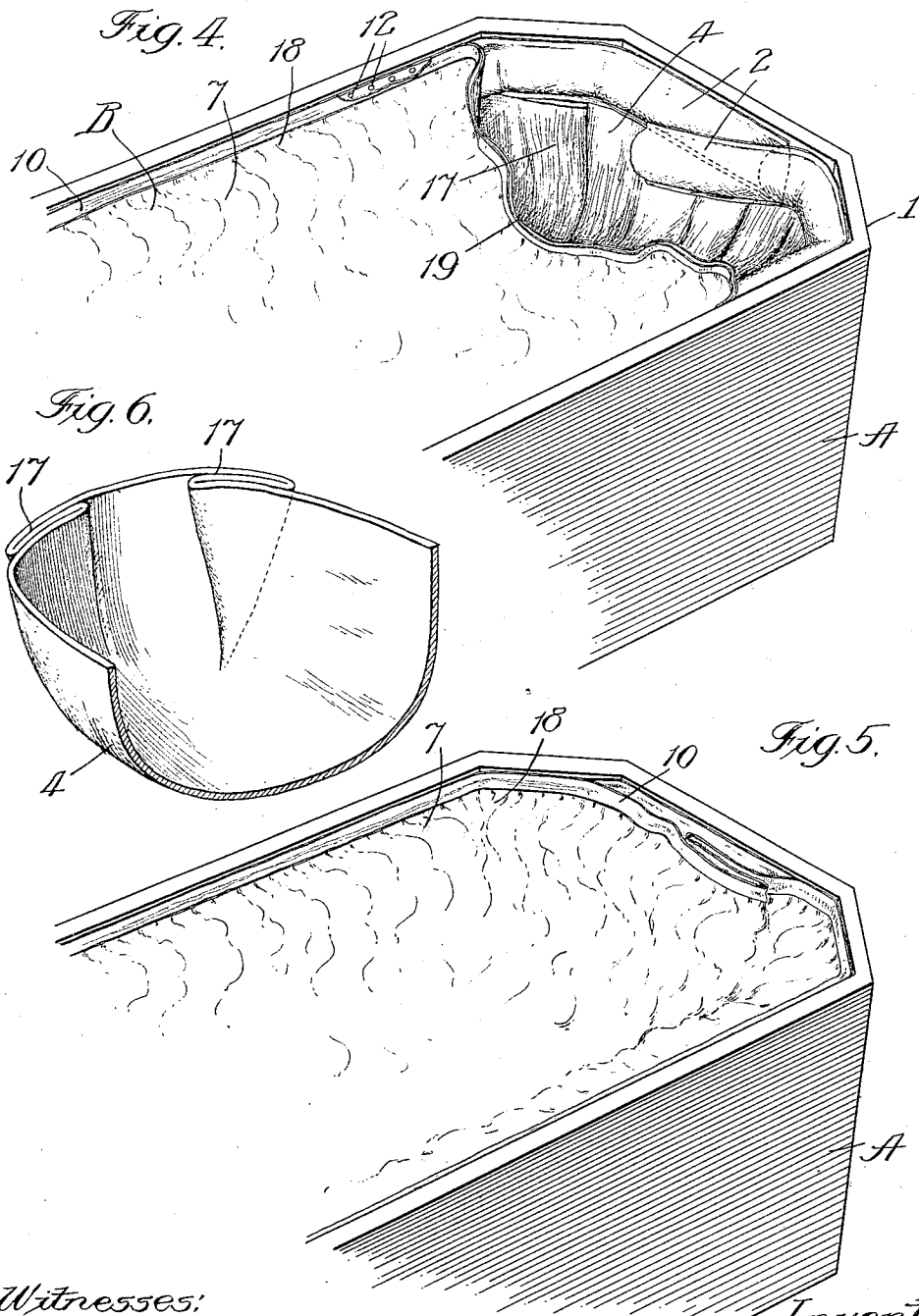
Inventor:
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By Dymouth, Lee, Chittton & Wiles.
Attys. #

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:

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Chas. H. Bull.

Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. HOLLISTER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO LEWIS & GRAY COMPANY,
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BURIAL-CASKET.

1,005,547.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 10, 1911.

Application filed December 2, 1910. Serial No. 595,191.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. HOLLISTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates particularly to the interior upholstery of burial-caskets; and my primary object is to provide an improved interior upholstery for caskets, which may be supplied to undertakers at a moderate cost, and which will greatly facilitate the work of the undertaker in upholstering caskets, improve the product, and cheapen the cost of applying the upholstery.

It may be stated preliminarily that it is customary for undertakers to purchase caskets and upholstering materials separately, and to perform in their own establishments the work of interior upholstery and draping.

My invention greatly facilitates the work of the undertaker in preparing the caskets, and considerably cheapens the cost of production of the complete casket.

I accomplish my object by providing a virtually integral interior upholstery structure of interchangeable character that is, adapted to caskets of varying sizes, the upholstery being complete, or practically so, except for the filling or bed of upholstery material, such as excelsior, loose felt, or the like, of which material a stock is always kept on hand by the undertaker.

My invention is illustrated in its preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved interior upholstery structure for caskets; Fig. 2, a transverse sectional view showing the upholstery applied to a casket; Fig. 3, an enlarged broken sectional view showing the manner in which the upholstery constituting my invention is secured to the casket-case; Fig. 4, a broken perspective view illustrating the manner of applying the upholstery to the case; Fig. 5, a similar view, illustrating another step in the operation; and Fig. 6, a broken perspective view showing the manner in which that portion of the upholstery which gives body to it is folded or plaited at the ends of the casket, to facilitate adjustment to different sizes of caskets.

In the drawings, A represents a casket-casing; and B, my improved interior upholstery structure applied thereto. The casing may be of any approved construction. Usually the casing corners are rounded or beveled, as indicated at 1. The upholstery structure B comprises a flexible roll or marginal pad 2, and a web 3 of flexible fabrics or materials having marginal connection with the roll 2. The roll 2 is of substantially elongated annular form, preferably produced by bending a roll-strip to form one end and the two sides of the elongated annulus, the end portions of the strip being caused to meet or overlap to form the other end of the elongated annulus. The web 3, as stated, has marginal connection with the roll 2, and droops centrally to cradle-form. The web 3 preferably comprises a sheet-form pad 4 which has its ends oveled and which has its margins connected by stitches with the lower margin of the roll 2, except for a short distance at the extremities of the roll; and a web-form lining 5 which comprises a foundation or back-lining 6 of substantially strong fabric, and a finish-fabric lining 7, which may be of soft material, like silk. The lining fabrics 6 and 7 are joined together near their margins by stitches 8, and the marginal portions of the lining fabrics are connected, by stitches 9, with the upper margin of the roll 2, except at the extremities of said roll. A silk braid 10 is also connected with the marginal portions of the lining fabrics by the stitches 8 and 9. The braid 10 has body enough to give considerable stiffness to it, and has an upwardly extending free margin 11 which serves to conceal tacks 12 by means of which the upper margin 13 of the lining and the upper roll-margin are secured to the upper margins of the inner surfaces of the sides and the ends of the casket-casing. It will be understood that the marginal portion of the braid may be bent inward to enable the tacking operation to be performed.

The roll 2 is preferably of half-circular form in cross-section, and has a lower marginal seam or welt 14 to which the margin of the pad 4 is secured, as by means of stitches 15. The pad 4 comprises a sheet of cotton batting, or other soft material having considerable body adapted to overcome or conceal any harshness of the excelsior, wadding, or upholstery material 16 which is em-

played in the lower portion of the casing. The member 4 has its end portions curved upwardly and is provided with folds or triangular plaits 17, giving to the end-portions of the member the form shown in Fig. 6. The back lining or foundation lining 6 is of comparatively strong fabric, such as muslin, while the finish-fabric lining 7 may be of soft downy material, such as light silk. In the operation of sewing the lining fabrics together, the finish-fabric lining 7 is shirred the full length of the seam, as indicated at 18, and the inner or finish-fabric lining is made fuller than the back lining, so that the inner lining will fall in folds and lend itself readily to tasty draping of the interior of the casket, producing a soft and downy appearance.

Ordinarily, the interior upholstering structure B, which constitutes virtually an integral upholstering structure for the interior of the casket, is supplied to the undertaker in substantially the form shown in Fig. 1, and it is only necessary for the undertaker to supply the excelsior or padding material 16, adjust the interior upholstering structure to the casket, and secure the same in place by tacking the upper margins or hems of the lining and roll to the sides and ends of the casing. In the final portion of this operation, the loose end-portion, 19, of the lining is adjusted and tacked in place.

The invention renders it possible for the undertaker to apply the upholstering structure with great facility, results in an improved product, and considerably cheapens the cost of manufacture of the casket.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no undue limitation should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

What I regard as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. An interior flexible upholstering structure for a casket, comprising a flexible roll of substantially elongated annular form, and a flexible cradle comprising a web of fabric having marginal connection with said roll, said structure having at its upper portion means for attachment to a casket-case.

2. A casket-upholstering structure, comprising a flexible roll bent to form an end-member and side-members, said roll having

its end-portions bent to form end-sections, a web-form pad of cotton batting, or the like, having marginal connection with said roll, a back lining lying above said pad and having marginal connection with said roll, and a finish-fabric lining having marginal connection with said roll and falling in folds on said first-named lining.

3. A casket-upholstering structure, comprising a flexible roll having side-members and end-members, a web-form pad having its margins connected with the lower margin of said roll, a lining having its margin connected with the upper margin of said roll, and a braid secured to said lining near the margin thereof and having an upwardly extending free edge.

4. A casket-upholstering structure, comprising a flexible roll having side-members and end-members, one end-member formed of the end-portions of said roll, a flexible web-form pad comprising a sheet of cotton batting, or the like, having its end-portions bent upwardly and the corner portions folded, the margins of said pad being connected with the lower margin of said roll, and a lining structure comprising a back-lining and a finish-fabric lining having their marginal portions joined to the upper portion of said roll.

5. The combination with a casket-casing, of an interior flexible upholstering structure comprising a flexible roll of substantially elongated annular form, a web-form pad having marginal connection with the lower margin of said roll, a lining structure having connection with the upper portion of said roll, said lining structure comprising a back lining and a finish-fabric lining having shirred marginal connection with said first-named lining, and tacks joining the upper portion of said roll to the inner upper margin of said casket-casing.

6. A casket-upholstering structure comprising a flexible roll having side members and end members, and a flexible cradle comprising a bodygiving web and a lining web, said webs having marginal connection with the roll, said structure being adapted to be applied to caskets of varying sizes.

GEORGE H. HOLLISTER.

In presence of—

R. A. RAYMOND,
J. G. ANDERSON.