No. 834,204. PATENTED OCT. 23, 1906.

E. C. HODGES.

BURIAL VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 3, 1906.

Fig. 1.

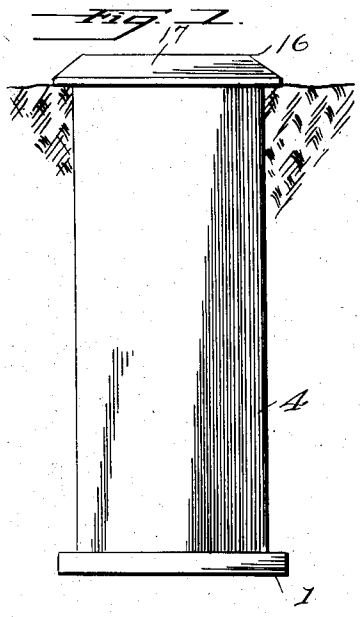


Fig. 4.

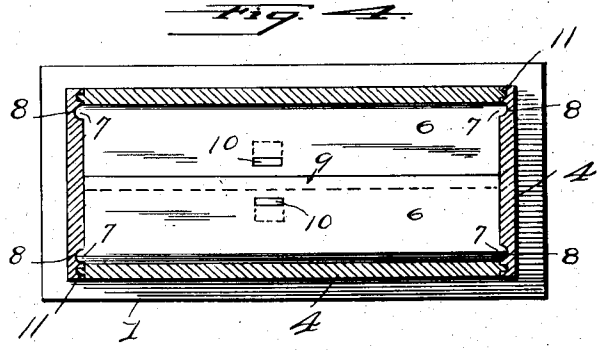


Fig. 2.

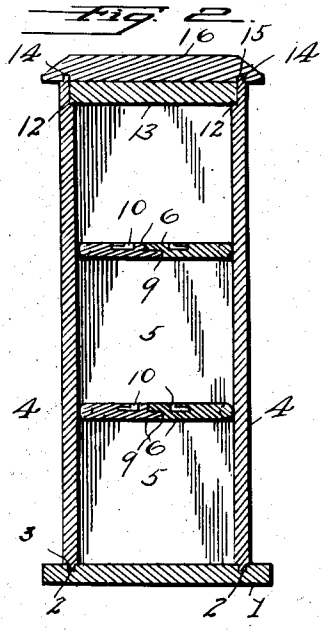
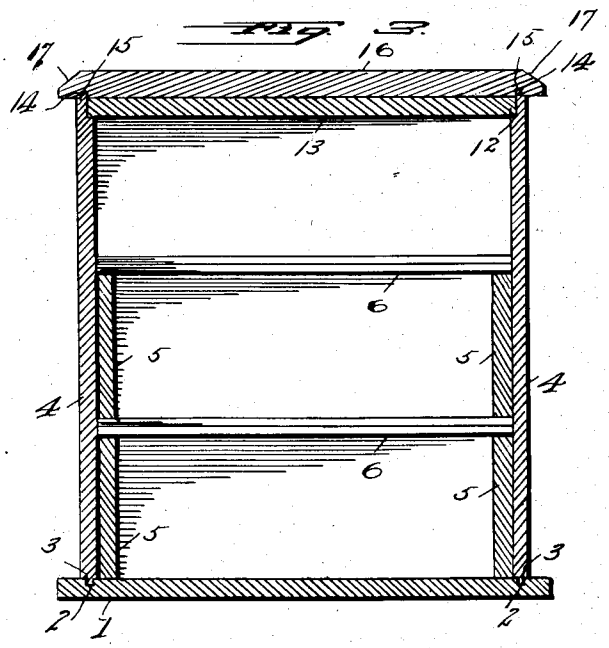


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMERY C. HODGES, OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

BURIAL-VAULT.

No. 834,204. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 23, 1906.

Application filed May 3, 1906. Serial No. 315,084.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMERY C. HODGES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bloomington, in the county of McLean and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in burial-vaults, and refers more particularly to a compartment or family burial-vault adapted to be placed beneath the ground and to contain a number of caskets.

The object of my invention is the provision of a burial-vault which will occupy but a small amount of ground-space and will have a large capacity for containing caskets, which will be of simple, durable, and practically indestructible construction, which may be readily assembled, and which is thoroughly practical in every respect.

With these and other objects in view my invention consists of a receptacle adapted to be embedded in the earth, said receptacle divided into vertical compartments by means of horizontal doors pivoted therein.

My invention further consists of a burial, vault embodying certain other novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, substantially as disclosed herein.

Figure 1 is an end elevation of my improved vault in position for use. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view thereof, taken on a transverse plane. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the vault. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view thereof on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3.

The numeral 1 designates the base of the vault, which is in the form of a slab having an annular mortise or channel 2 in the upper face thereof, in which are adapted to fit the tenons 3 of the side and end walls 4 of the receptacle. End slabs 5 are fitted at the ends of the vault, and above these slabs are pivoted the doors 6, which serve to divide the vault into superimposed compartments. These doors are in pairs and are formed at the ends with ball extensions 7, which engage sockets 8 in the end walls, and the meeting edges of the doors are formed with shouldered portions to make a lap-joint 9. Recessed hand-openings 10 are provided near the edges of the doors for opening the same, and the doors when closed are supported by the end slabs. The vertical edges of the end and side walls are secured together by mortise-and-tenon joints 11, so that the receptacle is a very solid structure. The upper interior edge of the vault is shouldered, as at 12, and engaging said shouldered portion is a cover or slab 13, which is flush with the true edge of the vault. Tenons 14 are provided on this upper edge of the vault, which engage the mortise 15 on the lower face of the true cover or slab 16, and this slab may be formed with beveled edges 17 or may be otherwise ornamented.

When the vault is in position in the ground, the first casket is placed in the lowermost compartment and the doors of said compartment are sealed. The upper compartments are then filled in order and sealed, so that the entire ground-space occupied by the vault is utilized, and an economical burial system is thereby provided.

From this description, taken in connection with the drawings, it will be evident that I have accomplished all the objects herein set forth and have provided a simple, durable, and economical means for disposing of the dead.

I prefer to make the entire vault of an artificial-stone composition invented by myself; but I do not wish to limit myself to this particular material, as many different materials may be used.

I claim—

1. In a burial-vault, the combination with a receptacle, of horizontal doors having interlocking edges dividing said receptacle into vertical compartments, and a cover to the receptacle.

2. In a burial-vault, the combination with a receptacle, of doors arranged in pairs and dividing the receptacle into compartments arranged one above the other.

3. In a burial-vault, the combination with a receptacle adapted to be placed in the

ground, of doors arranged in pairs having interlocking edges and pivoted in said receptacle to divide it into vertically-arranged compartments, and end slabs for supporting the doors.

4. The combination with a burial-vault, of doors pivoted by ball-and-socket joint in said vault, said doors arranged in pairs having overlapping joints to divide the vault into tiers of horizontal compartments, and end slabs for supporting the doors.

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

EMERY C. HODGES.

Witnesses:
W. M. HOFFMAN,
WM. N. MOORE.