H. D. HORSTMAN.

BURIAL VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 9, 1917.

1,271,708.

Patented July 9, 1918.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

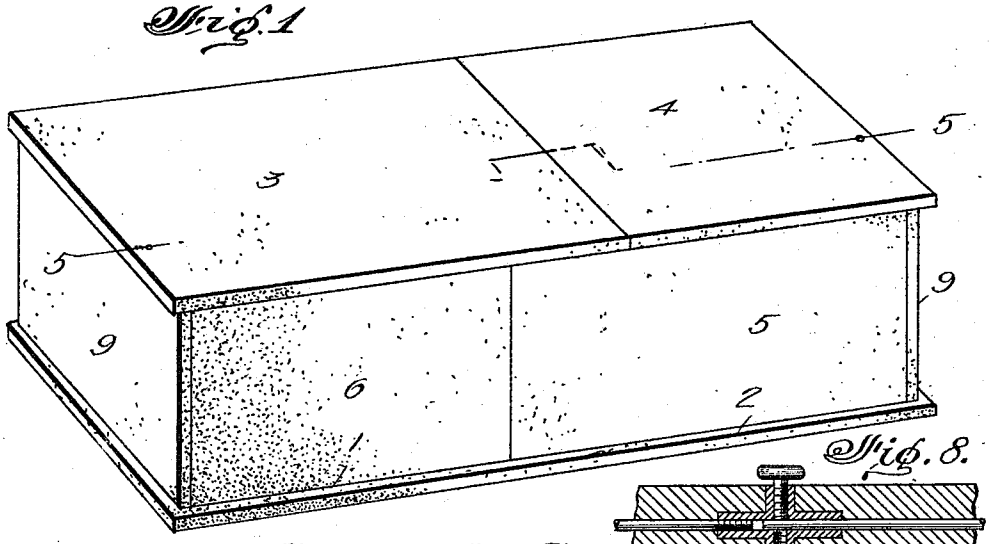
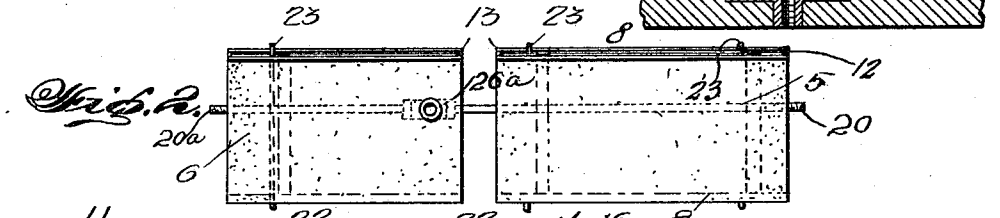



Fig. 8.



Fig. 2.



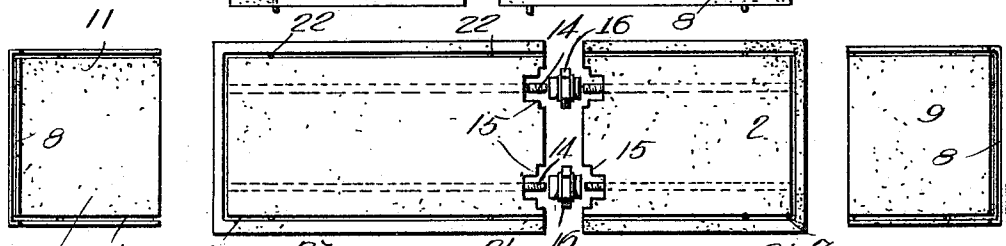
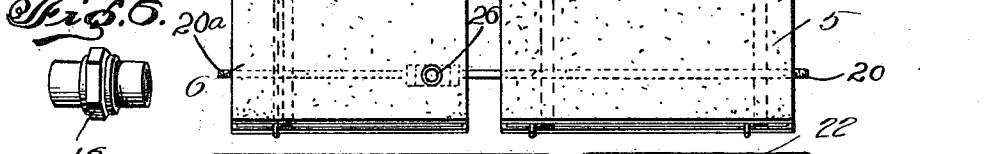
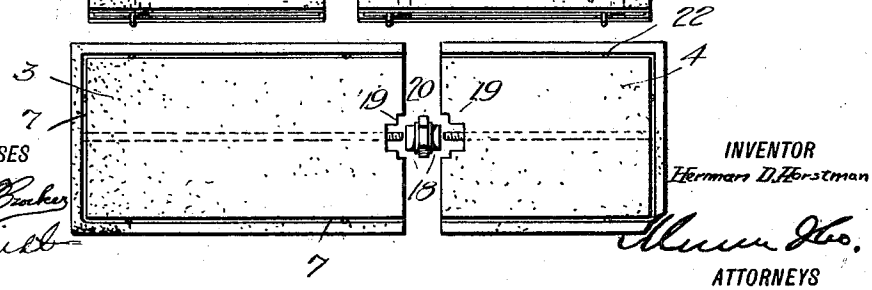




Fig. 6.










WITNESSES

Ernest Crookes

C. L. Schmidt

INVENTOR

Hermann D. Horstman

Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

H. D. HORSTMAN.

BURIAL VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 9, 1917.

1,271,708.

Patented July 9, 1918.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

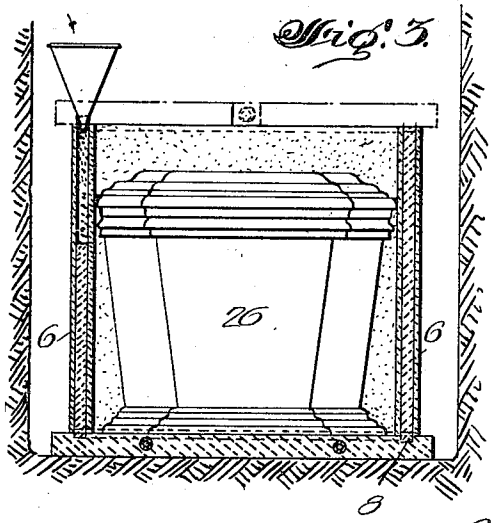



Fig. 4.

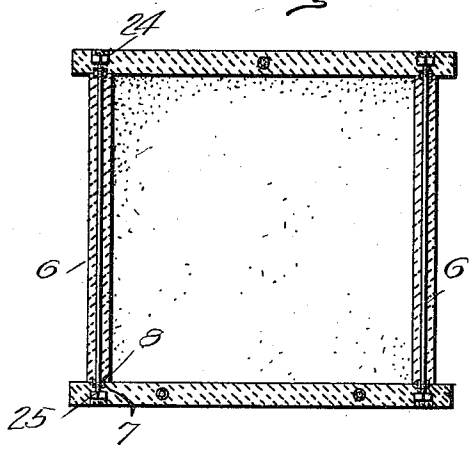



Fig. 5.

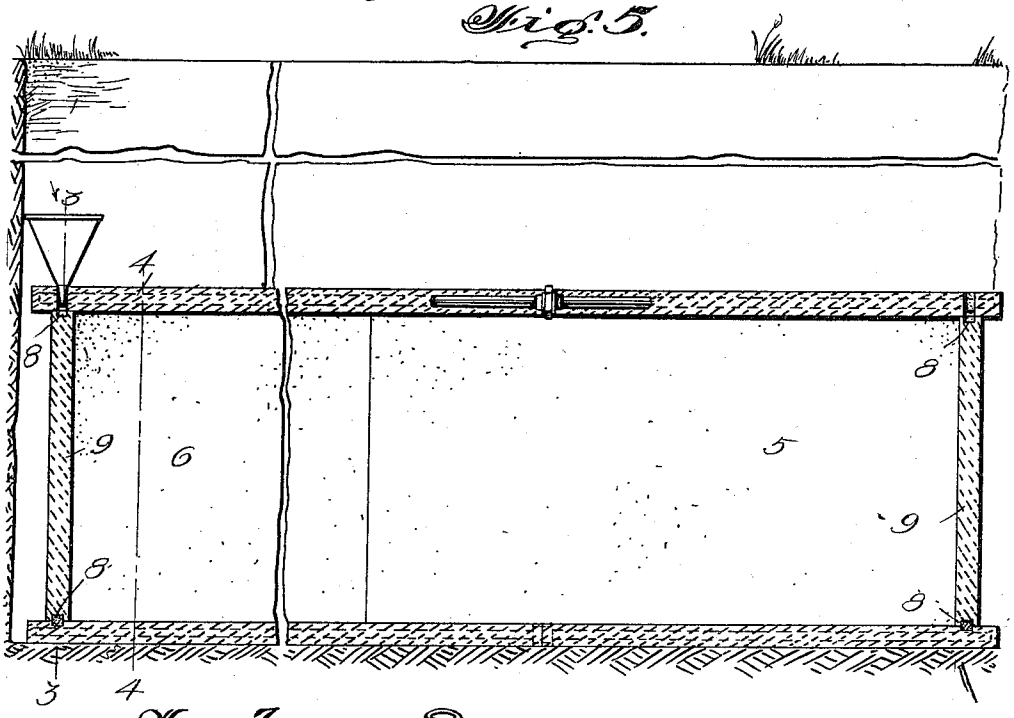



Fig. 7.




WITNESSES

Ernest C. Crocker

C. L. Schmidt

INVENTOR

Herman D. Horstman

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN DICK HORSTMAN, OF SYRACUSE, NEBRASKA.

## BURIAL-VAULT.

1,271,708. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 9, 1918.

Application filed July 9, 1917. Serial No. 179,386.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HERMAN DICK HORSTMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Syracuse, in the county of Otoe and State of Nebraska, have invented new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in burial vaults, and has for its object to provide a vault of the character specified constructed of plastic material capable of hardening, wherein the vault is made in sections, which may be assembled at the grave, and by means of which a sealed inclosure for the casket may be provided.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved vault;

Fig. 2 is a view of the sections of the vault disassociated, with the top and bottom in plan, and the sides and ends in perspective;

Figs. 3 and 4 are sections on the lines 3—3 and 4—4, respectively, of Fig. 5;

Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the unions;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the cross;

Fig. 8 is a section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 1.

In the present embodiment of the invention, the improved vault consists of ten sections, namely, two sections each for the top, bottom and sides, and one section each for the ends.

The bottom consists of a section 1 and a section 2, and the top consists of a section 3 similar to the section 1 and a section 4 similar to the section 2, while the sides consist of sections 5 and 6, respectively. Each of the sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 is provided near its margin, at its sides, and at the end remote from the complementary section, with a groove 7, and these grooves are adapted to register with grooves 8 in the lower edges of the ends 9 and the side sections 5 and 6. The end sections 9, in addition to the grooves in their top and bottom edges, have grooves 11 in their inner faces at their opposite sides, as shown in Fig. 2, and these grooves 11 are adapted to engage with grooves 12 in the outer ends of the sections 5 and 6. These sections 5 and 6 also have grooves 13 in their abutting edges, which are adapted to register, and the sections of the top, sides and bottom are connected by threaded rods. The bottom section has rods 14 embedded in the material of the sections, and the ends of the rods extend into recesses or notches 15 at the inner ends of the sections.

The notches 15 of the two sections register, and the ends of the rods in the notches are threaded, as shown, in opposite directions, so that a union 16 may engage adjacent ends of the rods to connect the sections. The top section has one pair of alining rods 18 at the longitudinal center of the top when completed, and the inner ends of the rods extend into notches 19 similar to the notches 15. These ends are threaded, and are engaged by a union 16 to hold the sections firmly together.

Rods 21 are arranged transversely of each section 5 near the ends of the section, and the ends of the rods are extended beyond the edges of the sections, and are adapted to engage and extend through openings 22 in the bottoms of the grooves 7 of the sections of the top and bottom. Each section 6 has a transverse rod 23 near the end remote from the section 5, and these rods are adapted to engage and extend through other openings 22 in the sections 1 and 3 of the bottom and top. The outer ends of the openings 22 are counter-bored, as indicated at 24 in Fig. 4, and in these counter-bored openings nuts 25 are threaded on to the rods.

Rods 20 and 20ª are arranged longitudinally of the sections 5 and 6 in the material of the sections, the ends of the rods at the outer ends of the sections being threaded, as shown, and being adapted to engage openings in the end 9 and to be engaged by nuts to connect the sections of the sides to the end, and these rods 20 and 20ª are connected by a T indicated at 26. These T's are embedded in the section 6, with the ends of the rods 20ª in place in the T's, and the inner ends of the rods 20 are received in one end of the T, and set screws are threaded through the lateral branches of the T's to secure the rods in place.

The unions 16 have polygonal portions, as shown in Fig. 6, for engagement by a wrench or the like, to permit them to be turned, and it will be understood that their ends are oppositely threaded to draw the sections of

the top and bottom together when they are in place.

In practice, the improved vault is made in forms having means for making the grooves, the notches 15 and the openings 22. After the material has hardened, they are ready for use, and may be transported to the grave in disassociated relation. Here they may be set up in the grave in the following manner: The bottom sections 1 and 2 are first connected by means of the unions 16, after which the side sections are set up on the bottom and secured to the bottom. The end sections are now placed, and the registering grooves 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13 may be filled with grout or cement, by inserting a funnel in the upper ends of the grooves 11, 12 and 13. The cement is liquid enough to flow into the registering grooves 7 and 8, and to fill all of the grooves. After the casket, indicated at 26, has been placed in the vault, the top sections, which have meanwhile been connected, may be placed, and more of the cement is permitted to flow into the registering grooves 7 and 8 of the top, sides and ends. The counter-bores 24 of the top are afterward filled with cement over the nuts, thus binding all the parts firmly together, and cementing and sealing the vault, and making the vault water- and air-tight. The crack or opening between the bottom and top sections, and the notches 15 and 19, are also filled in the same manner, so that at every point the vault is perfectly sealed.

It will be noticed that the sections 1 and 3 of the bottom and top are of greater length than the sections 2 and 4, and that the same is true of the sections 5 of the sides and that the sides 5 are arranged adjacent to the sections 1 and 3, so that the joints are broken.

It will be noted that at one side, instead of using a T 26, a cross $26^a$ is used. The ends of the cross extend through the vault wall at the inner and the outer sides. The purpose of using the cross, which is used in the same manner as the T, is to permit the sections of the side wall to be coupled from the inside or the outside. As a rule, the vault will be set up in the grave and the ends of the rods 20 and $20^a$ will be received in the ends of the cross which are in the vault wall. The set screw used for coupling the said ends may be inserted from the inside or the outside, with the cross. It will be understood that the cross can be used on either or both sides.

I claim:

A vault of plastic material capable of hardening, having sectional sides, said sections having rods embedded in the material thereof, and means at the ends of the abutting sections for engaging the rods to tie the sections together, the connection between the rods of the side sections consisting of crosses embedded in one section and opening at the inner and outer faces of the sections, the rod of the section being received in one end of the cross and the rod of the other section being adapted for engaging the other end of the cross, the means for securing the last named rod to the cross being engageable with the rod upon either face of the section.

HERMAN DICK HORSTMAN.

Signed in presence of—

D. P. West,

W. K. Keithley.

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