J. BERMEL.

BURIAL VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 11, 1912.

1,050,717.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

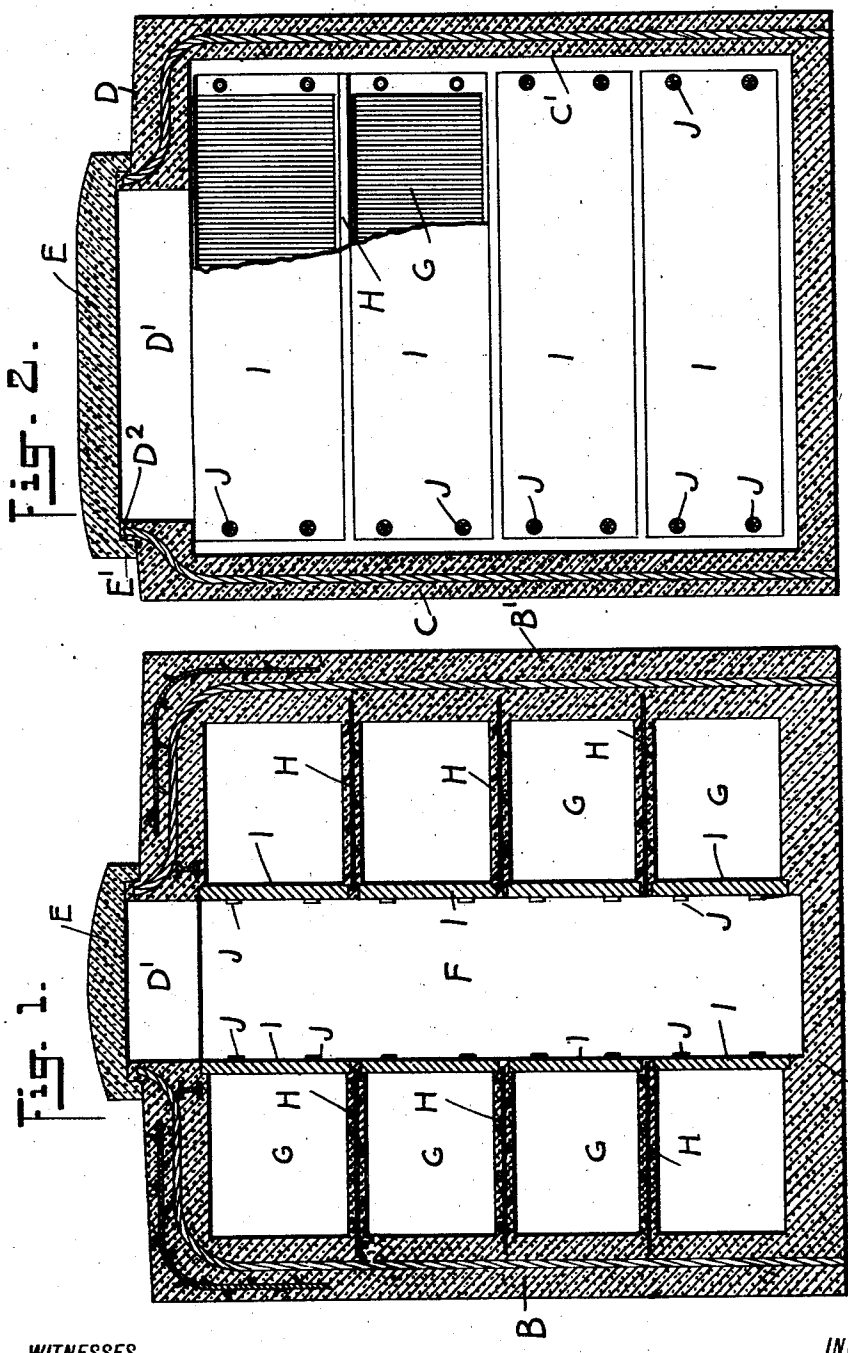

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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Rudy. Hoerstz

INVENTOR

Joseph Bermel

BY Munn & Co

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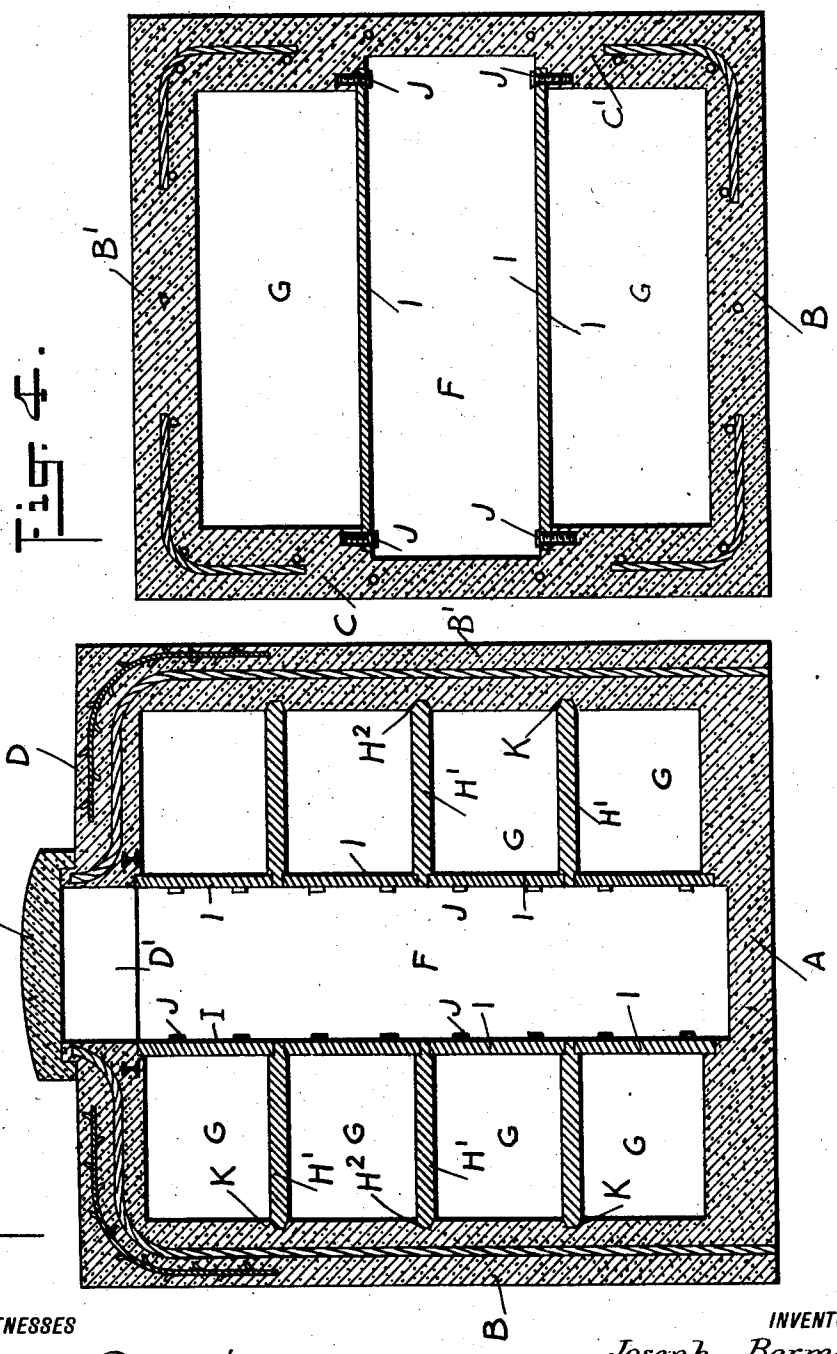

Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH BERMEL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BURIAL-VAULT.

1,050,717. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

Application filed April 11, 1912. Serial No. 690,029.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH BERMEL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, (Middle Village, borough of Queens,) in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Burial-Vault, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to burial vaults such as shown and described in the Letters Patent of the United States, No. 983,804, granted to me February 7, 1911.

The object of the present invention is to provide a new and improved burial vault arranged to accommodate one or a plurality of bodies and to protect the latter from vermin by providing hermetically sealed catacombs or compartments, one for each body, and which compartments are practically air-tight and waterproof. For the purpose mentioned, use is made of a main concrete structure built in the ground and provided with a central receiving chamber and catacombs or compartments at each side of the receiving chamber and located one above the other, the catacombs being separated by a concrete floor or shelf attached to the side and end walls of the main structure, the catacombs opening at their inner sides into the said receiving chamber and the walls of each catacomb at the entrance opening being provided with a rabbet, a closing slab fitting into the said rabbet to close the corresponding catacomb, and fastening means for removably securing the closing slab in position.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a cross section of the burial vault; Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the same; Fig. 3 is a cross section of the burial vault showing a modified form of floors for forming the catacombs; and Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view of the burial vault.

The burial vault consists of a main structure built in the ground and preferably of concrete reinforced by suitable metallic reinforcements, as indicated in the drawings. The main structure consists of a bottom A, integral sides B, B′ and C, C′, and a roof D provided with an entrance opening D′ adapted to be closed by a cover E having a depending flange E′ fitting onto a shoulder D^2 formed on the top of the roof D and surrounding an opening D′, as plainly shown in the drawings. The entrance opening D′ registers with a central receiving chamber F into which the bodies can be lowered, and on the sides of the receiving chamber F are arranged catacombs or compartments G, each receiving a single body. The catacombs on the side are located one above the other and the said catacombs are separated one from the other by floors or shelves H which may be of reinforced concrete built integrally with the sides B, B′ and the ends C, C′ of the main structure, or the said floors may be in the form of slabs H′ (see Fig. 3) fitting at their outer edges and ends into grooves H^2 formed in the sides B, B′ and the ends C, C′ so as to properly support the said slabs H′. The catacombs G open into the central receiving chamber F to permit of conveniently transferring a body that has been lowered into the receiving chamber from the latter into any one of the catacombs G, and when this has been done the last catacomb is closed by a closing slab or plate I fastened in place by expansion bolts or other fastening devices J engaging the end walls C, C′, as plainly indicated in Fig. 4. If desired, the closing slabs I may be set in lead or other sealing material placed in the rabbets at the entrance openings to the catacombs so that the latter are hermetically sealed to prevent vermin or moisture from passing into the catacombs and to prevent odors from passing out of a catacomb into the receiving chamber F. The receiving chamber F projects somewhat beyond the ends of the catacombs G (see Figs. 2 and 4) to permit of conveniently handling the body when removing the same from the receiving chamber F to a corresponding catacomb G.

From the foregoing it will be seen that by the arrangement described the cover E when removed permits of lowering the body A into the receiving chamber F from which the body can be transferred into an empty catacomb, after which the latter is sealed by fastening the corresponding closing slab I in position on the entrance end of the catacomb. By hermetically sealing the closing slabs it is evident that the receiving chamber F is not liable to be rendered foul by odor from the filled catacombs.

It is understood that although the burial

vault is made of reinforced concrete I do not limit myself to this particular material as the same may be varied without deviating from my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A burial vault, comprising a concrete structure having a bottom, side walls, end walls, and a roof provided with a central opening, the end walls being reduced in thickness at the center forming shoulders, shelves secured to the side and end walls and of a width to extend to the shoulders of the end walls, whereby a plurality of catacombs at each side and a central receiving chamber registering with the central opening of the roof and projecting beyond the ends of the catacombs, will be formed, the shoulders of the end walls and the bottom and roof being rabbeted, closing slabs fitting in the said rabbets, fastening devices for securing the slabs in position, and a cover for the opening of the roof.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH BERMEL.

Witnesses:
MATHAUS HOHFELER,
HENRY H. ALTHOFF.