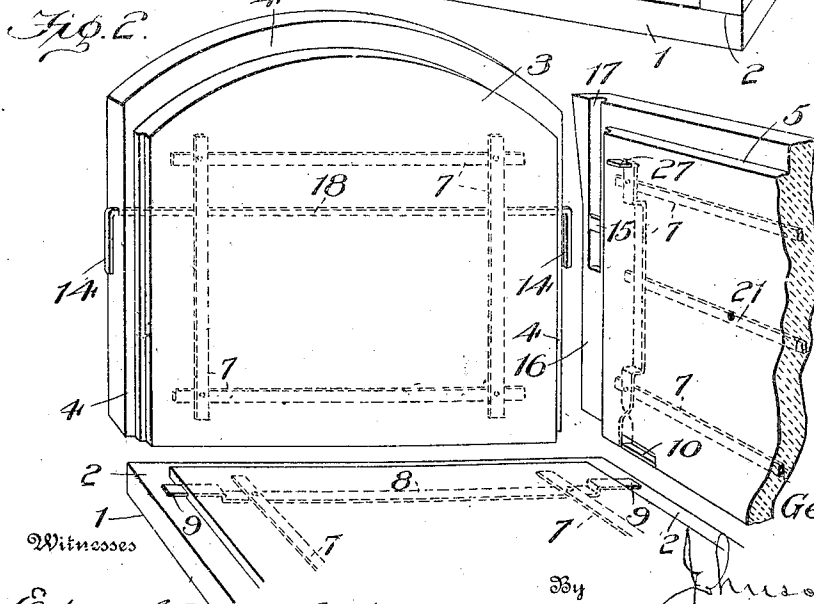
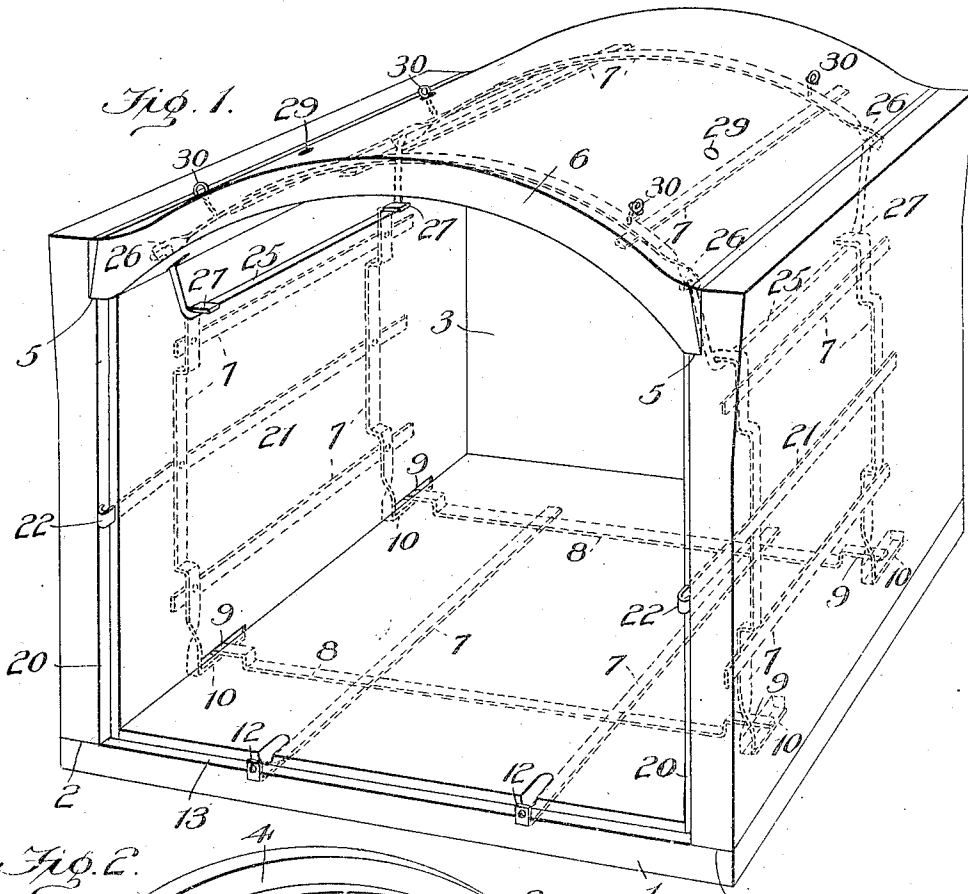


No. 821,185.

PATENTED MAY 22, 1906.

G. B. OKEY.
CEMENT BURIAL VAULT.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 7, 1905.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

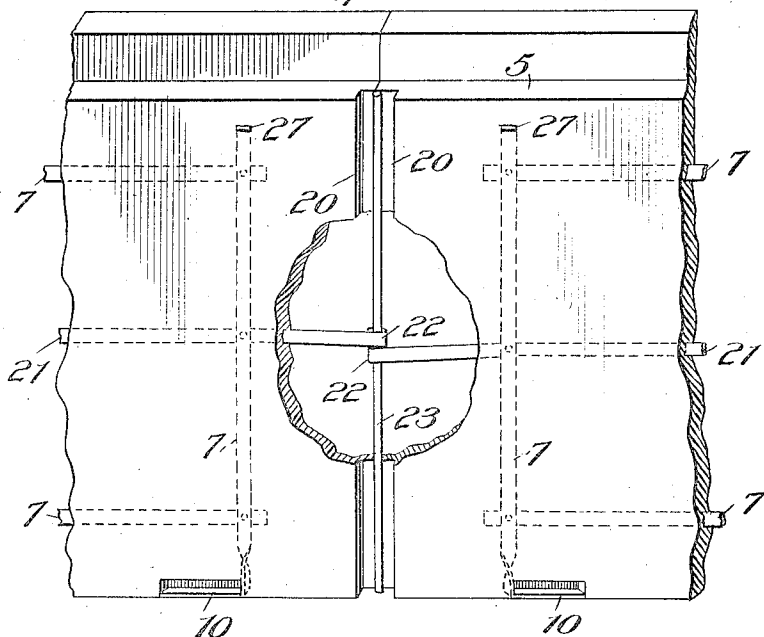
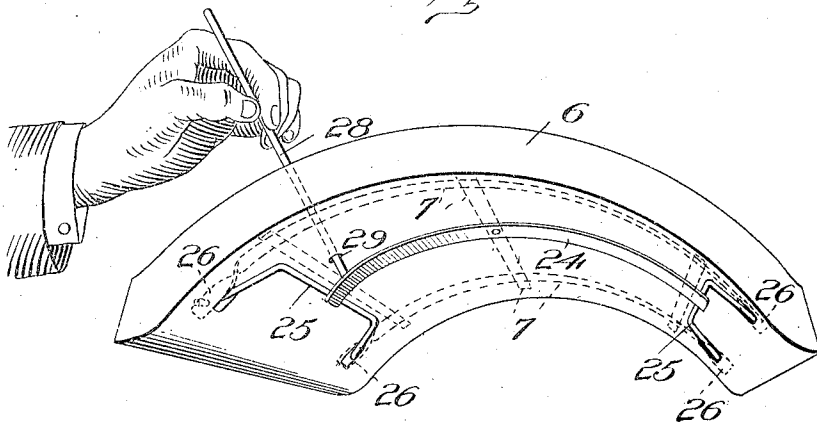


Fig. 4.



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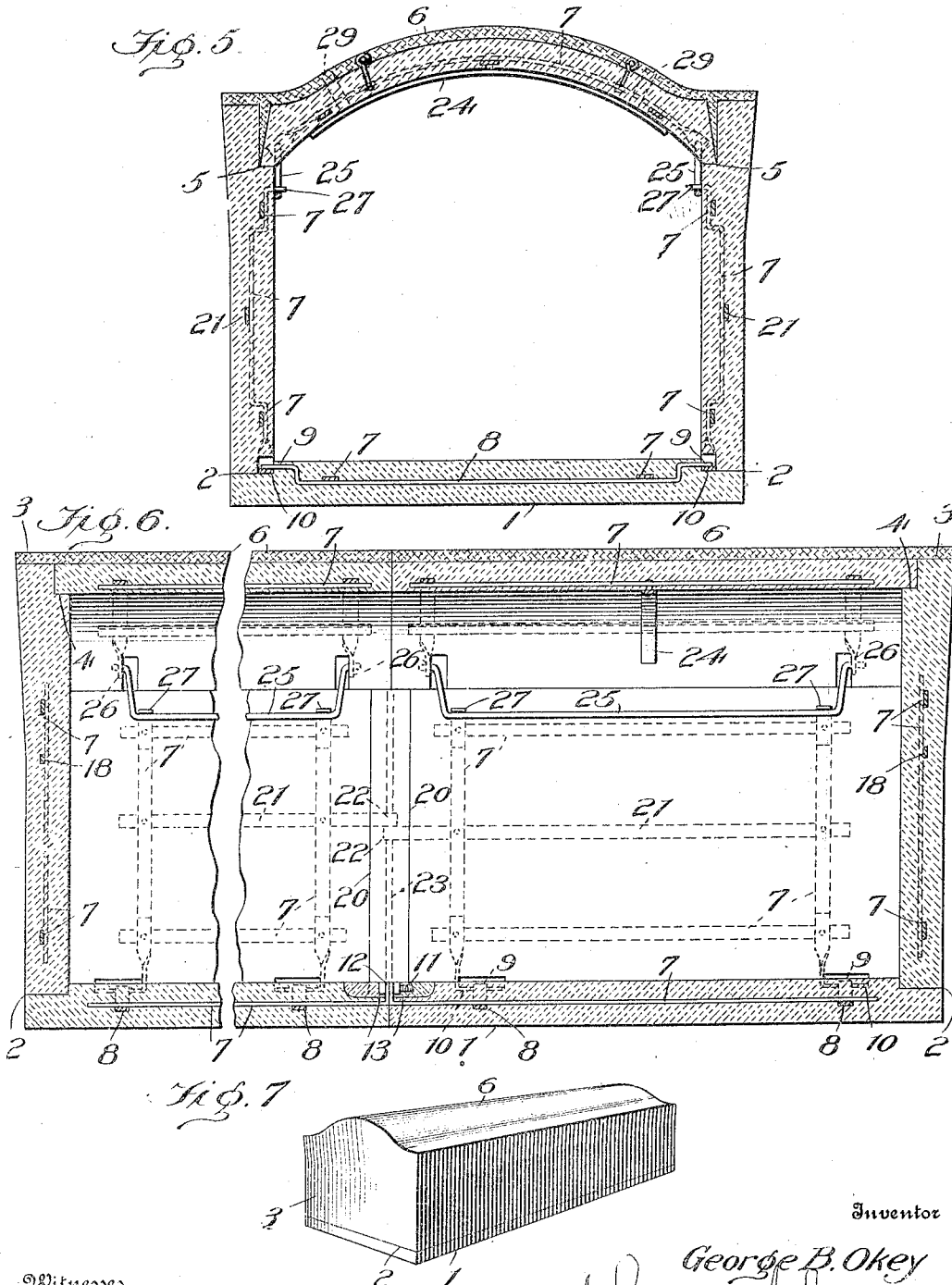
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CEMENT BURIAL-VAULT.

No. 821,185.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 22, 1906.

Application filed September 7, 1905. Serial No. 277,417.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. OKEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cement Burial-Vaults; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention is directed to the production of an improved cement burial-vault of sections; and the object of my improvement is the security of the casket and body by a vault the sections of which are assembled and fastened together by novel means at the place of burial with little labor and time, and in the claims appended hereto I will point out the parts and combinations of parts which constitute my invention.

The following description, read in connection with the accompanying drawings, will enable any one skilled in the art to which my invention relates to understand and to practice my invention in the form in which I prefer to employ it.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 shows in perspective the interior of a half-section of a cement vault and the means by which the side, bottom, and top sections of each longitudinal half are set up and fastened together. Fig. 2 shows in perspective the means by which one of the ends of the vault is secured to the side sections, the sections being shown separated. Fig. 3 shows interior side view the means by which the meeting ends of the side sections are secured together, the inner part of the wall being broken away for that purpose. Fig. 4 shows in perspective the under side of a section of the lid and the means by which it is rendered self-fastening to the inner walls of the side sections. Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse section of the vault. Fig. 6 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 7 is a view in perspective of the closed and finished vault.

The vault is made of cement in two longitudinal half-sections, each of separate side, bottom, top and end sections, adapted to be assembled and fastened together with air and water tight joints. Each bottom section 1

has an upper-surface shoulder-forming depression 2 around its side and end edges, in which are seated the side and end sections. The end sections 3 have inner-wall shoulder-forming depressions 4 around their vertical and top edges, wherein are seated the ends of the sides and of the top sections, while the inner walls at the top edges of the side sections have recesses forming shoulders 5, on which the lid-sections 6 are seated. All the joints are square and rendered air and water tight by cement. Each section is molded with an embedded skeleton frame, preferably of steel riveted bars 7 (shown by dotted lines) and which constitute the members of the fastenings for said sections.

The bars of the metallic frames of the bottom and side sections are so arranged that their ends are caused to interlock in seating the side sections in the shoulder-forming depressions 2 of the bottom section. For this purpose the embedded frame of the bottom section has a pair of transverse bars 8 8, the ends 9 9 of which project beyond the shoulders of said depressions into corresponding recesses in the inner wall at the lower edge of the side section where they engage the ends 10 10 of the vertical bars 7 7 of the embedded frame of said side section, and which ends 10 are bent to form the bottom of said recesses, as in Figs. 1, 3, and 5. Each bottom section is therefore secured to the corresponding side sections at four interlocking-points, so that the sides cannot be separated from the bottom.

The meeting ends of the bottom sections are secured in abutting relation by bolts 11, which engage the bent ends 12 of the longitudinal bars 7 of said bottom embedded frame, and for this purpose the bolts are countersunk in the upper surfaces of the bottom joined sections. At their meeting edges these bottom sections are formed with shouldered depressions 13, which when the bottom sections are thus secured are filled with cement and troweled smooth, covering the countersunk bolts, making this bottom joint watertight. The end sections are secured to the side sections by angle ends or hooks 14, standing down at the side edges of the ends so as to engage countersunk eyes 15 in the shoulder-forming depression 16, in which a vertical groove 17 is formed, leading from said eye 15

and opening at the top edge of the side section, so that when the hooks are slipped down into the eyes and the end sections seated and cemented on the bottom shouldered depression 2 the groove 17 is filled with cement and the hooks and eyes being embedded in the cement forms a secure lock. I prefer to form these hooks on a transverse rod 18, which is a part of the embedded frame 7, as in Fig. 2.

At their meeting ends the side sections are formed with a groove 20, open at the inner wall, as in Fig. 3. The mediate horizontal bars 21 of the embedded frames of the side sections terminate in eyes or hooked arms 22 in said wall-grooves, so that the eyes are in vertical alinement and are locked by a rod 23, passed through said eyes within said groove. The groove is then filled with cement and troweled smooth, embedding the rod and its eyes and locking the side sections together.

The lid is of sections corresponding to the side sections and is supported on the shoulders 5, formed on the inner walls of the sides and end sections, and is preferably arched. The lid-sections are, like the other sections, separately set in place and their joints sealed by cement. Each lid-section is provided with concealed self-fastenings, and when fastened there is no access to them from the outside. A peculiarity of these fastenings is that they are mounted to swing and are held up on the under side of the lid at each of its side edges, from which position they are tripped or released and caused to fall or swing down by gravity, and thereby automatically become engaged with projections on the inner walls of the side sections, locking the lid thereto.

A plate-spring 24 is mediatey riveted on the under side of the lid to a bar of the embedded frame 7, the ends of the spring terminating at or near each edge of the lid. A yoke 25 is pivotally hung by its ends to the ends 26 of the embedded frame 7, so that the yoke is free to swing up and down on its pivots. When swung up, it is caused to engage and be held up by the free ends of the spring 24, and when it is tripped from its engagement with the end of the spring it falls by gravity against the inner wall of the side section and is thereby caused to engage the bent ends 27 of a pair of vertical bars 7 of the embedded frame. The bar ends 27 for this purpose stand out from the inner wall, and the yoke 25 swings beneath them and is held by gravity in locked engagement with them.

In setting the lid-sections the yokes are each held up to the lid by the free ends of the spring, as in Fig. 4, and the lid-joints having been cemented each of the yokes are tripped and released from their engagement with the ends of the springs by inserting a rod 28 through a hole 29 in the lid, so as to engage and press the ends of the spring down, and

thus allow the yokes to slip off and fall into locking engagement with the hook ends on the walls of the side sections, the holes being then closed by cement.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that each section of the vault is constructed with novel means by which the several sections are secured together quickly and with little labor and the fastening means concealed entirely within the closure of the vault and that the lid is secured by novel devices concealed within the vault and which in their locking function are not accessible from the outside.

An advantage incident to the means I employ for securing the lid is that the lid can be set in place and remain unfastened for purposes desirable to remove it and the final steps of securing it taken by inserting rods through the holes in the lid to trip each end of the locking-yoke from its engagement with the ends of the lid-spring, at the same time to let the yoke swing down into locking engagement with the embedded frames in the side sections, and the employment of a pair of wall-locks for each yoke gives a more extended fastening to the lid along both its side edges. It is also important to note that while the embedded metal frames reinforce the cement walls they serve by integral parts the direct means of connecting and securing the sections together at their joining edges.

I have shown in Fig. 3 a single hook extension of each embedded frame coupled together by a vertical embedded coupling-rod for securing the side sections together; but obviously each frame may have a plurality of such coupling-arms in engagement with said embedded rod.

Obviously the fastening device for the side sections (shown in Fig. 3) may be used for fastening the meeting ends of the bottom sections in the place of the bolts.

The inner sides at the top edge of each side and end section are recessed, forming the shoulder 5, while the edge of the lid is beveled, forming thereby a gutter, which when the lid is placed in position is filled with cement, which unites the lid to the sides and ends and makes a water-tight joint. Hooks 30, fastened in the embedded frames of the lid-sections and projecting above the cement, serve for the attachment of straps for lowering the lid-sections to their seats, the embedded frames giving the necessary lifting strength to the hooks, as the frames cannot pull out of the body of the cement. The lid-sections having been properly seated and sealed, the whole top surface of the lid, including the edges of the sides and ends, is covered with cement, which covers also the hooks, so that the vault will have the appearance of a solid block of granite. All the sections interlock with each other when assembling them except the lid, which is locked

when desired, and the only parts requiring manual labor to fasten are the two screw-bolts to unite the bottom sections.

I claim—

1. In a sectional burial-vault, a bottom of sections, an embedded frame in each section, each frame having a pair of arms each terminating in uncovered angle ends at the joining of said sections, said frame having also a pair of arms projecting at the opposite side edges and terminating in straight uncovered ends, side sections each having an embedded frame, each frame having a pair of vertical arms terminating in angle ends in recesses at the lower edges of said sides, the side projecting arms of the bottom frames freely engaging the said angle ends within said side recesses to lock the sides to the bottom, and means for securing the angle ends of said bottom frames together.

2. In a burial-vault of sections, the end sections, an embedded frame in each having a horizontal arm terminating at each vertical edge in an angle end or hook, the side sections each having an eye on their inner walls into which the hooks are adapted to be slid to lock the end sections to the sides, the said engaged parts being sealed in the side walls.

3. A burial-vault of two longitudinal half-sections, each half comprising bottom, side, end and lid sections, each section having an embedded frame, the frame of the bottom section having a pair of arms terminating in uncovered angle ends at the joining of the bottom sections, said frame also having a pair of arms terminating in uncovered ends at each side of said bottom section, the frame of the side sections having a pair of arms terminating in uncovered angle ends in recesses in the lower edges of the side sections for engagement with the uncovered ends of the arms of the bottom section, and means for securing the side sections to the end section consisting of a member of the embedded frame of said end section terminating in crank-hooks standing down at the side edges of said end section and eyes on the inner walls of the side sections into which the said hooks are adapted for slidable engagement, and means for securing the lid-sections to said side sections.

4. A burial-vault of two half longitudinal sections, each half comprising separate bottom, side, end and lid, an embedded frame in each section, means for securing the side sections together consisting of one or more arms projecting from said embedded frames terminating in a hook at the junction of said side sections and a vertical rod coupling said hooked ends, the hook-arm and the rod being embedded in the walls and means for securing the lid-sections to the side sections.

5. In a burial-vault and in combination with a metallic frame embedded in each of its vertical sides, and having members terminat-

ing in projections on the inner walls, a lid supported on said sides, a yoke pivotally mounted on the under side of the lid for engagement with said frame projections for locking the lid, and means attached to the under side of the lid whereby the yokes are held in positions to fall by gravity into locking engagement with said wall projections.

6. In a burial-vault, a lid, a yoke pivotally mounted on its under side at each edge and parallel thereto, a spring secured transversely of the lid with its free ends terminating in such relation to said yokes as to engage and hold them up out of locking positions, and means whereby each end of the spring may be depressed to trip the yokes to allow them to fall, and means for locking them.

7. In a vault-lid a transverse plate-spring on the under side of said lid terminating in free ends, a pair of yokes each pivotally mounted on the under side of said lid parallel with and near each side edge in such relation to the free ends of said spring as to be caused to become engaged therewith, projections on the inner side wall arranged to engage each end of the yoke, a hole in the lid at each free end of said spring, and means introduced through said holes in engagement with said free ends of the spring for tripping the yokes which are thereby caused to swing down in locking engagement with said side-wall projections.

8. In a vault, its vertical sides having inward wall projections, the lid, a pair of yokes mounted to swing up and down on the under side of the lid in locking relation to said wall projections, means carried by the lid for retaining the yokes out of locking engagement, and means whereby the yokes are tripped to cause them to swing by gravity into locking engagement with said wall projections.

9. A burial-vault of separate molded sections, a frame embedded in each section, the frames in the side sections having each a pair of arms each terminating in an angle end in a recess at the lower edge of the inner wall, the frame of the bottom section having a pair of arms the ends whereof project into said wall-recesses in engagement with the angle ends of the side frames, thereby locking the side sections against vertical separation from the bottom.

10. A burial-vault of separate molded sections, a frame embedded in each section, the frames of the side sections having each a pair of arms each terminating in an angle end in a recess at the lower edge of the inner wall, the frame of the bottom section having a pair of arms the ends whereof project into said wall-recesses in engagement with the angle ends of the side frames thereby locking the side sections against vertical separation, the frames of the end sections having each a member the ends of which terminate in hooks at their opposite vertical edges, an eye on the

inner vertical wall of each side section adapted to engage the hooks of the end section to lock the sides against lateral separation.

11. A lid for a burial-vault, an embedded
5 frame therein, a pair of yokes each pivotally
mounted in said frame on the under side of
said lid in parallel relation to the edges of the
lid, means carried by the lid adapted to en-
gage and retain each yoke in a swung-up po-
10 sition at the under side of the lid, means for
releasing the yokes from their swung-up po-

sitions, the side sections, and means on their
inner walls adapted to be engaged by said
yokes.

In testimony whereof I have signed my 15
name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE B. OKEY.

Witnesses:

L. A. E. STORCH,
H. R. THOMSON.