

No. 665,502.

Patented Jan. 8, 1901.

A. B. BOGGS.

RECEPTACLE FOR CULTIVATING AND PRESERVING FLOWERS.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Nov. 18, 1899.)

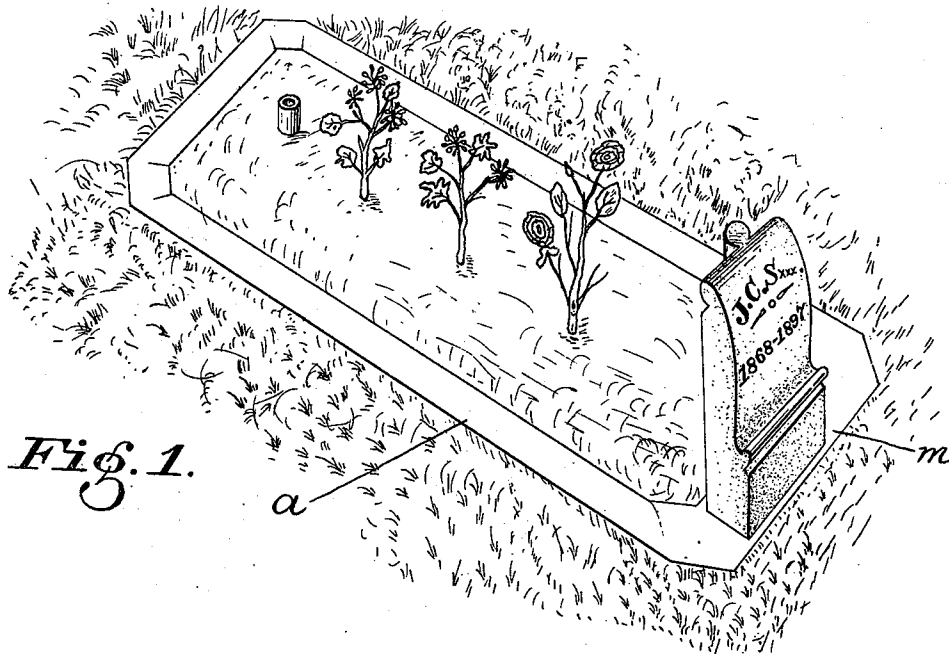


Fig. 1.

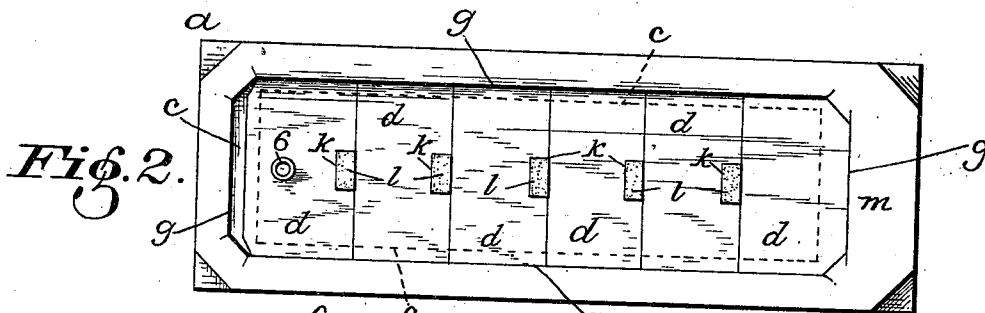


Fig. 2.

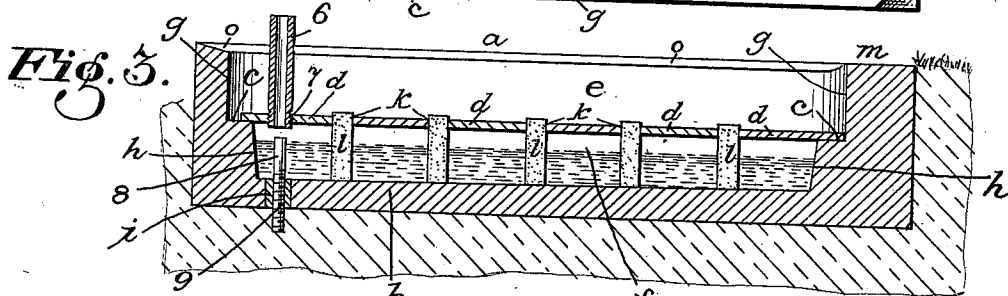
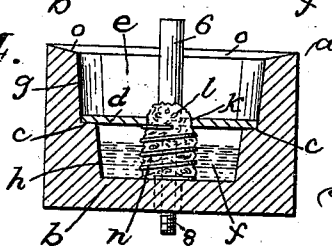


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES: Fig. 4.

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## RECEPTACLE FOR CULTIVATING AND PRESERVING FLOWERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 665,502, dated January 8, 1901.

Application filed November 18, 1899. Serial No. 737,449. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALDEN B. BOGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Covington, in the county of Miami and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Receptacles for Cultivating and Preserving Flowers; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a receptacle for cultivating and preserving flowers, and my device may be employed in private as well as any class of public grounds, although it is more especially adapted and designed for use in cemeteries, and is intended to be set into the earth (so as to come flush or level with the top surface thereof) and to be placed directly over the grave containing the casket and rest on top of the earth which has just been placed on said casket; and it consists in certain combinations of novel features of construction and form, as will be more fully described hereinafter, and pointed out in the subjoined claims, in accordance with the statutes in such cases made and provided therefor.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, and in which like letters and numerals of reference refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views, Figure 1 is a general view in perspective of my invention, showing it in operative position and its practical application when employed in a cemetery. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the device before it is filled with the earth composing the flower-bed and showing the intermediate supporting-floor for said bed, and Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal vertical sectional view of same. Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-sectional view looking toward the foot and showing slight changes in the form of the upper chamber and in the means for absorbing and distributing the water and moisture.

In describing my invention in detail, and having reference to the various parts by means of the letters and numerals of reference employed in the several views of the draw-

ings, *a* indicates the entire receptacle, which is preferably constructed out of cement or any suitable material and formed with a bottom or base portion *b* of suitable thickness. (See Figs. 3 and 4.) *c* is a shoulder formed on the inside of said receptacle approximately midway its depth and extends entirely around the inside to receive and support floor-sections *d* of a floor, preferably constructed of wood, which thus divides said receptacle into an upper chamber or compartment *e*, adapted to receive the bed of earth in which the flowers are grown and cultivated, and a lower compartment or basin *f*, which receives and holds the supply of water, so that the flowers are always automatically nurtured by means as will be more fully described hereinafter. The walls *g* of upper compartment *e* are designed to be of sufficient width at their tops to divide or separate the bed of earth in which are the growing flowers or like vegetation from the surrounding grass or weeds, thus preventing their intermingling thereby choking up and destroying said flowers, and said walls may be vertical or slightly inclined, as desired, entirely around their sides and ends, while their top is slightly inclined or dished inward, as at *o*, so as to catch all moisture or dews, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, excepting at the front end, as shown at *m*, (see Figs. 1 and 2,) where said wall is considerably wider and is level on its top, (instead of dished,) so as to support a vase, piece of statuary, or a marker, as shown in Fig. 1; but the walls *h* of lower compartment or water-basin *f* are intended and designed to be slightly inclined from shoulder *c* at their top to the bottom or base *b* of said receptacle entirely around their sides and ends, so that during a wet season the superfluous amount of water caused by heavy rains will gradually pass or soak through the bed of earth in said upper chamber and find its way along the inclined walls into said water-basin, as well as flow into said water-basin through inlet or supply pipe 6, which passes through one of the floor-sections *d* nearest to the foot of said receptacle, and acts not alone as a supply-pipe by which water may be introduced into the water-basin, but said pipe 6 has its end screw-threaded at 7, so as to be firmly held and supported in said floor-section, and also acts as

a vent for the escape of air from said water-basin. The bottom or base portion *b* is slightly inclined longitudinally in said water-basin from head of the receptacle to its foot, so as to assist in permitting the water after getting to within a short space or distance of floor-sections *d*, which compose said wooden floor, to pass down and out through outlet or overflow pipe 8 and be absorbed and taken up by the surrounding earth first placed on top of the burial-casket. Said overflow-pipe 8 is located near the foot of the receptacle and passes up through a sleeve *i* in bottom *b* to within a short distance of floor-sections *d* of the wooden floor and is detachably held in position by reason of its screw-threaded portion 9 engaging the screw-threads of sleeve *i*, (which may be formed by a short section of pipe,) set in bottom portion *b*. The lower end of said overflow-pipe extends a sufficient distance in the earth below the receptacle, as shown in Fig. 3, to carry off the superfluous water.

Floor-sections *d* are suitably formed with recesses, so that when laid they will form suitable openings, as at *K*, for the reception of suitable absorbent material *l* to pass down therethrough and rest on the bottom or base *b* in the water in water-basin *f*, and thus take up and automatically supply the earth in the flower-bed and feed and nourish the flowers; but where there is a superfluous amount of water in the flower-bed, as in the case of heavy rains, said absorbent material will act as a conductor for the water and carry it downward and distribute it in said water-basin, thus serving a twofold purpose. In the instance shown in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawings I have shown this absorbent material *l* to consist of porous bricks, and in the instance shown in Fig. 4 I have shown said absorbent material to consist of a sponge sup-

ported and retained in position by an ordinary coil-spring *n*, disposed between the floor-sections and bottom of water-basin.

It will be obvious without further description that it will seldom be necessary to fill the water-basin by introducing water through the supply-pipe, and flowers can be kept for almost an indefinite period, and for this reason it is particularly applicable to cemetery use.

Having now described my receptacle for cultivating and preserving flowers, what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A receptacle for growing flowers, consisting of an upper compartment *e*; a lower compartment *f*; a shoulder *c*; the floor of the upper compartment resting upon said shoulder; means for conveying the water from one compartment to the other; a supply-pipe 6; an outlet or overflow pipe 8; and a head-wall suitably formed so as to support an urn, or a marker or like device; substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A receptacle for cultivating flowers, having the compartment *e*; the compartment *f*; the shoulder *c*; the floor or platform; the absorbent material, adapted to convey water from one compartment to the other; the retaining-spring *n* for supporting and retaining said absorbent material in position; the inlet or supply pipe 6; the outlet or overflow pipe 8; and the head-rest adapted to support a piece of statuary, a marker or like device, substantially as described.

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

ALDEN B. BOGGS.

Witnesses:

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LILLIE B. CROFT.