(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

S. E. BAKER.

BURIAL CASKET.

No. 358,009. Patented Feb. 22, 1887.

Fig. 1.

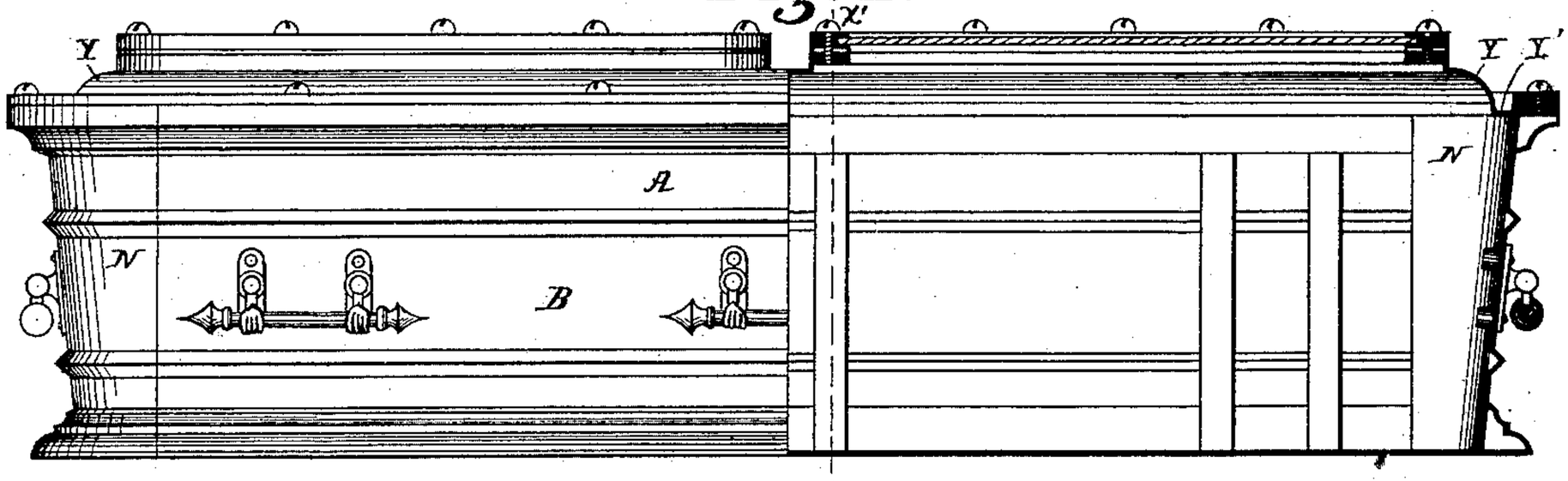

Fig. 2.

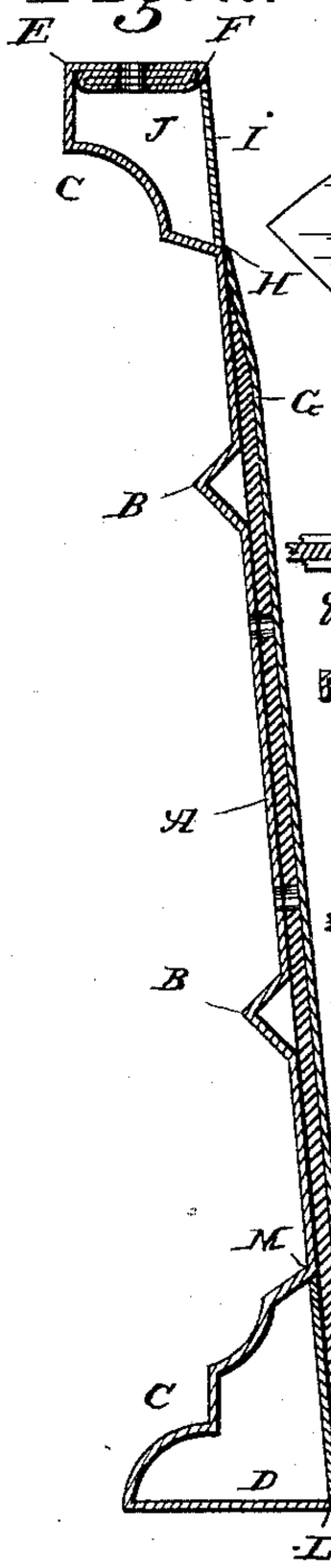

Fig. 3.

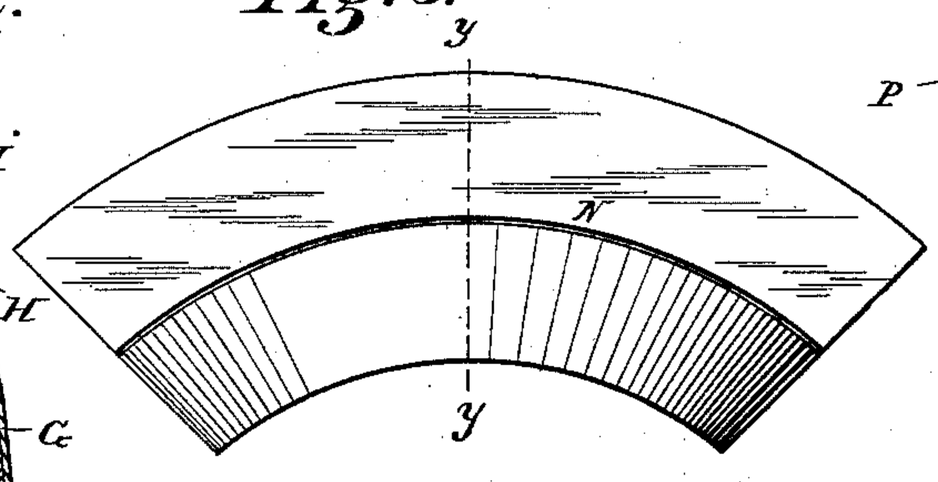

Fig. 4.

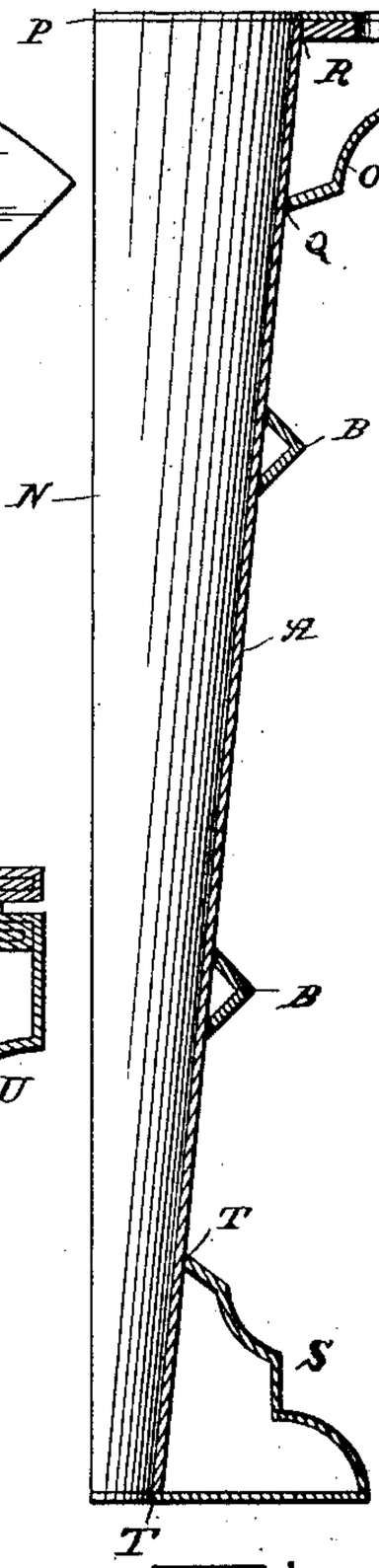

Fig. 5.

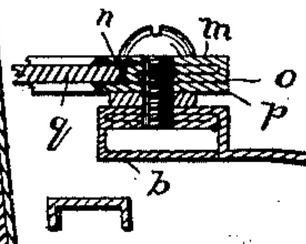

Fig. 6.

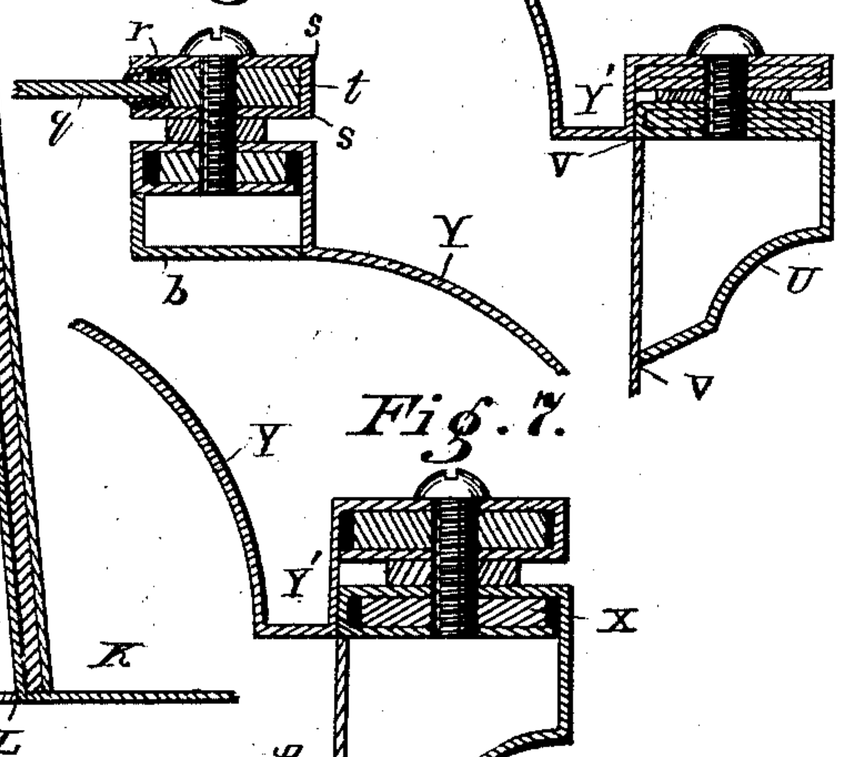

Fig. 7.

Witnesses

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BURIAL CASKET.

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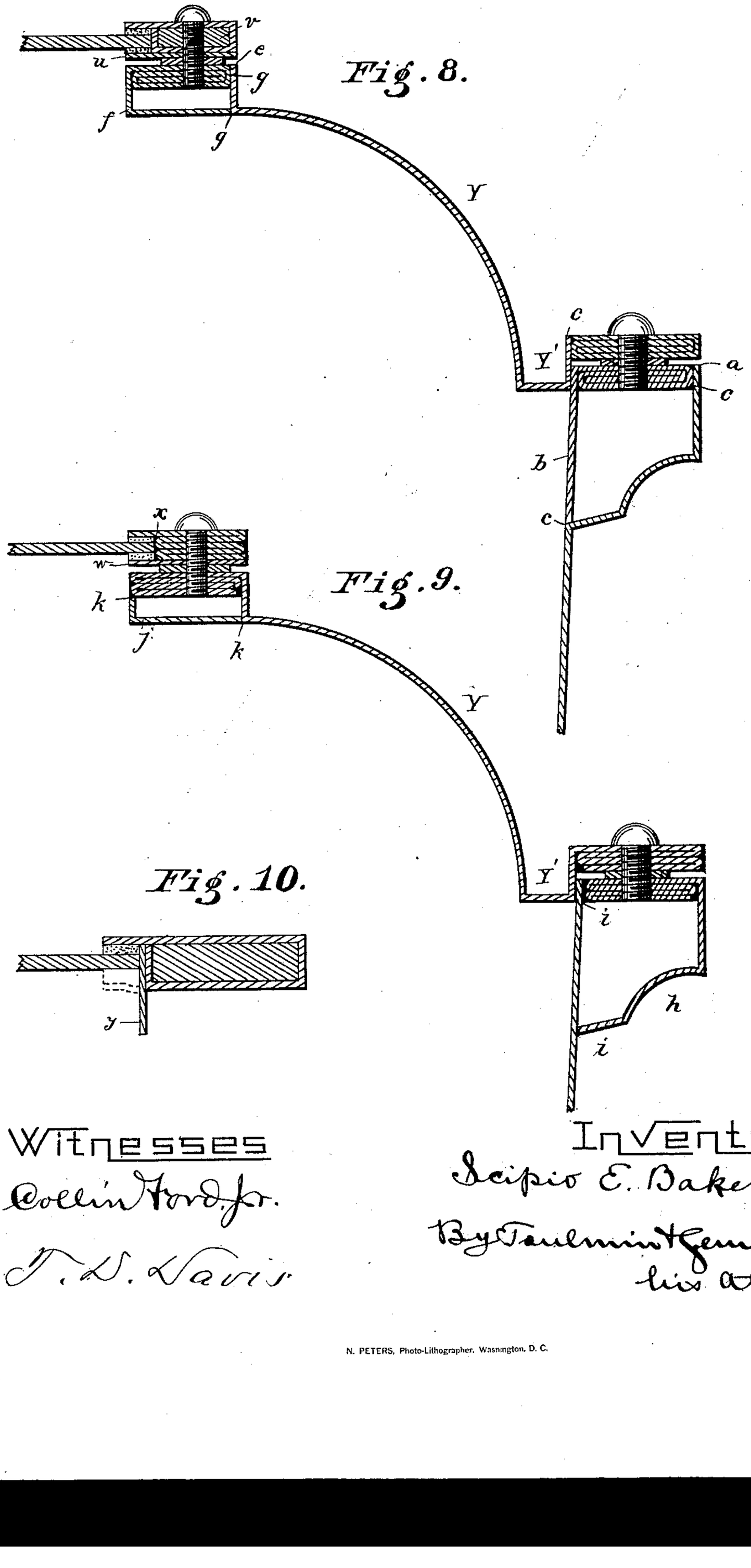

Fig. 8.

Fig. 9.

Fig. 10.

Witnesses
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(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

S. E. BAKER.

BURIAL CASKET.

No. 358,009. Patented Feb. 22, 1887.

Fig. 11.

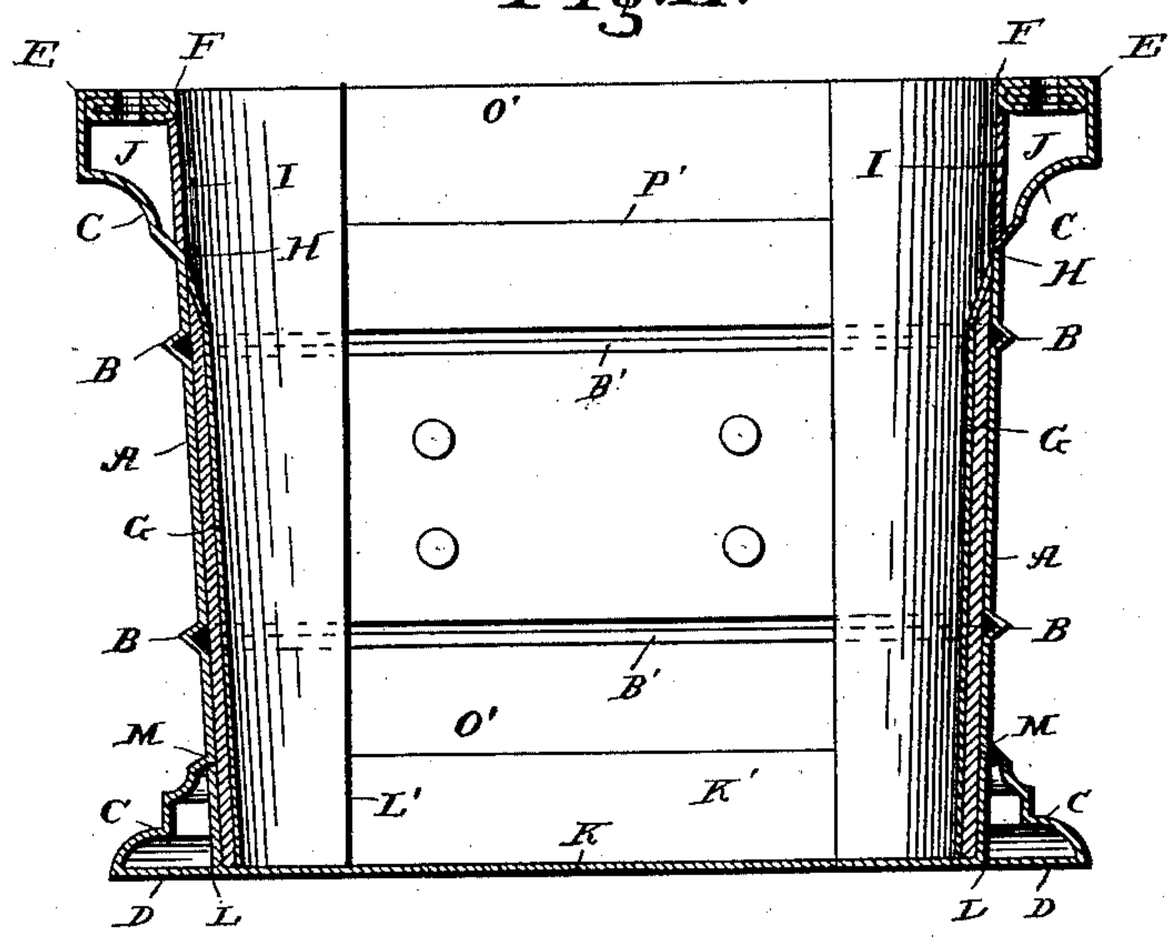


Fig. 12.

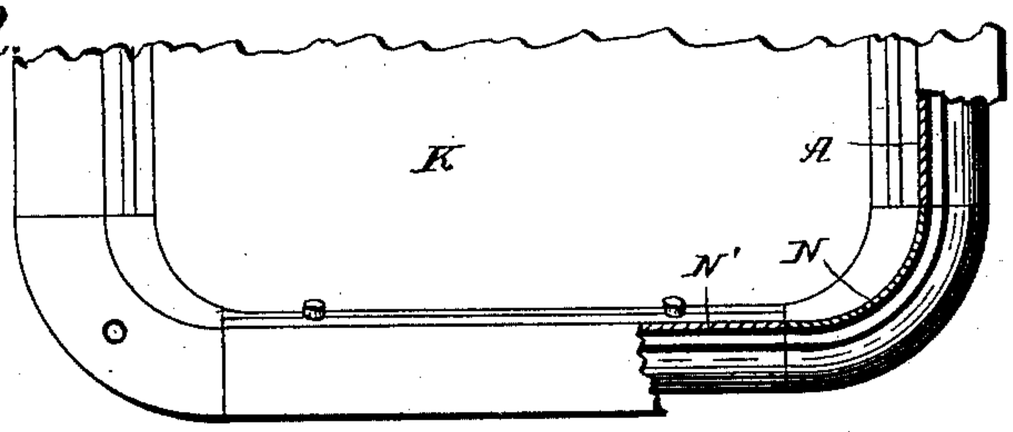
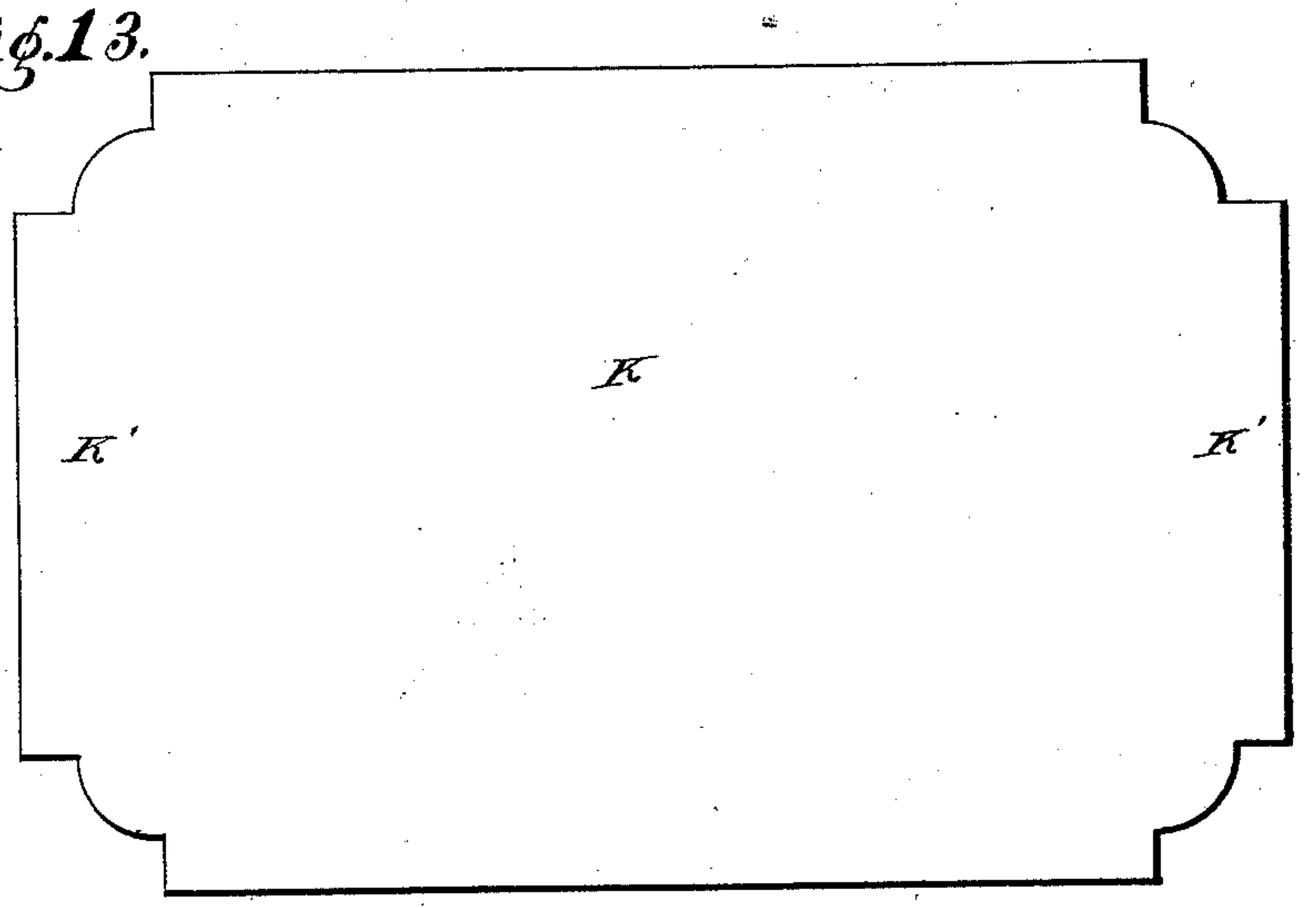


Fig. 13.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SCIPIO E. BAKER, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

BURIAL-CASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 358,009, dated February 22, 1887.

Application filed July 20, 1886. Serial No. 208,527. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SCIPIO E. BAKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in metallic caskets for burial purposes; and it has for its objects, first, to construct a light and very durable casket of sheet metal; second, to provide means of preventing air from getting into the casket through the apertures in which the screws fit, which connect the top with the body; third, to provide a means of stiffening the borders of the body and top where they are fitted together and of the top and face-glass frame where they are fitted together; and, fourth, to provide the casket with curved corners and moldings spun, stamped, or otherwise "struck up" of sheet metal.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and on which similar letters of reference indicate the same or corresponding features, Figure 1 represents a partial side and vertical sectional view of my improved metallic casket; Fig. 2, a transverse sectional view through one of the sides of the body; Fig. 3, a plan view of a corner section; Fig. 4, a sectional view of one end of the body; Fig. 5, a sectional view of the upper portion of one end of the top and of the face-glass frame; Fig. 6, a sectional view of a portion of the top of the glass-frame, showing a modified form of stiffening the borders; Fig. 7, a view showing a like form of a portion of the body and top; Fig. 8, a like view to Fig. 5, showing still another form of stiffening; Fig. 9, a like view to Fig. 8, also showing a different manner of forming the stiffening; Fig. 10, a sectional view of a portion of the face-glass and its frame, showing a modified manner of securing the glass thereto; Fig. 11, a transverse sectional view on the line *x x'* of Fig. 1; Fig. 12, a plan view of one end of the casket, showing the union of the sides, end pieces, and corner sections; and Fig. 13, a diagram of the bottom.

The letter A designates the casket, constructed of sheet metal and provided with ornamental moldings or beads B, spun, stamped, or otherwise struck up integrally with the metal from which the sides are made. These sides consist of sheets of metal, bent into ornamental configurations C at their upper and lower edges. The lower edge turns inwardly and forms a portion, D, of the bottom. At the upper edge the material is bent inwardly from E to F, and then folded several times upon itself, presenting several thicknesses, which render the upper edge of the sheet stiff and yet light, and present a flat surface upon which the top will fit, and which affords sufficient thickness for the screws to engage with.

At intervals I provide vertical braces G, made of sheet metal, bent into the form shown, and placed on the inside of the sides and ends of the casket for the purpose of stiffening and preventing the casket from bulging in or out. These braces also fit over the holes in the sides by which the handles are attached to the casket, and thus prevent the admission of air into the casket at these points.

Along the inner sides of the casket, between the points F and the edge H of the sides, I place a strip of sheet metal, I, and solder the same in place. This completes the inner wall of the sides and a chamber, J, into which the screws project, which serve to secure the top to the bottom. These chambers cut off communication between the screw-apertures and the interior of the casket, and hence, when the top is screwed down firmly, air is practically excluded from the interior.

The letter K designates the bottom of the casket, the same being bent up at the point L and extended to the point M on the side, where it is soldered, solder being also applied at the junction of D and K. The bottom is also turned up at its ends, as seen at K' in Fig. 11, and solder is applied along the edges L' between the bottom and the corner sections, N.

The letter N' designates the end pieces of the casket, the same being also of sheet metal and provided with the beads B', which are struck up from the body of the end and form a continuation of the beads B of the sides of the casket. These end pieces are soldered to the ends of the bottom along the line O', and are fitted flush along their edges with the adjacent edges of the corner sections, N, and are

soldered along the line P′ to the end portions of the ornamental strip O′. (See Figs. 11 and 12.) In Fig. 13 a diagram of the bottom is shown.

The letter N designates the corner sections of the casket, the same being of the form shown in Figs. 1 and 4 and 11 and 12, and being constructed of sheet metal and soldered or otherwise united to the sides proper and to the bottom. It is not found to be practical to bend the body of the material at the ends to form the beads or moldings, and therefore they are formed separately, being spun, stamped, pressed, or otherwise struck up, and secured by solder or otherwise to the ends of the casket, as seen in Fig. 4.

The letter O designates the curved ornamental strip which forms the chamber J around the upper end of each corner section, and is soldered to the corner sections along the joints P and Q. A strip of wood or metal, R, is secured to the under side of the upper flat portions for the purpose of strengthening the strip at the portion where the top screws pass through. The chamber formed within the strip O is a continuation of the chamber J. The strip S is similar in construction to the strip O, having an ornamental and a flat portion, and being soldered to the end section at the edges T.

I will now proceed to describe the several modifications in the construction of the strengthened portions of the sides and ends and the outer edges of the top, as also the edges of the top around the opening.

First, with respect to the stiffening along the upper edges of the sides: In Fig. 5 the side A is extended up the full height, and the piece I (shown in Fig. 2) omitted. The folds, however, are formed by a separate piece, U, shaped similarly to the upper portions, C, in Fig. 2, and soldered to the side at the edges V. This strip, it is to be observed, is folded upon itself in the same manner as the portion C is folded in Fig. 2. There are other ways, however, of stiffening this strip, one of which is shown in Fig. 7, where the strip W, being similarly attached to the side A, is folded upon itself but once, and a strip, X, of metal or of wood, or a filling of concrete or plaster-of-paris, or other suitable material, is used. This same construction is adopted for the edges of the top Y of the casket, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

In Fig. 8 the side is bent into the ornamental shape shown in Fig. 2 at C, but is terminated at the point *a*, and a separate strip, *b*, is secured by means of solder at the point *c* to the side and bent upon itself in the same manner as the portion C is bent upon itself in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 8 the portion of the top which fits upon the top strip, *b*—a strip of rubber, *d*, intervening—is bent in the same manner as at the corresponding place in Fig. 5, save that in Fig. 8 the metal is bent until four thicknesses are secured instead of three, as in Fig. 5. The upper portion of the top in Fig. 8 is not folded, however, as in Fig. 5, but terminates at *e*, and a separate strip, *f*, is employed and soldered to the top at *g*, and folded upon itself until four (or more) thicknesses are secured.

In Fig. 9 the side is carried directly up, as seen in Figs. 5 and 7, and the strip *h* is soldered thereto at the edges *i*; but the folding of the strip differs from the fold in the other figures. This folding consists in bending the metal upon itself and then bending it in the opposite direction back upon the fold last made, and then again in the opposite direction and upon the second fold, and so on until as many folds are secured as are desired—three folds in the present instance giving four thicknesses.

The top in Fig. 9 is folded in the same manner, and the two parts are fitted together, with a rubber strip intervening, as in Fig. 8. The edge of the top where the face-opening is formed is also bent or folded in the same manner as just described, and a separate piece, *j*, is soldered at the point *k*, so as to afford additional strength, but principally to cut off communication between the interior of the casket and the openings in which the screws which connect the glass-frame and the top together fit.

It should be observed that the rubber strip *d* is used both between the sides of the top and the top and the glass-frame, as seen in several figures. A strip, *l*, corresponding to the strip *j* is also used in the forms shown in Figs. 5 and 6. It should also be observed that the top at its edges extends down into the casket a short distance, as seen at Y′ in Figs. 5, 7, 8, and 9, the advantage of which is the strength which results to the structure in preventing a collapsing tendency to the sides thereof, and another advantage of this construction is also brought about in the relief thus given the screws in holding the sides against the tendency of the earth to press them inward.

So far I have not described the construction of the frame in which the face-glass fits. I will now do so. There are several forms of this frame. The first is shown in Fig. 5, in which a sheet-metal strip, *m*, is folded at *n* and *o* to form three (or any desired number of) thicknesses, the main portion extending beyond the fold *n*. A separate strip, *p*, is then soldered to the under side of the fold *o* and allowed to project beyond the fold *n* and form a space between it and that portion of the main strip immediately above it. In this space the glass *q* is fitted and cemented.

In Fig. 6 the frame consists of a strip, *r*, folded or bent at *s*, with a strip of wood or metal narrower than the width of the folded strip. The glass is then cemented between the projecting edges of the strips.

In Fig. 8 the construction of the glass-frame is similar to that in Fig. 5, in that a separate piece, *u*, is soldered to the main strip, the latter being folded, as shown, and a bar of wood or metal, *v*, placed within the fold. The glass is cemented between the strip *u* and the projecting edge of the main strip.

In Fig. 9 a separate strip, *w*, is employed and soldered to the last fold of the main strip *x;* but the folds are like the other folds in the same figure—namely, back and forth in opposite directions. The glass is secured in the same manner as already set forth.

In Fig. 10 the construction is like that in Fig. 8, with the exception that the additional strip *y* is placed between the short vertical fold of the main strip, and is then bent to the position shown in dotted lines after the glass is inserted, and is of flexible material.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As an article of manufacture, a sheet-metal casket the sides whereof are constructed with ornamental beads or moldings struck up from the body of the material and the upper edges of the sides constructed of a plurality of thicknesses formed by folding said edges.

2. In a sheet-metal casket, the combination, with the top folded at its edge around the face-glass opening upon itself to form several thicknesses, of the face-glass frame folded upon itself to form several thicknesses and constructed to receive the glass and devices to secure the frame and top together.

3. In a sheet-metal casket, the combination, with the top folded to form several thicknesses about the face-glass opening, of a strip of metal secured to the body of the top and to the folded portion to add to the strength and to cut off communication between the interior of the casket and the screw-holes in the top.

4. In a sheet-metal casket, the combination, with the top having screw-holes, of a face-glass frame and a strip to cut off communication between the interior of the casket and the screw-holes.

5. In a sheet-metal casket, the combination, with the side thereof, of a strip of metal a portion of which is folded upon itself to form several thicknesses and the remaining portion left single, the said folded portion being secured to the side of the casket at the upper edge thereof and the single portion being secured to the said side below its upper edge.

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

SCIPIO E. BAKER.

Witnesses:
CHASE STEWART,
A. A. YEATMAN.