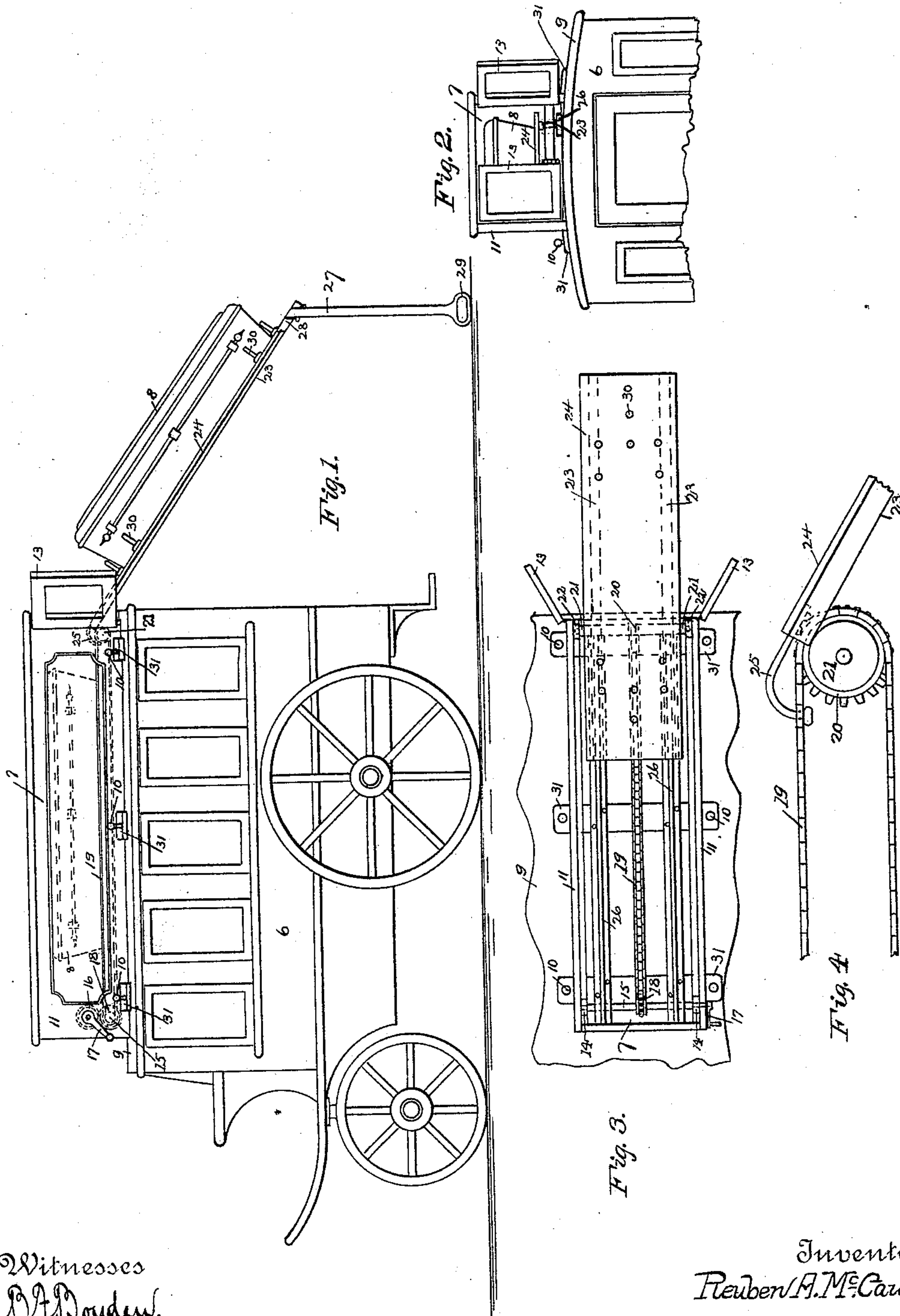


(No Model.)

R. A. McCAULEY.
FUNERAL CARRIAGE.

No. 420,605.

Patented Feb. 4, 1890.



Witnesses
D. D. Doyden.
C. B. Smith.

By *his* Attorney
W. L. Bailie

Inventor
Reuben A. McCauley

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN A. McCAULEY, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

FUNERAL CARRIAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 420,605, dated February 4, 1890.

Application filed September 7, 1889. Serial No. 323,298. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REUBEN A. McCAULEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combination Funeral-Carriages; and I do 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 figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in vehicles; and the object of my invention is to provide a funeral conveyance wherein, for economical purposes, may be carried the corpse in a suitable compartment therefor, and wherein another compartment is provided in which can be carried a number of persons who attend the obsequies, the construction of the device and operation of the various parts thereof being such that the casket containing the corpse may be easily placed in position in the compartment therefor, and whereby when this compartment is not required for use it may be readily removed and the vehicle used for ordinary purposes, all of which I accomplish by the devices hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a side elevation in full of the funeral conveyance. Fig. 2 shows in part a rear view of the device shown in Fig. 1, one door of the upper compartment shown open. Fig. 3 shows a detailed view of the elevating mechanism, looking down thereon, the top of the compartment removed. Fig. 4 shows a detailed side elevation of the rear chain-pulley and its attached parts.

The same numbers refer to the same or similar parts throughout the several views.

The number 6 denotes a passenger-vehicle, which may be of ordinary construction, and has in the interior thereof a seating capacity for any desired number of persons, the length of the vehicle being sufficient to place upon the top 9 thereof the compartment 7, in which is to be placed and transported the casket 8, this compartment 7 being of a rectangular form and secured to the curved top 9 of the

vehicle 6 by the screws 10, which are screwed in suitable plates 31, that are placed on the top 9 therefor, whereby this compartment 7 may be easily removed and the vehicle 6 employed for ordinary purposes. That this compartment 7, which contains the casket, when placed on the top of the vehicle 6, may present a light and attractive form, the said compartment is constructed of a light frame 11, with the sides thereof formed of plate glass, the doors 13 at the rear of the compartment 7, through which access is had thereto, being likewise provided with glass therein.

In order to readily elevate the casket 8 and place it in position in its compartment 7, and to readily lower it therefrom, the following devices are employed, the details of which are shown in Figs. 3 and 4. Supported by the bearings 14, that are screwed to the top 9 of the vehicle, is the shaft 15, one end of which is extended sufficiently far to one side to be rotated by the crank 17 through the gearing 16, that may be operated by the driver, this shaft 15 having fixed thereto the chain-pulley 18, which in its rotating movement conveys movement, through the endless chain belt 19, to a corresponding chain-pulley 20, that is placed at the rear end of the compartment 7, this rear chain-pulley 20 being provided on each side thereof with the rollers 21, that extend nearly the entire width of the compartment 7 and move in unison with this chain-pulley 20, suitable bearings 22, secured to the top 9 of the vehicle, serving to support these rollers 21. Resting on these rollers 21, and free to move thereon, are the skids 23 of the carriage 24, on which is placed the casket 8 for transportation, the front end of this carriage having a hook 25 attached thereto in such manner that the end of this hook 25 will engage with the links of the chain belt 19 and cause the carriage 24 to travel in unison therewith when the crank 17 is turned and the said chain belt caused to move thereby, the rollers 21, which move in unison with the chain-pulley 20, and upon which rest the skids 23 of the carriage, aiding the chain belt 19 in moving the carriage 24 in or out of the compartment 7, the tracks 26 being placed upon the top 9 of the vehicle, upon which the skids 23 slide and thus lessens the friction and

facilitates the operation of moving the carriage.

In Fig. 1 the doors 13 of the compartment are shown open and the carriage 24 withdrawn therefrom to its farthest limit for the reception or discharge of the casket 8, the inclined position of the carriage shown in this figure being permitted by the form of the hook 25, which in this position of the carriage remains engaged with the links of the upper part of the chain belt 19, and the front end of the carriage will rest upon the rollers 21, the rear end of the carriage being supported by the prop 27, the upper end of which fits in a suitable socket 28, and its lower end being provided with a handle 29 for convenience of raising or lowering this end of the carriage 24.

The manner of operating is as follows:
When the vehicle is required for funeral purposes, the compartment 7 having been secured to the top 9 thereof by the screws 10, the doors 13 are opened and the carriage 24 is withdrawn therefrom by the rotating movement of the crank 17, the chain belt 19, and the rollers 21, as described, and brought to the position shown in Fig. 1 and supported thereat by the prop 27. The casket 8 is then placed upon the carriage 24 and secured thereto by suitable pins 30, as in common practice. The carriage 24 is now brought to a horizontal position by means of the prop 27 and the handles 29 thereon, and at the same time the crank 17 is turned in such direction that the upper part of the chain belt 19, in which is engaged the hook 25, will move inward and carry with it the carriage 24 and the casket 8 thereon, the movement being continued until the carriage 24 is wholly in the interior of compartment 7, as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 1, the rollers 21, which move in unison with the chain-pulleys, as stated, and the tracks 26 serving to facilitate this operation. The prop 27 is now removed, the doors 13 may be closed, and the passengers can enter and occupy the interior of the vehicle 6.

In discharging the casket the operation described is reversed.

Having described my invention and the

manner of operating, what I claim, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent, is—

1. In a conveyance for transporting the dead, the combination of the passenger-vehicle 6, the compartment 7, in which may be placed the casket 8, secured to the top of the said vehicle 6 by the screws 10 in such manner that it may be readily detached therefrom, and means for elevating and placing the casket 8 in the said compartment 7, for the purpose set forth.

2. In a conveyance for transporting the dead, the combination of the passenger-vehicle 6, the compartment 7, in which may be placed the casket 8, secured on the top of the vehicle 6, and a carriage 24, free to be moved in or out of the compartment 7, for the purpose set forth.

3. In a conveyance for transporting the dead, the combination of the passenger-vehicle 6, the compartment 7, in which may be placed the casket 8, secured to the top of the vehicle 6, the carriage 24, provided with the hook 25, the endless chain belt 19, in which engages the hook 25, the chain-pulleys 18 and 20, for imparting movement to the chain belt 19, and the crank 17, for imparting a rotating movement to the pulleys 18 and 20, for the purpose set forth.

4. In a conveyance for transporting the dead, the combination of the passenger-vehicle 6, the compartment 7, in which may be placed the casket 8, secured to the top of the vehicle 6, the carriage 24, provided with the hook 25 and the skids 23, the endless chain belt 19, in which engages the hook 25, the chain-pulleys 18 and 20, for imparting movement to the chain belt 19, the rollers 21, attached to the chain-pulley 20, the track 26, and the crank 17, for imparting a rotating movement to the pulleys 18 and 20, for the purpose set forth.

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

REUBEN A. McCAULEY.

Witnesses:

WM. L. BAILIE,
JNO. T. MADDOX.