

No. 606,652.

Patented July 5, 1898.

B. F. DOUGLAS.  
GRAVE VAULT.

(Application filed Feb. 28, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

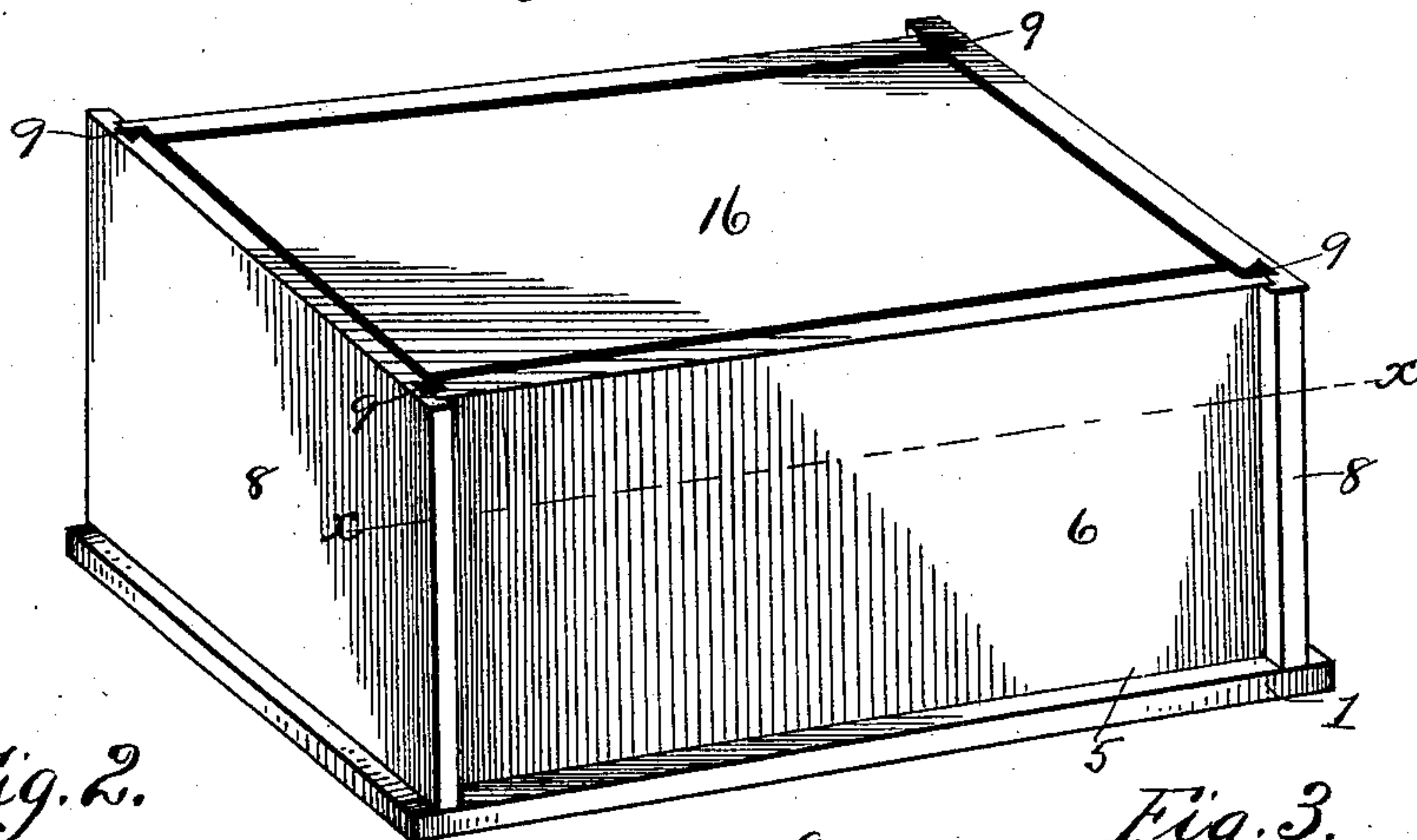


Fig. 2.

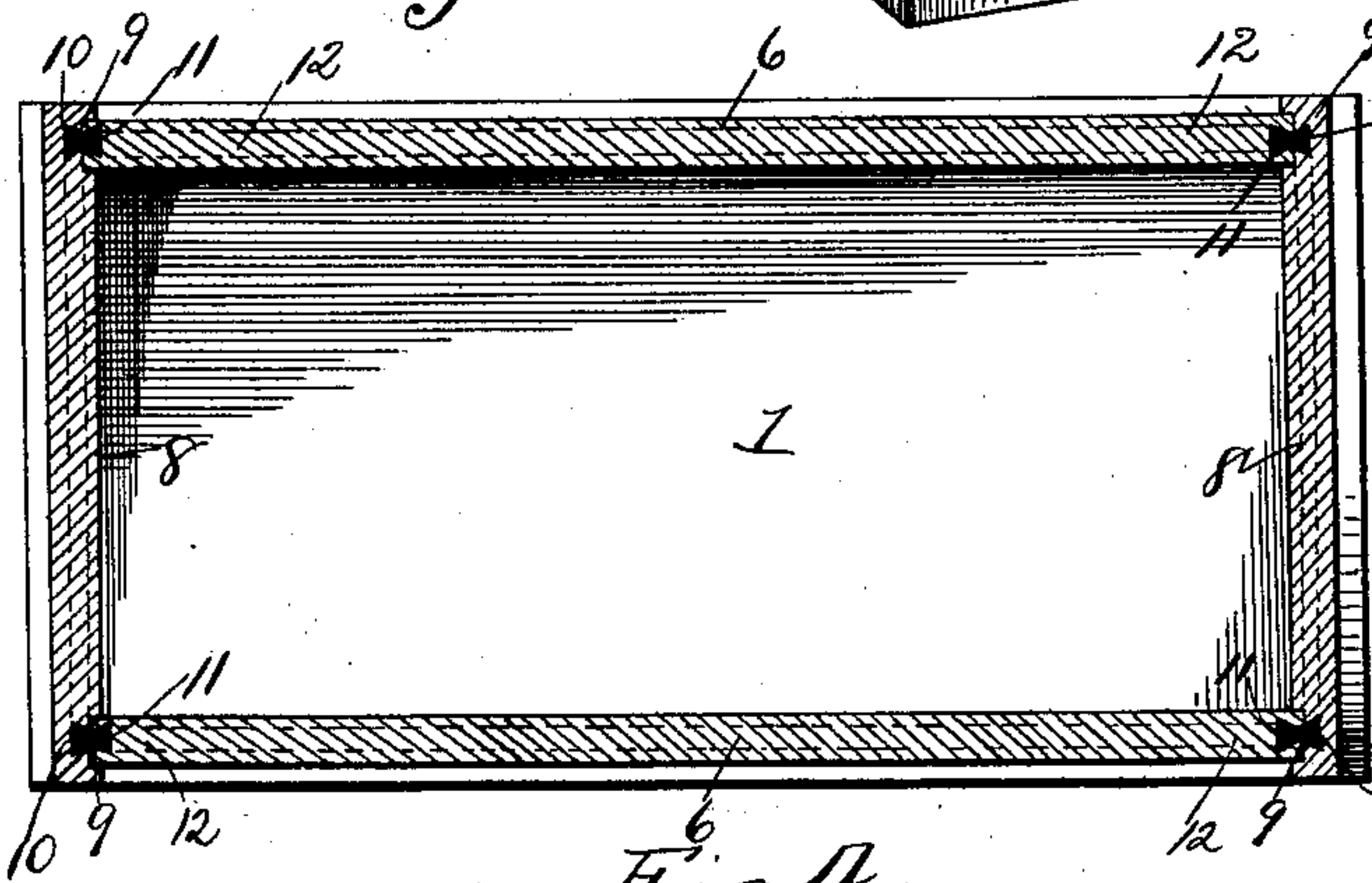


Fig. 3.

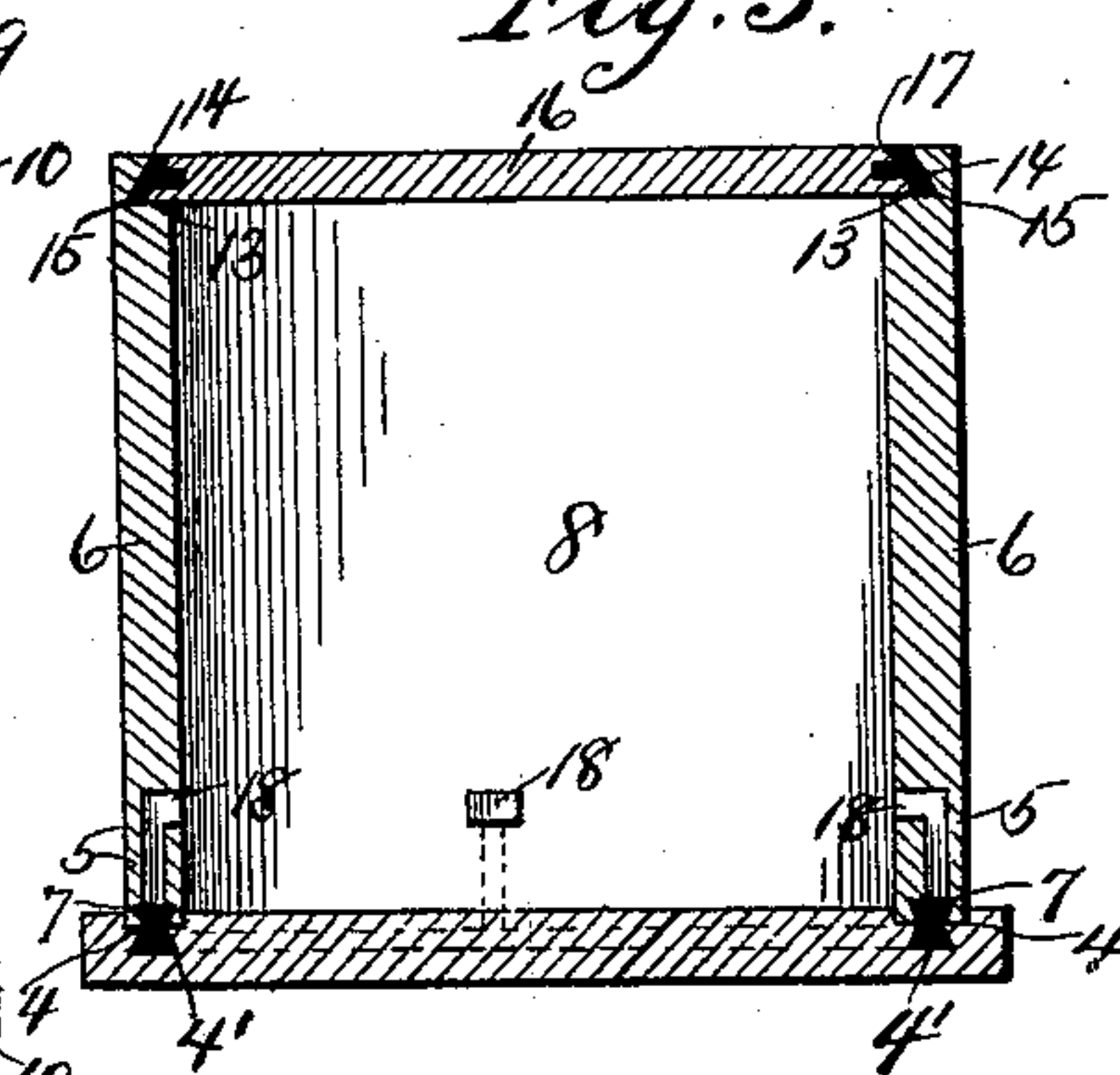


Fig. 4.

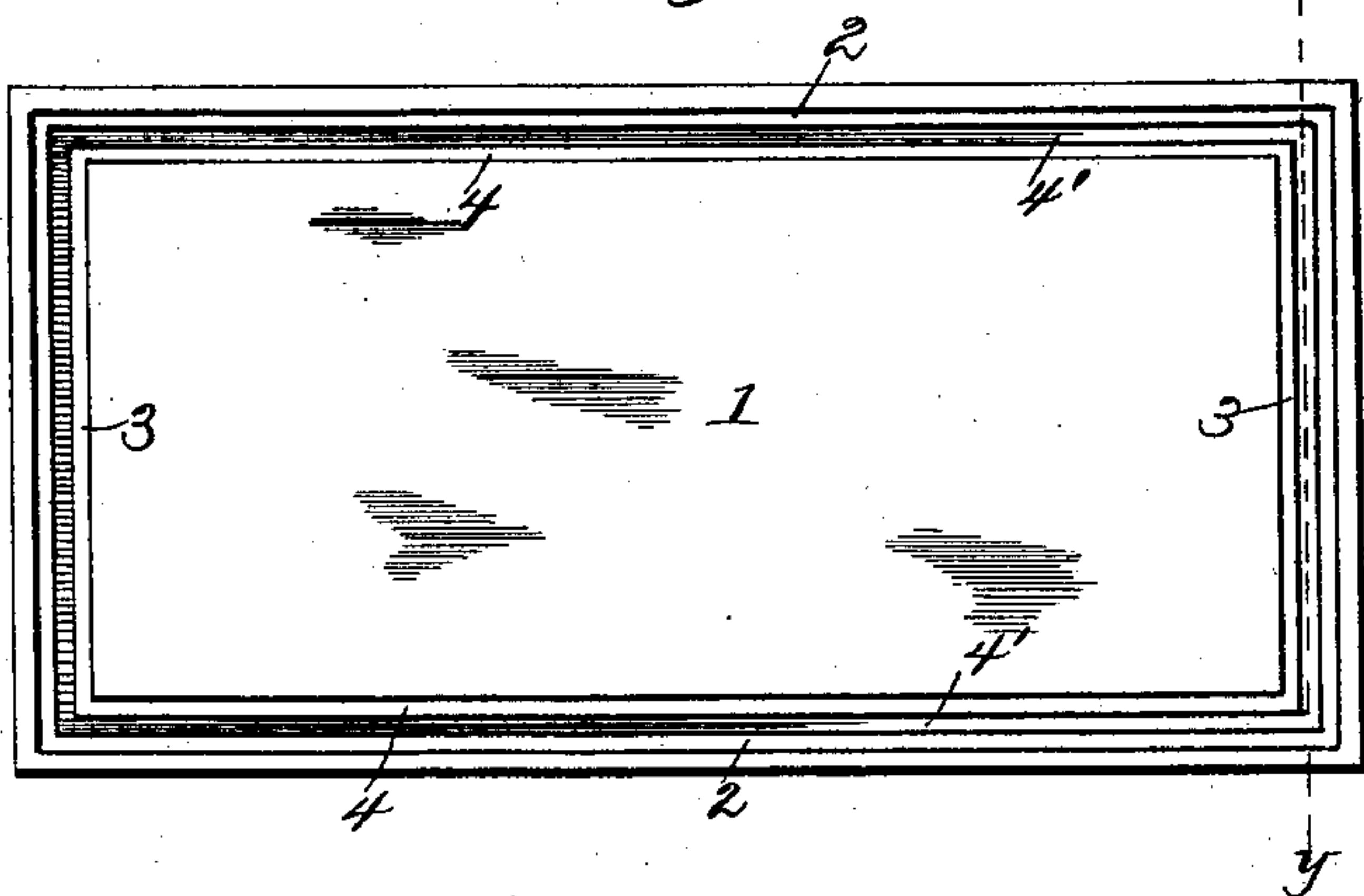
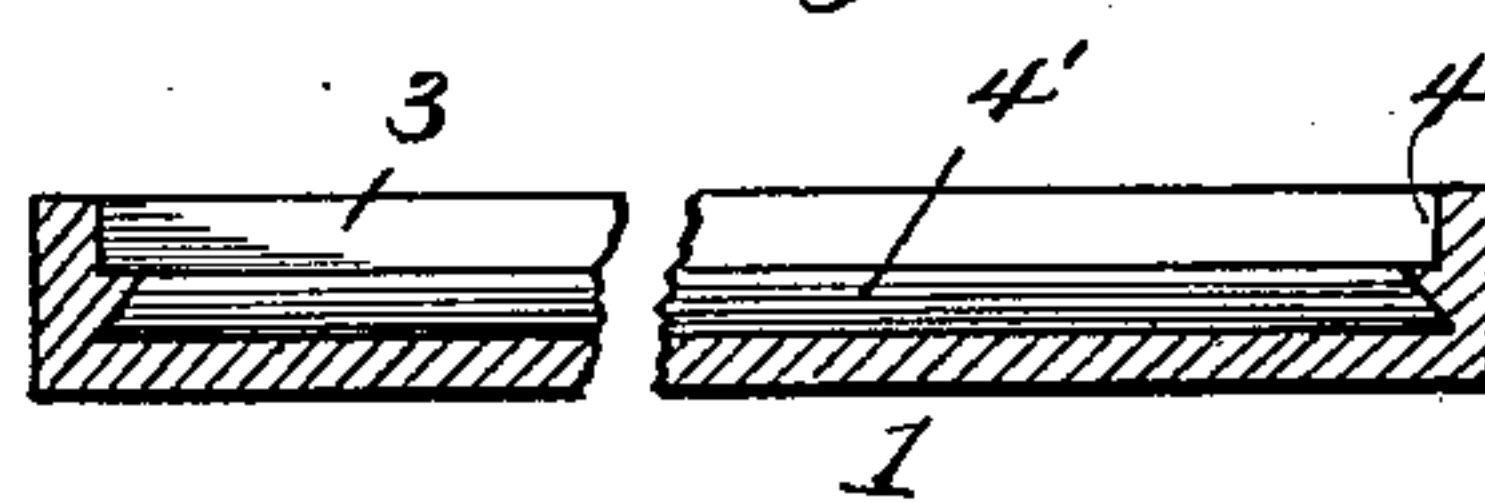


Fig. 5.



Witnesses  
Albert Popkins.  
McL. Farr

Inventor  
Benjamin F. Douglas  
By: Frank D. Blackiston.  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. DOUGLAS, OF MOUNT UNION, PENNSYLVANIA.

## GRAVE-VAULT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 606,652, dated July 5, 1898.

Application filed February 28, 1898. Serial No. 672,068. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. DOUGLAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mount Union, in the county of Huntingdon and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grave-Vaults; 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 novel and useful improvements in grave-vaults; and it has for its object, primarily, the production of a grave-vault formed of a plurality of independent sections that can be easily and quickly assembled in the grave or at a place distant therefrom and carried with convenience to said grave assembled and ready for the reception of a coffin or casket, thus obviating the necessity of expensive masonry laboriously constructed in the grave.

A further object of my invention is to provide a vault that will be simple in construction and cheap to manufacture and one that will render the vault absolutely air and water tight.

The invention consists in the improved construction hereinafter fully described, and defined in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the vault complete. Fig. 2 is a section taken on line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section of the vault with the cover in place. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the bottom of the vault, looking at the upper side thereof. Fig. 5 is a transverse-section of the bottom, taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 denotes the bottom of the vault, which in carrying out my invention I provide with intersecting side grooves 2 and similar end grooves 3, so made as to form shoulders 4 and dovetail grooves 4', upon which shoulders the tongues 5 of the side sections 6 are adapted to rest when the sections are assembled, thus bringing the corresponding dovetail grooves

7 in the lower edges of the side section 6 and the end sections 8 immediately above the groove 4' in the bottom section and in position to receive the molten metal as the same is poured in the vertical openings 9, which openings are in the shape of a double dovetail, which is formed by the vertical dovetail grooves 10 being brought opposite corresponding grooves 11 in the tongues 12 of the side sections 6.

Referring particularly to Fig. 3 of the drawings, it will be seen that the upper edges of the side and end sections 6 and 8 are grooved to form shoulders 13 and inclined inner sides 14, upon which shoulders the horizontally-extending flanges 15, formed at the lower edge of the cover 16, are adapted to rest. I preferably groove the edges of the cover in such a manner that the flange 17, extending entirely around said cover, will be formed at its upper edge with a sufficient space between the said flanges 17 and the inner sides of the side and end sections to admit of the reception of the molten metal or other suitable material in the final operation of sealing the vault.

The numeral 18 designates apertures which are preferably made in the lower edges of the side and end sections, which apertures communicate with the dovetail portion of the side and end grooves 2 and 3, so if in sealing the vault it is found that the metal has not entirely filled the vertical and horizontal grooves a sufficient quantity of metal to complete the sealing can be readily introduced between the bottom and side and end sections through said apertures, and thus effectually seal the lower portion of the vault.

It will be understood that when the parts are assembled the dovetail portions of the several grooves of the bottom, side, and end portions will communicate and thus render it possible to accomplish a complete sealing of the side and end sections by introducing the molten metal into said grooves through the vertical openings 9, and the said metal will flow freely into said grooves and close every fissure or crevice and harden therein, thus producing by the peculiar double dovetail lock a means that will absolutely prevent the parts separating and produce air and water tight joints.



In constructing the vault the side and end sections are put in proper position in the grooves in the bottom section, when the side and end slabs are temporarily bound together  
5 by a rope or other suitable means to insure close joints. The molten metal is then poured into the vertical openings in the corners of the vault and allowed to harden. The cover is then put in place, and a sufficient  
10 quantity of the metal in its molten state is poured into the space between the upper and inner edges of the side and end sections and the flange 17 of the top or cover, thus firmly  
15 vault proper.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A grave-vault consisting of a base or bottom formed on its upper surface with a  
20 channel which extends around the sides and ends thereof, the bottom of said channel being formed with a continuous dovetail groove 4', in combination with side and end sections, the lower ends of which fit within and are  
25 supported by the walls of the channel in the base, and the lower edges of which are formed with dovetail grooves registering with the

groove 4' in the channel of the base, the vertical meeting edges of said side and end sections being also formed with cooperating op- 30  
positely-disposed dovetail grooves which communicate at their lower ends with the groove 4' in the base, whereby each corner of the structure is provided with a vertical filling-  
35 opening, through which molten metal is supplied to the continuous double dovetail groove between the base and the lower edges of the side and end sections, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the grooved bot- 40  
tom, of the sides; and ends, grooved at their edges, to cooperate with the groove in the bottom, and having vertical grooves communicating with the bottom groove, said sides having supplemental filling-grooves near their 45  
lower edges also communicating with the bottom groove.

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

BENJAMIN F. DOUGLAS.

Witnesses:

W. W. WITHINGTON,  
FRANK D. BLACKSTONE.