No. 608,519. Patented Aug. 2, 1898.

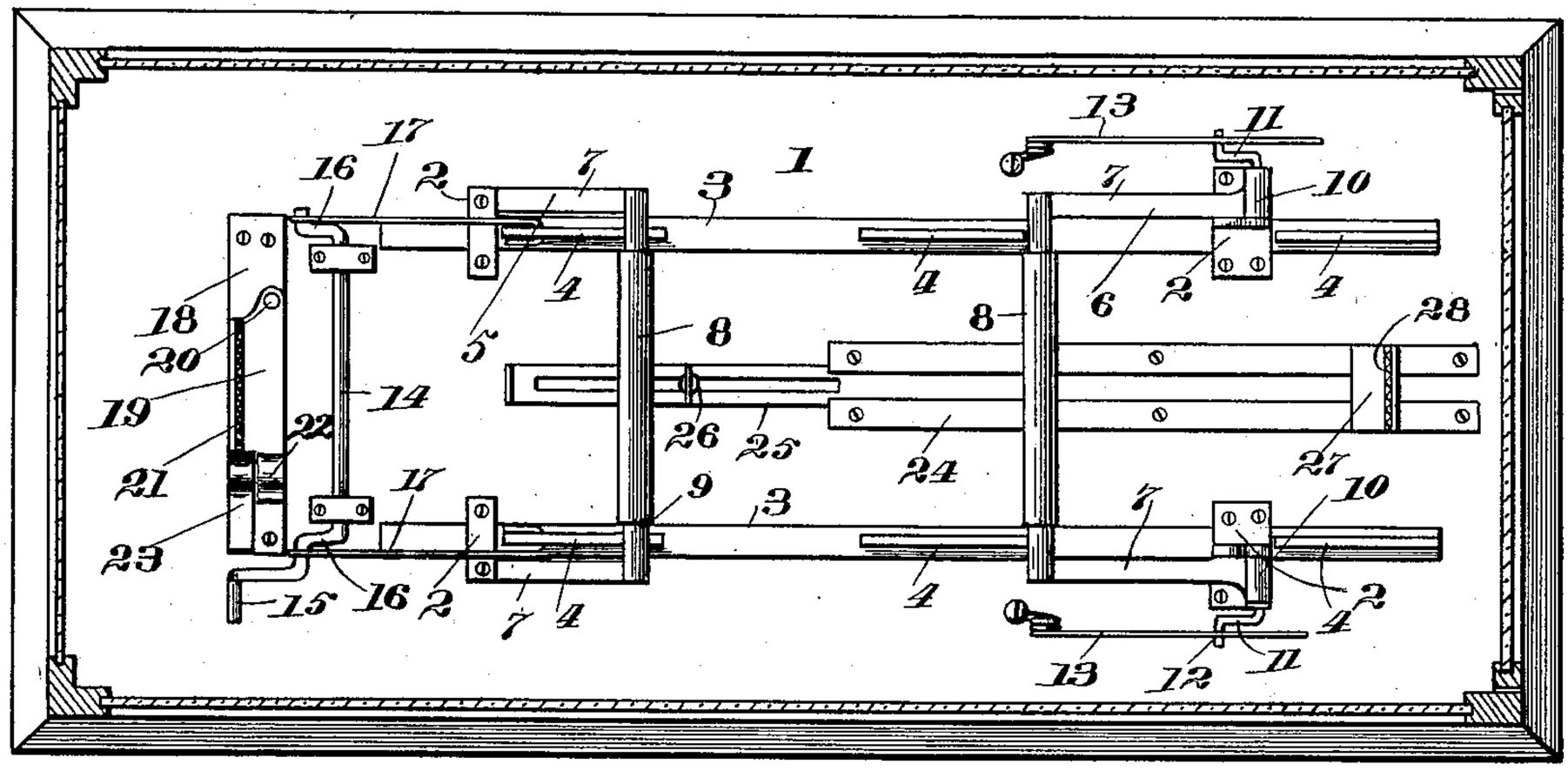
M. M. GUILEY.

HEARSE ATTACHMENT.

(Application filed July 29, 1897.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.



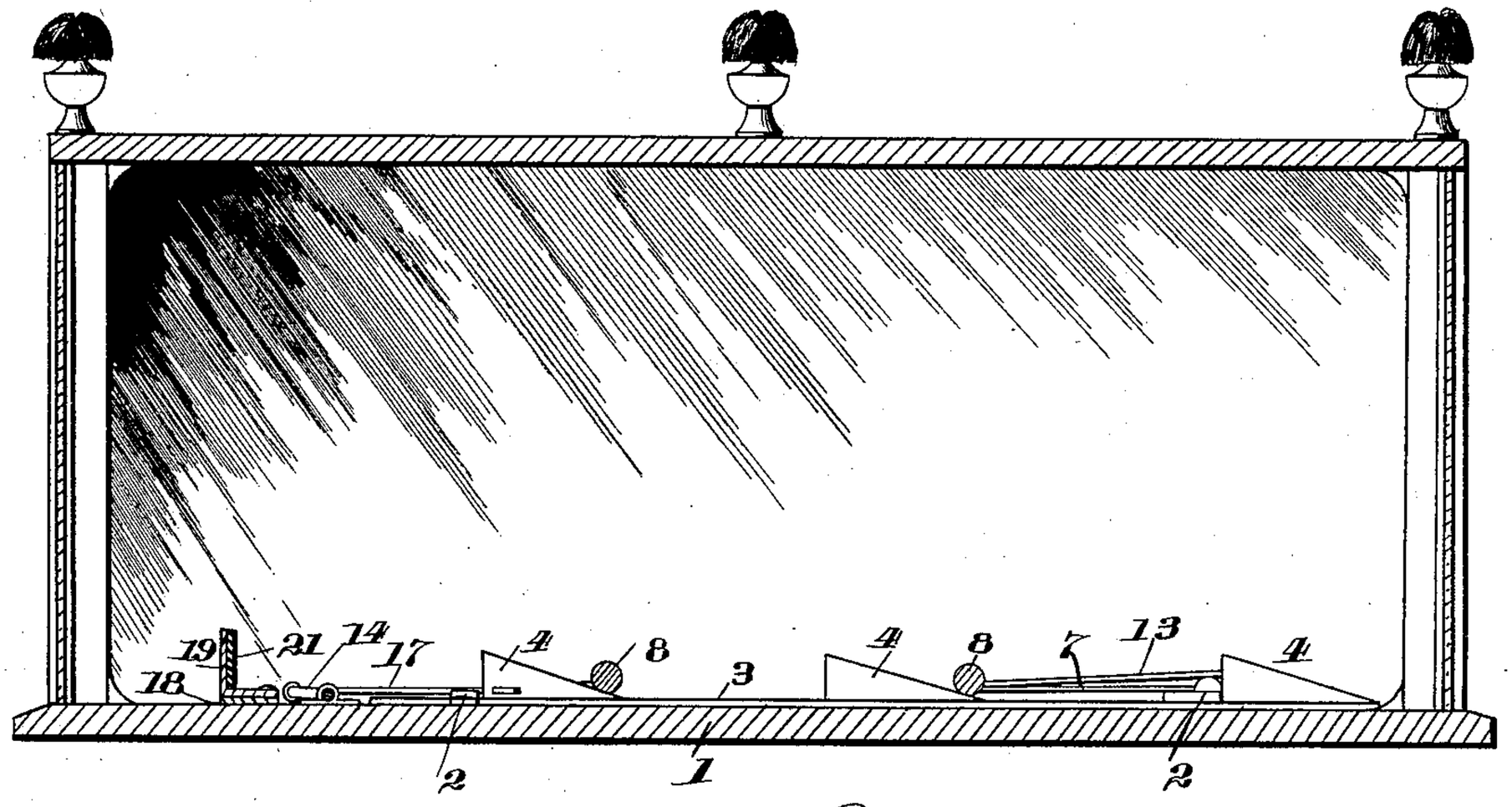


Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

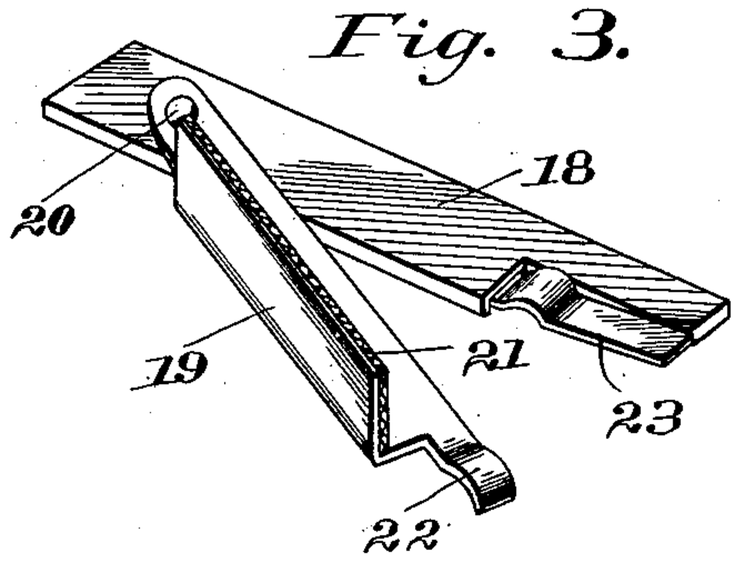
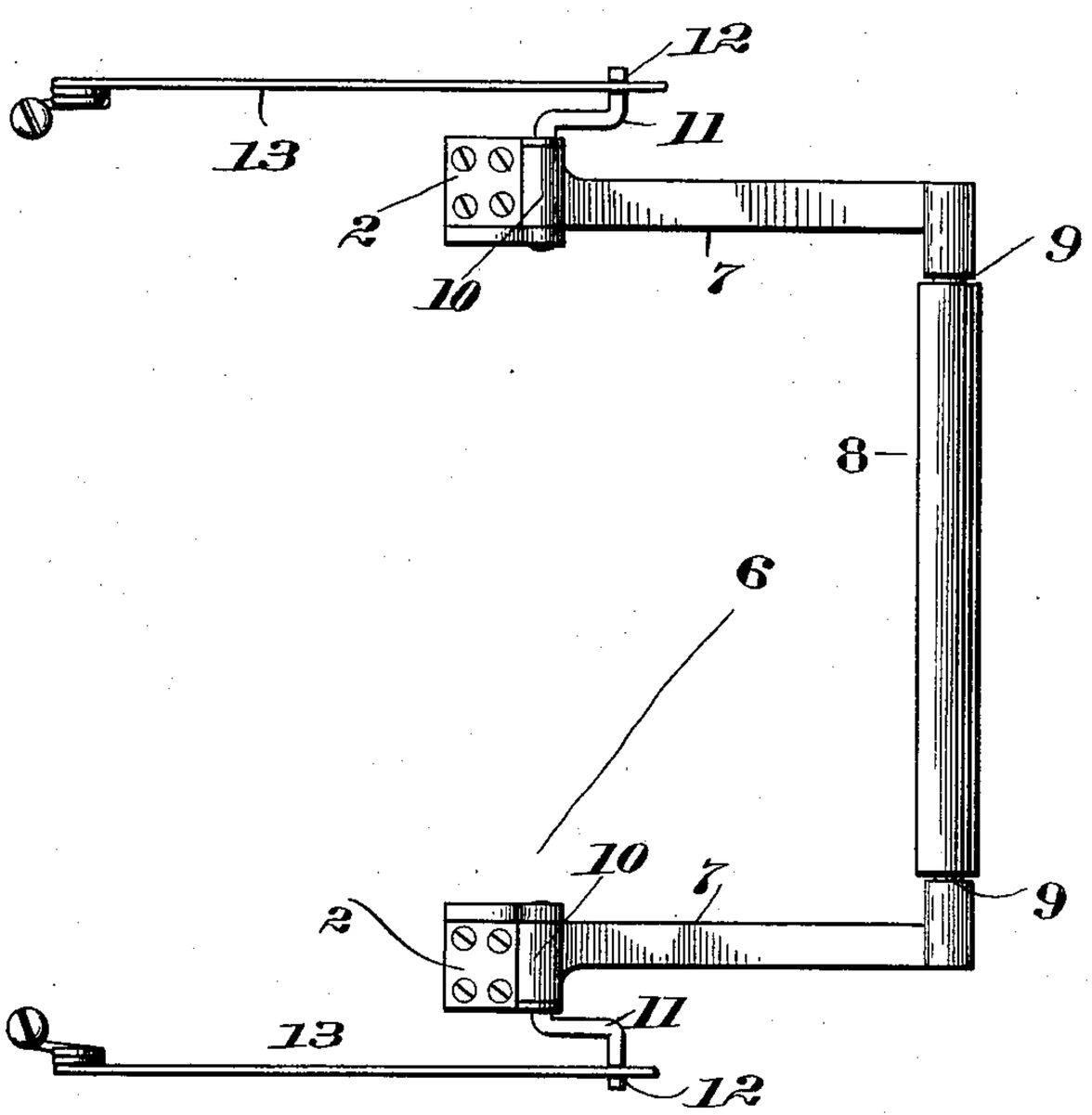


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILTON M. GUILEY, OF HARTVILLE, OHIO.

HEARSE ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 608,519, dated August 2, 1898.

Application filed July 29, 1897. Serial No. 646,370. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILTON M. GUILEY, of Hartville, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hearse Attachments; 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 relates to hearse attachments.

My object is to provide improved means to facilitate the entry and exit of the casket into the hearse and to provide novel mechanism for securing the casket after the same is placed in position, so that there will be no liability of its moving about, which, of course, always proves advantageous.

The foregoing object is accomplished by the provision of novel devices adapted to allow quick and easy introduction of the casket to the hearse or removal therefrom and to securely clamp the casket in position after being placed within the vehicle.

The invention consists of certain improved features and novel combinations of parts, appearing more fully hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional plan view of a hearse equipped with my improvements; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section; Fig. 3, a detail view of the mechanism for securing the head-clamp, and Fig. 4 a similar view of the bearings and springs of the swinging foot-frame.

The numeral 1 designates the floor of the hearse, and secured thereto, near its ends, are guides 2. Slide-bars are shown at 3, the same being adapted to move in the guides, and they have upwardly-extending wedge-blocks 4, arranged in sets. There are head and foot frames 5 and 6, each consisting of arms 7 and a roller 8, having reduced ends 9, journaled in the free ends of the arms. The arms of the head-frame are of spring metal and have their lower ends connected to the forward guides. The arms of the foot-frame are journaled to the foot-guides at 10 and have cranks 11, provided with grooves 12.

The numerals 13 designate springs secured to the floor of the hearse and having free ends resting in the grooves, said springs being adapted to keep the foot-frame pressed downwardly on the slide-bars. It is to be noted that the foot-frame can be swung either forwardly or rearwardly, so that it will be adapted to receive either a short or a long casket. The spring-arms of the head-frame are adapted to hold the roller thereof down on the slides. At the forward end of the hearse there is located a crank-shaft 14, having a suitable handle 15 and cranks 16, connected to the forward wedges by rods 17. It will be observed that by turning the crank-shaft the slide-rods can be moved toward the back of the hearse, and they will gradually force the frames upward by reason of the arms riding on the wedges, and also when the shaft is turned back again the said frames will be allowed to gradually descend. Adjacent the crank-shaft, at the head of the hearse, is a base-plate 18, and a head-clamp 19 is pivoted to the base-plate at 20, this clamp being provided with rubber facing 21 to prevent any scratching or injury of the casket. The clamp has an arm 22.

The numeral 23 designates a spring-catch adapted to normally engage with the arm of the clamp and hold the same locked. A guide 24 extends longitudinally of the floor of the hearse from the rear end thereof, and an adjusting-rod 25 is adapted to slide in said guide, said rod being connected to the floor by a slot-and-screw connection 26, so that said slide may be clamped at any desired point. The numeral 27 designates a foot-clamp secured to the slide and faced with rubber 28.

The parts are of such size that when the rollers of the frames are down they will be disposed somewhat below the head and foot clamps, so that the casket can be properly deposited in said clamps.

The operation is as follows: The crank-shaft is first turned, thereby inserting the wedges under the frames and raising the same. The casket can now be slid in the hearse on said rollers, and as soon as it is in proper position the foot-clamp is moved upward against the foot of the casket and said clamp secured. The casket is now lowered by turning the crank-shaft back to its normal position, and the casket will then be deposited on the foot-clamp, and the head-clamp (which has been previously swung aside) is then pressed up against the head of the casket and secured by the spring-catch. The casket is now firmly

secured in the clamps and cannot move about within the hearse, and when it is desirable to remove the casket the head-clamp is opened, the crank-shaft turned to raise the casket from the clamps, and the casket then slid out of the hearse. The parts of the mechanism are then brought to their normal position.

It is clear that many slight and immaterial changes of construction could be resorted to in carrying out my ideas, and I therefore lay claim to all variations that come within the spirit and scope of the invention.

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

1. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of casket-clamps secured thereto, casket-rollers extending transversely across the floor of the hearse and having movement toward and away from said floor, parallel arms pivotally connected to the floor and carrying said rollers slides having wedge-blocks adapted for raising and lowering said rollers, and means for moving the slides.

2. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of a swinging frame connected thereto adapted to be depressed forwardly or rearwardly and having a casket-roller, a second frame having a casket-roller which is movable toward and away from the said floor, and means for simultaneously raising said frames in relation to the floor and casket-clamps.

3. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of a swinging frame connected thereto adapted to be depressed forwardly or rearwardly and having a casket-roller, a second frame having a casket-roller which is movable toward and away from the said floor, slidable bars or rods having wedges arranged in sets adapted to engage with the frames and raise the same, means for moving said rods, and head and foot casket-clamps.

4. The combination with the floor of the hearse, of casket-rollers movable toward and away therefrom, arms carrying said rollers and provided with cranks, spring-bars secured to the floor and bearing upon said cranks adapted to keep said rollers normally urged toward the floor, means for raising the rollers, and casket-clamps.

5. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of a foot-frame journaled thereto and adapted to swing forwardly and rearwardly, said frame having cranks and a casket-roller, springs bearing on the cranks and adapted to hold the frame and roller normally adjacent the floor, a head-frame having inherently-resilient arms connected to the floor, and a casket-roller journaled in said arms, and means for raising said frames, and casket-clamps.

6. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of a foot-frame journaled thereto and adapted to swing forwardly and rearwardly, said frame having cranks and a casket-roller, springs bearing on the cranks and adapted to hold the frame and rollers normally adjacent the floor, a head-frame having inherently-resilient arms connected to the floor, a casket-roller journaled in said arms, and slide-rods having wedges adapted to engage with the frames to simultaneously raise the same, a crank-shaft and connecting-rods extending from the same to the slide-rods.

7. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of a head casket-clamp secured thereto, a foot casket-clamp independently adjustable toward and away from the head-clamp, and means for securing the foot-clamp independently of the head-clamp at any point.

8. The combination with the floor of a hearse, of a foot casket-clamp adjustable longitudinally thereof, a swinging head casket-clamp, and a spring-catch for securing said head casket-clamp.

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

MILTON M. GUILEY.

Witnesses:
CHAS. F. HILL,
JACOB C. STORMFELT.