

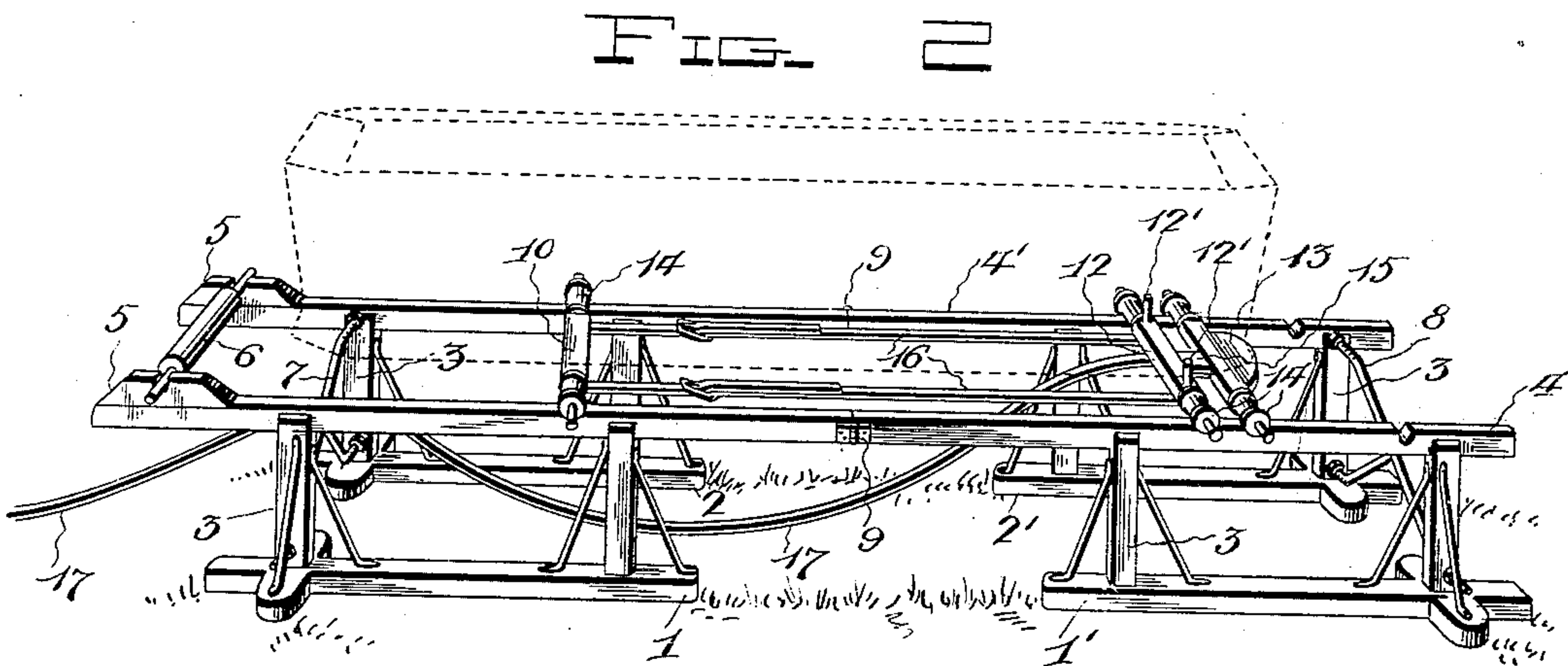
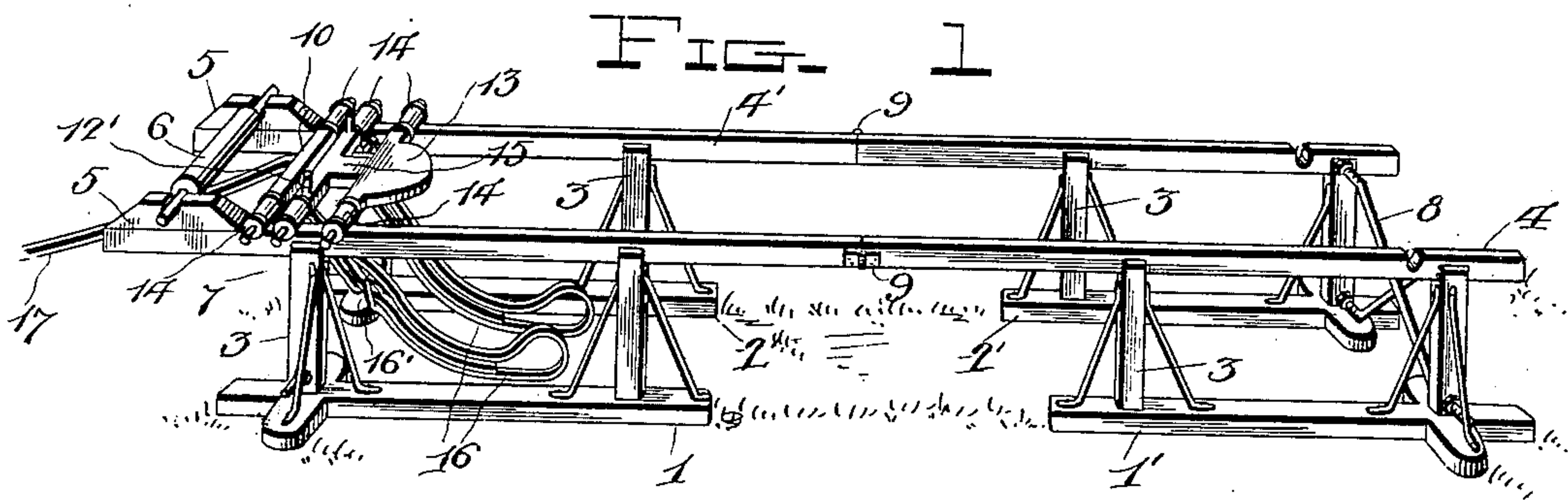
No. 638,587.

Patented Dec. 5, 1899.

D. W. MUMPER.
CASKET SUPPORT.

(Application filed May 25, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

J. L. Johnson
J. L. Johnson

by

D. W. Mumper,
Attorneys

Inventor

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID W. MUMPER, OF ATWOOD, ILLINOIS.

CASKET-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 638,587, dated December 5, 1899.

Application filed May 25, 1899. Serial No. 718,198. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID W. MUMPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atwood, in the county of Piatt and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casket-Supports; 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.

My invention relates to casket-supports, and more particularly to that class of devices which are temporarily employed to support the casket above the grave prior to interment.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple, convenient, and safe support of this character, whereby the final handling of the casket may be conducted in a safe and ceremonious manner and without any repulsive incidents common to the cruder form of interment.

To these ends the invention consists in certain features of construction and combination of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings the same reference characters indicate the same parts of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a casket-support embodying my invention and in position to receive the casket; and Fig. 2 is a similar view with the casket in place, the latter being shown in dotted lines.

In the drawings, 1 1' and 2 2' denote the counterpart sills, each of which is provided with fixed and suitably-braced uprights 3 3 to support the parallel rails 4 4', and which form the track for the carriage to travel on.

The same ends of the rails are provided with slotted bearing-brackets 5 5 to receive the removable roller 6, the length of the bearing-face of which conforms to the lateral adjustment of the rails 4 4', which is attained by the proper adjustment of the crossed braces 7 and 8, which extend from the upper ends of the end uprights on the one side to the lower ends of the corresponding uprights on the other side of the support. These braces, in addition to their adjustability, are also removable, so that when detached and the roller 6 removed the sides may be folded together, the

joint for this purpose being formed by the hinge 9 at about the center of each rail.

The carriage or truck upon which the casket rests consists of the square axles 10 and 12 and a bed-piece 13, each of which is provided with the double-flanged roller-wheels 14 14, mounted on elongated journals and riding freely on the side rails. The axle 12 is provided with adjustable guard or guide pegs 12' 12' and is connected to the bed-piece by a reach 15, so that the said axle and bed-piece travel together.

The axles 10 and 12 are adjustable with reference to each other by means of the straps 16 16, the outer ends of which are fixed to their respective axles and their meeting ends adjusted by the conventional buckle 16'.

The lateral adjustment of the rails is to conform to the width of the grave, and the longitudinal adjustment of the carriage is to correspond to the difference in the length of children's and adults' caskets.

A strap 17 has one end fixed to the axle 12, and its free end extends rearwardly and within reach of the director of ceremonies, who has a position at the head of the casket.

In the utilization of the device the carriage is adjusted to the position shown in Fig. 1, and the pall-bearers having rested at the foot of the casket on the roller 6 retain their positions at the sides, while the director, supporting the head of the casket, moves it gently forward until the foot enters between the guard-pegs and rests on the axle 12 and plate 13, the head of the casket being raised over the roller and allowed to rest on the axle 10. The entire weight of the casket now rests on the carriage, and both are moved forward until the casket is vertically above the grave. The attendants now raise the casket by the usual lowering straps or lines, and the director by means of the strap 17 withdraws the carriage from beneath the casket, which is then lowered in the usual manner.

Although I have shown the support as constructed of wood, it is evident that it may be formed of metal and ornamented to suit the requirements of the most fastidious.

The accompanying drawings show my invention in the best form now known to me; but many changes in the details might be made within the skill of a good mechanic with-

out departing from the spirit of my invention as set forth in the claims at the end of this specification.

5 Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of United States, is—

10 1. A support of the character described, comprising a pair of parallel horizontal rails, a roller journaled in the contiguous ends of said rails; in combination with a collapsible carriage adapted to travel upon said rails, and means for returning said carriage to the starting-point, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

15 2. A folding or collapsible support of the

character described, comprising the parallel folding rails provided with elevated bearings, a roller removably mounted in said bearings and a collapsible or extensible carriage adapted to traverse said rails below the plane of said roller, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DAVID W. MUMPER.

Witnesses:

ALEX. H. ELTON,
E. R. PARSONS.