

No. 654,860.

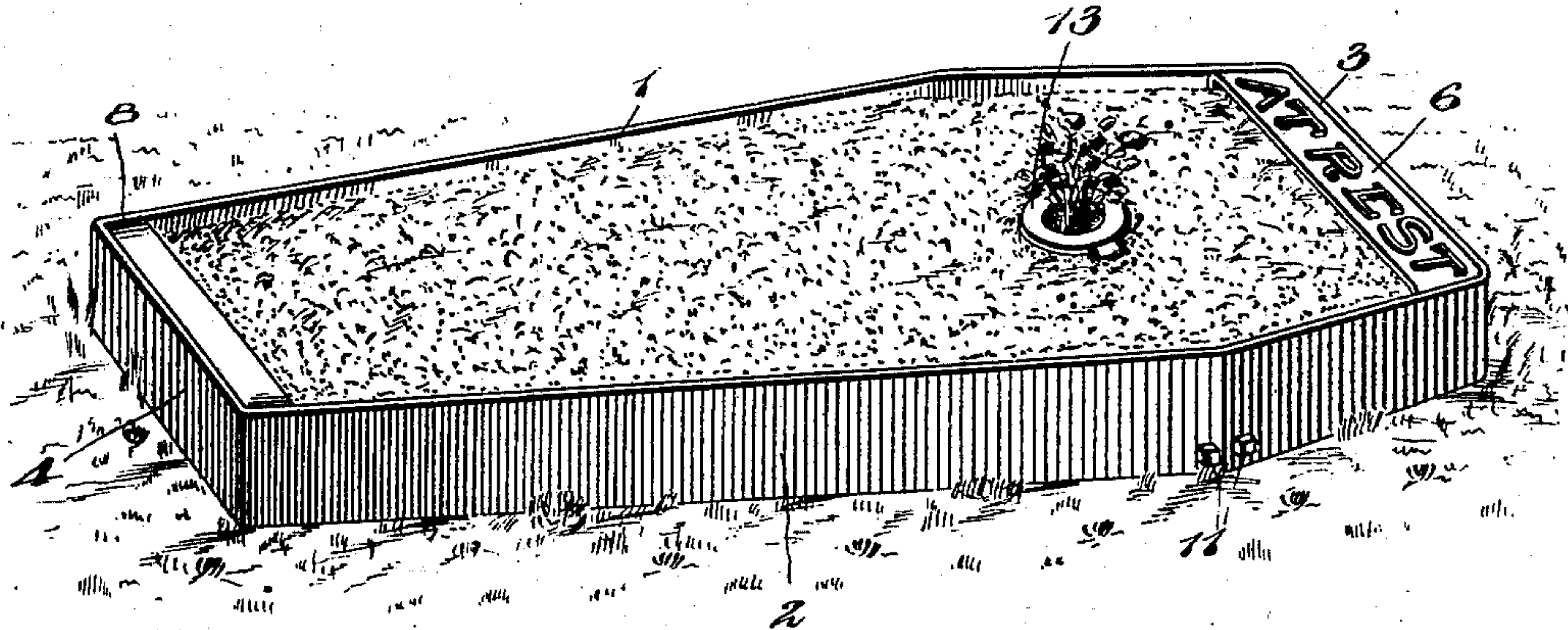
Patented July 31, 1900.

G. P. TENNANT.  
GRAVE COPING.

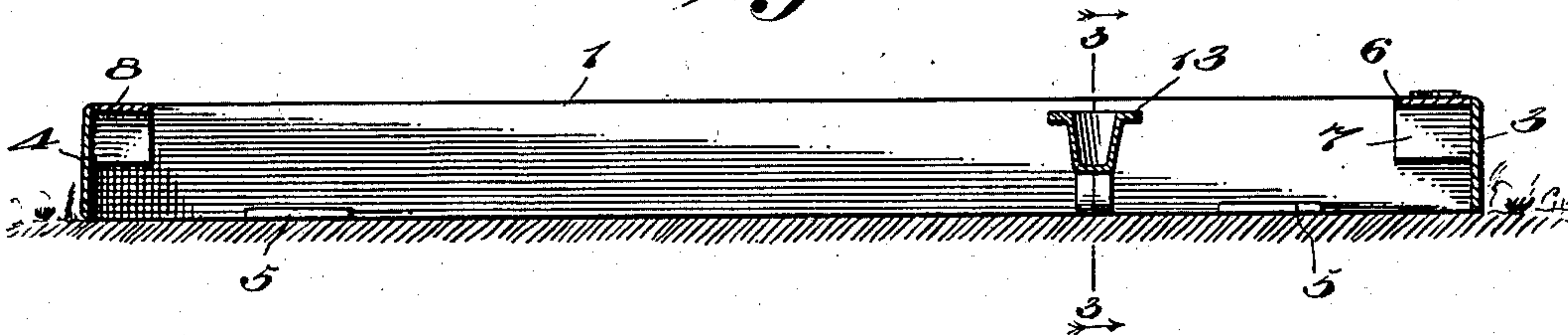
(Application filed May 2, 1900.)

(No Model.)

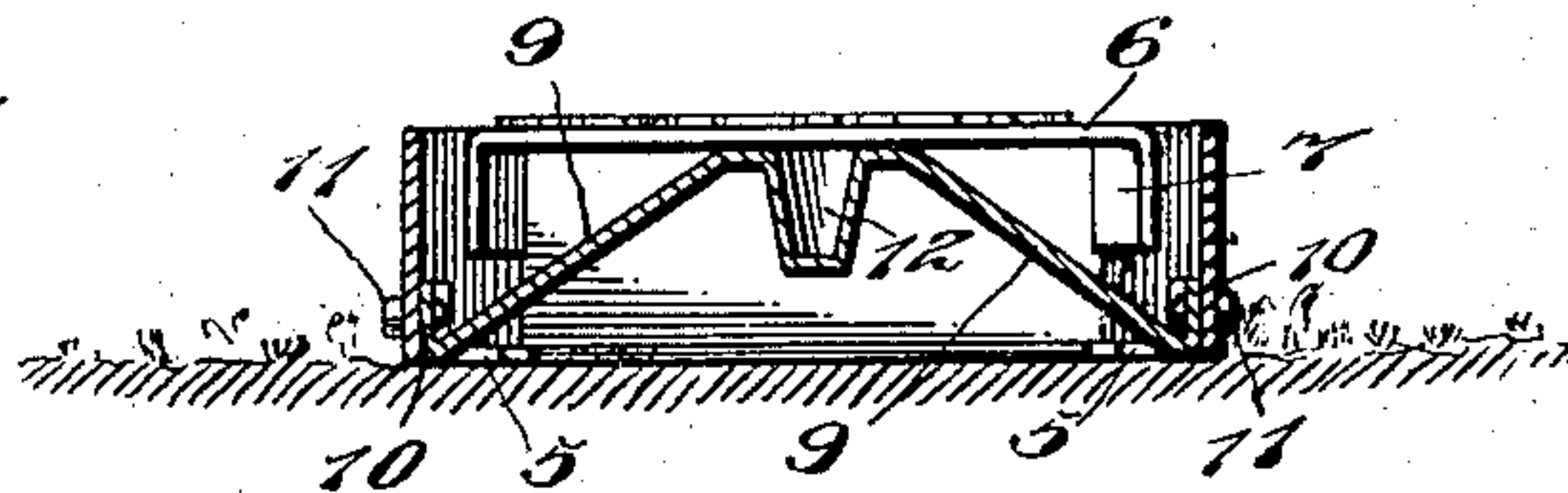
*Fig 1.*



*Fig 2.*



*Fig 3.*



Witnesses

*John Maupin*  
*O. B. Shepard*

George P Tennant Inventor

*C. A. Snow & Co.*  
Attorneys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. TENNANT, OF FROSTBURG, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CLARANCE O. TOWLES, OF SAME PLACE.

## GRAVE-COPING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 654,860, dated July 31, 1900.

Application filed May 2, 1900. Serial No. 15,269. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. TENNANT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Frostburg, in the county of Allegany and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Grave-Coping, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to grave-copings, and has for its object to provide an improved frame structure for surrounding and protecting the mound of a grave, so as to hold the mounded earth in place and prevent it from becoming washed down by rains, thereby preserving the shape of the mound and effectually marking the site of the grave. It is furthermore designed to provide a device of this character which may be conveniently placed in position without requiring any degree of skill and to provide means for containing cut flowers.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a grave-coping constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

Corresponding parts in the figures of the drawings are designated by like characters of reference.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 and 2 designate the respective opposite sides, and 3 and 4 the head and foot pieces, which connect the sides and form the ends, of the substantially-rectangular frame or coping, which is made of metal. The side and end pieces may be cast integral or otherwise connected and may be flat blank strips, as shown, or ornamented in any desired manner. This frame is placed over the site of the grave and may be filled with sand, or the grave may be mound-

ed and sodded, as usual, and inclosed by the coping, so as to hold the mound in shape and prevent its being washed away by rain or otherwise damaged, thus effectually preserving a mark for the site of the grave. Each side piece is provided with one or more inwardly-directed ears or flanges 5, which are flush with the lower edge of the frame and are designed to form anchors to hold the coping in place by the weight of the sand or earth inclosed by the latter. At the head of the frame there is provided a transverse brace or plate 6, which fits snugly in the angles between the side and end pieces and has its opposite ends provided with pendent ears or wings 7, which are welded, riveted, or otherwise secured to the inner sides of the side pieces. The upper face of this brace-plate is substantially flush with the upper edges of the frame and is provided with any suitable inscription in raised characters, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The foot of the frame is also provided with a similar brace-plate 8.

The general shape of the coping may be that of a coffin, as shown in Fig. 1, and at the greatest width thereof, which is adjacent to the head of the frame, the latter is braced by means of a pair of inclined brace-rods 9, which have their lower ends provided with upstanding attaching ears or lugs 10, which are removably connected to the inner faces of the respective side pieces of the frame by means of suitable detachable fastenings 11. The lower ends of these braces are flush with the lower edges of the frame and incline inwardly and upwardly in opposite directions, so as to support a tapered cup or receptacle 12, which is located intermediate of the opposite sides of the frame and substantially flush with the upper edge thereof and is also provided with an outer annular flange 13 to rest upon the mound. Besides connecting and bracing the opposite sides of the coping these inclined braces are buried in the mound, so as to form anchors for the frame and also support the receptacle or cup for containing cut flowers.

What is claimed is—

1. A grave-coping, comprising an inclosing frame, a transverse brace connecting opposite sides of the frame, and inclined inwardly



and upwardly from its opposite ends, which are connected to the lower portion of the frame, and a cup or receptacle carried by an intermediate portion of the brace.

5 2. A grave-coping, comprising an inclosing frame, a cup or receptacle located intermediate of the sides of the frame, opposite braces connected to the cup, inclined downwardly and outwardly in opposite directions, and provided at their outer ends with upstanding attaching-ears fitted against the inner faces of the respective sides of the frame, and detach-  
10 able fastenings securing the ears of the frame.

3. A grave-coping comprising opposite side  
15 and end pieces, opposite end plates connecting the upper edges of the side pieces, in-

wardly-directed flanges at the lower edges of the side pieces, an intermediate cup or receptacle, opposite downwardly-inclined braces extending from the cup to the lower edges of the respective side pieces, the lower ends of the braces having upstanding attaching-ears fitted against the inner faces of the respective side pieces, and removable fastenings connecting the ears to the side pieces. 20

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses. 25

GEORGE P. TENNANT.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH BEAR,  
P. O. RAUSKE.