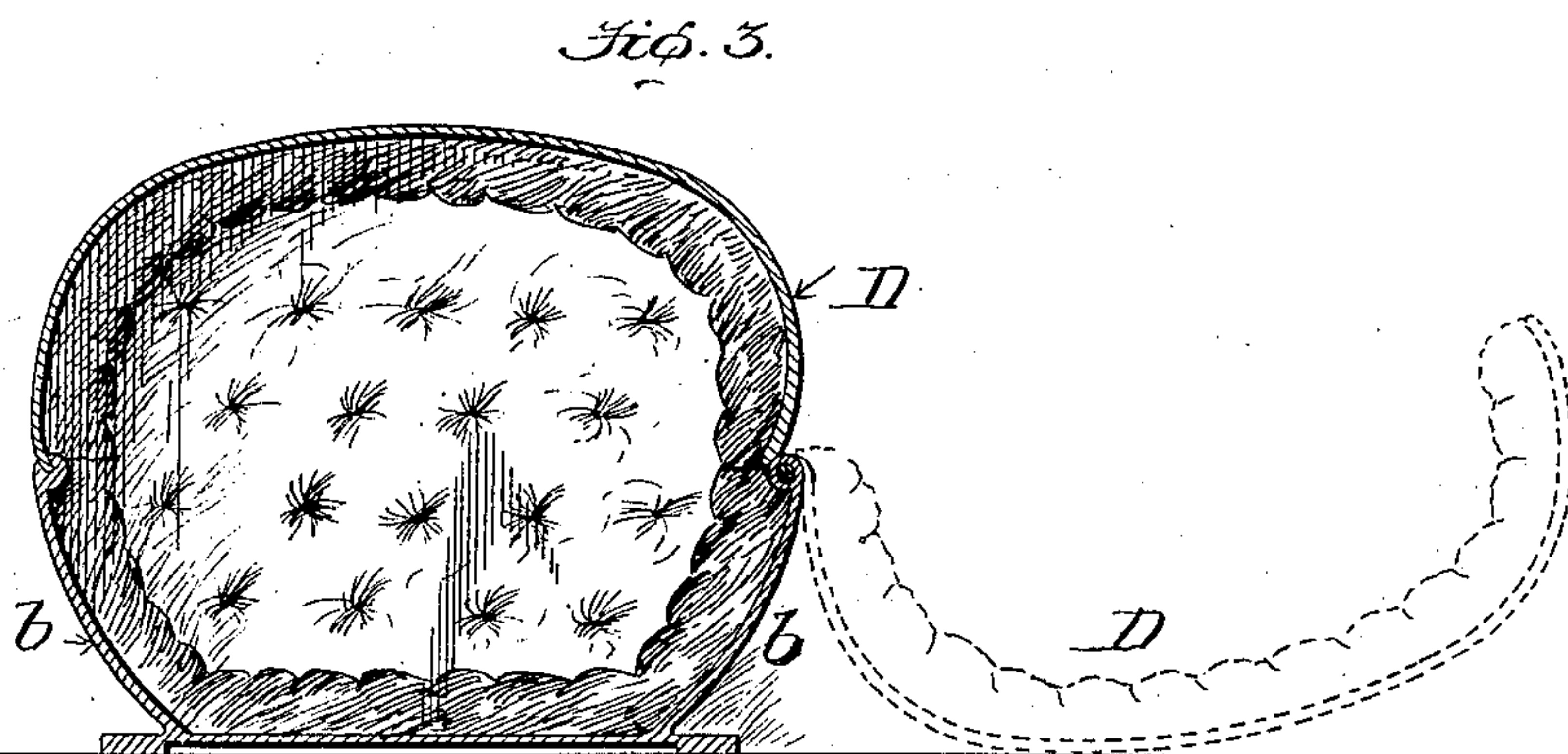
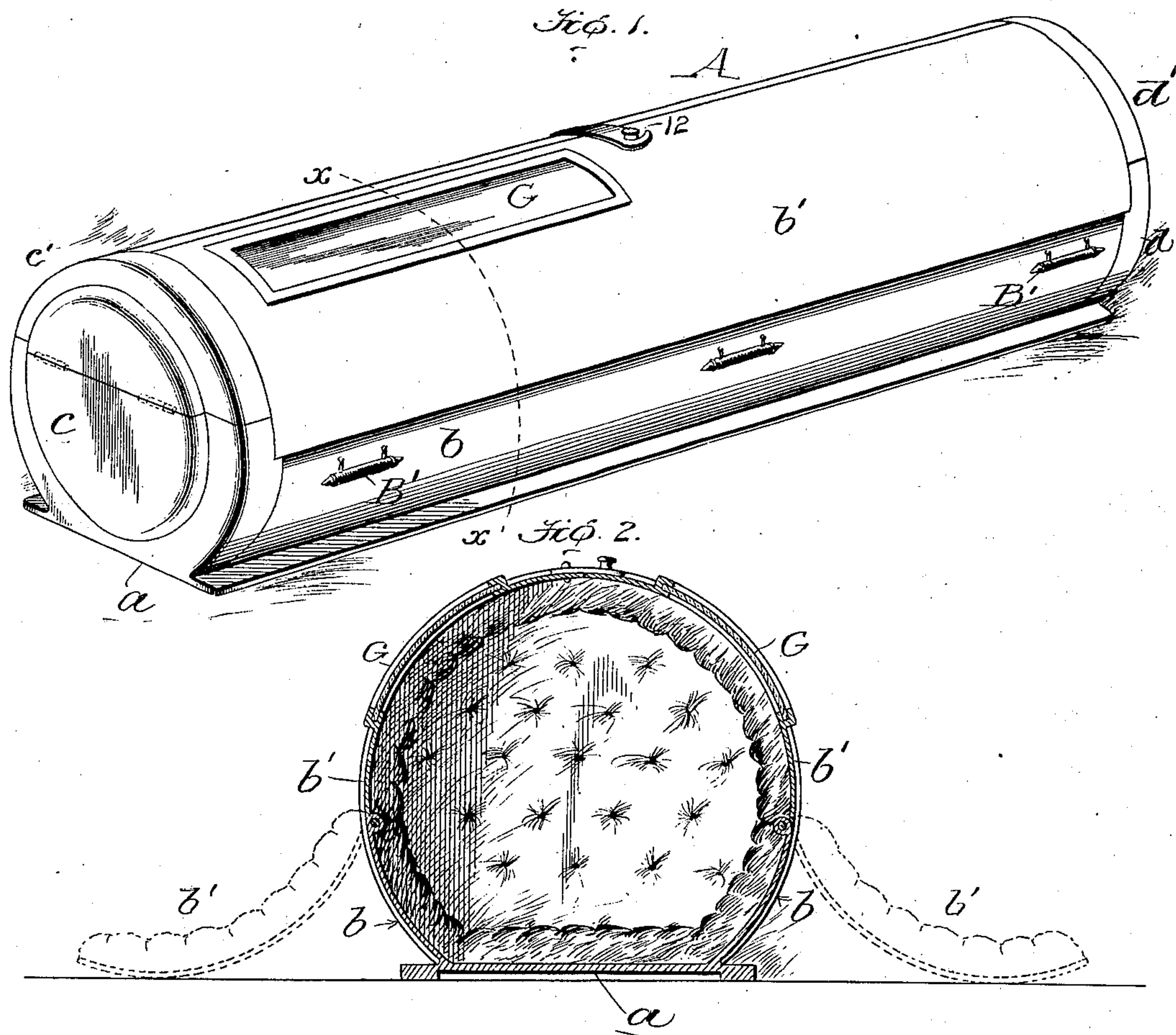


J. C. F. McGRUFF.
BURIAL RECEPTACLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 4, 1903.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses.

Chapman W. Fowler

Inventor

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No. 735,998.

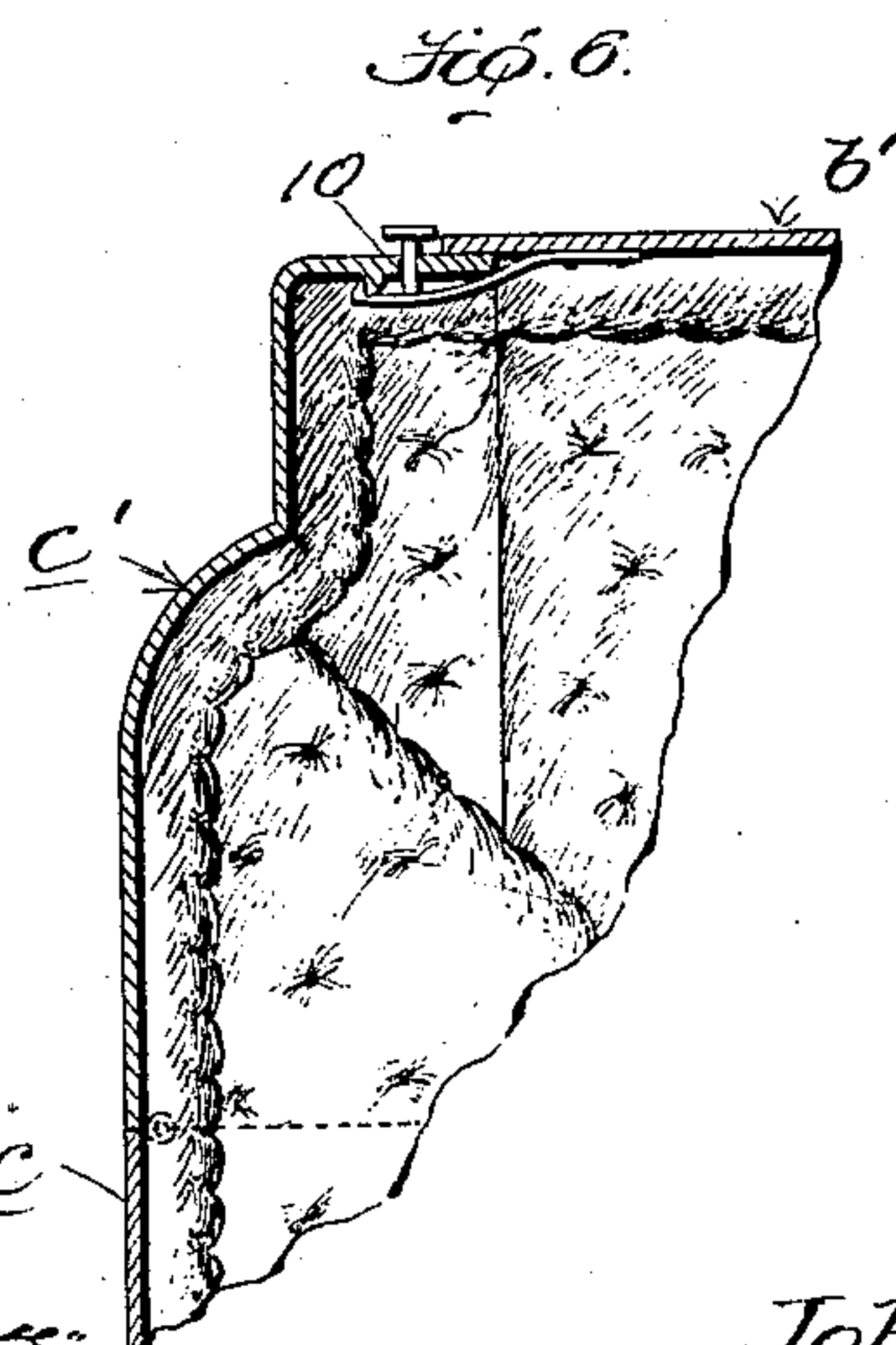
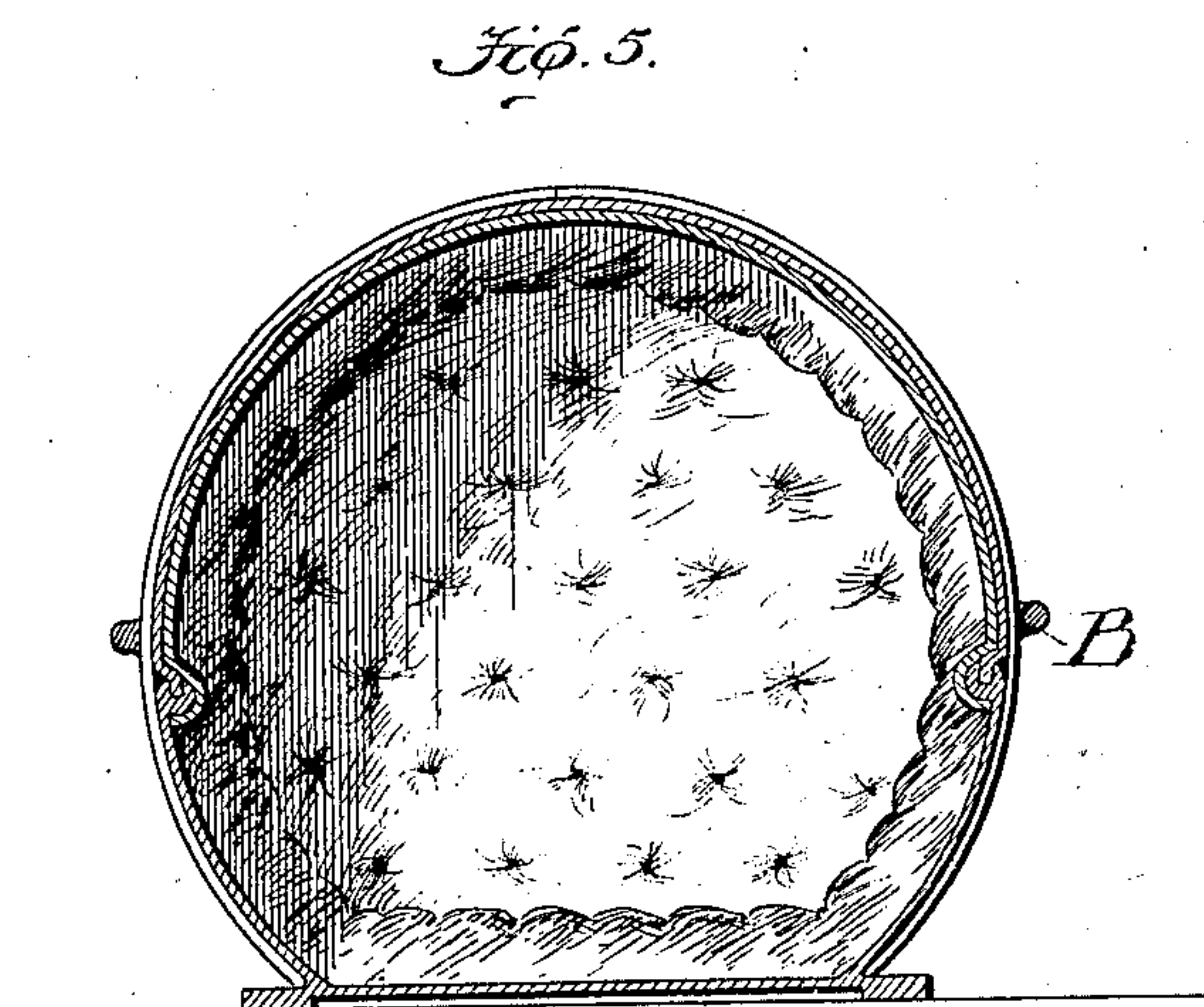
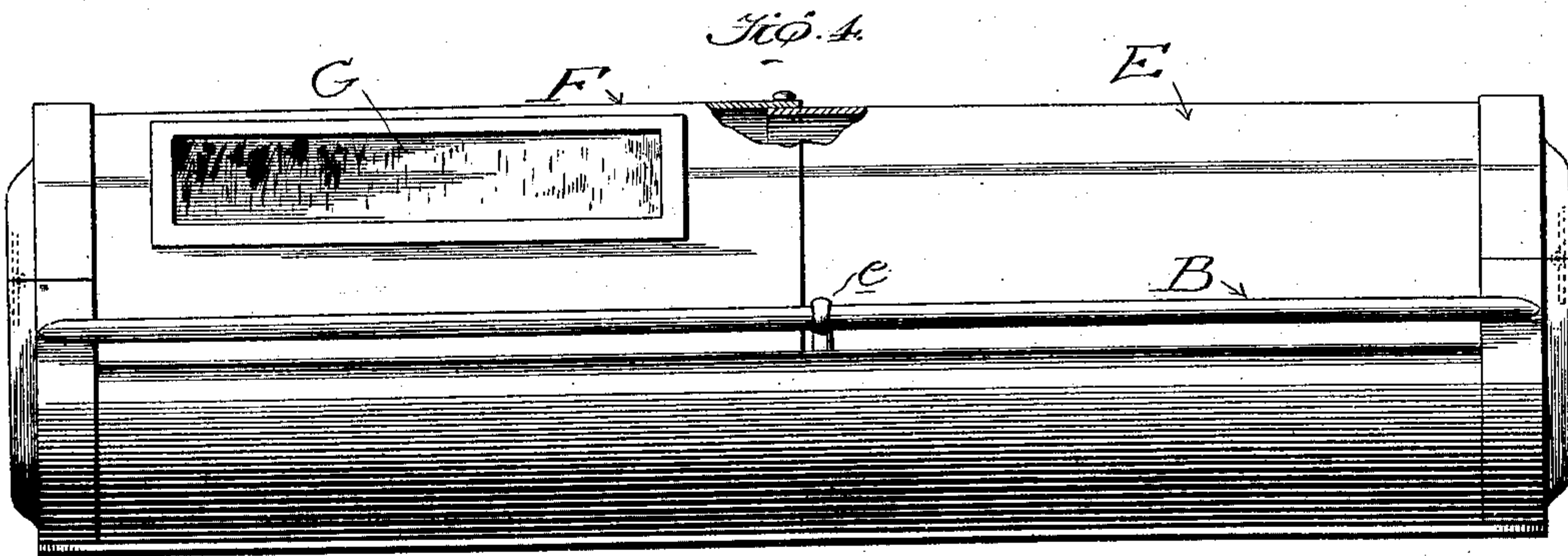
PATENTED AUG. 11, 1903.

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NO MODEL

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. F. McGRIFF, OF WARREN, PENNSYLVANIA.

BURIAL-RECEPTACLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 735,998, dated August 11, 1903.

Application filed April 4, 1903. Serial No. 151,072. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. F. McGRIFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Warren, in the county of Warren and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Burial-Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in devices or receptacles designed to hold the bodies of deceased persons preparatory to the deposit of such bodies into caskets or other burial-receptacles for entombment, cremation, or deposit in the ground; and my invention consists of the improved burial-receptacle and the parts and constructions and combinations of parts thereof which I will hereinafter describe and claim.

In the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a burial-receptacle embodying the salient features of my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the same on the line xx of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of a receptacle of modified form. Fig. 4 is a side elevation, partly broken away, of another form of receptacle. Fig. 5 is a cross-section of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail.

The present invention relates to and is an improvement on the receptacle described and claimed in my former patent, No. 684,293, dated October 8, 1901, and in use the receptacle may be associated with any desired form of burial casket, coffin, case, or receptacle devised for the reception of the bodies of deceased persons and intended for deposit in the ground, in vaults or tombs, or in cremation-furnaces, substantially as disclosed in my aforesaid former patent; but the use of the present receptacle is unrestricted, and therefore is not confined to any particular form of outer receptacle or container for said receptacle.

The receptacle or support A herein shown may be constructed of metal or other material, in whole or in part, and is in its preferred form provided with a flattened bottom a , curved sides b , and head and foot rests c and d , said bottom and sides and rests being appropriately upholstered in any well-known or desired manner. In addition to the interior finish thus produced by the upholstering the exterior of the sides and ends or rests may be

ornamented by various designs, emblems, or other characteristics, which ornamentation, designs, &c., may be of any desired character and finish. The receptacle is also preferably provided with some form of handle or means permitting the carrying of the receptacle by the body-bearers, and these handles may be of any of the well-known forms and located at any desired points on the receptacle. One form of such handles I illustrate herein in Fig. 4 as consisting of rods B, extending lengthwise of the sides of the receptacle and disposed vertically above the upper ends of the curved sides b and supported by brackets or standards e , which rods may also be appropriately ornamented or shaped to suit the requirements. Another form of handle is shown in Fig. 1 at B' as consisting of the well-known drop-handle common in casket construction.

In the present device I prefer to provide substantially a rigid closure for the receptacle and which closure may be drawn over the body to conceal the same from view when the body is ready for placing in its casket or place of final deposit. In the said prior patent this closure is in the form of curtains of flexible material, which are slidably arranged to be drawn up over the receptacle to entirely conceal the body after the latter has been placed upon the receptacle and withdrawn to expose the body to view, if desired.

Various arrangements of closures may be provided; but in any case I prefer to form the closure of relatively stiff material, and its arrangement relative to the body of the receptacle may be varied within certain limits.

In the present construction I prefer to use, although I do not limit myself thereto, metallic closures, which may be appropriately upholstered on the inner sides and have their outer surfaces shaped or ornamented in harmony with the other parts of the receptacle and to give a pleasing and attractive appearance to the whole device.

In Fig. 1 the closure consists of two members b' of curved form, having one edge hinged approximately along the line of the upper edge of the sides of the body of the receptacle, said members when closed inwardly about their hinged connection meeting approximately in the longitudinal central line of the receptacle and concealing from view the body of the de-

ceased person and said members when swung open lying exterior to the outer sides of the body of the receptacle and with their upholstered inner surfaces exposed. As an incident to these members when open the open trough formed by their concaved or dished form may be utilized as a receiver for flowers. The head and foot rests (one or both) I also prefer to hinge, so that the upper portion or section *c' d'* may be let down to more effectively expose the body of the deceased person, said rests being appropriately finished and ornamented on the outer sides and finished by upholstering or otherwise on the interior, and when the side closures are brought together, as in Fig. 1, the hinged members of the head and foot rests are closed upon (either over or under) the ends of the hinged closures to conceal these ends and make a neat joint and finish, said hinged members of the rests being held in their raised position by any well-known form of fastening, as at 10. In addition to this a fastening of some well-known kind, as a hook and stud at 12, may serve to fasten the closures together near their longitudinal central points. It is not essential, however, that the closure should consist of two oppositely-closing hinged members, as above described, as substantially the same results will be obtained when a single closure is used, as at D in Fig. 3, said closure in this instance being hinged along one edge to one of the sides of the body of the receptacle and having its opposite edge to be appropriately secured. Furthermore, if desired, I may use a longitudinally-slidable closure, as in Fig. 4, in which instance the closure is divided transversely, one member, E, being fixed and the other member, F, being slidably mounted relative to the first-named member, so that it may be slid open and closed to expose or conceal the body of the deceased, and when closed the movable member is secured by any well-known and appropriate fastening medium. Also, if desired, the closure may have a glazed opening G, through which the features of the de-

ceased may be viewed even when the receptacle is closed.

In either of the foregoing instances the head and foot rests may have the hinged members before described and these members close over or under the ends of the closure with a neat joint and finish, as before alluded to.

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

1. A body-support adapted to form a receptacle for a body preparatory to the deposit thereof in a casket, said support including a base portion and a rigid closure therefor said closure hinged along the side of the base portion and having substantially a curved inner wall adapted, when the closure is open, to form a receptacle for flowers.

2. A body-support designed as a receptacle for a body preparatory to the deposit thereof in a casket said support including a base portion and a closure therefor said closure hinged along the sides of said base portion and being substantially of segmental form whereby when it is opened outwardly its concave portion is presented upwardly to form a container for floral offerings.

3. A body-support designed as a receiver for a body preparatory to the deposit of said support in a casket, said support including a base portion having end rests; a closure for said base portion said closure including two segmental members each hinged along one of the sides of the base member and adapted when turned outwardly, to present their concaved sides upwardly, whereby they serve as containers for floral offerings; and means for securing the members of the closure when the latter are closed.

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

JOHN C. F. McGRUFF.

Witnesses:

CHAPMAN W. FOWLER,
T. W. FOWLER.