

No. 780,468.

PATENTED JAN. 17, 1905.

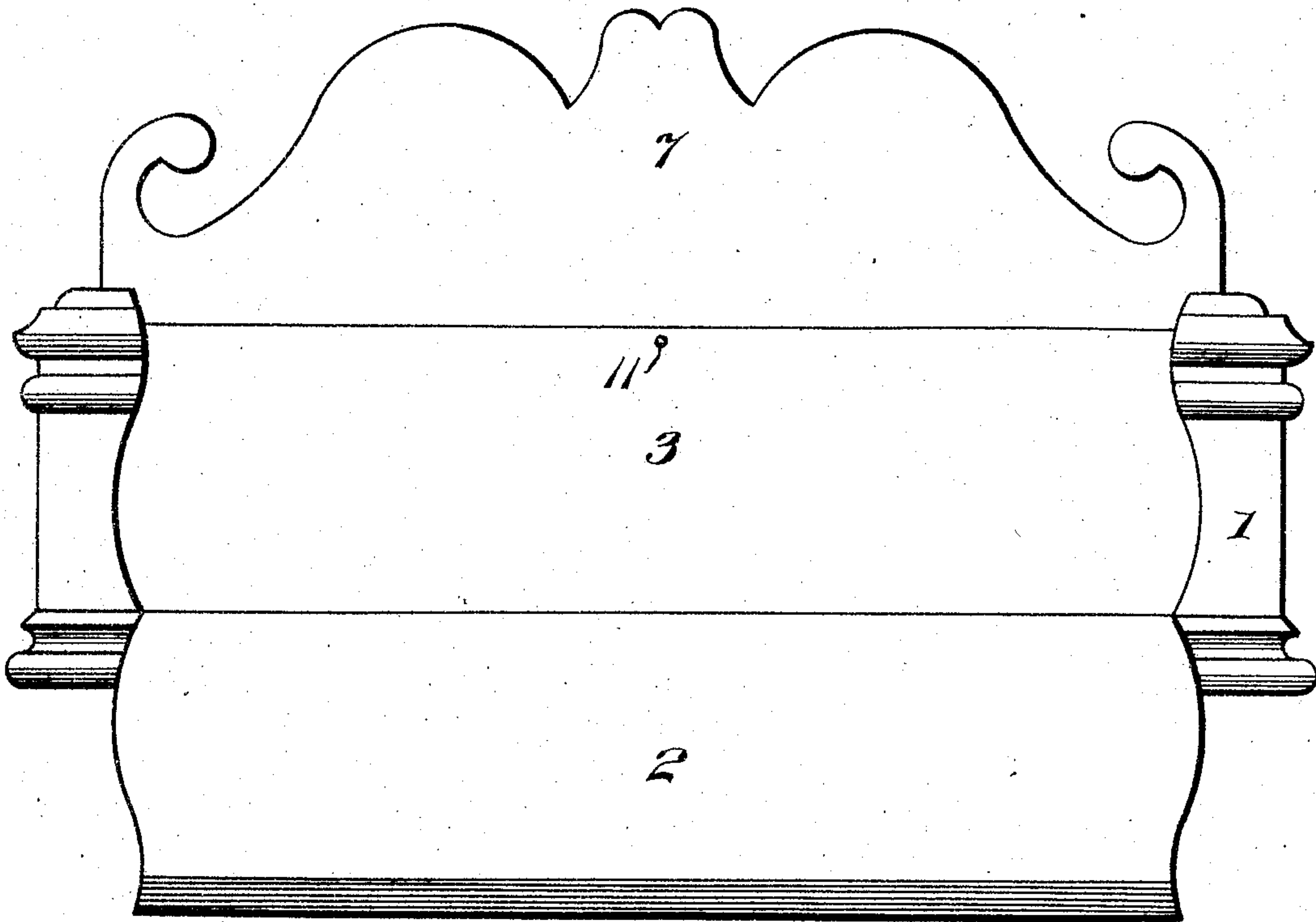
J. ANDERSON & G. W. TESTER.

BURIAL CASKET.

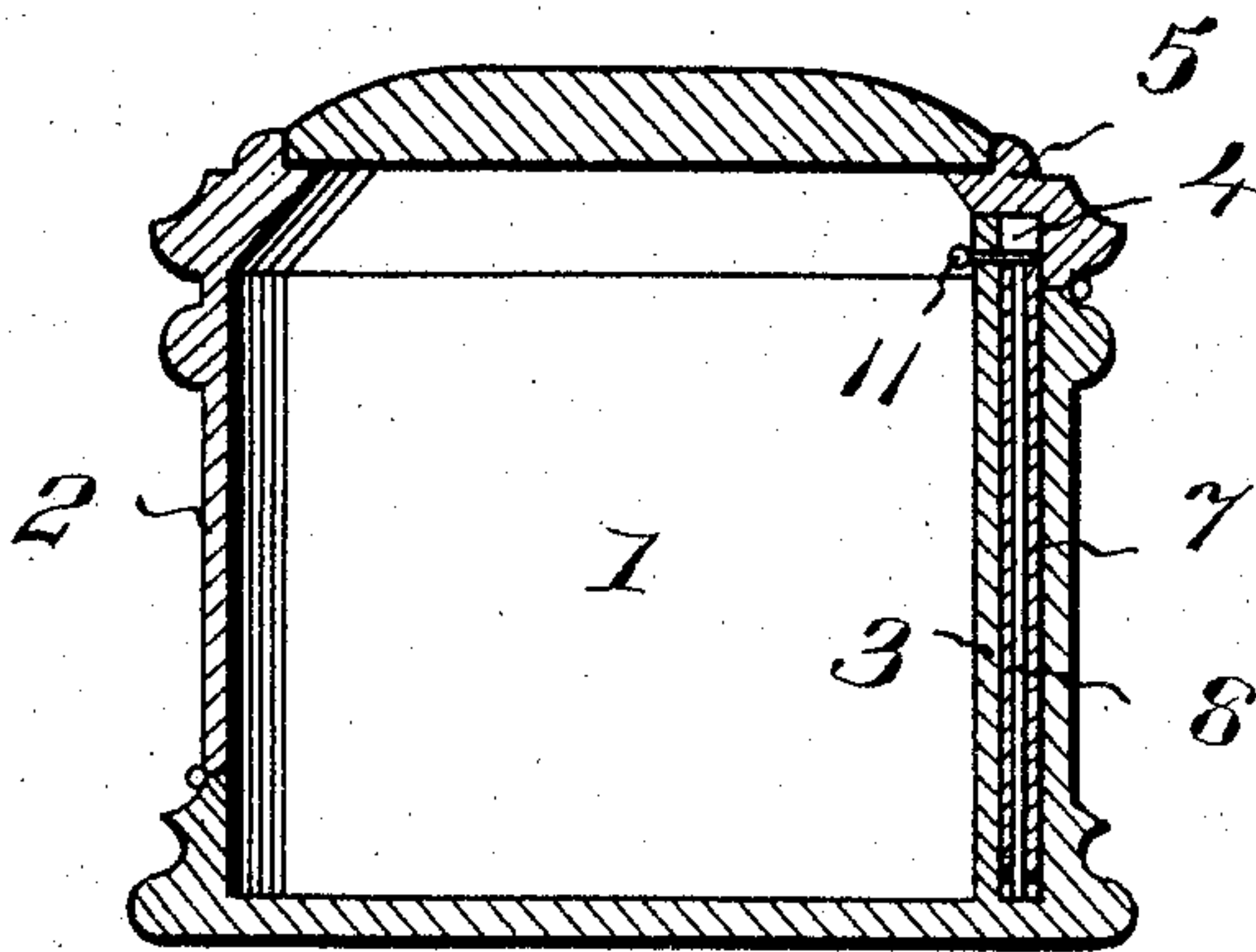
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 8, 1903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 4.*



Witnesses

*J. W. Riley*  
*Hubert Lawson*

*James Anderson.*

*George W. Tester.*

By

*Victor J. Evans*

Attorney

No. 780,468.

PATENTED JAN. 17, 1905.

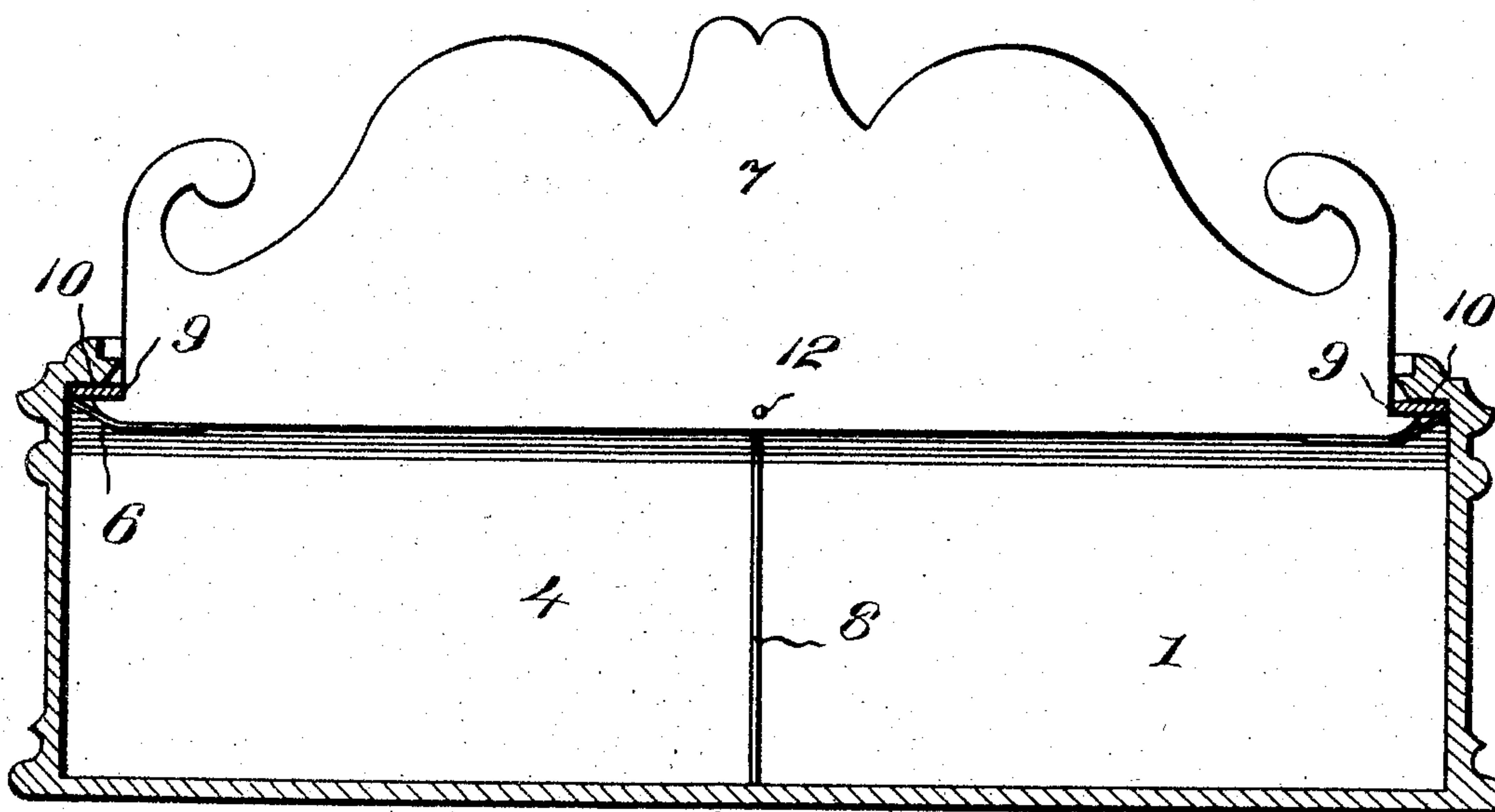
J. ANDERSON & G. W. TESTER.

BURIAL CASKET.

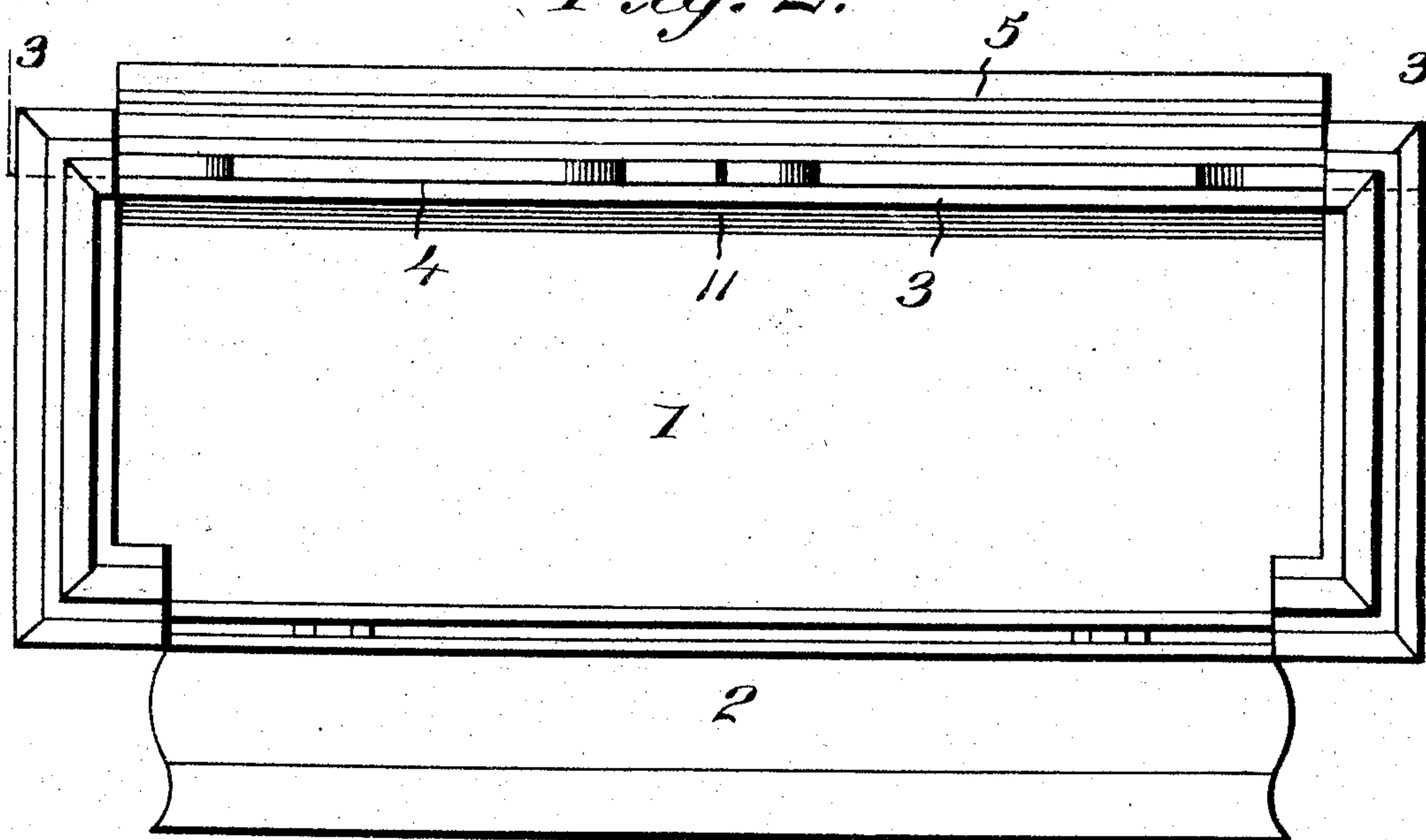
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 8, 1903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

*Fig. 3*



*Fig. 2.*



Inventors

James Anderson  
George W. Tester.

By

Victor J. Crane

Attorney

Witnesses

J. W. Riley

Hubert D. Lawson



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES ANDERSON AND GEORGE W. TESTER, OF LIBERTY CENTER, OHIO.

## BURIAL-CASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 780,468, dated January 17, 1905.

Application filed December 8, 1903. Serial No. 184,287.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JAMES ANDERSON and GEORGE W. TESTER, citizens of the United States, residing at Liberty Center, in the county of Henry and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to new and useful improvements in caskets; and its object is to provide a device of this character having a suitably-ornamented back plate which is adapted to be automatically projected from the rear wall of the casket when the same is opened and which is provided with means for securing it in lowered position when it is desired to close the casket.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of a casket having a compartment extending along one side thereof, in which is slidably mounted a back plate which is arranged on a suitable guide provided therefor. This back plate is adapted to be locked in lowered position in any suitable manner and when released is automatically projected into raised position.

The invention also consists in the further novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, showing the preferred form of our invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a casket constructed in accordance with our invention, the same being shown opened. Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3 3, Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a central transverse section through the casket when closed.

Referring to the figures by numerals of reference, 1 is a casket formed of any suitable material and having the front face 2 thereof hinged or otherwise mounted so as to permit the same to be opened. A partition 3 extends longitudinally of the casket at one side thereof and forms a compartment 4, the top of which is normally closed by a hinged cap 5, which extends along the side of the casket and is similar in form to the upper edges of the other sides of the casket. Straps 6, formed of elastic material, are secured to the walls of

compartment 4 and to the ends of a back plate 7, which is slidably mounted within said compartment. This plate is mounted on a guide-rod 8, secured to the bottom of compartment 4, and may be suitably ornamented. The elastic straps are sufficiently strong to hold the back plate 7 normally projected upward from compartment 4, and these straps expand and are tensioned when the back plate 9 is pressed downward into the compartment and immediately contract and raise said plate when it is released. In Fig. 3 we have shown the back plate projected from compartment 4 and held in such position by the contracted elastic straps 6, and in Fig. 4 the back plate is shown locked in lowered position within the compartment 4. Ears 9 extend from the ends of the back plate and are adapted to contact with stop-plates 10, extending inward from the end walls of the compartment 4.

Back plate 7 is adapted to be held in position within the compartment 4 by means of a pin 11, which extends through the partition 3 and into the path of the back plate. When it is desired to open the casket, the cap 5 is swung backward and the front 2 downward. The pin 11 is then removed, and the tensioned strap 6 will contract and raise the back plate 7 until the ears 9 contact with the stop-plates 10. The rod 8 serves to guide the back plate accurately into proper raised position. The pin 11 can then be reinserted into the partition 3 and into an aperture 12, formed within the lower portion of the back plate. To close the casket, the operation above described is reversed. The back plate 7 when projected from its compartment 4 enhances the appearance of the casket and gives it the appearance of a couch having an ornamental back. This is especially true when the front face 2 of the casket is in lowered position.

In the foregoing description we have shown the preferred form of our invention; but we do not limit ourselves thereto, as we are aware that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, and we therefore reserve the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope of our invention.



Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. The combination with a casket; of a plate slidably mounted at one side thereof, and means  
5 for automatically projecting the plate from the top of the casket.
2. The combination with a casket having a longitudinally - extending partition therein forming a compartment; of a back plate slid-  
10 ably mounted within the compartment, and means for automatically projecting the back plate from the compartment.
3. The combination with a casket having a partition therein forming a compartment, and  
15 a guide-rod within the compartment; of a back plate slidably mounted upon the guide-rod and within the compartment, and means for automatically projecting the back plate from the compartment.
- 20 4. The combination with a casket having a

partition therein forming a compartment, and a guide-rod within the compartment; of a back plate slidably mounted upon the guide-rod and within the compartment, means for automatically projecting the back plate from  
25 the compartment, and stops for the back plate.

5. The combination with a casket having a partition therein forming a compartment, and a guide-rod within the compartment; of a back plate slidably mounted upon the guide-  
30 rod and within the compartment, stops, and elastic straps secured to the back plate and the casket.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES ANDERSON.  
GEORGE W. TESTER.

Witnesses:

G. W. PENNOCK,  
D. S. MIREs.