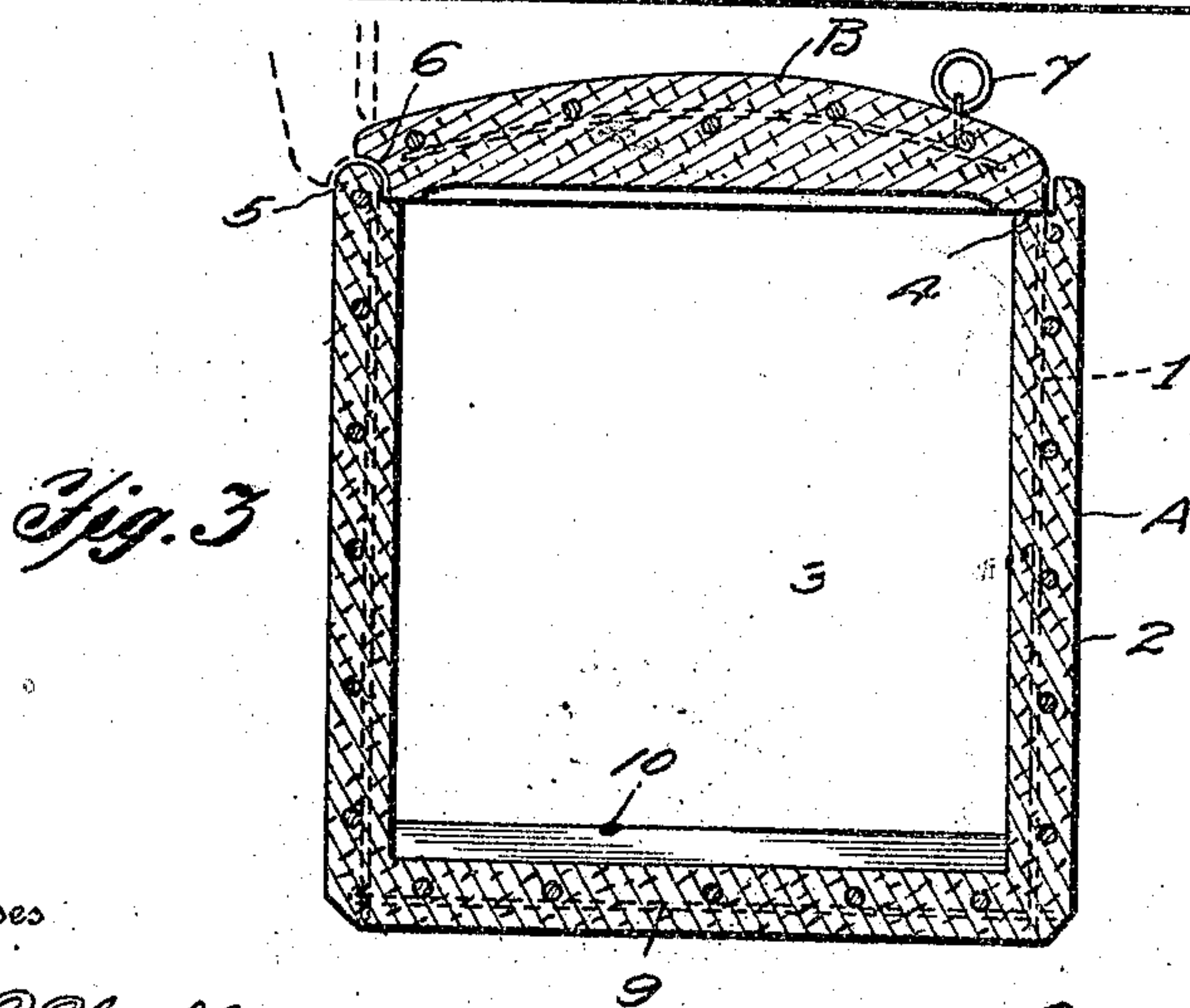
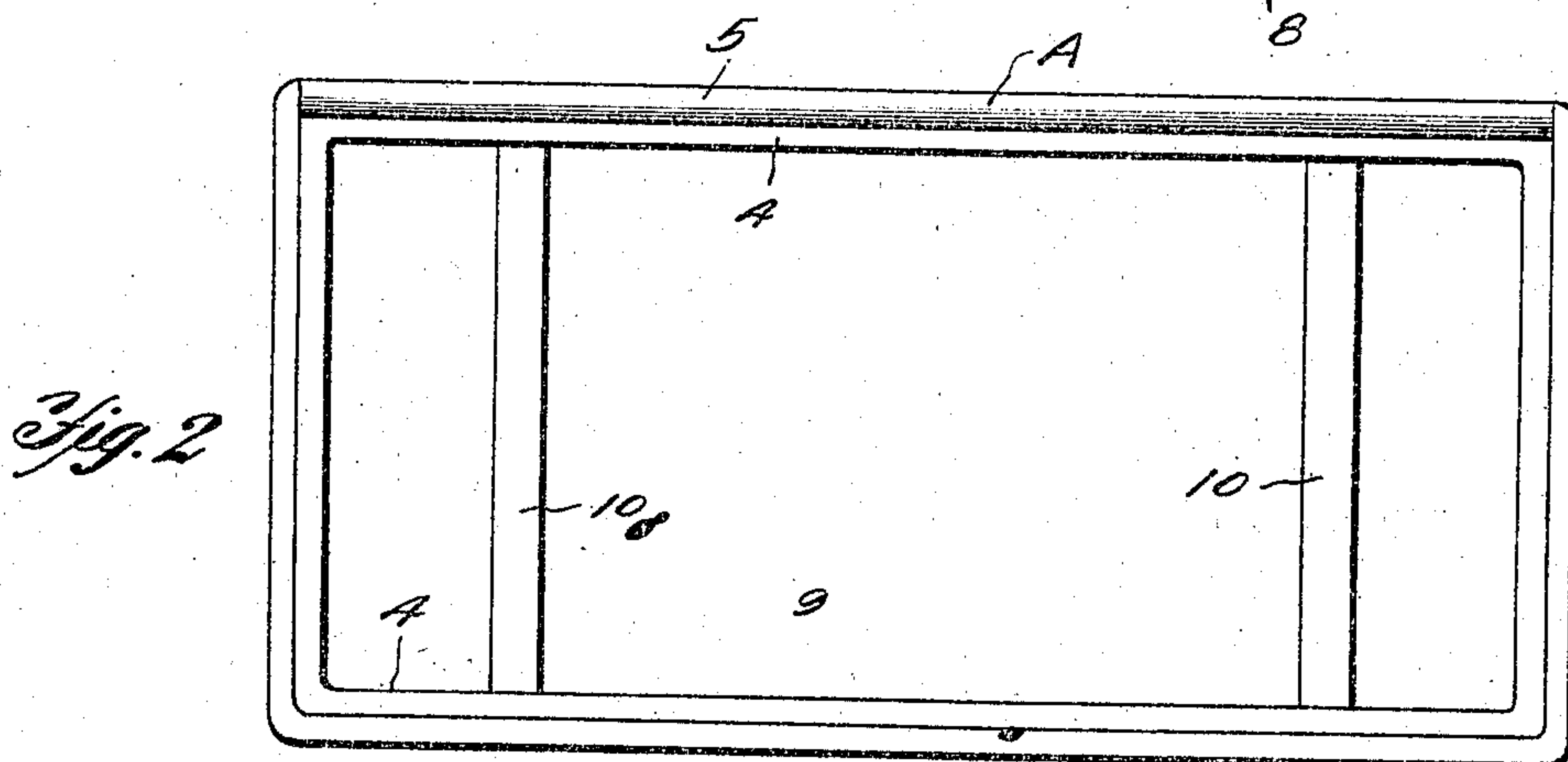
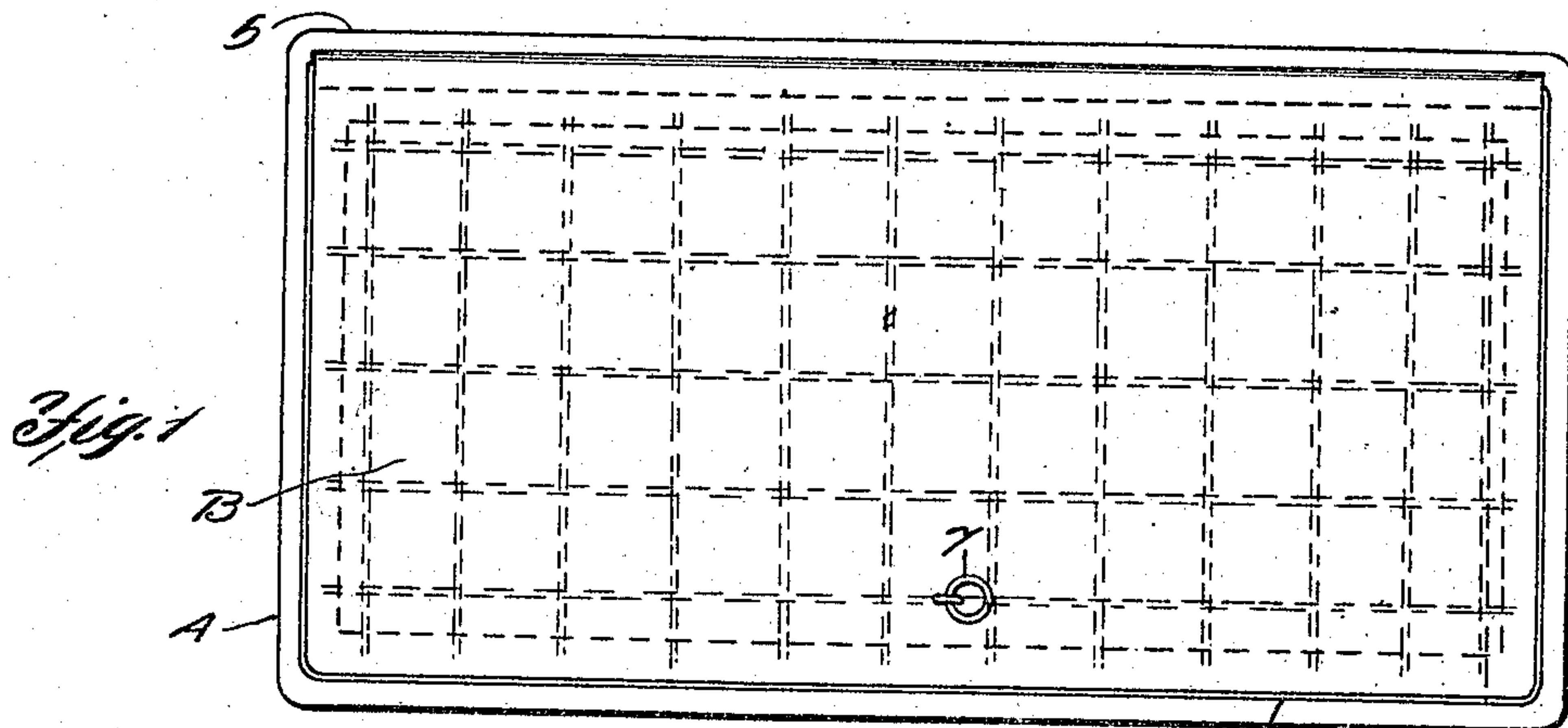


No. 867,813.

PATENTED OCT. 8, 1907.

A. ERLITZ.
BURIAL VAULT.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1907



Witnesses

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ALBERT ERLITZ, OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA.

BURIAL-VAULT.

No. 867,813.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT ERLITZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Stillwater, in the county of Washington and State of Minnesota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a vault or receptacle of concrete or the like for the reception of a coffin.

The invention has for one of its objects to improve and simplify the construction of devices of this character so as to be easy to manufacture and designed to facilitate the burying operation.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a vault or receptacle provided with a cover so arranged that it can be readily swung open after being placed in the grave for the reception of the casket and then swung closed for sealing the vault or receptacle.

With these objects in view and others, as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention comprises the various novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be more fully described hereinafter and set forth with particularity in the claims appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawing, which illustrates one of the embodiments of the invention, Figure 1 is a plan view of the vault or receptacle with the cover in position. Fig. 2 is a plan view with the cover removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section.

Similar reference characters are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing, A designates the body of the vault, and B, the cover therefor, both of which are constructed of concrete or other plastic material and provided with longitudinal and cross bars 1 of iron for reinforcing the concrete. The top edges of the side and end walls 2 and 3 are molded with shoulders or internal ledges 4 on which the cover B rests. One of the side walls 2 is provided with a rounded bead 5 extending from end to end thereof, and the adjacent edge of the cover is provided with a corresponding groove 6 for engaging the said bead for the purpose of permitting the cover to swing open or closed, and at the same time permit the cover to be bodily removed, as desired. The cover B has a ring 7 suitably secured thereto adjacent the edge opposite from the hinge joint formed by the

bead and groove 5 and 6 to permit a rope or equivalent means to be attached to the cover for the purpose of swinging it open or closed. The cover loosely fits into the top of the body A, and the crack 8 around the periphery of the cover can be filled by pouring soft cement into the same. On the bottom 9 of the vault are transverse ribs 10 on which the casket is adapted to rest and for holding the casket off the bottom to enable the lowering ropes to be disengaged from the casket after the same has been placed in the vault.

In practice, the vault with the cover thereon is lowered into the grave by means of ropes or the like and the cover is next swung open to dotted line position so as to receive the casket. The casket is lowered in the usual manner and as the cover is swung back out of the way, there is no difficulty in lowering the casket into the vault. After detaching the lowering ropes from the casket, the cover can be swung to closed position by means of a rope or the like hooked into the ring 7. The rope is then detached and soft cement filled into the joint around the cover so as to seal the vault.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the advantages of the construction and of the method of operation will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, and while I have described the principle of operation of the invention, together with the device which I now consider to be the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that the device shown is merely illustrative and that such changes may be made when desired, as are within the scope of the claims.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:—

A vault comprising a body, a cover capable of being bodily removed therefrom, a bead and groove joint between one edge of the cover and one side of the body to permit the cover to swing open or closed, and a device secured to the cover adjacent the edge thereof opposite from the joint for attachment to means for swinging the cover open or closed.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT ERLITZ.

Witnesses:

LOUIS L. MANWARING,
C. B. JACK.