

No. 881,395.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

A. P. GILLEN.
CASKET HANDLE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1907.

Fig. 1.

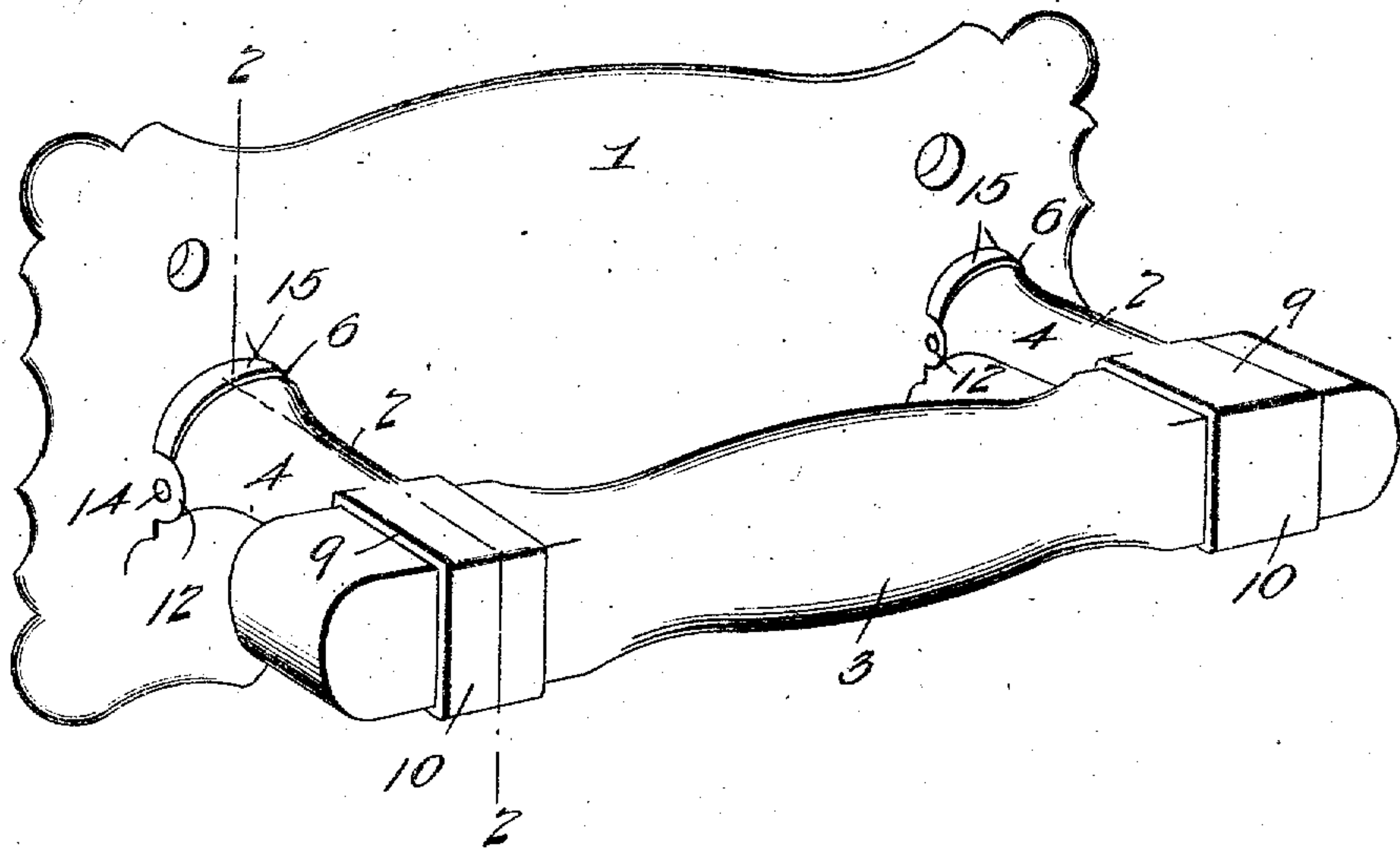


Fig. 2.

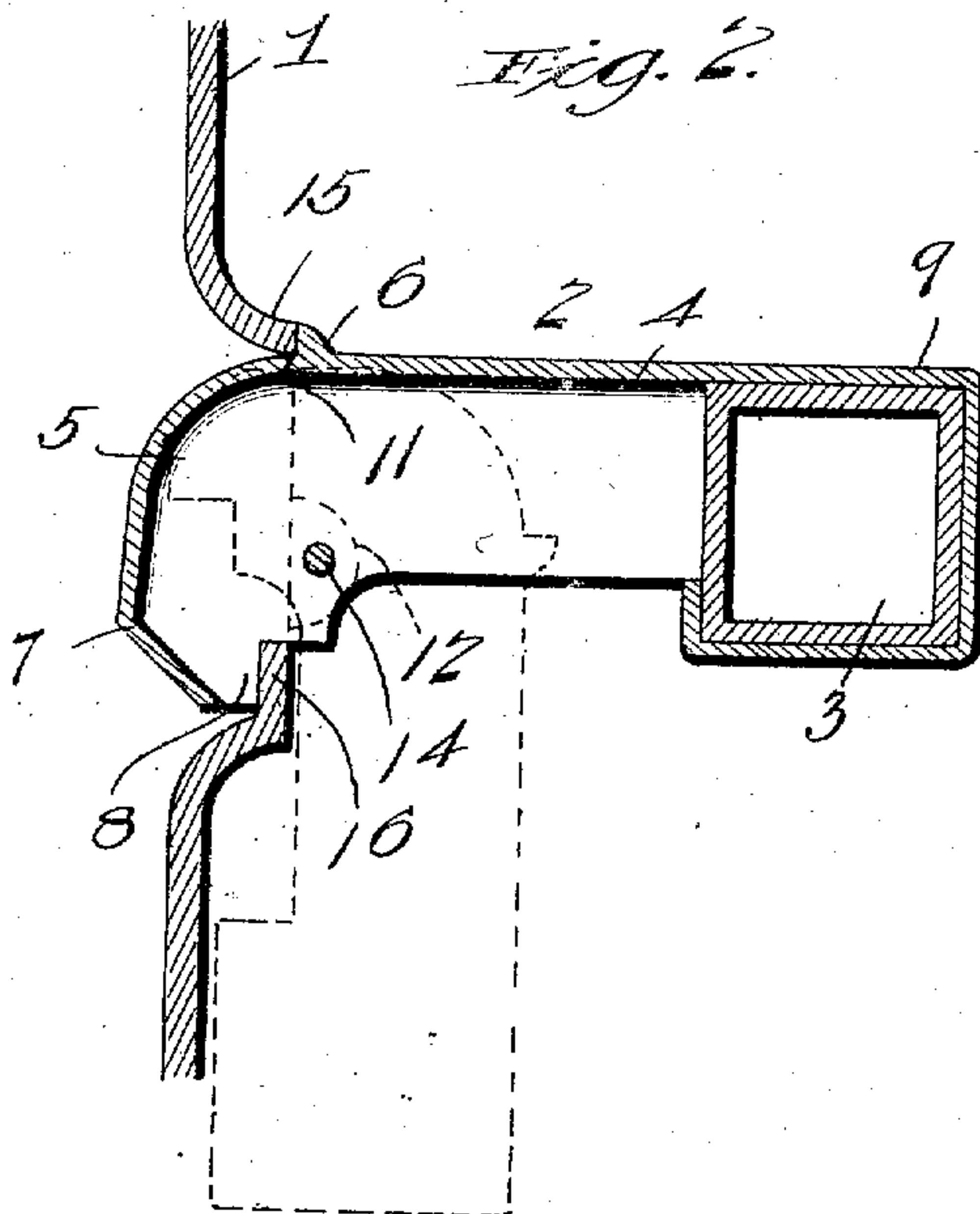
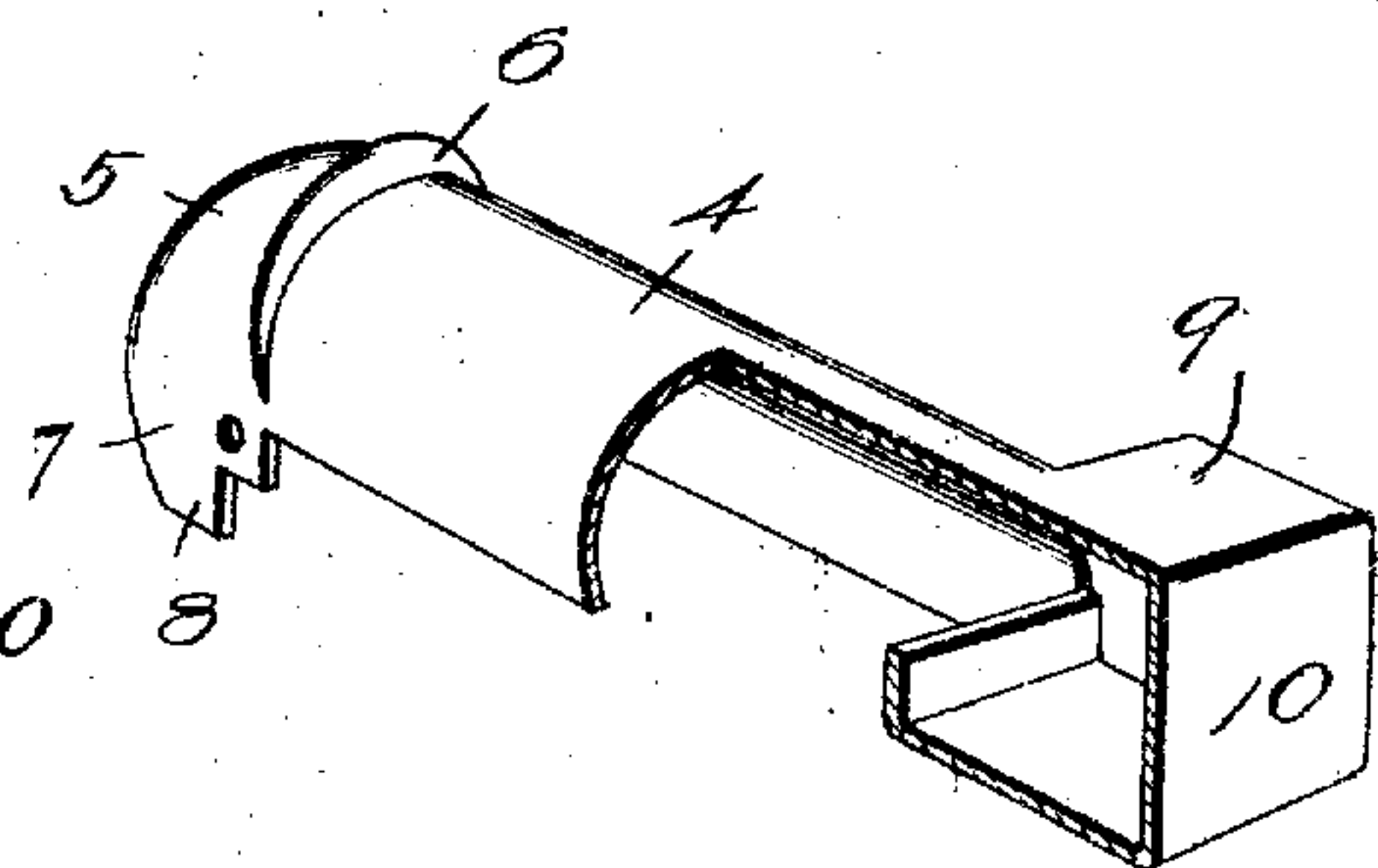


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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CASKET-HANDLE.

No. 881,395.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUSTIN P. GILLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Youngstown, in the county of Mahoning and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casket-Handles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to handle fittings for caskets and other objects, but possessing special utility in its application to caskets or coffins.

In the ordinary type of handles or handle attachments for caskets, the hanger or bracket arms for the handle bars are usually made of castings of antimony or white metal having reinforcing bars of steel or stiffer metal embedded therein for strengthening purposes. Casket handles of this construction are very heavy and expensive, while at the same time when made of antimony, have a decided odor which is more or less offensive.

Therefore, it is the purpose of the present invention to provide an improvement in casket handles which insures the making thereof in an economical manner while at the same time providing a strong, light and durable construction of hanger arm so arranged with reference to the escutcheon plate as to be secured against displacement or withdrawal in the event of breakage or falling out of the pivot or holding pin.

With these and other objects in view which will be apparent to those familiar with the art, as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a handle for caskets embodying the present invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, illustrating by dotted lines the lowered or dropped position of the hanger arm. Fig. 3 is a sectional perspective of one of the improved hanger arms for the handle bar.

Like references designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

A complete handle fitting embodying the present invention comprises in its organization, an escutcheon plate 1, a pair of swinging hanger arms 2 pivotally hung on said plate and a horizontal handle bar 3 arranged to connect the free ends of the hanger arms and carried thereby.

The improvement specially claimed herein is in the form and construction of the individual hanger arms 2, so a description of one of the latter will suffice for the other. In this connection it is to be noted that each hanger arm 2 is preferably made from plate steel or other suitable sheet metal by means of suitable forming dies from which the arm is stamped into the desired shape or form, although it will be understood that the essential features in the mounting of the hanger arm may be preserved in connection therewith when formed in other well known or approved ways. However, referring particularly to the construction shown in the drawings, each hanger arm preferably consists of a sheet metal body having a main shank portion 4, of semi-tubular or semi-cylindrical form, and at what may be termed its inner end, the said shank portion is provided with a rounded or equivalent shaped, pivot head 5. This pivot head is provided on its upper side with an annularly arranged top bearing shoulder 6, and below the plane of said top bearing shoulder, the head 5 is formed into a downwardly projecting holding hook 7 provided at its lower extremity with shouldered engaging lugs 8. From the outer end of the main shank portion 4 of the hanger arm, the latter consists of a flat or equivalent strap piece 9 turned or folded into the form of a rectangular or other suitably shaped loop, constituting what may be termed a handle clip 10 in which is fitted tightly one end of the handle bar 3 as plainly shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

The pivot head 5 of each hanger arm is mounted in and operates through a keeper opening 11 formed in the escutcheon plate 1 and at opposite side edges of this opening, said plate is provided with offstanding pivot ears 12 receiving a transverse pivot pin 14 which also passes through the head portion 5 of the hanger arm. Furthermore, at the top edge of its opening 11, the escutcheon plate 1 is formed with an offstanding reinforced lip or bead 15 constituting an upper abutment element against which bears the top bearing shoulder 6 of the pivot head 5. At the corresponding lower edge of the keeper opening 11 the escutcheon plate presents an edge portion or member 16 constituting a bearing shoulder against which bears the engaging lug or lugs 8 of the holding hooks 7. By reason of this construction it is obvious that the reversely facing ele-

ments 6 and 8 of the hanger arm serve to strongly brace the latter when weight or strain is imposed thereon and thereby relieve from strain the pivot pin 14, and in the event of the latter breaking or falling out, the arrangement of parts is such that it is impossible for the hanger arm to pull out of the escutcheon plate when the handle is raised and in use.

Other practical advantages arising from the construction described will be recognized by those familiar with this art, and it will be understood that changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the invention.

I claim—

1. In a handle fixture, the combination with the handle proper, of the escutcheon having a keeper opening, of a swinging hanger arm struck out from a single blank of sheet metal and shaped to provide a semi-tubular shank portion formed at its inner end with an angularly disposed pivot head

having a top bearing shoulder and a downwardly projecting shouldered holding hook.

2. In a handle fixture, the handle proper, an escutcheon having a keeper opening and provided with an outer abutment and an inner supporting face respectively at the upper and lower edges of said opening, and a hollow sheet metal hanger arm struck up from a blank of sheet metal and provided at its inner end with a pivot head and at its outer end with a strap piece looped to close in a handle receiving clip, said pivot head being provided at its upper side with a top bearing shoulder engaging said abutment, and at the inner side of the escutcheon provided with shouldered hook members engaging said supporting face.

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

AUSTIN P. GILLEN.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM W. GILLEN,
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