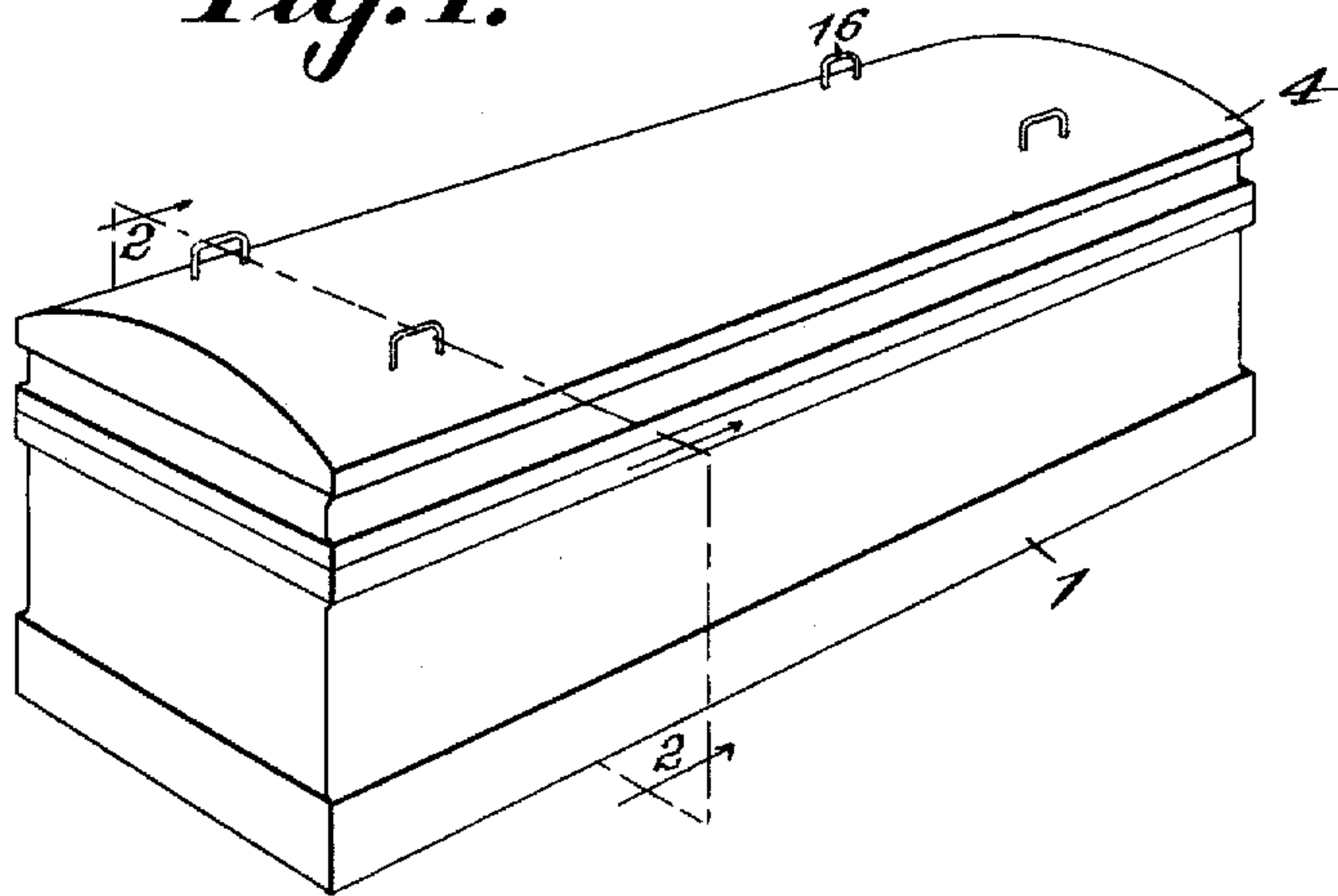


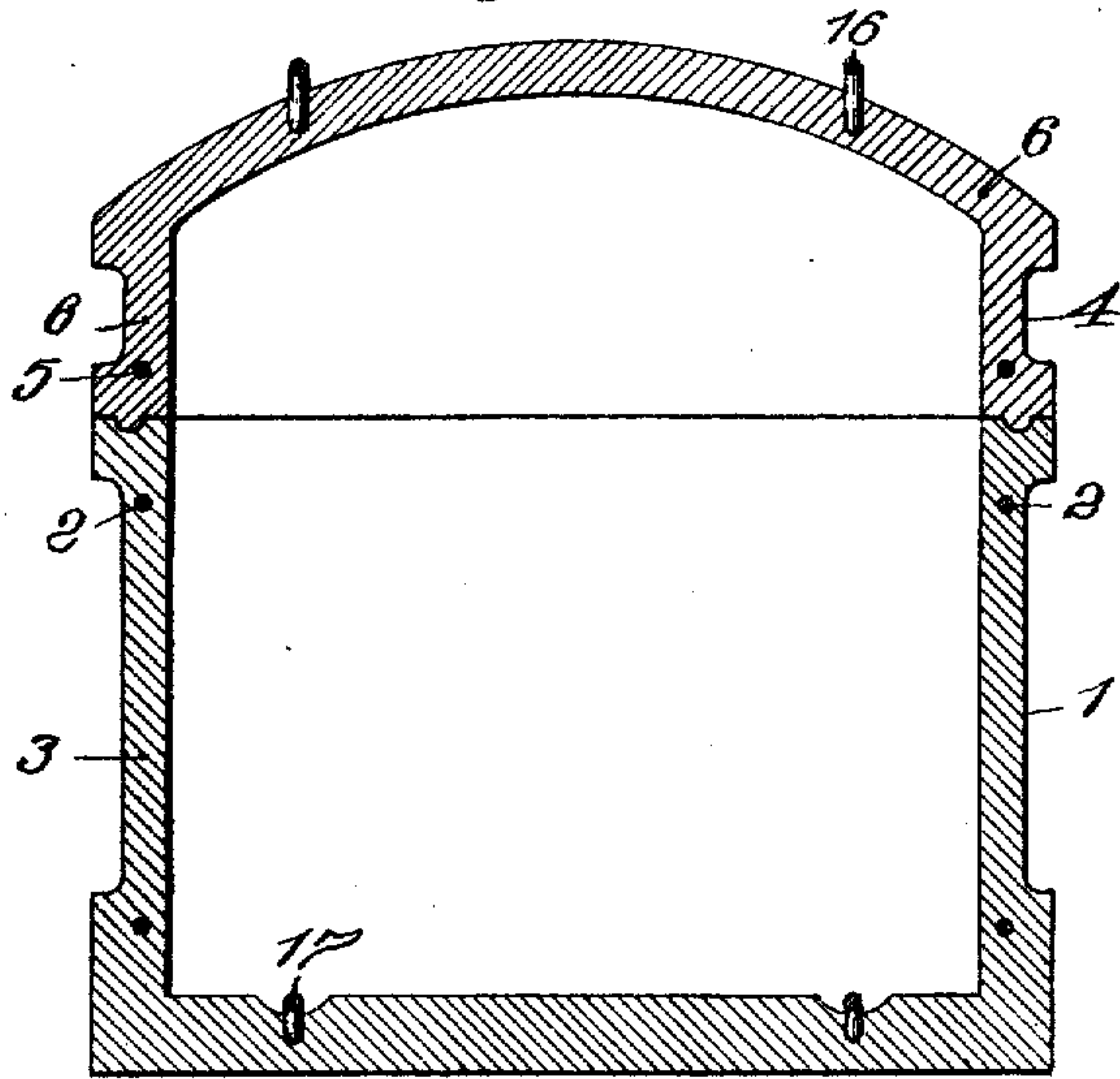
912,997.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.  
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

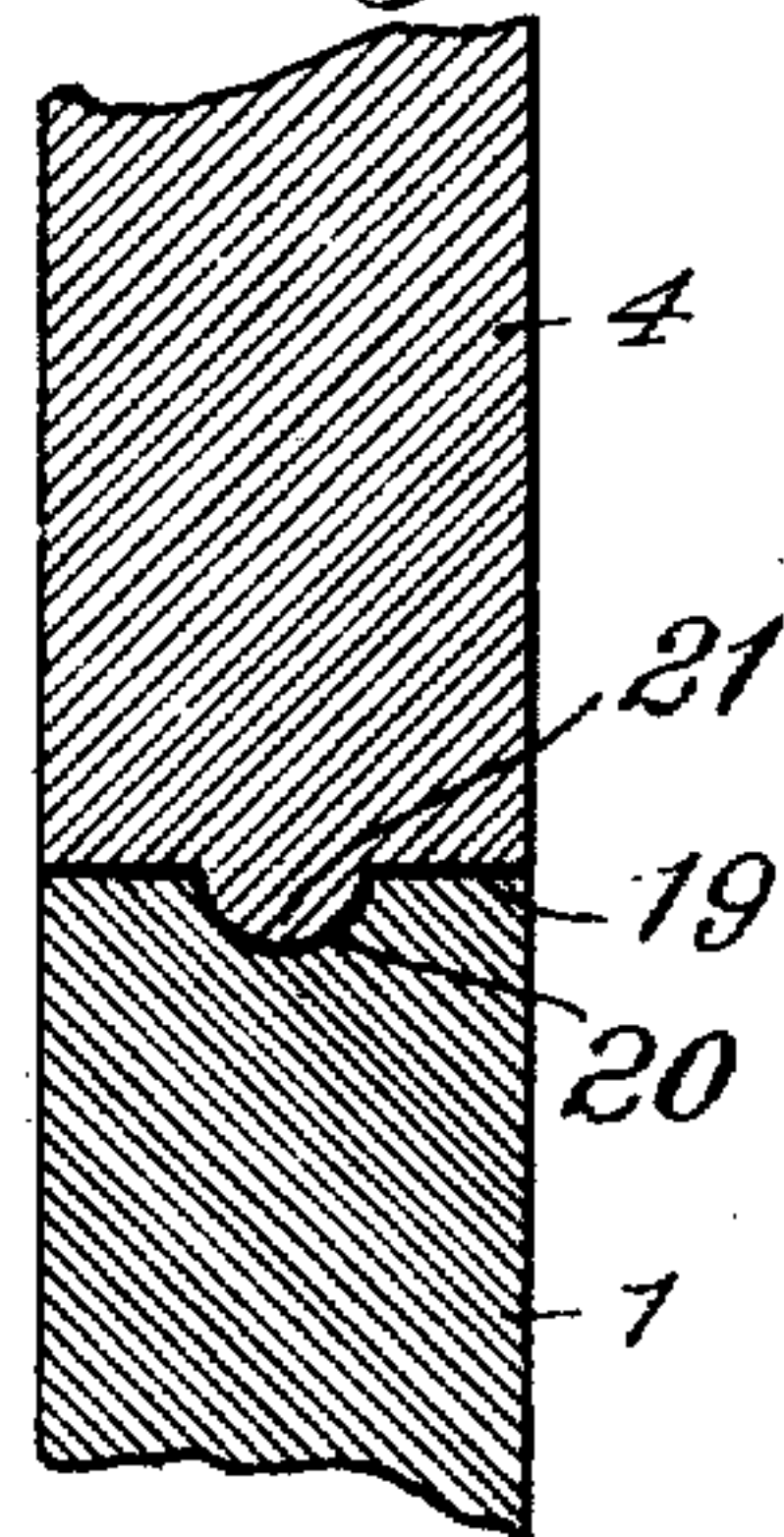
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 5.*



Witnesses:

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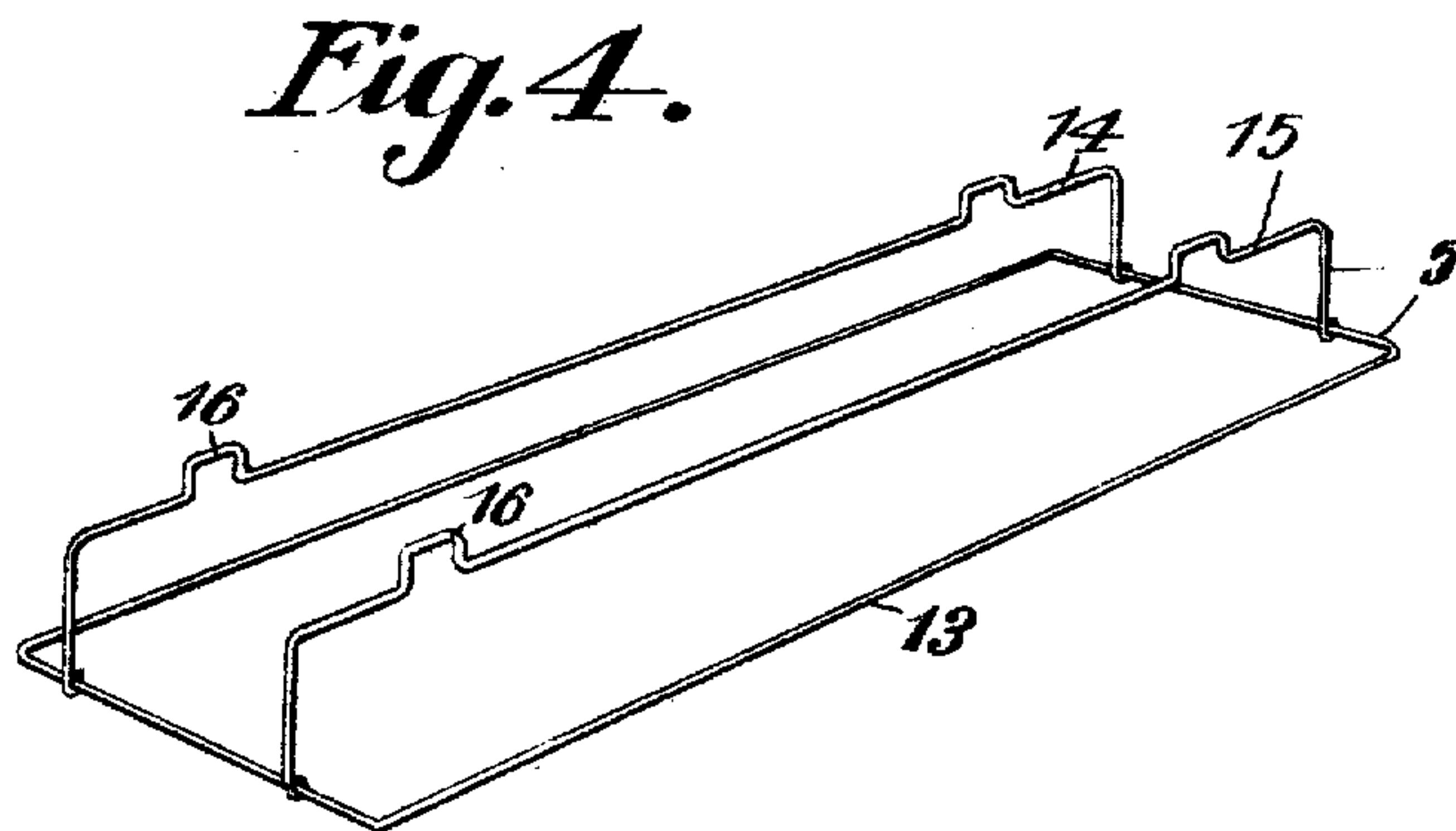
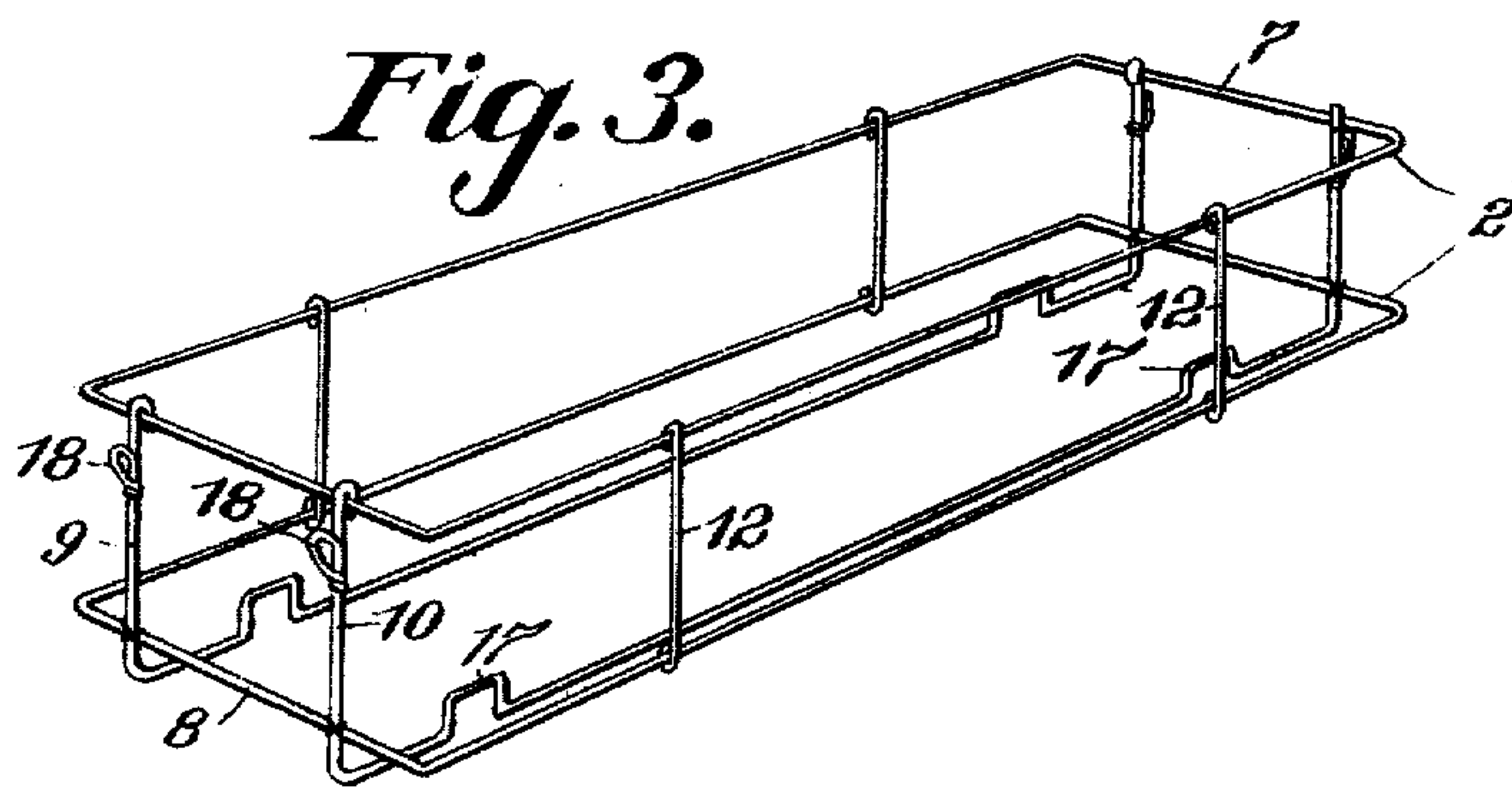
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BURIAL VAULT.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 17, 1908.

912,997.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.  
2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BURIAL-VAULT.

No. 912,997.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.

Application filed August 17, 1908. Serial No. 448,777.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PETER F. DEHR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hinsdale, in the county of Dupage and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Burial-Vaults, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to burial vaults, and contemplates an improved construction thereof.

My invention relates particularly to cement formed burial vaults, which fit into graves and which receive the burial casket. In vaults of this kind, metallic reinforcing frames are first constructed and then cement applied, the cover being sealed to the vault body after the burial casket has been placed therein.

My invention involves details of construction and arrangement which will give greater strength and lasting qualities, besides making the vault lighter. The improved manner in which I seal the cover and body parts together renders the vault absolutely air and water tight.

In the accompanying drawings, my invention is clearly illustrated:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete burial vault; Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on plane 2--2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 shows the reinforcing structure for the vault body; Fig. 4 shows the reinforcing structure for the cover, and Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view, showing the manner of sealing the cover to the body part.

The body part 1 comprises the metallic reinforcing structure 2, shown in Fig. 3, about which the cement 3 is molded. The cover 4 comprises the reinforcing structure 5, about which cement 6 is molded. The reinforcing structure for the body part is shown in Fig. 3. It comprises the upper and lower rectangular horizontal frames 7 and 8, and the vertical frames 9 and 10, connected together at the inner sections. Vertical connecting members 12 may, if desired, be applied at suitable intervals. The rectangular reinforcing cage thus formed is placed in molds and the cement applied, and these molds may be such as to give any ornamental design.

As shown in Fig. 2, the base of the body part and the sections along the top and bot-

tom of the side walls are thicker than the intervening parts, and the vault can, therefore, be made very light, as all surplus cement not necessary to produce strength can be eliminated. The reinforcing frame for the cover is shown in Fig. 4, and comprises the horizontal rectangular frame 13, connected by the vertical frames 14 and 15. The supporting structure thus formed is placed in suitable molds and the cement applied thereto, and these molds can also be such as to give ornamental design and to cause the cross sections at the various places to be such as to give the proper strength with the least weight. The cover is preferably arched, as shown, to give greater strength and also to act as a water shed.

As shown in Fig. 4, a simple means for providing lifting handles or eyes 16 for the cover is shown. The material of which the reinforcing cages are formed is preferably in the form of round iron rods, and when the vertical frames 14 and 15 are formed, loops are bent therein which form the lifting handles or eyes 16. These handles may extend above the surface of the cover, or may be below the surface, and the cement cut away a sufficient distance so that the hand or lifting hooks can be inserted under the handles. The same scheme can be applied for the body part. Loops 17 can be formed in the horizontal part of the frames 9 and 10, and within the body part, or loops 18 can be formed in the vertical parts of the frames 9 and 10 at the outside of the body part, and these loops can also be within the outer surface of the cement or extend beyond the surface.

In Figs. 2 and 5, the connection between the cover and body part is shown. After the body part has been molded, and before the cement has set, a rectangular frame of round iron is placed on the upper edge of the body part and squeezed into the cement to form a semi-circular groove in said top edge. After the cement has set, the rectangular frame is removed. Now, when the cover is molded, the mold frames are placed over the body part so that the cover will be molded in its proper position with reference to the body part, this being done mainly for the purpose of having the cement flow into the groove. Before the cement for the cover part is poured in, parting powder of any kind is sprinkled over the edge of the body part, and when the cement



for the cover part has become thoroughly set, the cover part can be removed. The cover being thus molded in place on the body part, the edge of the cover will have a tongue 5 21 which exactly and intimately fits in the groove 20, and the edge sections adjacent the tongue will also intimately fit at all points against the edge of the body part adjacent the groove 20. Thus, no matter 10 how often the cover is removed from the body part, if it is re-applied in the same relative position with respect to the body part, there will always be accurate and intimate engagement between the edges and the tongue will always fit intimately in the 15 groove. To insure absolute air tightness, I prefer to apply a paste formed of litharge and oil to the engaging surfaces before the cover is applied. This paste will fill every 20 crack and aperture that might be left between the engaging surfaces after the cover is applied, and this paste also quickly hardens. The vault can, if desired, be painted, both on the outside and inside, or given any 25 other finish, either decorative or preservative.

I thus provide a very strong, durable, light, and absolutely air tight and water and vermin proof burial vault, and I desire 30 to secure the following claims by Letters Patent:

1. In a burial vault of the class described, a reinforcing structure for the body part comprising a lower rectangular 35 horizontal frame of a single piece of metallic rod, an upper rectangular horizontal frame formed of a single piece of metallic rod, a plurality of vertical frames each formed of a single piece of metallic rod and secured 40 to the horizontal frame at the ends thereof, sections of the base parts of the vertical frames being bent to form loops by means of which the structure can be raised, and cement material applied about and em- 45 bedding said structure.

2. In a burial vault of the class described,

a lower rectangular horizontal frame formed of a single piece of metallic rod, an upper rectangular horizontal frame formed of a single piece of metallic rod, vertical frames 50 each formed of a single piece of metallic rod and extending vertically and horizontally between the upper and lower horizontal frames and secured thereto, intermediate strengthening members connecting the upper 55 and lower frames, said frames forming a reinforcing structure, cement molded about and embedding said frame members, said vertical frame members being bent at various parts to form loops by means of which 60 the structure may be carried.

3. In a burial vault of the class described, the combination of a lower rectangular horizontal frame 8 formed of a single piece of metallic rod, an upper horizontal frame 7 65 formed of a single piece of metallic rod, vertical frames 9 and 10 secured to the ends of the horizontal frame, intermediate strengthening members 12 secured to the horizontal frames, cement molded about 70 and embedding the frames to form the vault, loops 17 bent in the horizontal part of the vertical frames and extending upwardly above the vault floor, and loops 18 bent in the vertical parts of the vertical frames. 75

4. In a burial vault of the class described, a horizontal frame formed of a single piece of metallic rod, U-shaped vertical frames each formed of a single piece of metallic rod secured at its ends to the ends of the 80 horizontal frame, cement molded about and embedding the frames to form a rectangular compartment, and loops bent in the vertical frames and projecting beyond the cement, by means of which loops the structure may 85 be lifted.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 16th day of July, A. D. 1908.

PETER F. DEHR.

Witnesses:

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JOHN C. MICHAEL.