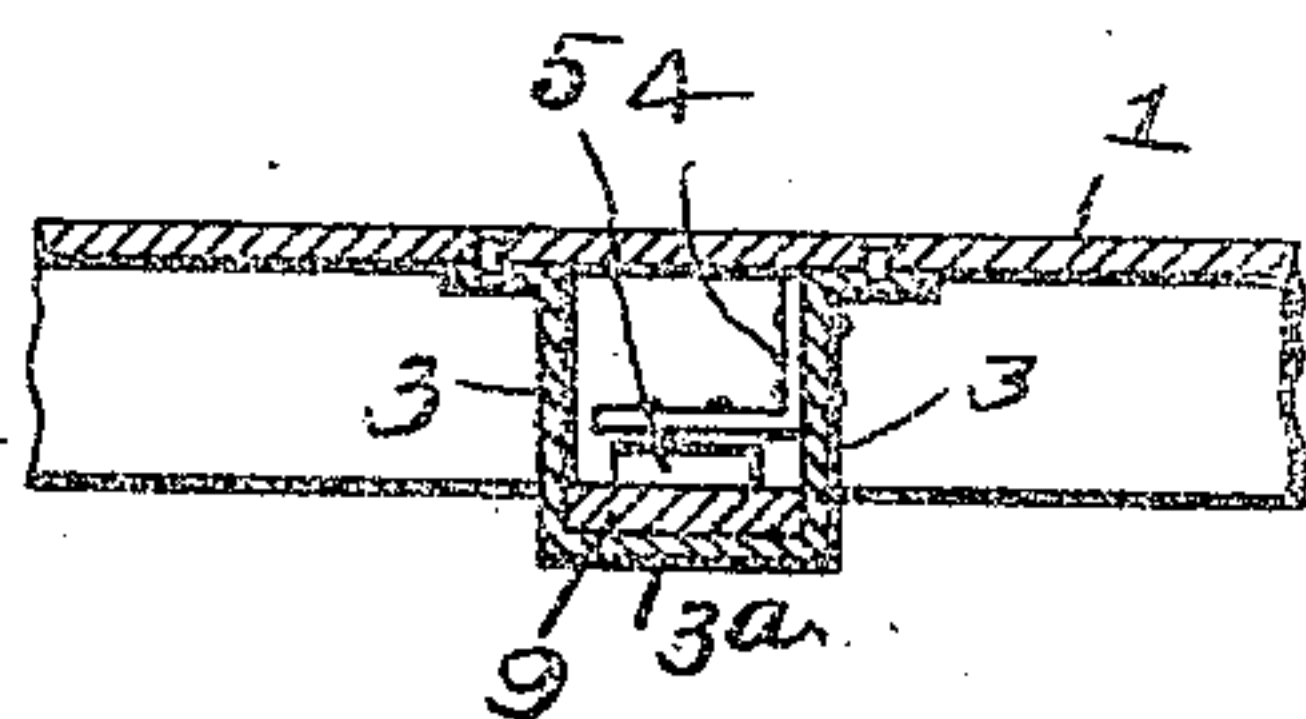
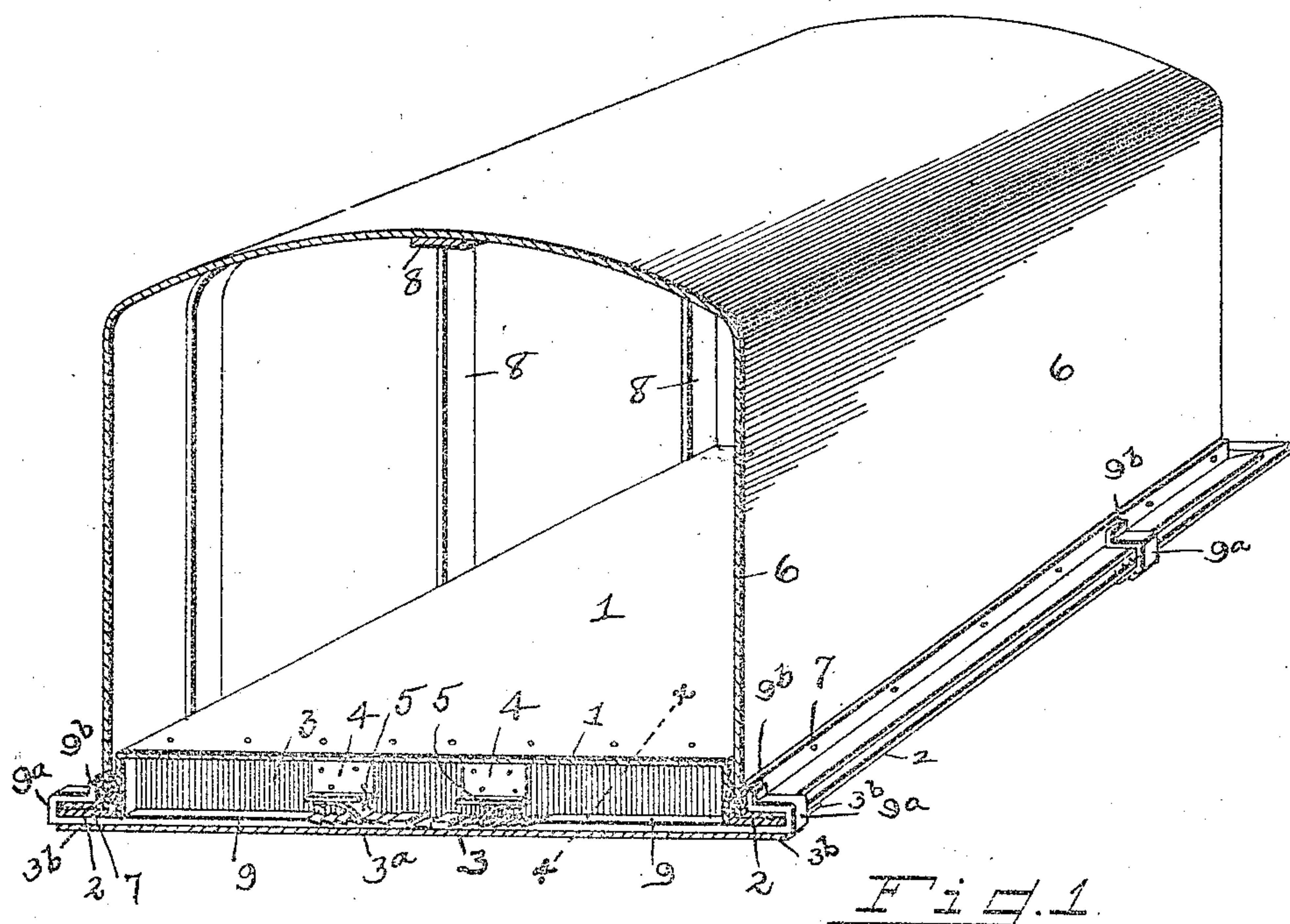


H. D. CLARK.
METALLIC BURIAL CASING OR VAULT.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1909.

951,364.

Patented Mar. 8, 1910.



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HUGH D. CLARK, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

METALLIC BURIAL CASING OR VAULT.

951,364.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH D. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Burial Casings or Vaults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the improvement of metallic burial casings or vaults, and has particular relation to the improvement of that class of grave vaults or casings shown in my former patents 859,544 of July 9, 1907, and 833,773 of October 23rd, 1906.

The objects of my present invention are to provide a simple, inexpensive and yet effective means for locking the base of my improved grave vault in connection with the cover member; to so construct my improved locking mechanism as to prevent the same being unlocked or the two sections of the casing separated without destroying said casing and to provide certain improvements in details of construction which will be more fully pointed out hereinafter. These objects I accomplish in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a partial perspective and partial transverse section of my improved vault, the transverse section therethrough being taken through one of the lock housings, and, Fig. 2 is a detail section on line $x-x$ of Fig. 1.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In carrying out my invention, I employ a horizontally disposed bottom or base member 1, which is of channel form and the downwardly extending vertical side walls thereof, each have secured thereto the upturned member of an angle plate 2, the lower laterally extending members of these angle plates being flush with the lower edges of said side walls and forming lateral flange like extensions thereof, which extend throughout the length of the base. At desirable intervals, I secure to the underside of the upper horizontal portion of the base 1, transverse housings or casings 3, the latter depending, as shown, below the side walls of the base 1. Each of the housings 3 has its bottom portion 3^a extended as indicated at 3^b beyond the body of the housing to form end lips, which are secured by riveting or otherwise to the undersides of the lower horizontal members of the flanges 2.

Within the body of each of the housings 3, I secure to one of the side walls of said housing on opposite sides of the center of the length of the latter, angular brackets 4, the lower horizontal members of which are each provided with a downwardly extending and inwardly curved spring tongue or pawl 5, the lower termination of each of which is slightly above the floor of the housing.

6 represents the vault body or cover member, which is in the nature of an elongated casing of a substantially U-form in cross section and open only on its underside. Secured by rivets or otherwise, to the lower marginal portion of each of the vertical sides of the cover member 6, is a longitudinally extending angle plate 7, the lower outturned member or flange of which is adapted when the cover member 6 is in its place upon the base member, to bear upon the outturned member of the angle plate 2. In the construction of the cover member 6, I employ in connection with the inner surface thereof, metallic strengthening strips, such as are indicated at 8. From the construction described and shown, it will be seen that the lower portions of the side and end walls of the cover member 6, embrace the sides and ends of the body of the base member 1, thus raising the horizontal coffin supporting portion of said base member, above the bottom of the cover member.

9 represents my improved locking bars, each of which comprises a horizontal metallic bar, the outer end of which is bent upward thence inward and again upward to form a hook or keeper termination, which is adapted, as shown, to embrace the lower horizontal members of the angle plates 2 and 7 when the body of the bar is inserted into one end of one of the housings 3 through an opening formed between the housing bottom plate extension and the flange 2.

It will be understood that the locking bar, of which there are two for each of the housings, is inserted within said housings from opposite sides of the vault and as shown in the drawing, the upper face of the inner end portion of each locking bar, is formed with a plurality of inclined teeth or notches, which as the bars are pushed into place toward their inner limit, are successively engaged by the spring tongues 5 which by dropping into said notches and engaging the side walls thereof, operate to lock the bars 9 in the positions shown and described, and to

effectually prevent withdrawal or outward movement thereof.

It will be observed that the upturned outer end portion 9^b of each of the end hooks or keepers 9^a of each of the locking bars, is adapted when the bar is in place, to abut against the outer face of the upturned member of the corresponding angle plate 7. The bearing of these upturned ends of the locking plate hooks against said angle plates 7, assures an additional transverse bracing or strengthening of the lower portion of the vault.

It will be understood that the casket or coffin, is first deposited upon the upper horizontal portion of the base or floor member 1, after which the cover member 6 is secured in connection with the base in the manner described, the casket being thus securely protected.

It will be observed that my improved locking means are exceedingly simple although effective.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that simple and efficient means are herein provided for accomplishing the objects of the invention, but while the elements shown and described are well adapted to serve the purposes for which they are intended, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the precise construction set forth, but includes within its purview such changes as may be made within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim, is:

1. In a burial vault, the combination with a horizontal base member having outturned flanges and spring locking tongues supported by said base member intermediate its sides, of a cover member having outturned bottom flanges, and locking bars formed with outer end base and cover flange engaging hooks, said locking bars having notched inner end portions adapted to engage said spring tongues when said bars are inserted beneath said base flanges.

2. In a burial vault, the combination with a base member, transverse housings on the lower side thereof, depending spring tongues supported within said housings, and laterally projecting flange members on said base member, of a cover member having its side walls provided with laterally extending flanges adapted to bear upon said base flanges, and locking bars adapted to be inserted endwise within said housings from opposite sides of the vault, each of said locking bars having an outer end hook adapted to embrace said base and cover flange members and having its inner portion provided with teeth adapted to be engaged by said spring tongues.

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

HUGH D. CLARK.

Witnesses:

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