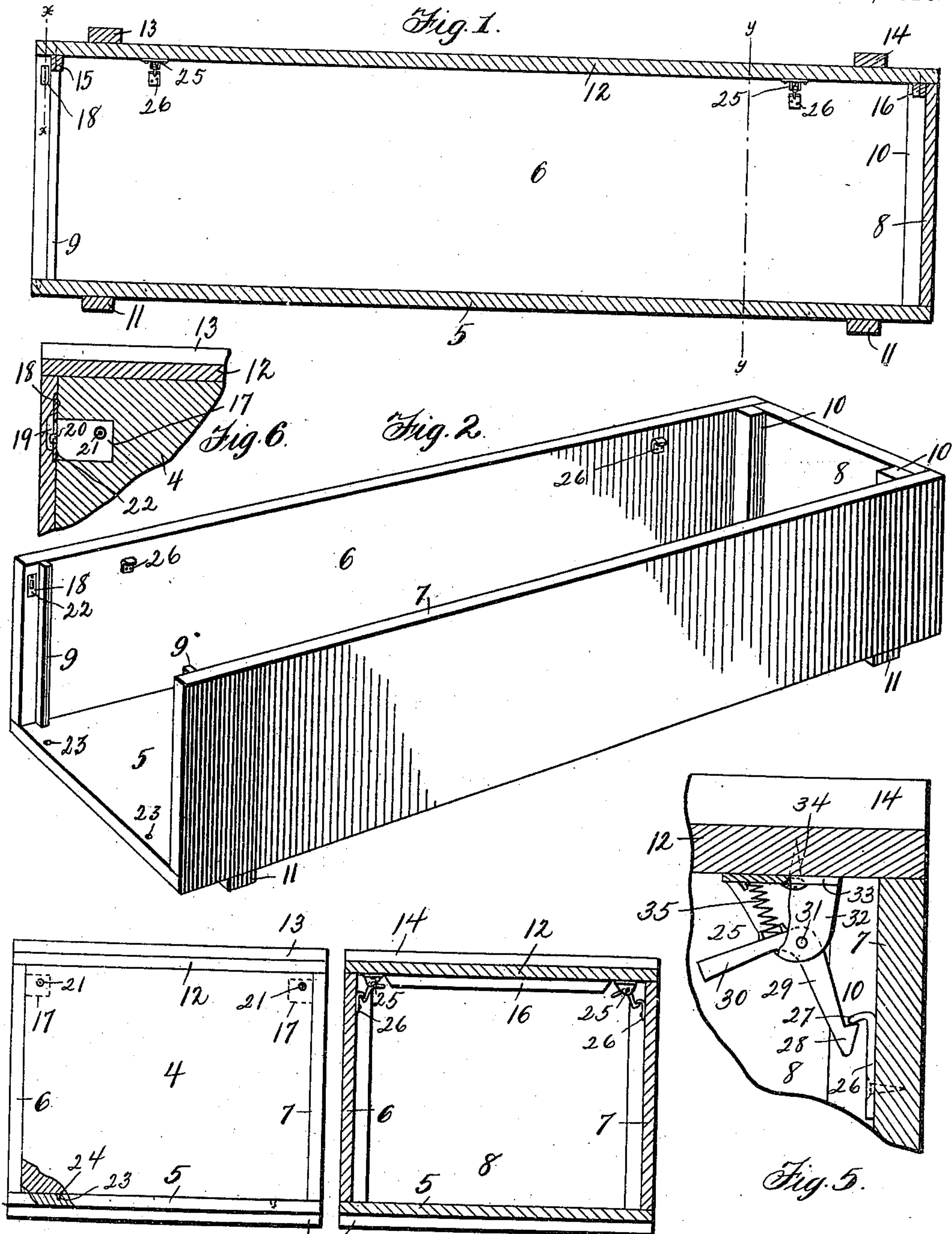


W. PYE & L. D. NOURSE.
CASKET CASE.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 13, 1909.

976,213.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.



Witnesses
Anna M. Murray.
Mac E. Connor.

Fig. 4. William Pye, Inventors
and Leland D. Nourse,
By Shepherd Campbell Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM PYE, OF WAKEFIELD, AND LELAND D. NOURSE, OF BROOKLINE,
MASSACHUSETTS.

CASKET-CASE.

976,213.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM PYE and LELAND D. NOURSE, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Wakefield and Brookline, respectively, in the counties of Middlesex and Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casket-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to casket cases, the object of the invention being the provision of a device of this character provided with a removable top and end so constructed and arranged that the top can not be removed after it has once been placed in position until the end has been removed. The removable end is provided with key controlled lock mechanism from which it will be seen that in order to remove the top or lid of the case, said case must be lifted from the grave and the end thereof unlocked.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be set forth in the detailed description which now follows:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section of a casket case constructed in accordance with the invention, with one end thereof removed, Fig. 2 is a perspective view thereof with the top and one end removed, Fig. 3 is a front end view partially in section, Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section upon line $y-y$ of Fig. 1, Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of the latch, and, Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view upon line $x-x$ of Fig. 1, with one of the locks in elevation.

Like numerals designate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawing.

In carrying out the invention, we provide a casing comprising a bottom 5, side walls 6 and 7, and a fixed end wall 8, all of these parts being fixedly and rigidly secured together as by nailing in the usual manner. Vertical cleats 9 are secured to the side walls 6 and 7 adjacent the open end of the case, and vertical cleats 10 are secured at the juncture of the fixed end wall 8 with the side walls 6 and 7. Transverse cleats 11 are secured in the usual manner to the bottom 5. A removable top or lid 12 has transverse cleats 13 and 14 secured to its upper side and transverse cleats 15 and 16 secured to its under side.

The removable front end wall 4 carries a pair of locks 17, there being one of these

locks at each side of the end wall and near the top thereof. A keeper plate 18 set over a recessed portion 19 formed in the side walls of the case receives the bolt 20 of these locks when a key inserted in key holes 21 is used to project the bolts of said locks. These keeper plates are secured in position by screws 22. Recesses 23 are formed in the bottom 5 near the front end thereof, these recesses serving to receive dowel pins 24 carried by the end wall 4. The fact that the lock structure 17 is duplicated upon each side of the removable end wall 4 has been indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3.

The lid 12 is secured in position by a plurality of latches 25 and latch plates 26. These parts have been indicated upon a somewhat small scale in Figs. 1, 2, and 4, but the detail construction thereof is more clearly brought out in the enlarged view, Fig. 5. By referring to this figure, it will be seen that the latch plates are provided with inwardly and downwardly turned upper ends 27 that are adapted to be engaged by the hook portions 28 of the levers 29. These levers have rearwardly extending tail pieces 30 and are pivotally mounted at 31 between ears 32 of plates 33, these plates being secured by screws 34 to the lid 12. Springs 35 bear between the plates 34 and the tail pieces 30 of the levers and normally tend to force said levers into engagement with the ends 27 of the latch plates 26.

The operation of the device is as follows: When the lid 12 is placed in position, the latches engage the latch plates as shown in Fig. 5 and prevent said lid from being lifted to be removed. It is apparent, however, that, with the end 4 removed, the lid 12 may be moved longitudinally toward the left in Fig. 1 to thereby bring the latches out of engagement with the latch plates, but after the end 4 has been placed in position and the bolts 20 of the locks have been moved into engagement with the keeper plates, endwise movement of the lid is prevented, and since it is not possible to have access to the latches when this end 4 is in position, it will be apparent that the lid can not at this time be removed. In placing the end 4 in position, the dowels 24 enter the recesses 23 after which the bolts of the locks are projected by means of a key in the usual manner. Where the lid is secured in position by screws, it is possible to remove

the lid from the casket case without removing the case from the grave, and it is desirable to prevent this. It is apparent that it would be impossible to have access to the end 4 for the purpose of opening this case without removing said case from the grave.

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.

Having described our invention, what we claim is:

20 1. A casket case comprising in its construction a removable top and end wall, latch mechanisms for preventing vertical movement of the top with relation to the case, said latch mechanisms being capable of dis-
25 engagement by endwise movement of the top with relation to the case, means for securing said end wall in position, and means upon the top for engaging said end wall and preventing endwise movement of the top
30 when said end wall is in position.

2. The combination with a casket case, comprising in its construction a removable top and end wall, of a plurality of latch plates secured to said case, a plurality of

latch members secured to the underside of the top and adapted to engage said latch plates or to be moved out of engagement with said latch plates by endwise movement of the top with relation to said latch plates, key controlled locking mechanism carried by the end wall for securing said end wall in position, and means upon the top for engaging said end wall and preventing endwise movement of the top when the end wall is in position.

3. A casket case, comprising a body portion including a removable end wall and a removable top, latch connections between said removable top and said body portion for preventing vertical movement of the top with relation to said body portion, said latch mechanism being adapted to be disengaged by endwise movement of the top with relation to said body portion, a stop member carried by said top and adapted to abut against said end wall, to prevent longitudinal movement of the top when said end wall is in position, and key controlled locking mechanism for securing said end wall in position, substantially as shown and described.

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

WILLIAM PYE.
LELAND D. NOURSE.

Witnesses:

J. W. BRITTON,
RUTH L. McQUARRIE.