J. E. MYERS.

METALLIC GRAVE VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1906. RENEWED APR. 10, 1911.

998,030. Patented July 18, 1911.

Fig. 2.

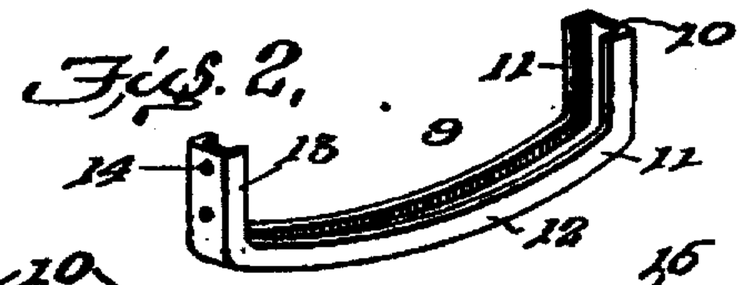


Fig. 1.

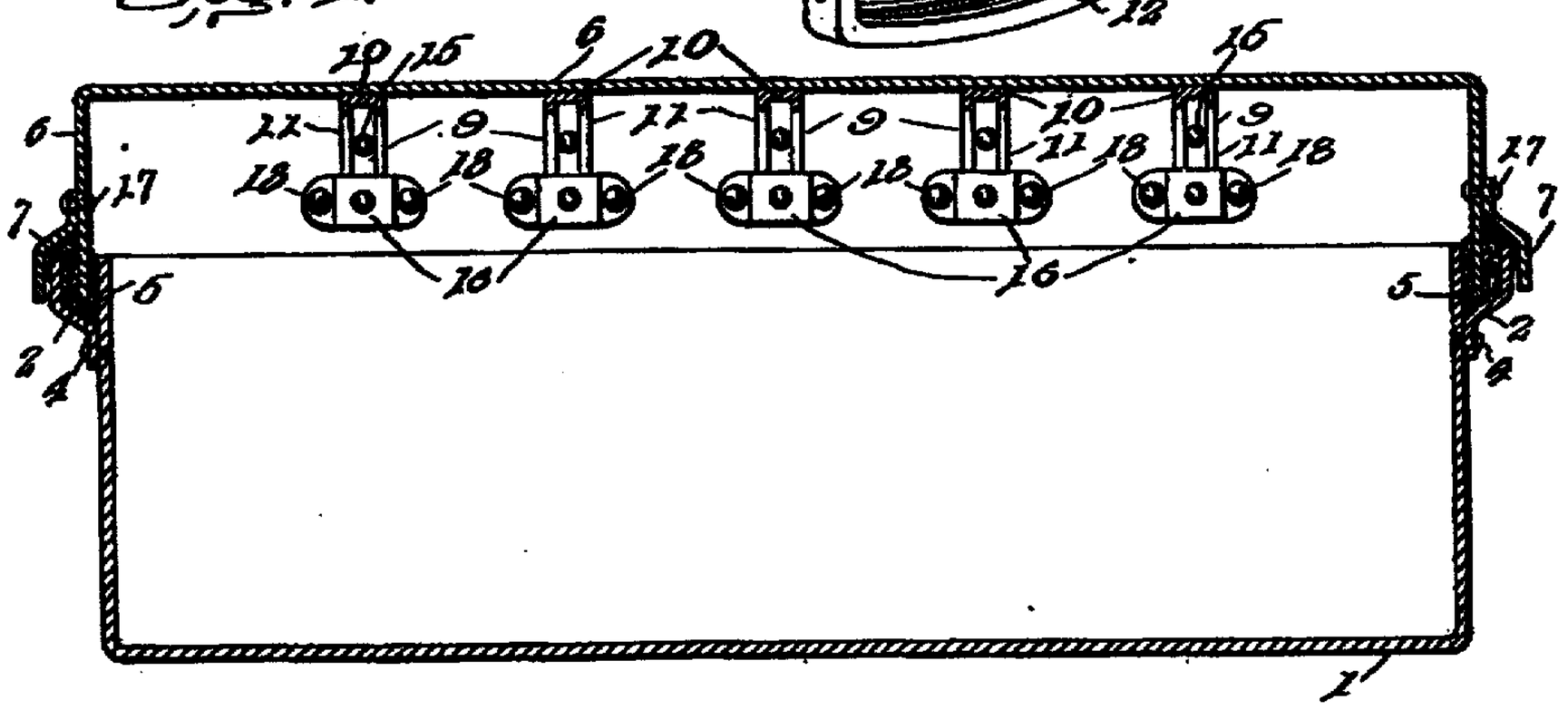
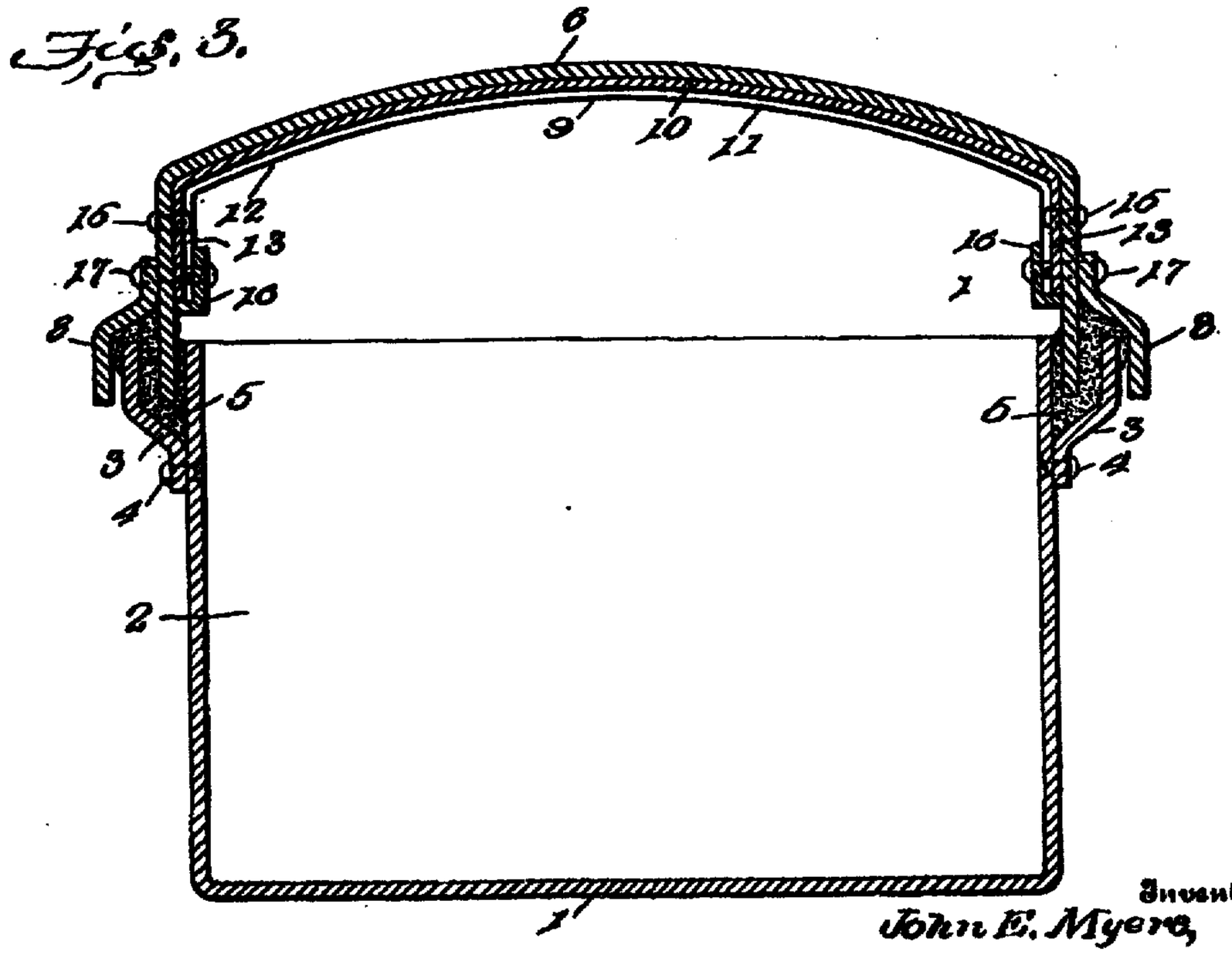


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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METALLIC GRAVE-VAULT.

998,030. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 18, 1911.

Application filed March 12, 1906, Serial No. 305,441. Renewed April 10, 1911. Serial No. 620,098.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN E. MYERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Grave-Vaults, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in metallic grave vaults and the object of the invention is two-fold, namely, to prevent the upper part or top of the vault from giving down, flattening or losing its shape under the weight of the superimposed earth, and also to thereby prevent the breaking of the cement or other material used in hermetically sealing the top to the body of the vault, which joint is disturbed and broken where the shape and position of the top is lost under such weight or pressure. These objects are carried into practice by the instrumentalities hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and on which like reference figures indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of a vault containing my improvements; Fig. 2, a detail perspective view, inverted, of one of the arch-braces; Fig. 3, a transverse sectional view of the vault also showing my improvements applied thereto.

The numeral 1 indicates the general body of a metallic grave vault of any approved type, having end flanges 2 and side flanges 3 riveted or otherwise secured thereto as indicated at 4. These flanges together with the ends and sides of the body of the vault constitute a gutter adapted to contain a quantity of cement or other filling material, indicated at 5, for the purpose of making an air-tight and water-tight joint between the body and top of the vault, thus hermetically sealing the joint between them.

The top is designated by the numeral 6 and extends down into the gutter and the contained cement or filling material. The top has flanges 7 at its ends and flanges 8 at its sides which overlap the flanges 2 and 3 respectively as shown. The cement or filling material 5 is used in such quantity that it will fill in between the flanges 2 and 3 and the flanges 7 and 8, to more effectually close the joint and seal it up tight. What has so far been described is commonly employed in metallic grave vaults. But this joint, as also the top has been found to give way under the weight of the superimposed earth resting on the top. In such cases the tops bend down, lose their shape, spread their side-walls and attached flanges and break or loosen the cement joint, causing it to leak. It is to prevent this giving way of the top and this injury or destruction of the joint that my invention is designed. It consists in so constructing the top of the vault that it cannot and will not suffer this loss of shape and incur spreading, but will hold up against the weight of the earth upon it under all circumstances and conditions, as well in cases of deep graves and earth of a heavy character, such as where clay and stones prevail, as in cases of shallower graves and lighter soil. Accordingly I utilize as the preferred means to the end in view, a series of arch-braces shown at 9 and composed, preferably, of iron bent into channel form so as to have a flat body portion 10 and side flanges 11. These arch-braces have a general curved arch section 12 and upright end sections 13 and are provided with rivet holes 14 in the portion 10. These arch-braces are fitted to the under or inner side of the top and to the inner surface of the side-walls of the top as shown more clearly in Fig. 3. They are riveted to the side-walls by rivets 15, passing through the holes 14 and are also secured by means of clips or brackets 16 adapted to receive the ends of the arch-braces, and themselves secured by rivets 17 which pass through some of the holes 14 in the braces. These brackets are further secured by rivets 18 whereby the strength of a plurality of rivets 17 and 18 is utilized, while only one rivet of the several passes through the arch-brace itself.

I wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to cover by Letters Patent is:

In a metallic grave vault, a top, clips or brackets secured thereto on the inner side, and arch-braces fitted to the top on the under side and extending into said brackets.

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

JOHN E. MYERS.

Witnesses:
HARRIET L. HAMMAKER,
G. H. WALMSLEY.