No. 800,930. PATENTED OCT. 3, 1905.

J. MAXWELL.

SHEET METAL CASKET.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 6, 1905.

Fig. 1.

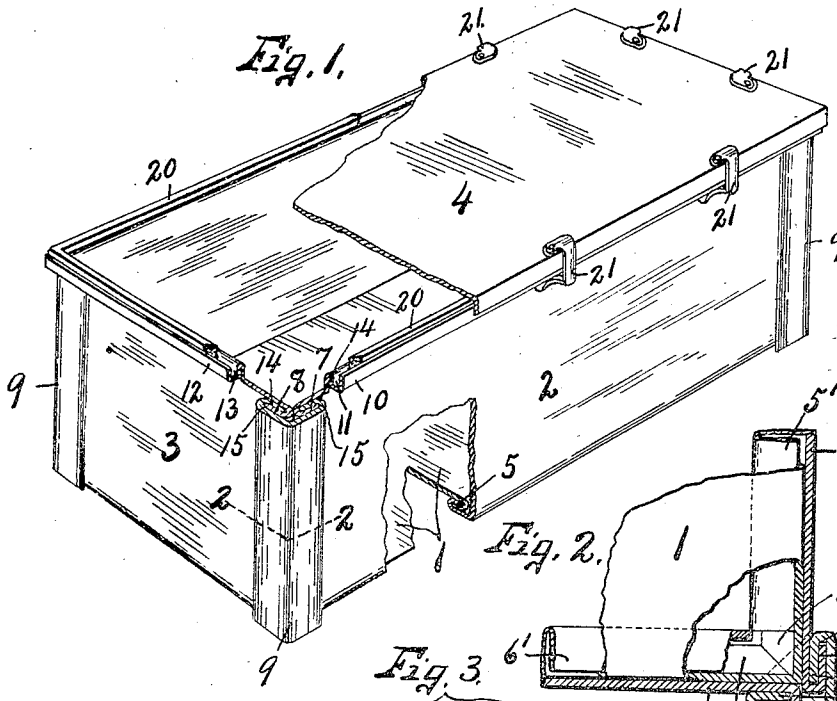


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

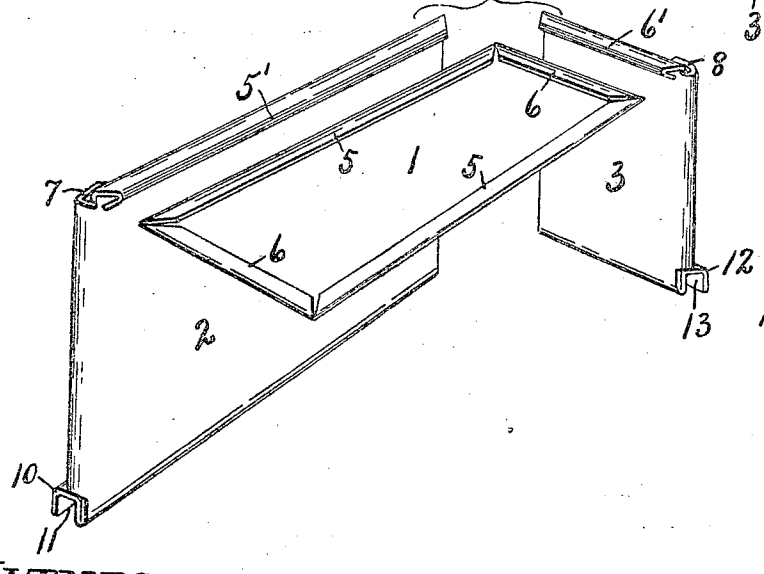
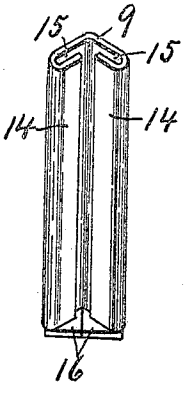


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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SHEET-METAL CASKET.

No. 800,930. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 3, 1905.

Application filed February 6, 1905. Serial No. 244,398.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MAXWELL, of Oneida, in the county of Madison, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sheet-Metal Caskets, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in sheet-metal caskets, and refers more particularly to the means for assembling the bottom, sides, and ends together to form a rigid structure the parts of which may be manufactured, sold, and transported in a knockdown position to be assembled by the purchaser.

My object is to produce a sheet-metal casket which may be manufactured, stored, and shipped in sections and readily assembled to form a strong, durable, and practically water-tight case.

The main object, however, is to assemble the bottom, sides, and ends without rivets or bolts and without in any way perforating the said parts.

Other objects and uses will be brought out in the following description.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view, partly broken away, of my improved sheet-metal casket. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse sectional view through one corner of the casket, taken on line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents the inverted bottom, one side, and one end of the casket in position about to be assembled. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the detached corner clamps or plates.

The casket comprises, essentially, a bottom 1, sides 2, ends 3, and a top or lid 4, all of which parts are cut and assembled in the manner hereinafter described to form a substantially rectangular case of any desired dimensions.

The sides and end edges of the bottom 1 are preferably folded or bent under the bottom to form side and end interlocking flanges 5 and 6, which form open-sided grooves to receive similar flanges upon the lower edges of the sides and ends of the case, the open sides of opposite grooves facing each other. The bottom edges and sides 2 and 3 are bent or folded inwardly to form hook-shaped flanges 5′ and 6′, which are interlocked, respectively, with the flanges 5 and 6 of the corresponding sides of the bottom 1, it being understood that the hook-shape flanges 5′ and 6′ are also left more or less open, as shown in Fig. 3, when the sides and ends are first formed, so as to permit them to be easily interlocked with their respective flanges 5 and 6, and after they are so interlocked they are firmly pressed together, so as to form a practically water-tight joint and also serve to rigidly secure the sides and ends to the bottom. It may be further explained that in assembling the parts of my improved casket each side piece, as 2, is tilted to such an angle that its hook-shape flange 5′ may be hooked under and upon the free edge of its corresponding flange 5, and that each end piece 3 is tilted in like manner to such position that its flange 6′ may be hooked under and upon the free edge of its flange 6, the interlocked portions of the sides and ends being then forced outwardly and are then pressed flatwise upon the lower and upper faces of the marginal flanges of the bottom 1, as previously described.

The upright edges of the sides 2 are bent or folded outwardly and backwardly toward each other to form L-shape flanges 7, while the adjacent upright edges of the ends 3 are also bent outwardly and backwardly toward each other to form L-shape flanges 8. It is now seen that by bending or folding the upright edges of the sides and ends in the manner described the flanges 7 and 8 form vertical grooves having open sides facing each other, and the lower end of each groove is also open for receiving a corner-plate 9, Figs. 1, 2, and 4.

The upper edge of each side 2 is bent outwardly to form a ledge 10, having its central longitudinal portion depressed to form a longitudinal groove 11, extending substantially the full length of the side. The upper edge of each end piece 3 is also bent outwardly and laterally to form a longitudinal flange 12, the central longitudinal portion of which is depressed for forming a longitudinal groove 13, which is also of substantially the full width of the end 3.

The L-shape flanges 7 and 8 of the sides and ends 2 and 3 extend from a point just above their flanges 5′ and 6′ to the under side of their respective flanges 12, so as to permit said flanges 7 and 8 to be folded or bent outwardly and backwardly under the grooved flanges 10 and 12 without breaking the continuity of said flanges 10 and 12, which extend from end to end of their respective sides or ends.

It is now apparent that a rectangular box-like structure is formed having at each of its corners a pair of L-shape flanges and a pair of

vertical grooves, each of which is open at one side and at the bottom, but are closed at the top by the flanges 10 and 12.

Each corner is provided with an angular corner-plate 9, the sides of which are disposed at right angles to each other and their free upright edges are folded inwardly and backwardly toward each other for forming L-shape flanges 14 and vertical grooves 15, which are open at the top and at their inner sides; but the bottoms are closed by wings or portions 16, which are left on the lower end of the corner-plate and are folded or bent inwardly to cover the lower open end of the angle-plate. These wings 16 not only close the lower open end of the corner-plate, but also close the lower end of the open joint between the adjacent edges of the sides and ends 2 and 3 and form abutments which engage the under side of the flanges 5′ and 6′.

Each corner-plate 9 is assembled by bringing the upper edges of its groove 15 into registration with the lower ends of the free edges of the adjacent flanges 7 and 8 of the sides and ends 2 and 3, whereupon the corner-piece is moved upwardly into sliding interlocking engagement with the flanges 7 and 8 until the abutments 16 strike the lower faces of the flanges 5′ and 6′, said corner-pieces being of sufficient height so that when the abutments 16 are engaged in the manner described with the flanges 5′ and 6′ their upper ends lie in close proximity to the lower faces of the flanges 10 and 12. After the corner-pieces 9 have been thus assembled upon the adjacent corner-flanges 7 and 8 the L-shape flanges 14, which embrace the adjacent flanges 7 and 8, are fimly pressed together with sufficient force to hold the corner-pieces from accidental displacement downwardly when the casket stands in an upright position.

If necessary, the joints formed by the union of the sides and ends with the bottom and also the joints formed by the uniting of the corner-pieces 9 with the sides and ends may be soldered or closed by any suitable waterproof sealing material. (Not shown.)

The object of the grooves 11 and 13 in the top edges of the sides 2 and ends 3 is to receive a packing 20, upon which is seated a lid 4, the latter being clamped to the case by suitable fastening means, as 21, which forms the subject-matter of my pending application, Serial No. 241,154, filed January 14, 1905.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A sheet-metal casket comprising bottom, side and end pieces, the bottom having inturned flanges extending along its sides and ends, and the side and end pieces each having flanges along their lower, upper and end edges, the flanges on the lower edges of the sides and ends interlocking with those on the bottom piece, and the flanges on the upper edges of said side and end pieces projected outwardly, and angle-plates provided with inturned flanges interlocked by a vertical sliding movement from the bottom upward with the flanges at the junction of the side and end pieces, said angle-plates terminating directly under the upper flanges of the sides and ends and having their lower ends formed with inturned wings engaging the lower edges of said side and end pieces and extending under the bottom piece.

2. A burial-case comprising bottom, side, end and corner pieces of sheet metal having interlocking flanges at their junction one with another, the flanges of the corner-pieces being interlocked with those at the junctions of side and end pieces by a vertical sliding movement from the bottom upward, and additional flanges projecting outwardly from the upper edges of the side and end pieces and overhanging the upper ends of the corner-pieces.

3. A burial-case comprising bottom, side, end and corner pieces of sheet metal having interlocking flanges at their junction one with the other, the flanges of the corner-pieces being interlocked with those at the junctions of side and end pieces by a vertical sliding movement from the bottom upward, and provided with wings extending under the bottom piece to cover the joints at their corners of the bottom with the side and end pieces, and also serving to limit the upward movement of the corner-plates.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of February, 1905.

JOHN MAXWELL.

Witnesses:
F. H. AUBREY,
F. C. BODEN.