May 18, 1943 W. LIVINGSTON 2,319,243

CASKET FLOWER HOLDER

Filed April 11, 1942

FIG. 1.

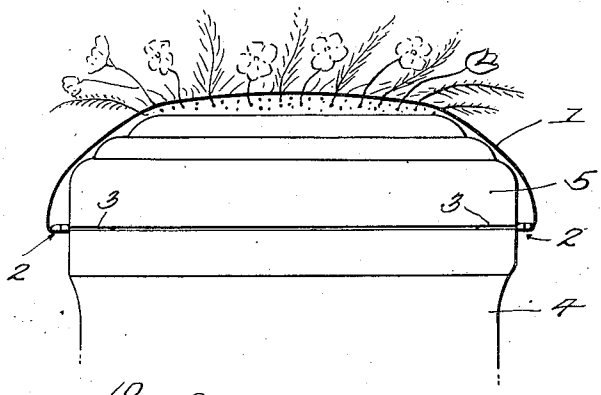


FIG. 2.

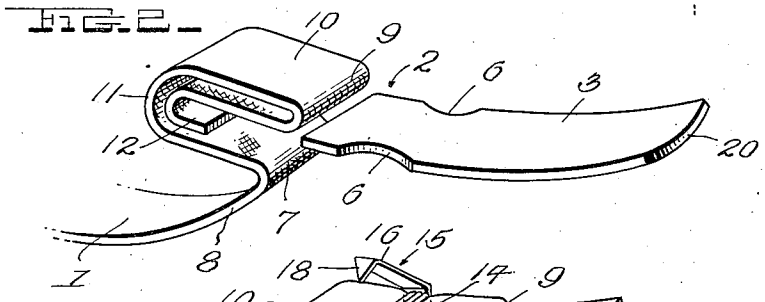


FIG. 3.

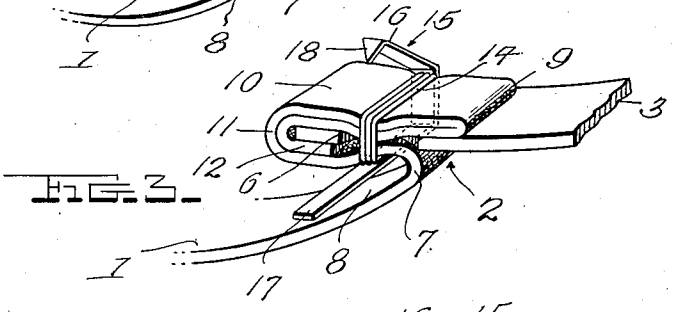


FIG. 4.

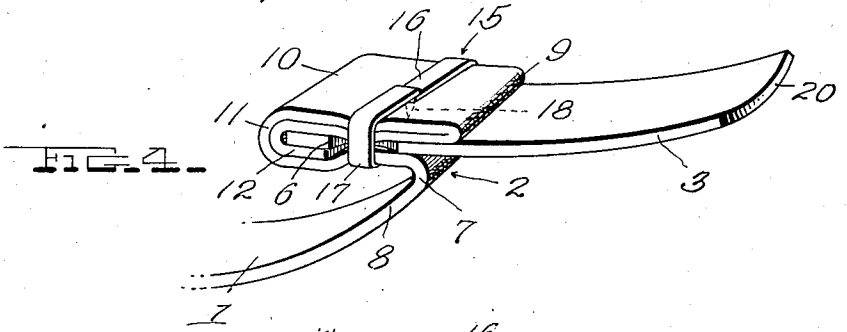
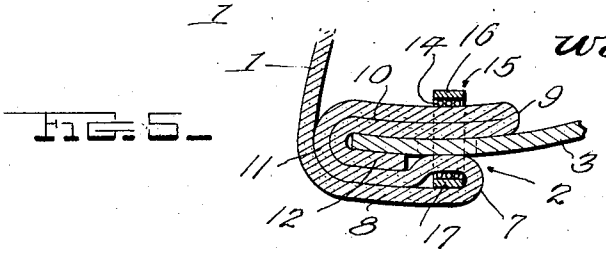


FIG. 5.



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CASKET FLOWER HOLDER

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Application April 11, 1942, Serial No. 438,655

5 Claims. (Cl. 24—265)

As is well known, sprays of flowers will slide off or blow from the lid of a burial casket, the result being distracting confusion and disorder. Spray holders heretofore invented have not passed into general use, because they are difficult to apply, unsightly, expensive to manufacture and incapable of securing a firm hold on the casket lid, it being obvious that if a device of the class described comes apart or loses its hold, the appearance is more unsightly than would have been the case if the spray had simply been laid on the casket lid, running the chance of having the spray blown away or dislodged otherwise.

The present invention aims to provide a device of the sort under consideration, which will avoid the undesirable consequences above alluded to.

A mechanic who abides by what is claimed may make changes in the precise structure shown, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 illustrates in end elevation a coffin having the invention applied thereto.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one end of a band and its cooperating anchor.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the clamp in a partially assembled position.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 with the device completely assembled.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view through the clamp.

In carrying out the invention, there is provided a retainer, in the form of a flexible and preferably resilient band 1, supplied at each end with an anchor 2, the anchors being alike.

Each anchor embodies a bowed spring 3, the inner end 20 of which is rounded, so that it may be introduced between the side wall of a coffin 4 and the lid 5 thereof. Near its outer end, the spring 3 is provided with notches or seats 6 in its opposite edges.

The band 1 is folded transversely, as at 7, to form a double-walled loop 8, and is folded transversely as at 9, to form a double-walled loop 10, the band being folded a third time, as at 11, between the folds 7 and 9, to transform the loop 10 into an upper loop, and to transform the loop 8 into a lower loop. The outer end of the spring 3 is inserted between the inner walls of the loops 8 and 10. A binder 14, made of heavy thread, is given a turn or two around the loops 10 and 8, and is received in the notches or seats 6 of the spring 3. This is done in order to hold the retainer 1 temporarily assembled with the spring 3, until another operation, to be described hereinafter, is carried out.

It is to be observed that the inner wall of the loop 10 is extended across the outer end of the spring 3 and is located between the outer end of the spring and the inner wall of the loop 8, to fashion a free ended tongue 12. The tongue 12 terminates short of the notches or seats 6. The reason for having the tongues 12 is in order that the spring 3 may be provided at its outer end with a gripping pad of considerable thickness, which will be mentioned hereinafter. The reason for terminating the tongue 12 in spaced relation to the seat 6 is that if there are too many layers to be engaged by the binder 14, it is increasingly difficult to tie the binder tightly in place.

The binder 14 is surrounded by an enclosing clamp 15, tightly engaged about both of the loops 10 and 8, and received in the notches or seats 6. The clamp 15, which is made of strong but bendable metal, comprises an upper arm 17 and a lower arm 16, the lower arm being supplied with a rectangular prong 18, which passes through both walls of the loop 10, until the prong touches the spring 3 and perhaps is turned over a little by contact with the spring. The upper arm 17 is bent transversely, to overlap the lower arm 16, and the spring 3 is securely assembled with the band 1. The bottom part of the clamp 15 lies between the upper and lower walls of the loop 8 and most of the clamp is hidden from sight. Moreover, the clamp 15 forms a shoulder, across which the bend 7 may be made.

When the inner end of the bowed spring 3 is inserted between the side wall of the coffin 4 and the lid 5 thereof, the spring is flattened out to a considerable extent and acquires a firm hold on the coffin lid. The outer portions of the loops 8 and 10 form, as has been intimated hereinbefore, a pad of considerable thickness, which the operator can grip firmly between the thumb and forefinger whilst the spring 3 is being introduced between the coffin and the lid.

The article is simple in construction and a description of the operation seems unnecessary in view of what is shown in the drawing and in view of what has been stated hereinbefore. An efficient means is supplied for holding a spray of flowers or the like on the upper surface of a coffin lid.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. In a device for holding a spray of vegetation, or the like, on a coffin lid, a flexible retainer, anchors insertable between the box and

the lid of a coffin, means for connecting the anchors to the end portions of the retainer, and enlarged pads, formed from portions of the retainer, and located at the places where the anchors are assembled with the retainer, to constitute handles facilitating the introduction of the anchors between the box and the lid of a coffin.

2. A device for holding a spray of vegetation, or the like, on a coffin lid: constructed as set forth in claim 1, and wherein said means comprises flexible binders engaged around portions of the retainer and portions of the anchors, and clamps extended around the binders, the anchors having notches in their outer edges, the binders and the clamps extending through the respective notches.

3. A device for holding a spray of vegetation, or the like, on a coffin lid: constructed as set forth in claim 1, and wherein said means comprises flexible binders engaged around portions of the retainer and portions of the anchors, and metal clamp strips extended around the binders, the clamp strips embodying overlapped arms, one of which is provided with a prong which is engaged with the retainer.

4. In a device for holding a spray of vegetation, or the like, on a coffin lid, a flexible retainer and an anchor at each end of the retainer, at least one anchor comprising double-walled loops, formed in the retainer, a bowed spring extended at one end between the inner walls of the loops and having oppositely-disposed seats in its edges, and a transverse fastening means engaged about the loops and passing through the seats, the inner wall of one loop being extended across the end of the spring to form a tongue disposed between the spring and the inner wall of the other loop, the tongue terminating in spaced relation to the seats and the fastening means, the tongue and the outer portions of the loops cooperating to form an enlarged manipulating pad.

5. In a device for holding a spray of vegetation, or the like, on a coffin lid, a flexible retainer, spring strips, and means for securing the inner ends of the strips to the ends of the retainer, the strips being of single-armed construction, to permit ready insertion between the box and the lid of a coffin, and being bowed transversely, whereby they may be flattened between the box and the lid and acquire an anchorage hold on the lid.

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