F. E. ARNDT.

BURIAL VAULT.

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1,149,488. Patented Aug. 10, 1915.

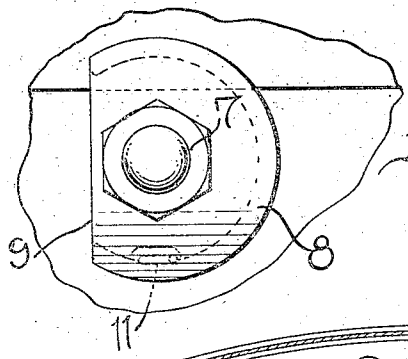


Fig. 3

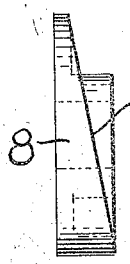


Fig. 4

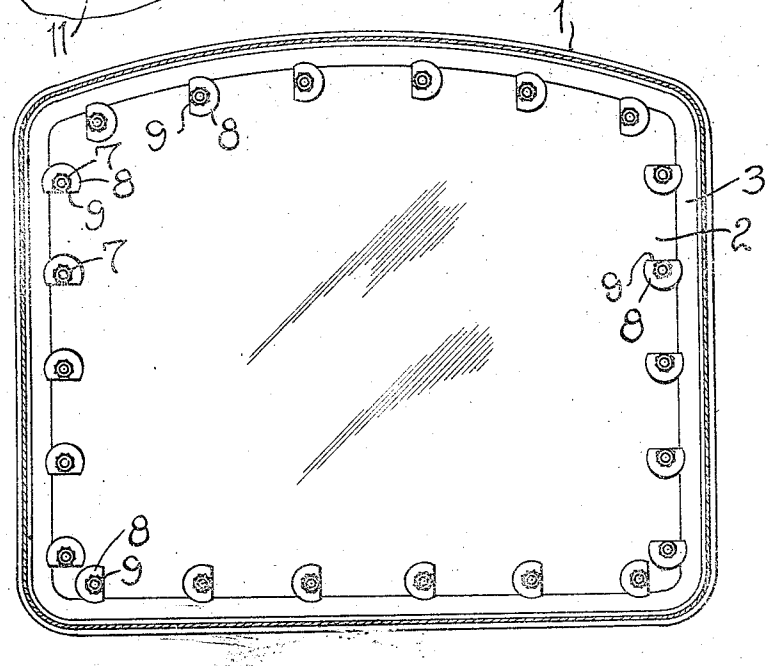


Fig. 1

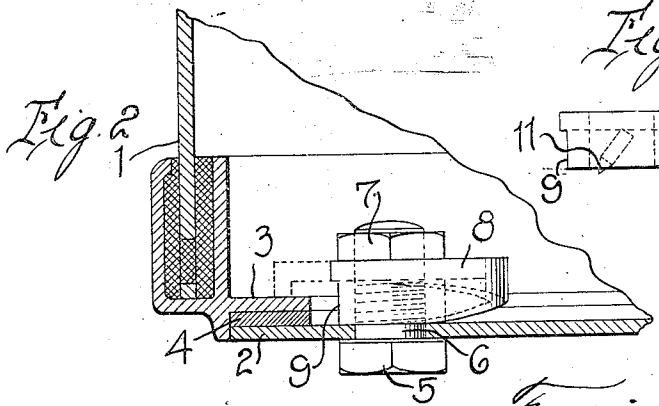


Fig. 2

Fig. 5

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BURIAL-VAULT.

1,149,488. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 10, 1915.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN E. ARNDT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Galion, in the county of Crawford and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults, (Case ,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends certain new and useful improvements in burial vaults and relates particularly to that type of vault in which one end is open and designed, after the casket has been inserted into the body portion of the vault, to be closed by a door or closure whereby the vault is hermetically sealed.

As is well known to those familiar with the art to which this invention appertains, some persons prefer a vault in which the door is fastened in closed position by means of nuts and bolts which are screwed up from the outside, the operation of fastening these bolts giving a feeling of security in contradistinction to that type of vault in which the locking devices are not visible from the outside, but are simultaneously operated by a wrench or tool applied to the revoluble actuating device at the center of the door, and it is the primary object of the present invention to provide a simple, durable, and very efficient construction of closure of such type, in which, while there are a relatively large number of fastening devices all visible from the exterior or end of the vault, can be operated with great facility, and the operation of securely fastening the door at the end of the vault quickly performed. And the invention also aims to generally improve devices of this class so as to render them more useful and commercially desirable.

With these and other objects in view, as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in certain constructions, arrangements and combinations of the parts that I shall hereinafter more fully describe and claim.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which,

Figure 1 is a transverse sectional view of a vault embodying the improvements of this invention, looking at the rear face of the door. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary transverse sectional view through the vault at the corner thereof, one of the locking members being shown in elevation. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary face view of one of the locking devices showing it in its operative position. Fig. 4 is a detail edge view of one of the locking washers detached, and Fig. 5 is a substantially similar view, showing in dotted lines a locking pin which may be employed.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and designated in all of the views of the accompanying drawing by like reference characters.

Referring to the drawing, the numeral 1 designates the body portion of a grave vault of the open-end type, and 2 the door or closure thereof, the body portion being formed with an internal marginal flange 3 against which the door 2 is adapted to abut or against an interposed packing or gasket 4.

Revolubly mounted in the door 2 around and near the edge or margin thereof, is any desired number of bolts 5, said bolts being swiveled in openings formed in the door, as best illustrated at 6 in Fig. 2, and being tapped on their inner ends to receive retaining nuts 7. Each one of these bolts 5 carries a locking device which is in the form of a washer designated 8, and each of said washers has a flat or straight edge 9, whereby when the washers are turned to one position, as is manifest, flush with the inner edge of the flange 3, the door or closure 2 may be readily removed or applied. Each washer 8 is further formed with an inner face 10 in the form of a cam, whereby when the bolts 5 are given a slight turn, these cam faces will ride upon the inner face of the flange 3 and securely fasten the door in place and at the same time tightly bind it or compress it against the flange or the interposed gasket 4.

As best illustrated in Fig. 2, it will be understood that the bolts 5 are formed at one end with heads, they have threaded shanks, and the threads on the shanks extend from the other ends but terminate short of the heads, leaving smooth cylindrical portions that are swiveled in the openings formed in the door, as illustrated at 6. It will further be understood that the cams are threaded on the shanks. Thus when the bolts are secured into the cams, the washers 8 and the nuts 7 screw on, said nuts having the same effect as a double nut, the cam

washers being thereby securely held in place and as against rotation and being compelled to turn as the bolts are turned.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be clearly understood that I have thus provided a vault door or closure which may be very quickly applied, locked in place, and which, owing to the cam-like nature of the locking devices or washers 8, not only serves to lock the door in position by the turning of the bolts 5, but to tightly compress the door against the flange or the intervening gasket 4, whereby the end of the vault will be hermetically sealed.

If desired, each of the locking devices or washers 8 may carry a locking pin 11 loosely mounted and embedded therein and disposed in an oblique position, as illustrated in Fig. 5, the extremities of these pins being pointed, whereby, while they will readily permit of the turning of the bolts in a direction to lock the door and compress it against the flange or gasket, will securely prevent any reverse movements of the parts to open the vault.

While the accompanying drawing illustrates what I believe to be the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto, but that various changes may be made in the construction, arrangements and proportions of the parts without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed, is:

1. The combination with a vault having an open end and a flange defining the wall of said opening, of a door formed around its margin with apertures extending therethrough, bolts provided with heads at one end, with threaded shanks, and with smooth cylindrical portions between the threads of the shanks and the heads, said smooth cylindrical portions being swiveled in the apertures of the door, locking washers threaded on said shanks next to the said cylindrical portions and each provided with a straight edge at one side adapted to pass the flange and on its inner face with a spiral cam adapted to ride upon the flange and retaining nuts secured on the shanks at the inner extremities of the bolts and bearing against the washers to hold the same in place.

2. The combination with a vault having an open end and a flange defining the wall of said opening, of a door and a plurality of bolts swiveled in the door and operable from the exterior thereof, locking washers carried by said bolts and each provided with a straight edge at one side adapted to pass the flange and on its inner face with a spiral cam adapted to ride upon the flange, and locking pins carried by and embedded in said washers and in a position oblique thereto, and having pointed extremities protruding into engagement with the inner face of the door, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

FRANKLIN E. ARNDT.

Witnesses:

CLEO CONNOLLY,

R. C. TIACHO.