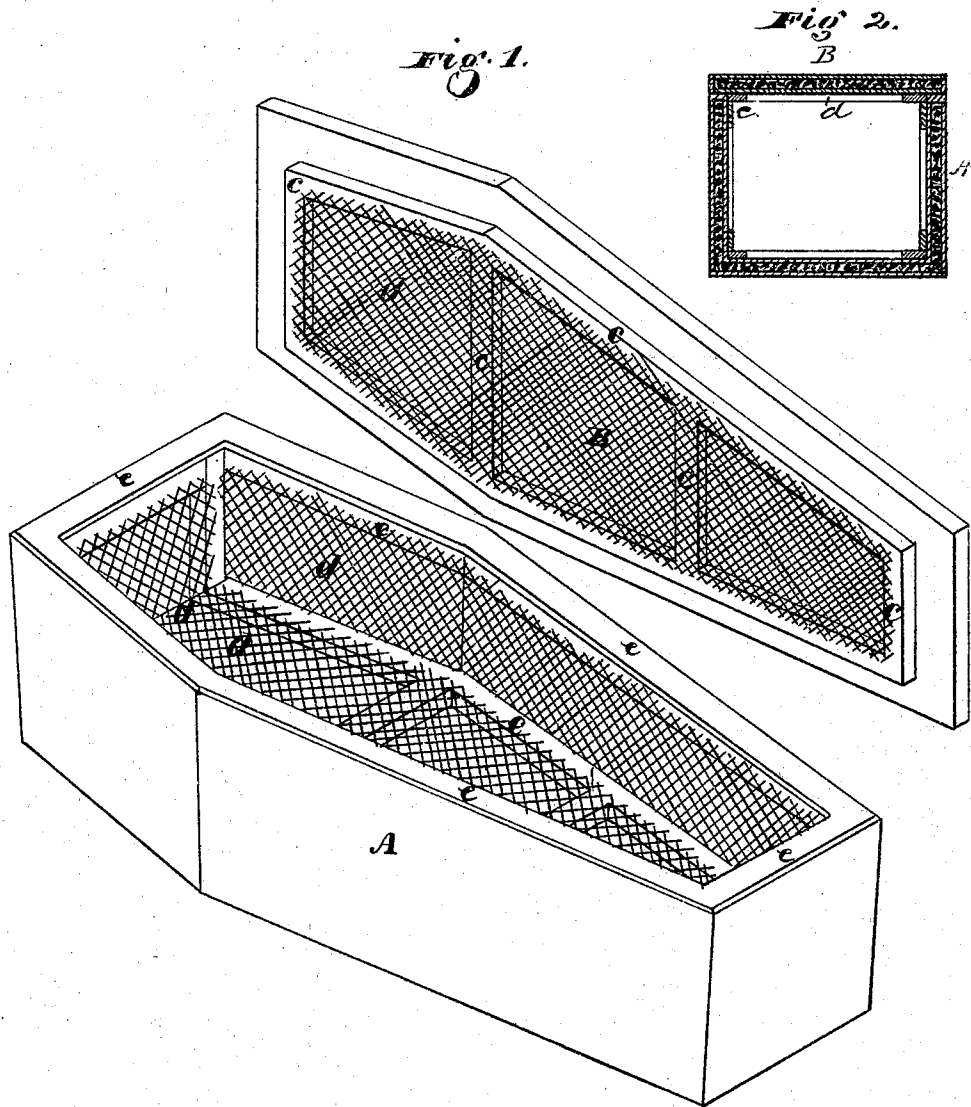


S. RODGERS.
COFFINS.

No. 182,228.

Patented Sept. 12, 1876.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL RODGERS, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COFFINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 182,228, dated September 12, 1876; application filed May 16, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL RODGERS, of Los Angeles city and county, and State of California, have invented an Anti-Contagious Coffin; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention without further invention or experiment.

The object of my invention is to provide an improvement in coffins for the burial of the dead; and I call it an "anti-contagious" coffin.

It consists in constructing a wooden coffin somewhat larger than is necessary to receive the body, and lining the whole of the inside with wire-gauze cloth, which is retained at a short distance from the sides, ends, top, and bottom, and filling this space with my anti-contagious compound, after which the usual lining and trimmings may be put in, and the cover fitted hermetically, as will be more fully described by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a coffin embodying my invention; and Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same.

A is the body, and B the cover, of my coffin, which may be made of any wood so that the expense will come within the means of the purchaser. The sides are made about one-half an inch thick, and the interior is coated with a composition which renders it entirely impervious to water, air, or gas. This composition consists of lime, linseed-oil, and graphite, in the proportions of eight parts of lime, four parts of linseed-oil, and one part of graphite. The ingredients are mixed, boiled about one

hour, and put in while hot. Strips of wood, *c*, about three-fourths of an inch thick, are nailed to the inside of the coffin, and also upon the cover, and wire-cloth, *d*, is secured to these strips, so that a space is left between the side and the cloth, as shown. This space is filled with a mixture of seven-eighths wood-charcoal, well burned and finely pulverized, and one-eighth oxide of calcium, well burned and pulverized. The walls, bottom, and top will then be formed of this mixture, and the interior of the coffin may be finished with the usual linings. A soft rubber, *e*, is glued upon the upper edge of the coffin, and when the lid has been screwed down all will be both water and gas tight.

By this construction I am enabled to prevent contagion, which is liable to arise from the escape of noxious gases, and prevent the fouling of wells in the neighborhood of cemeteries.

I am aware that mats of disinfectants have been placed over bodies in coffins, and that wire-cloth has been used at the bottom of coffins to keep the body above the moisture which may accumulate therein, but this is not my invention.

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

The coffin A and its cover B, the interior surface of which is lined with a disinfectant, such as charcoal and calcium combined, and the whole covered with a wire-cloth, *d*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

SAMUEL RODGERS.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. STRONG,
CHAS. G. PAGE.