

H. D. CLARK.
 LOCKING DEVICE FOR BURIAL VAULTS OR CASINGS.
 APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1910.

1,045,259.

Patented Nov. 26, 1912.

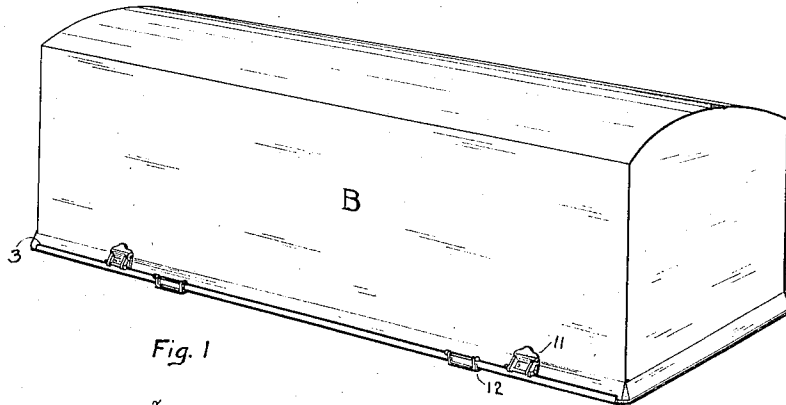


Fig. 1

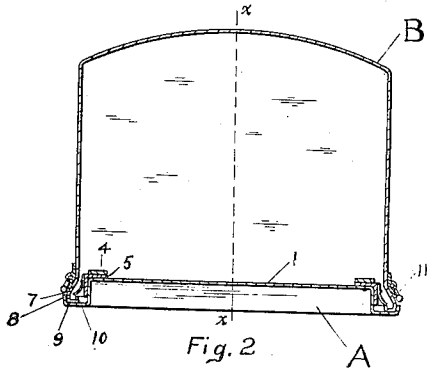


Fig. 2

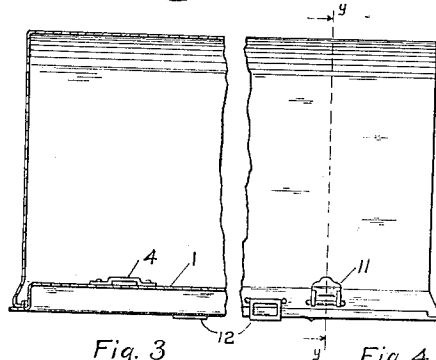


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

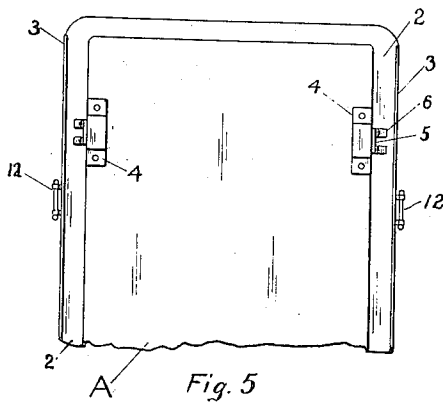


Fig. 5

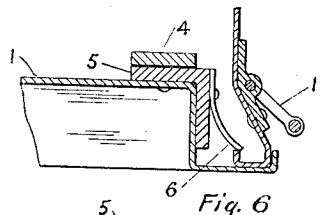


Fig. 6

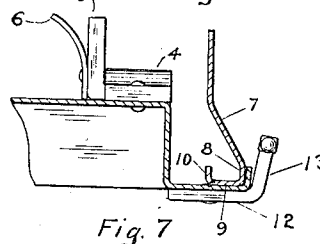


Fig. 7

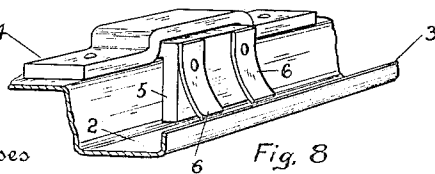


Fig. 8

Witnesses

L. C. Drumm
 A. L. Phelps

By

Hugh D. Clark
 C. C. Shepherd
 Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUGH D. CLARK, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

LOCKING DEVICE FOR BURIAL VAULTS OR CASINGS.

1,045,259.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 26, 1912.

Application filed December 19, 1910. Serial No. 598,001.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH D. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locking Devices for Burial Vaults or Casings, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in locking devices for burial vaults or casings and has particular application to a certain novel and useful structure of the type referred to, adapted to permanently contain the coffin, the vault or casings being constructed of metal.

It is my purpose in the present instance, to provide a burial vault or casing constructed entirely of metal, the arrangement of parts being such that the bottom or base may first be lowered into the grave and securely anchored and cemented in position, the coffin being then placed upon the base and the cover subsequently placed over the base and interlocked therewith in such manner that a permanent secure fastening results.

Still a further object of my invention is to provide, in connection with the base and covering, an improved form of locking means.

With the above recited objects and others of a similar nature in view, my invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts set forth in and falling within scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a burial casing or vault embodying my improvements, Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical sectional view through the same and showing the cover and base in interlocked position, said view being taken on the line *y—y* of Fig. 4, Fig. 3 is a sectional view of a portion of the casing taken on the line *x—x* of Fig. 2, Fig. 4 is a view of a portion of the casing and base at the end thereof, Fig. 5 is a top plan view of a portion of the base, Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail sectional view showing the cover in interlocking position, with the base, Fig. 7 is a similar view but showing the locking means in reversed or non-locking position when the cover or base is assembled ready for shipment, and, Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the base and illustrating the construction of the locking means.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the letter A designates the

base of the structure as an entirety, and the letter B indicates the cover. Both the base and the cover are constructed of suitable metal such as sheet steel or the like. By reference to the drawings, it will be seen that the base comprising the raised or elevated portion 1 and having a horizontal flange 2, extending entirely around the same, this flange being provided at the longitudinal sides of the base with the vertical or upwardly extending flanges 3—3, which terminate adjacent to the ends of the horizontal flange. Mounted on the base, are any suitable number of keepers 4 which are also formed of metal, and in the nature of a strap or the like. The locking device which coöperates with the keeper, comprises an angle plate 5, provided with relatively powerful leaf springs 6—6 fastened to what forms the vertical face of the locking device when the latter is in locking position, the other member of the angle iron extending beneath the keeper as is shown in Fig. 8.

The cover B of the vault, which as heretofore stated is also constructed of sheet metal, is provided at its bottom edges with a flange, which first inclines outwardly as at 7, then downwardly as at 8, then inwardly as at 9 and upwardly as at 10, so that the flange thus formed is adapted to interlock with the spring clips or plates 6 of the locking device when the cover is in its assembled or locked position.

The vault covering is also provided with any suitable number of hinged handles 11 for carrying the same, while the base also has a suitable number of handles 12 preferably fastened to the horizontal portion of the flange of the base and thence turned upwardly as at 13 to form a firm grip.

From the above description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and manner of employing my improved grave vault, will be readily apparent. It will be noted by reference to the drawings, and especially Figs. 6 and 8, that the angular member 5 of the locking device is simply slipped into the keeper without being permanently secured thereto. When it is desired to ship the vault or to mount the cover upon the base in a non-locking position, the angular member 5 is withdrawn from the position shown in Fig. 6 and may be slipped into the keeper as is shown in Fig. 7, that is, with the face of the angle iron carrying the locking clips or

members 6 turned upward into vertical position while the other member of the angle iron is slipped into the keeper. The cover may then be mounted upon the base without
5 interlocking. When, however, the device is in actual use as in the grave, the base is first lowered into position and the coffin placed thereon and such base, if desired, may be cemented in place. The locking devices are
10 then shifted into interlocking position as is shown in Fig. 6 with the spring clips thus turned outward and downward and the cover is then placed over and drops into position, the spring locking clips snapping
15 over the upwardly turned portion 10 of the flange of the cover. It will then be noted that the cover is permanently and securely locked in position and as none of the locking parts of the device are exposed, the cover
20 can only be removed from the base by destroying the vault itself.

What I claim, is—

1. A burial case comprising a base structure, a top adapted to rest on said base, horizontal slide-ways on said base, angle irons
25 adapted to removably fit in said slide-ways, and a resilient latch on one leg of each angle iron, the position of the other leg of said

angle iron rendering said latches effective or ineffective.

2. A burial casing comprising a base, longitudinal troughs on said base, U-shaped
30 socket members of a shallow form and having lateral flanges for attachment to the upper side of said base near its edges, a bolt member independent of positive connection
35 with such base and of right angular form, outwardly bowed spring pieces fastened at one end and having their bowed ends free, a top to said casing and an internal trough
40 formed upon said top, said bolt member being constructed to slide into said socket members with their spring supporting legs bearing against the sides of the troughs on
45 said base members for a rigid bracing action, thereagainst when in operative position, said bolt members being reversible for sliding into said socket members in inoperative position.

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

HUGH D. CLARK.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH P. EAGLESON,
R. B. CAVANAGH.