(No Model.)

C. A. RUEBEKAM.

BURIAL CASKET.

No. 588,482. Patented Aug. 17, 1897.

Fig. 1,

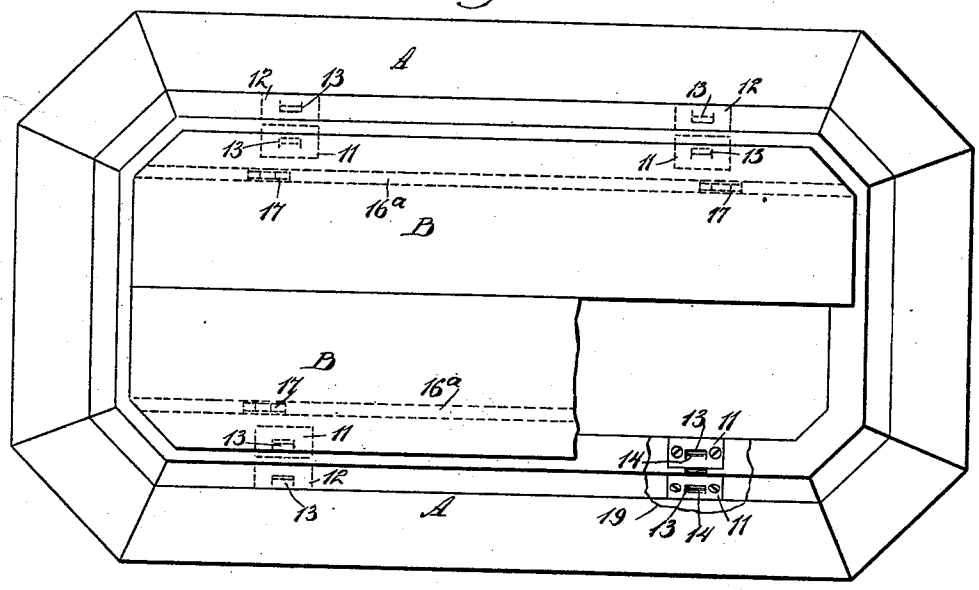


Fig. 2,

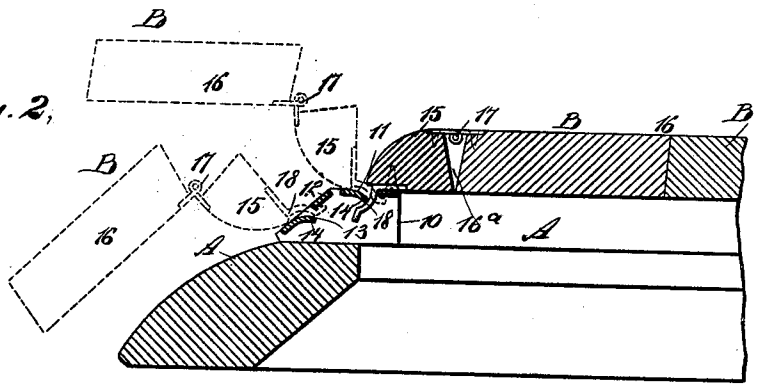
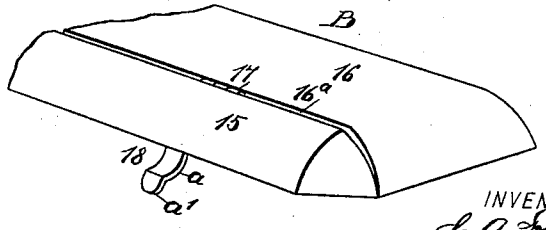


Fig. 3.



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CHARLES A. RUEBEKAM, OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO LYMAN E. WOODARD, OF SAME PLACE.

BURIAL-CASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,482, dated August 17, 1897.

Application filed June 28, 1897. Serial No. 642,696. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. RUEBEKAM, of Owosso, in the county of Shiawassee and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Burial-Casket, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to so construct the covers or lids or molding of a casket around that portion at which the face of the occupant is to be exposed that the position of the covers or lids on the molding may be expeditiously and conveniently changed, so as to expose more or less of the person, and whereby hooks stationarily placed on the covers or lids will serve, in conjunction with keepers on the molding, to hold the lids or covers in either one of the positions in which they may be placed.

Another object of the invention is to provide for a change in the position of the lids or covers of the casket in such manner that the keepers for the covers or lids will hardly be discernible in the molding and will not in the least detract from its appearance.

Another object of the invention is to provide for the entire removal of the covers or lids from the casket when such disposition is required.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the molding for the casket-top or that portion at which the face is to be viewed, illustrating the manner in which the covers are secured thereto, one of the covers being shown as broken away. Fig. 2 is a section taken transversely through a portion of the said molding and said covers, and Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of an end portion of one of the covers or lids.

A represents the molding, which is to extend around the head and bust portion of the body and which is sometimes designated in the trade as the "cove." The upper portion or strip of the said molding or cove is provided at each side near each end with a recess 10. Each recess 10 is spanned at the top by a keeper-plate 11 and at the outer side by a second keeper-plate 12, one keeper-plate at each opening being at an angle to the other. Each keeper-plate is provided with a longitudinal slot 13, and what may be termed the "outer" side wall of each slot 13 is bent inward and downward to form a lip 14, as is best shown in Fig. 2. Each lid or cover B is made in two sections—namely, a body-section 16 and an outer side section 15. The opposing walls of the two sections are beveled in opposite directions, forming between the sections when the cover or lid is in closed position a V-shaped opening 16^a, as shown in Fig. 2. Hinges 17 connect the two sections of each cover or lid at the top, extending over the V-opening 16^a, as is also illustrated in Fig. 2. From the bottom portion of the outer section 15 of each cover or lid usually two hooks 18 are downwardly and outwardly projected, and each hook, as illustrated in Fig. 3, consists of a curved body portion a, the concaved face whereof is upward, and a downwardly and outwardly inclined tip a'. The keepers 11 and 12 are concealed by the covering 19, provided for the molding or cove, but the said covering is provided with a slot over the respective openings 13 in the said keeper-plates.

In operation the hooks 18 are made to enter the openings in the upper or horizontal keeper-plates, and when so entered the covers or lids may be closed entirely over the opening in the molding or the cove, as shown in positive lines in Fig. 2, or each lid or cover may be carried outward, so as to disclose the said opening, the end sections of the lids or covers being then in a vertical position and the body portions in a horizontal position, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. Under this disposition of the covers or lids the opening within the cove or molding will be entirely exposed; but it is sometimes desirable to have the opening seem larger, which result may be accomplished by providing a border for it consisting of the molding itself and carrying the covers or lids some distance from the opening to form a second frame or dressing therefor. This latter arrangement may be

secured by simply removing the covers or lids from engagement with the upper or horizontal keepers 11 and causing the hooks 18 of the covers or lids to enter into the outer or side keepers 12, as is also shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. It is evident also that the covers or lids may be entirely removed from connection with the molding or cove, if so desired, and that when the hooks 18 enter either of the keepers 11 or 12 the said hooks will serve as hinges and will act to effectually hold said covers or lids in engagement with the molding or cove.

The concaved surfaces of the hooks 18 when the lids or covers are carried to an open position will engage with the upper surfaces of the lips 14, which are convexed, while the tips a' will engage with the under faces of the keepers adjacent to the inner edges of their openings 13, as is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2.

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

1. The combination, with the molding of a burial-casket, and keepers placed in said molding, arranged in pairs, the keepers of each pair being at angles to one another, of lids or covers provided with hook projections, arranged to enter either keeper of a pair, whereby the said covers may have their position changed relatively to the opening surrounded by the molding, and whereby each cover or lid may be entirely removed from engagement with the said molding, as specified.

2. In a burial-casket, the combination, with the molding or cove thereof, and keepers arranged in pairs on said molding, one keeper of each pair being at the top of the molding and the other at the outer surface thereof and at an angle to the upper keeper, each keeper being provided with an inwardly-extending lip at the outer edge of its opening, of a lid or a cover constructed in sections having a hinged connection, the outer section being provided with a hook projection from its under surface, comprising a curved body and a tip at an angle to the body, the outer or upper face of said hook projection being concaved and its under surface convexed, the hook projections being adapted to enter the openings in either of the said keepers, as and for the purpose specified.

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