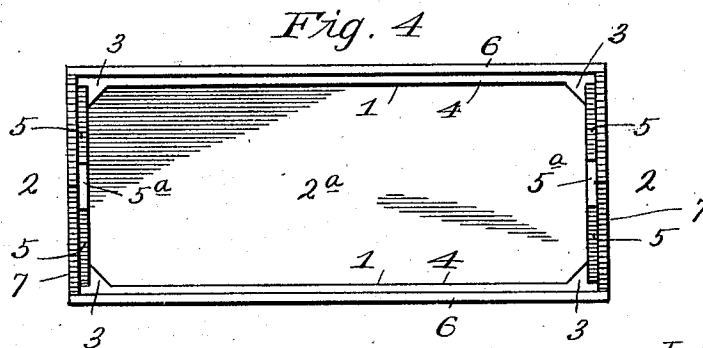
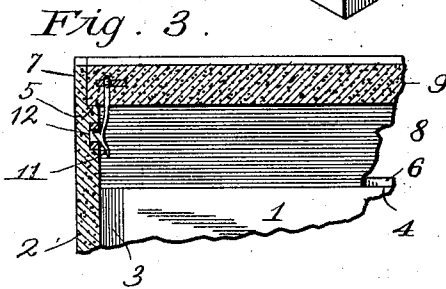
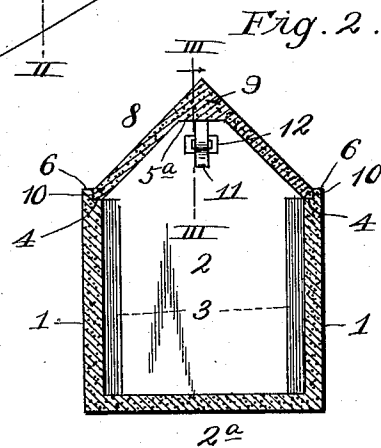
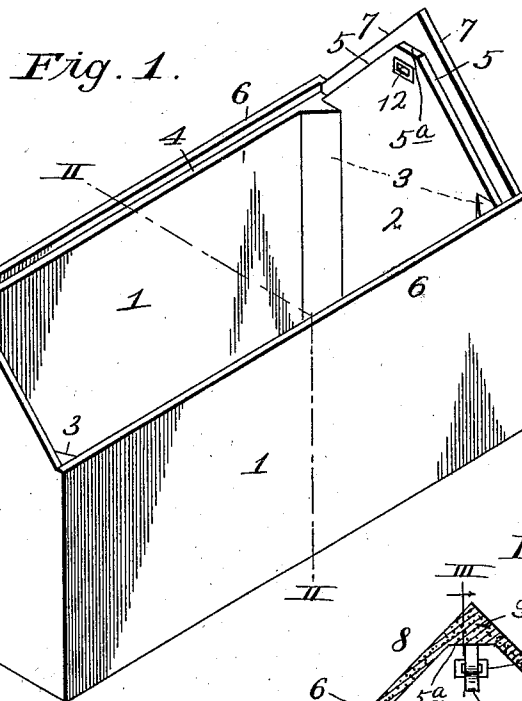


No. 823,709.

PATENTED JUNE 19, 1906.

T. A. STEVENSON.
BURIAL VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1906.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE A. STEVENSON, OF LANSING, KANSAS.

BURIAL-VAULT.

No. 823,709.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 19, 1906.

Application filed March 9, 1906. Serial No. 305,146.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE A. STEVENSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lansing, in the county of Leavenworth and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in burial-vaults, and has for its object the provision of a novel vault that will be practically indestructible and wherein the coffin is placed for transportation or final burial.

A further object is to provide an air and water tight vault which is reinforced at certain points to successfully resist the crushing weight imposed thereon by the surrounding earth.

In order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved burial-vault with the lid removed. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of same on line II II of Fig. 1 with the lid in position. Fig. 3 is a broken vertical section on line III III of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the vault with the lid removed.

The vault, which is constructed of cement, concrete, or artificial stone, is rectangular in form and consists of vertical side walls 1, gabled end walls 2, and a bottom portion 2^a, integral with said walls. Walls 1 and 2 are reinforced at their corners with integral columns 3 in order to successfully resist the crushing weight to which they are subjected.

Walls 1 are provided at their upper portions with longitudinal shoulders 4, which communicate with inverted-V-shaped shoulders 5, integral with the upper portion of the gabled end walls 2 and united at their upper ends with a horizontal portion 5^a. The upper portions of walls 1 are also provided with longitudinal flanges 6, communicating with flanges 7, integral with the upper portion of walls 2.

8 designates a lid, which is V-shaped in cross-section and has a reinforced ridge 9 extending the entire length thereof to prevent the same from caving in. Lid 8 is unprovided with end walls and supported by shoulders 4 and 5, shoulders 5 assisting the reinforced ridge 9 to resist the crushing

weight to which the lid is subjected. The lower vertical edges 10 of the lid abut against flanges 6, which resist all tendency of the lid to spread, and the latter is held from longitudinal movement by flanges 7, which are flush with the upper surface of said lid.

In order to hermetically seal the casket, and thus render the same air and water tight, the shoulders and inner sides of the flanges are coated with cement mortar, so that when the lid is placed in position its edges will become embedded in said mortar, which latter after becoming set reliably holds the lid in position. To prevent the lid from being disturbed while the mortar is still green, I provide its ends with depending spring-catches 11, which automatically engage keepers 12 when the lid is placed in position, said keepers being embedded in the upper portion of the gabled ends 2, as shown. Furthermore, these fastenings will prevent access to the inclosed coffin and its contents without first destroying the burial-vault.

Great strength is obtained by making the lid V-shaped and reinforcing its ridge, as shown, and by providing the vault with flanges to resist any tendency which the lid may have to spread and reinforcing the corners with columns 3 it is obvious that I have secured the greatest strength with the least amount of weight and material.

From the above description it is apparent that I have produced a burial-vault which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and well adapted to resist the crushing weight to which devices of this character are subjected.

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

1. A burial-vault consisting of vertical side walls, longitudinal shoulders integral with said walls, longitudinal flanges communicating with said shoulders and extending above the latter, gabled end walls integral with the side walls, inverted-V-shaped shoulders integral with said end walls and communicating with the shoulders on the side walls, a bottom portion integral with the walls, and an inverted-V-shaped lid adapted to rest upon the shoulders.

2. A burial-vault consisting of vertical side walls, gabled end walls integral with said

side walls, a bottom portion integral with the
walls, keepers embedded in the upper portion
of the end walls, a V-shaped lid for closing
the upper portion of the vault, and spring-
5 catches depending from the apex of said lid
and adapted to automatically engage the
keepers.

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

THEODORE A. STEVENSON.

Witnesses:

E. W. LASSELL,
JOHN S. FIDLER