

No. 752,075.

PATENTED FEB. 16, 1904.

E. KAFFER.
COFFIN CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 15, 1903.

NO MODEL.

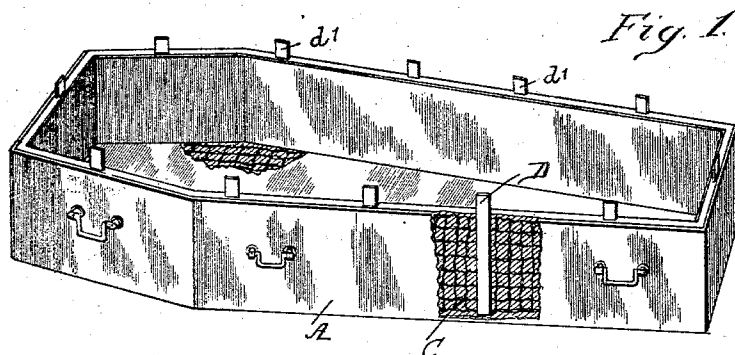


Fig. 1.

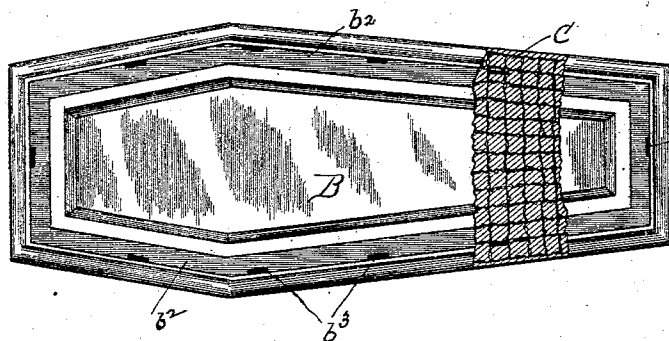


Fig. 2.

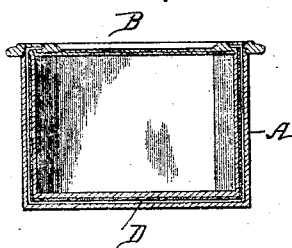


Fig. 3.

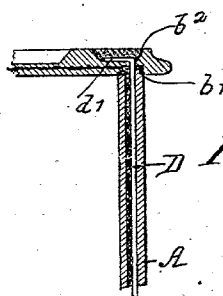


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD KAFFER, OF MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS.

COFFIN-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 752,075, dated February 16, 1904.

Application filed June 15, 1903. Serial No. 161,482. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD KAFFER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Manhattan, in the county of Will and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coffin-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in coffins or coffin-cases; and the special objects attained by my improvements are strength and comparative lightness, safety against violation by grave robbers, air-tight, fire and moisture proof construction, and economy in the manufacture.

In carrying out these and other objects of general utility I provide a coffin or coffin-case constructed in part of perforated or reticulated metal forming a base and suitably stiffened by metallic bands and cement or other substance applied in plastic form to the base and allowed to harden.

For the details of construction reference is asked to the following specification, and to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, partly in section, of the body of a coffin constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the lid or coffin-top. Fig. 3 is a cross-section through a coffin with the lid in place and sealed, and Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail showing the method of securing and sealing the lid in place.

Referring to the drawings in detail, A represents the body of the coffin or case, which is of the usual shape, and B indicates the lid, which is adapted to fit over the body portion. The base or frame of both body and lid is in this instance composed of woven wire-netting C; but expanded sheet metal or metallic lathing may be utilized, if preferred. The metal base is preferably stamped or pressed into shape to form the bottom, sides, and ends of the coffin-body, though separate pieces may constitute such portions and be joined together at the corners to form the frame where economical construction is sought. Arranged on the outer side of the metal base or frame are a plurality of bendable metal bands or straps

D of sufficient size and rigidity to stiffen and support the wire-netting, so that it will retain its proper shape under all the conditions to which it may be subjected. The ends d' of these bands extend beyond or above the edges of the coffin-case, so that they may be bent down, as will be hereinafter described.

The frame formed, as above stated, is coated on both sides with cement or other suitable waterproof material in a plastic form, the application being effected by trowels or in any other appropriate manner, care being taken that the material enters the interstices, especially if expanded metal be used. The cement coating may be very thin as compared with an all-cement case, as it is primarily a filler merely, the weight being borne chiefly by the metal frame.

The lid is formed, substantially, in the manner described for the body of the case, a single sheet of wire forming its base, which is coated on both sides with cement. The metal bars may be readily dispensed with in the lid. In the under side of the lid and following its edge a groove b' is formed, which is adapted to receive the edge of the sides and ends of the body of the case, and in the upper side a groove b^2 is provided. Extending between these upper and lower grooves at intervals openings b^3 are left in the lid, which are adapted to receive the projecting ends d' of the straps D. The groove b^2 is sufficiently wide to permit the ends of the straps to be bent over at right angles and have the bent portion rest in the bottom of the groove, as shown in Fig. 4. When the lid is in place and it is desired to hermetically seal the case, the groove b^2 is filled with cement in plastic form, which when it sets conceals the ends of the strap, and the latter serves to bind the lid closely to the body of the case.

I have not shown expanded metal or other form of perforated sheet metal as a basis or frame for my improved coffin-case, as the forms and characteristics of same are well known and present no functions in this connection not possessed by the wire-netting illustrated.

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

5 In a coffin-case, a frame having its bottom, sides and ends formed of sheet metal having openings therethrough, metal bars arranged transversely and longitudinally of the frame and embracing its bottom, ends and sides, the ends of said bars projecting above the edges
10 of the frame and adapted to be bent; a lid formed of sheet metal and provided with openings to receive the ends of the said bars; said

frame and lid coated externally and internally with a plastic material, and the outer face of the lid coating having an annular groove therein to receive the bent ends of the said metal bars. 15

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

EDWARD KAFFER.

Witnesses:

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