No. 712,956.

Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

D. W. PECKHAM.

BURIAL VAULT.

Application filed Feb. 13, 1902.

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

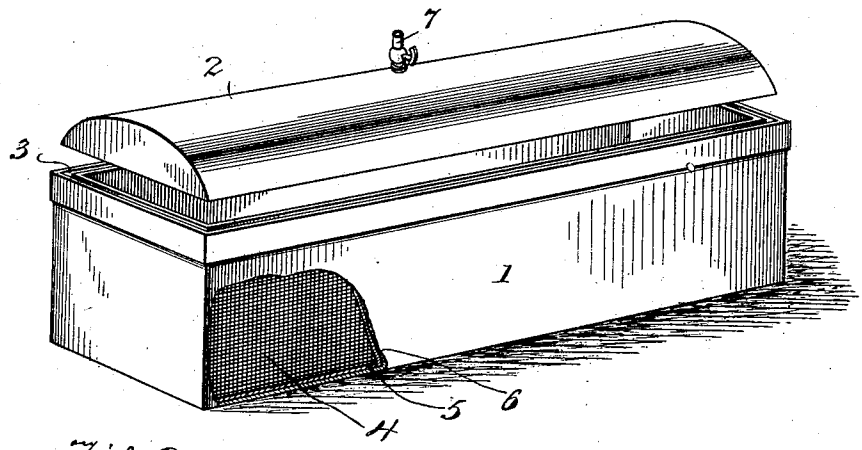


Fig. 2.

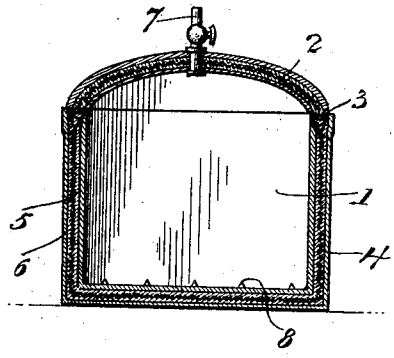


Fig. 3.

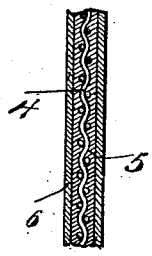
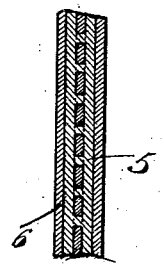


Fig. 4.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID W. PECKHAM, OF NORWALK, OHIO.

BURIAL-VAULT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,956, dated November 4, 1902.

Application filed February 13, 1902. Serial No. 93,903. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID W. PECKHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norwalk, in the county of Huron and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in burial-vaults; and its object is to provide a vault which shall be simple of construction, comparatively inexpensive of production, practically indestructible under ordinary usage, and impervious to air and moisture.

The invention consists of certain novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a vault embodying my invention, showing the cover raised from the body and also showing a portion of the outer layers of plaster and cement broken away to expose the wall of the body. Fig. 2 is a cross-section through the closed vault on the line of the valved tube. Figs. 3 and 4 are enlarged cross-sectional views through a wall of the vault, showing two different forms of foraminous walls and the arrangement of the layers of cement and plaster.

The vault comprises in its construction but two main parts, a body 1 and a top or cover 2, which top or cover is adapted to fit down within a recess 3 in the top of the body and to be cemented in place, as hereinafter described, to hermetically seal the vault. The body and top may be of any preferred general form. Each of said parts or sections of the vault consists of a foraminous or reticulated frame 4, preferably constructed of plate metal or woven wire having perforations or meshes of a suitable size. Figs. 3 and 4, respectively, represent a frame-wall of woven wire and a similar wall of perforated sheet metal. To the inner and outer surfaces of the walls of this frame is applied a coating or layer 5 of some suitable plaster which is air and moisture proof and a non-conductor of heat and cold, such as wood-fiber plaster, the use of which is preferred, as it is light and adheres firmly and is proof against fracture under all ordinary shocks or blows. The inner and outer layers of this plaster are bound together by the portions of the plaster pressed through the meshes or perforations in the walls of the frame, and the frame is coated to the requisite depth with a substance which renders it absolutely air and water proof. The plaster forms the foundation to receive one or more coats or layers 6 of Portland cement, which is applied until the requisite strength is attained. After the casket, with its contents, is placed in the body 1 the top or cover 2 is then applied and cemented in place, the air exhausted from the interior of the vault by means of a vacuum-pump connected to a check-valved tube 7, carried by the cover, and said tube then suitably sealed. The vault will then be hermetically closed and made proof against the entrance of air and moisture.

A distinct feature of my invention consists in extending the layers of plaster and cement of the body above the upper edge of the foraminous frame thereof and forming the recess 3 therein to receive the edge of the cover, the frame-piece of which is bent down at its edges to enter said recess and form a practically continuous frame for the body and cover, thus making the vault stronger at the joint, where weakness is the common defect. As the edges of the frame-piece do not fully occupy the recess, I am enabled to bring the plaster sheathings of the cover therein and then to cover the joint by the outer layer of cement of the cover, thereby sealing the joint against the access of air and moisture and at the same time forming a practically homogeneous structure. Hence I am enabled to obtain extreme lightness with maximum strength.

If desired, the bottom of the body 1 may be formed or provided with ribs or projections 8 for strengthening purposes and for supporting the casket at an elevation, so that it will not come in immediate contact with said bottom.

By constructing the vault in the manner described an exceedingly cheap yet strong and durable structure is provided, and as the

application of cement need not be made until the vault is desired for use the frame with the fiber plaster applied thereto is light enough to be shipped long distances at a relatively low cost.

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

1. A burial-receptacle consisting wholly or largely of a foraminous frame sheathed with inner and outer layers of non-conducting plaster, said layers being bound together by interconnecting portions of the plaster pressed through the meshes or perforations of the frame, and layers of cement forming inner and outer sheathings for the plaster, substantially as set forth.

2. A burial-receptacle consisting of a body comprising a frame formed of a bottom, sides and ends of foraminous material, layers of plaster sheathing the inner and outer sheathings for the plaster, a groove being formed in the upper edge of the body above the upper edge of the frame, and a cover composed of a foraminous frame-piece having its edges bent down to enter said recess and form with the reticulated frame portion of the body a practically continuous body and cover frame, inner and outer layers of plaster sheathing the frame-piece of the cover, and inner and outer layers of cement covering said layers of plaster on the cover and sealing the recess in the body, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DAVID W. PECKHAM.

Witnesses:
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