(No Model.)

O. ZAUCHE.

CASKET HANDLE.

No. 588,210. Patented Aug. 17, 1897.

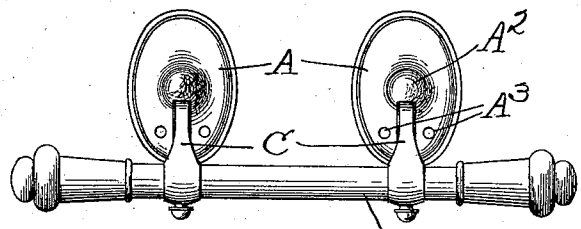


Fig. 1.

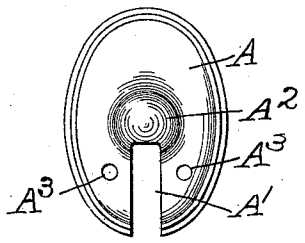


Fig. 2.

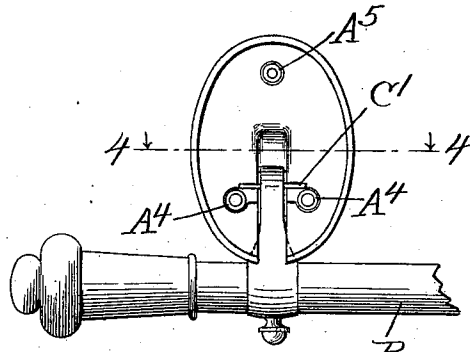


Fig. 3.

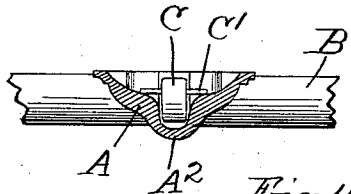


Fig. 4.

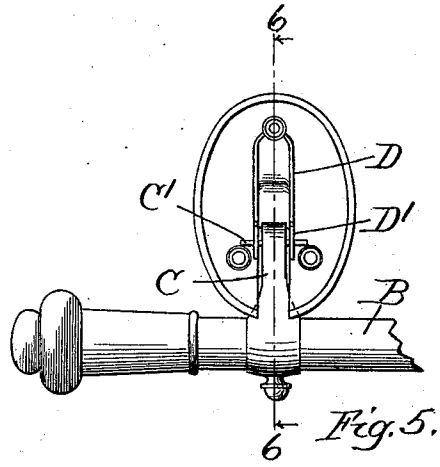


Fig. 5.

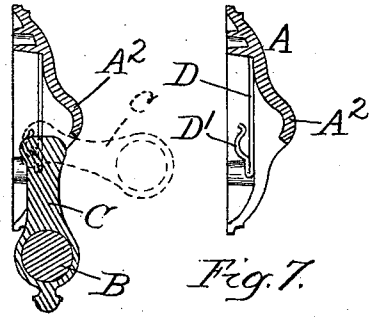


Fig. 7.

Fig. 6.

Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR ZAUCHE, OF ELGIN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO THE ELGIN SILVER PLATE COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

CASKET-HANDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,210, dated August 17, 1897.

Application filed November 5, 1896. Serial No. 611,134. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR ZAUCHE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elgin, in the county of Kane, State of Illinois, have invented certain Improvements in Casket-Handles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to casket-handles, and has for its object to provide the new and improved handle for caskets of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a view embodying my invention, showing the casket-handle when in position. Fig. 2 is a view of one of the plates which form part of the handle. Fig. 3 is a view showing the back or rear face of one of the plates forming part of the handle. Fig. 4 is a section on line 4 4, Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3, showing a holding device for holding the plate and handle-bar together. Fig. 6 is a section on line 6 6, Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 6 with the handle-bar omitted.

Like letters refer to like parts throughout the several figures.

The casket-handle consists of the plates A A, the handle-bar B, the connecting-bars C, and the parts by which they are attached to the plates. These plates A may be of any desired shape, but are preferably hollowed out or cup-shaped, so that part of the connecting-bars C may be placed within the plates so as to be concealed thereby. These plates are provided at the bottom with a slot A′, the central part A^2 of the plate extending or projecting outwardly beyond the remainder of the plate. Each plate is provided with the holes A^3, through which are inserted screws by which the plate is attached to the casket. The inner face of each plate is provided with the projections A^4, the openings A^3, as shown in the drawings, passing through these projections. The position of the projection may of course be varied, if desired. A projection A^5 is located on the inner surface of each plate, and engages the surface of the casket when the plate is in position. The handle-bar B is provided with the connecting-bars C, preferably rigidly connected thereto. Each of these bars is provided with a pin C′, which engages the projections A^4 on the inner surface of the plate when the handle is being used. This pin is preferably made of steel, so that it will be of sufficient strength. This pin may be integral with the bar C or may be separate therefrom, or the bar may simply be provided with projections of any description. The end of the connecting-bar C projects within the hollow of the plate, so that the connection of the bar with the plate is entirely concealed.

When the handle is not in use, it takes the position shown in full lines in Figs. 1 and 6.

When the weight of the casket is on the handles—that is, when the casket is being carried—the handle takes the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 6, the pin C′ engaging the projection C^4 and the connecting-bar engaging the projection A^2 of the plate.

As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the plate and connecting-bar are not permanently connected together, but are simply held together by the engagement of the pin C′ with the projections A^4, and can be easily and quickly separated.

In Figs. 5, 6, and 7 I add a holding device D. This may be a spring or other suitable device. As shown in the drawings, this holding device consists of a wire having the looped ends D′, which engage the pin C′, thereby ordinarily holding the plate and connecting-bar together. The connecting-bar may be removed from the plate by removing the pin from the looped ends D′. I have only shown one form of holding device, but of course other forms can be used, if desired, and the position of the holding device may be varied, the only condition being that it shall hold the plate and connecting-bars together.

I have described these several parts in detail, but it is evident that they may be varied in form, construction, and arrangement without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not wish to be limited to the exact construction shown.

In casket-handles of this general character as heretofore made the strain or load has been carried so as to make the pull come on the projecting portion of the plate, and this of course weakens the plate somewhat and at the same time makes it necessary to have a considerable weight of metal. In the device

shown, constructed as I have illustrated it, the real load is distributed so that it comes on the projecting part but in a line somewhat parallel to its outer surface and at the interior bottom portion of the plate where the screw-lugs project, and hence in that part of the plate where the metal is heaviest and strongest because of the additional strength which the screws give to it. This makes a strong safe lifting-handle and plate, while at the same time it is possible to reduce the weight of the parts. Less metal can be used and yet a stronger handle be made than heretofore.

The use and operation of my invention are as follows: The casket-handle is an article of manufacture and is made independent of the caskets, the casket-makers purchasing such handles and connecting them to the casket. Casket-handles of this description as ordinarily constructed have the plate and handle-bar connected together on the outside of the plate and are objectionable in many ways—for example, by having the connections between the plates and handle-bars exposed, thereby presenting rough surfaces, and having engaging surfaces which grip the wearing-apparel or any other flexible material that may be in contact with them when the handle is raised. In my handle these objectionable features are eliminated, for the connection between the handle and the plate is concealed beneath the plate and there are no engaging parts which can grip the wearing-apparel or other flexible material. It will also be noticed that with my handle the plates and connecting-bars can be easily connected and disconnected, the device being complete in itself. The devices shown in Figs. 3 and 5 are substantially the same after being attached to the casket, the form shown in Fig. 5 being more convenient in handling before it is attached to the casket.

I claim—

1. As an article of manufacture a supporting-handle for caskets and the like comprising a dish-shaped plate having holes therethrough for fastening-screws or the like, said holes surrounded by inwardly-projecting strengthening portions, a slot or opening in said plate, a handle-bar having a connecting-bar which projects through said slot or opening, said connecting-bar provided with projections which rest upon the strengthening portions surrounding the holes for the fastening devices when the handle is in use so that part of the load on the handle rests upon said strengthening portions.

2. As an article of manufacture, a handle for caskets and the like comprising a dish-shaped plate having holes therethrough for fastening-screws or the like, said holes surrounded with inwardly-projecting strengthening portions, a slot or opening in said plate, a handle-bar having a connecting-bar which loosely projects through said slot or opening, said connecting-bar provided with projections connected so that it has to become a part thereof and which rest upon the strengthening portions surrounding the holes for the fastening devices, and a holding device attached to the inner surface of said plate and provided with engaging parts which engage the projections on said connecting-bar so as to hold the connecting-bar and plate together.

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