(No Model.)

W. J. BREED & P. G. OBER.

COFFIN.

No. 353,916. Patented Dec. 7, 1886.

Fig. 1.

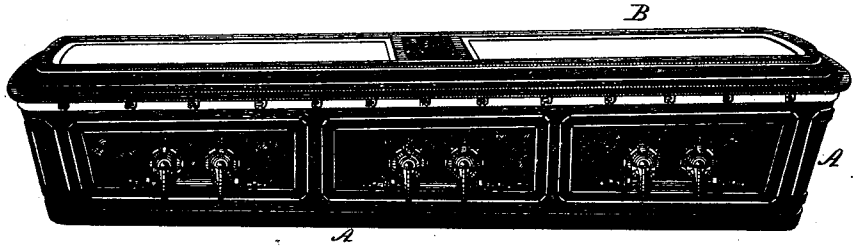


Fig. 2.

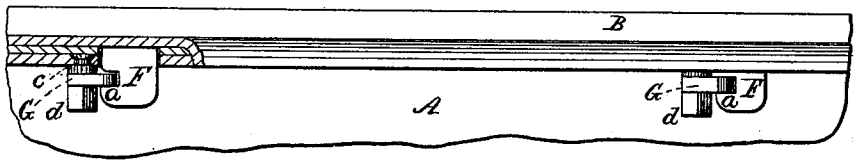


Fig. 3.

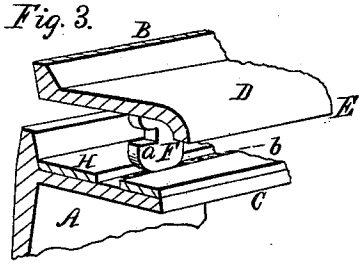


Fig. 4.

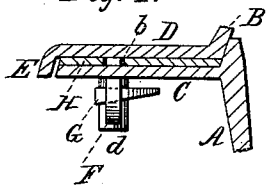


Fig. 5.

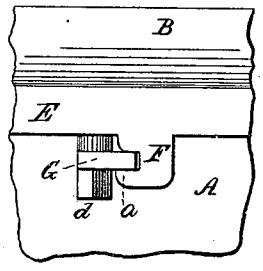
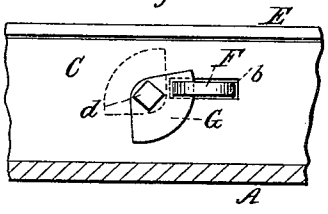


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. BREED AND PHILIP G. OBER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNORS TO THE CRANE & BREED MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

COFFIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,916, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed May 1, 1886. Serial No. 200,768. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM J. BREED and PHILIP G. OBER, citizens of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coffins, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

Our invention relates to an improvement in coffins by which the labor and time consumed and the trouble incurred in securing and hermetically sealing the lid are reduced to a minimum.

It relates more particularly to metallic caskets, though it is capable of use on all coffins.

Heretofore in securing the lids of coffins screws have been employed, which were inserted through the lid down into the body of the coffin all around its edges, a means of fastening which required not only considerable time and labor, but often occasioned annoyance and trouble as well.

Our invention consists, primarily, in applying shouldered lugs to the lid of the coffin, and a corresponding number of cams to the flange of the body in such manner that a quarter or half turn of each of said cams would cause them to engage with the shoulders of the lugs, thereby bringing down and tightly sealing the lid. Its novelty will be herein set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the coffin with our invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a portion of the lid and body with parts cut away and shown in section. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the same, showing the lid as just being applied to the body. Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation of the same after the fastening has been secured. Fig. 5 is a detail side elevation showing a modification in the construction. Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of the fastening.

The same letters of reference are used to indicate identical parts in all the figures.

A represents the body of any suitable metallic coffin, and B its lid. The body of this coffin, near its upper edge, is provided with a continuous flange, C, extending around it. The lid is likewise provided with a continuous flange, D, adapted to rest upon the flange C when the lid is in place, and whose outer edge is preferably provided with a curtain, E, which serves to hide the joint, and may extend down any distance required and be ornamented in any manner desired.

Secured to the under side of the flange D are a series of pendent lugs, F, at such distance apart as it is necessary or desirable to have fastenings. These lugs are cut out on one side to form shoulders *a*, and these shoulders are preferably beveled to form wedge-engaging surfaces.

We preferably form a series of coincident slots or openings, *b*, through the flange C, to permit the passage of the lugs in applying the lid, and to the under side of the flange C we secure a series of segmental cams or rotating wedges, G, which are riveted, as seen in Fig. 2, through the flange C, but are free to turn therein, and have a shoulder, *c*, to form a bearing against the under side of said flange. These cams are provided with any suitable means for rotating them, such as a thumb nut, though I have illustrated them as provided with nut-heads *d*, to be turned by a key or wrench.

The arrangement of the cams with reference to the lugs, as seen in Fig. 6, is such that when turned in one position they engage with the shoulders *a* and draw the lid tightly down upon the body of the coffin, and when turned to another position, as indicated by the dotted lines in said figure, they become disengaged from the lugs and permit the lid to be removed, as will be readily understood.

The lug F may be integral with and an extension of the curtain, as seen in Fig. 5, if desired; or it may be back of and entirely concealed by the curtain when the lid is applied. Again, the flange C need not be slotted or cut out at all to permit the passage of the lug, in which event the lug would extend down at the outer side of the flange C.

H represents any suitable packing—in this instance a strip or strips of rubber—interposed between the flanges C and D, in order

to hermetically seal the coffin, when it is so desired. This packing is likewise slotted or cut away, to permit the passage of the lugs, when necessary.

While we prefer to make the rotating cams wedge-shaped, it is evident that they might be perfectly flat segmental disks, and with their edges slightly beveled, if desired, in which event the shoulders *a* of the lugs would be extended and be made sufficiently beveled or inclined to obtain the action of a cam or wedge to effect the lock.

It will be readily seen from the above construction that we provide a very simple and efficient fastening, requiring exceedingly little time and labor to accomplish what has heretofore been a tedious and slow operation, often accompanied with many difficulties.

Having thus fully described our invention, we claim—

1. The combination, with a coffin-body provided with a series of rotating cam-locking devices, of the lid provided with a corresponding series of shouldered lugs, whereby when said lid is applied to the coffin it may be secured and tightly locked thereto by the partial rotation of the locking devices and their engagement with the shouldered lugs, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a coffin-body and its lid, of a series of shouldered lugs attached to the bottom of the lid and a corresponding series of coincident rotating cams or wedges attached to the coffin-body, whereby when the lid is applied to the coffin-body it may be securely and tightly locked thereto by the partial rotation of the cams or wedges and their engagement with the shouldered lugs, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a coffin-body provided with a flange near its upper edge, and its lid provided with a corresponding flange, of a series of shouldered lugs attached to the bottom of the flange of the lid and a corresponding series of coincident rotating cams or wedges attached to the flange of the coffin-body, whereby when the lid is applied to the coffin-body it may be securely and tightly locked thereto by the partial rotation of the cams or wedges and their engagement with the shouldered lugs, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with a coffin-body and its lid, of a series of shouldered lugs attached to the bottom of the lid and a corresponding series of coincident rotating segmental cams or wedges attached to the coffin-body, whereby when the lid is applied to the coffin-body it may be securely and tightly locked thereto by the partial rotation of the cams or wedges and their engagement with the shouldered lugs, substantially as described.

5. The combination, with a coffin-body provided with a flange near its upper edge, and its lid provided with a corresponding flange, of a series of shouldered lugs attached to the bottom of the flange of the lid and a corresponding series of coincident rotating cams or wedges attached to the flange of the coffin, and packing material interposed between the flange of the lid and the flange of the coffin-body, whereby the lid may be securely and tightly locked to the coffin-body and hermetically sealed thereto by the partial rotation of the cams or wedges and their engagement with the shouldered lugs, substantially as described.

6. A coffin-lid provided on its under side, at or near its edge, with lugs F, having cut-out portions to form shoulders *a*, in combination with the body of the coffin, provided at or near its upper edge with rotating segmental cams G, arranged coincidently with the shouldered lugs F and engaging therewith when the lid is applied and the cams are partially rotated, substantially as described.

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