

No. 792,510.

PATENTED JUNE 13, 1905.

R. F. FOLK.  
BURIAL VAULT.  
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 3, 1905.

Fig. 1.

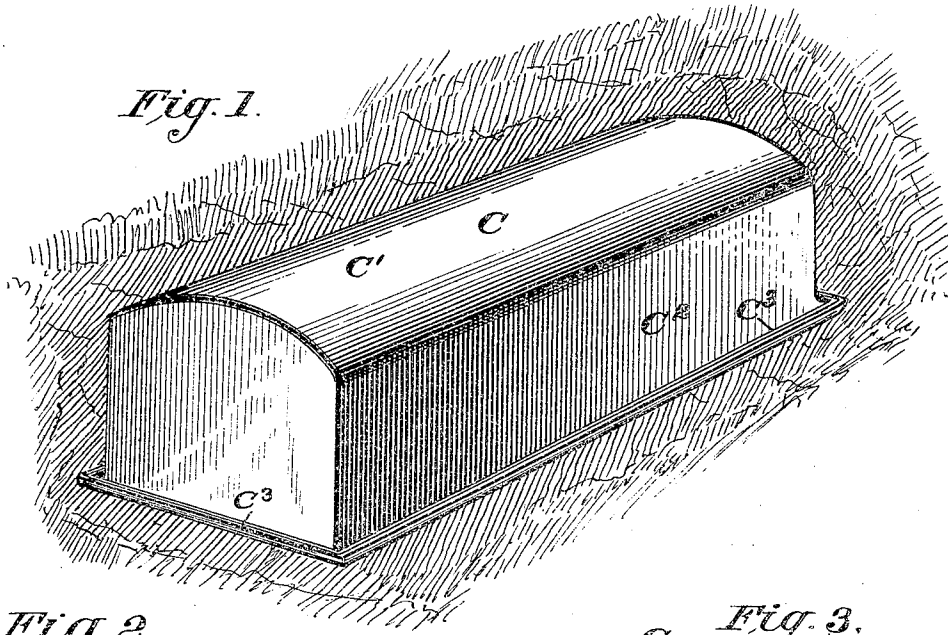


Fig. 2.

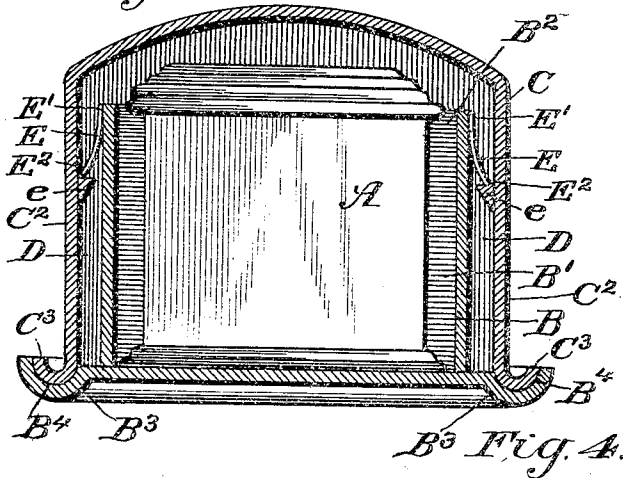


Fig. 3.

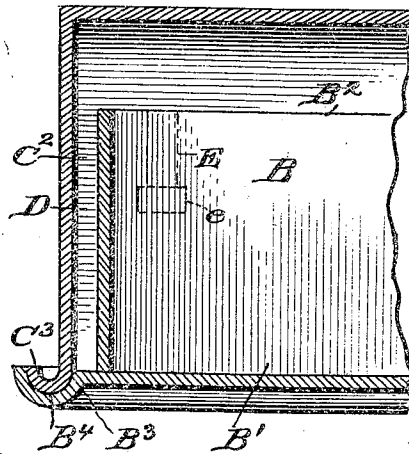
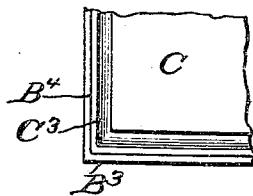


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BURIAL-VAULT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 792,510, dated June 13, 1905.

Application filed February 3, 1905. Serial No. 243,961.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RICHARD F. FOLK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Montpelier, in the county of Williams and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Vaults, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in burial-vaults; and it consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a vault embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same. Fig. 3 is a partial vertical longitudinal section of the vault, and Fig. 4 is a detail top plan view of one corner of the vault.

In form the vault partakes generally of the shape of a burial-casket, being designed in practice to receive the casket A, as shown in Fig. 1.

The improved vault comprises the main section or body B and the cover C.

The body B has the box-like portion B', open at the top B<sup>2</sup> to receive the casket A and extending practically to the top of the casket, as shown in Fig. 2. The body B is also provided at its bottom with the laterally-projecting flange B<sup>3</sup>, which extends continuously around the base of the body, and is provided in its upper side with the continuous groove B<sup>4</sup>, preferably rounded and adapted to snugly receive the returned portion at the lower edge of the cover C, as presently described. It will be noticed that the groove B<sup>4</sup> is not formed directly adjacent to the upright plates of the box B', but is spaced out slightly therefrom in order to provide between the cover C and the said upright plates an upright air-space D, forming a cushion for the air in the use of the vault, as presently described.

The cover C is preferably formed with the top C' and the depending sides C<sup>2</sup> and is provided at the lower edges of the sides C<sup>2</sup> with the outwardly-extending returned portion C<sup>3</sup> conformed to and fitting in practice in the groove B<sup>4</sup> and presenting at the lower edge of

the depending plates C<sup>2</sup> an upwardly-facing hook-like portion, which extends continuously around the base of the cover and affords additional resistance to removing the cover C after the vault has been placed in the ground and earth supplied over the upwardly-facing hook C<sup>3</sup>, as will be understood from the drawings.

The grooved construction at B<sup>4</sup> and the fitting of the returned edges C<sup>3</sup> of the cover in said groove is an important feature of the invention, together with the upwardly-projecting box-like portion within the cover and the air-cushioning space at D, between the cover and the box, as thereby when the vault is placed in the ground the air within the vault acting in the space D will exert a pressure to resist the entrance of water, and the accumulation of water in and over the groove B<sup>4</sup> will tend to seal the lower edge of the cover, so that the entrance of water into the vault will be prevented, as well as the passage of air from within, so that in practice I avoid the entrance of water into the box containing the casket and also by cutting off the supply of air securing better preservation of the contents of the vault than if the air were freely admitted.

It will be understood that the main section and cover of the vault may be of sheet-steel or other suitable material, and in forming the same the parts may be riveted, welded, or otherwise secured together, and I may in practice finish the sections by enameling or coating with aluminium or other metals or otherwise, as may be desired.

It will be noticed that the cover has no lateral projections at its sides which may serve as handles, so that it is practically impossible to remove the cover when once applied without very great trouble, so that I thus render the vault in a large measure burglar-proof. It may be desirable in some instances, however, to supply positive locks for preventing the removal of the cover, and to this end I may in some instances employ the locks shown and comprising spring-pawls E,

held at E' at one end to the box B' and engaging at their other or free ends E<sup>2</sup> upon shoulders or stops e, provided upon the inner faces of the side plates C<sup>2</sup> of the cover, as shown in the drawings.

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

1. The improved burial-vault herein described comprising the main section having a box-like portion open at its upper end and adapted at such end to extend approximately to the top of a casket and provided at the bottom of the box-like portion with a continuous laterally-projecting flange and having in the upper face of said flange a continuous groove rounded in cross-section and spaced away from the upright plates of the box and the cover having a top, and depending side plates, and fitted over the box-like portion of the main section with its side plates spaced away therefrom to form an upright air-space and having the lower edges of the side plates of the cover returned outwardly and conformed to and fitting in the groove in the bottom flange of the main section and forming an upwardly-facing hook-like portion at the

base of the cover, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A burial-vault comprising a main section having a box-like portion and a flange at the bottom thereof and provided in the upper face of said flange with a groove and the cover fitting over the box-like portion and having its side plates fitted at their lower edges in the groove of the bottom flange and provided with outwardly-projecting upwardly-facing hook-like portions extending around the cover substantially as set forth.

3. A burial-vault comprising a main section having a box-like portion adapted to receive the casket and to extend approximately to the top of said casket and provided at its bottom with an outwardly-projecting continuous flange, and the cover fitting over the box-like portion of the main section and spaced away from the latter forming an air-space and seating at its lower edge upon the laterally-projecting flange, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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