

NO. 873,563.

PATENTED DEC. 10, 1907.

J. D. LAWRENCE.
CASKET HANDLE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 15, 1907.

Fig. 1.

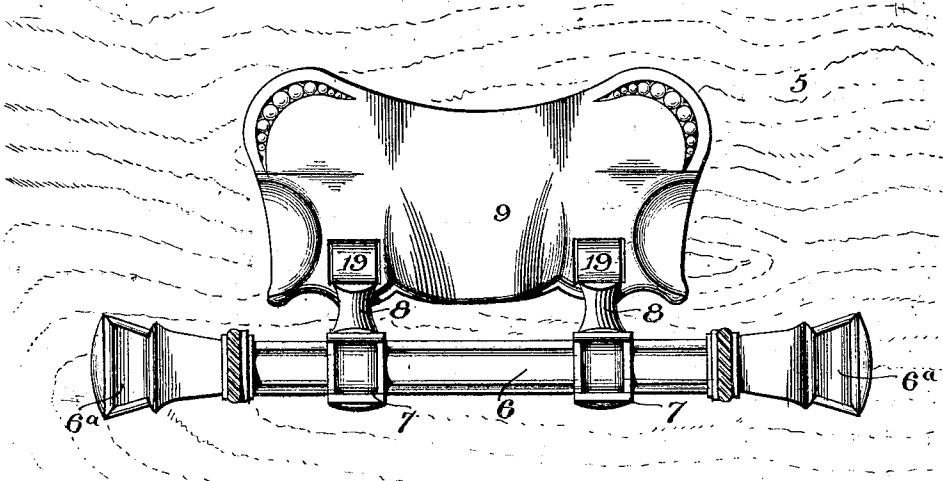


Fig. 2.

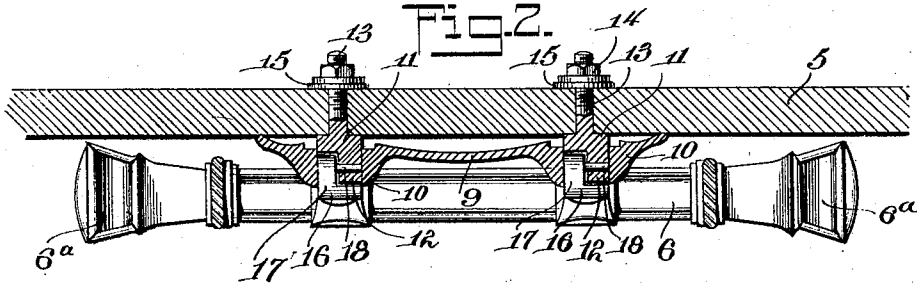
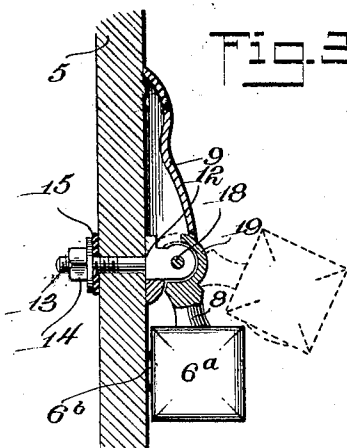
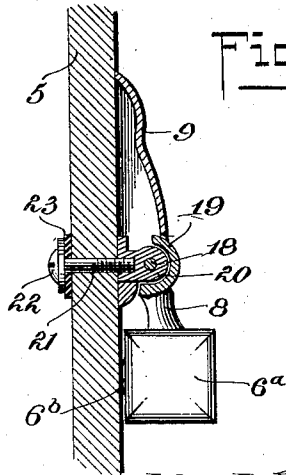


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.



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JOHN DAVID LAWRENCE, OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY.

CASKET-HANDLE.

No. 873,563.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 10, 1907.

Application filed July 15, 1907. Serial No. 383,767.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN DAVID LAWRENCE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Princeton, in the county of Mercer and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and improved Casket-Handle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to handles of the kind used upon burial caskets and coffins.

The purpose of my invention is to improve the general efficiency of the handle.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevation showing my improved handle and the plate supporting the same, as connected with the side of a casket; Fig. 2 is a fragmentary section showing the pivotal mounting for the drop arms carrying the handle; Fig. 3 is a vertical section through a part of the plate and one of the drop arms, showing how the various parts are connected and also showing the rubber gasket disposed inside of the casket for the purpose of rendering the same waterproof and airtight; and Fig. 4 is a section somewhat similar to Fig. 3 but showing another form of fastening for extending through the side of a casket.

The body portion of the casket is shown at 5 and may be of wood or metal as desired. The handle is shown at 6 and is provided with enlarged ends 6^a of ornamental design. Bracelets 7 are secured upon drop arms 8 and encircle the handle 6. These bracelets are of metal and are preferably steel cored. A metallic plate is shown at 9 and is provided with thickened portions 10.

Metallic heads 11 are provided with lugs 12 abutting the thickened portions 10 of the plate. These heads 11 are further provided with screw shanks 13 which extend directly into the casket and are secured upon the inside thereof by nuts 14. Gaskets 15 of rubber are employed for the purpose of rendering the bolts airtight where they pass into the casket.

The drop arms 8 terminate in heads 16 each having a lug 17 integral therewith. Each lug 17 carried by the drop arm mates the stationary lug 12 integral with a head 11. Each lug 17 is connected with a lug 12 mating the same by a pin 18, which simply ex-

tends through both lugs and terminates flush with the adjacent portions of the plate 9.

A portion 19 of arcuate form is connected with each drop arm 8, and forms a limiting stop for preventing the handle from swinging too far outward or rising too high, as will be understood by dotted lines in Fig. 3. Rubber buffers 6^b are mounted upon the handle and serve to cushion the same relatively to the body portion of the casket.

In the form shown in Fig. 4 the construction is nearly the same as that above described. The only difference is that the head 20 (corresponding to the head 11 in the other figures) is held in position by a screw bolt 21 provided with a head 22, the head being disposed within the casket and the screw bolt extending outwardly to engage the head 20. In this case a gasket 23 is applied to the screw head 22 and serves to maintain the same airtight relatively to the body portion of the casket.

My invention is used as follows: In order to assemble the parts the operator places the head 11 and the head 16 in such position that the lugs 12 and 17 lie side by side, or in other words mesh together. Next the pin 18 is slipped through these two lugs. This operation being performed at both ends of the handle, the screw stems 13 are next passed directly through the plate 9 and the heads 11 are now brazed or otherwise secured firmly to the plate 9.

It will be noted that the pins 18 do not extend into the plate 9 but terminate flush with the outer edges of the lugs 12, 17. The pins, however, are unable to travel endwise because of the thickened portions 10 of the plate 9. By this arrangement when the handle is swung outward and pressure applied to its under surface for the purpose of lifting the casket, the strain is not thrown upon the plate 9. Such being the case it is not necessary to secure the plate 9 to the side of the casket by aid of unsightly screws, bolts or nails, as there is little or no strain upon it, the strain being directly borne by the heads 11 or 20, as the case may be, and screw bolts extending through the body portion of the casket.

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

The combination of a head provided with a lug, having a thickness approximately equal to half the width of said head, means

for securing said head to the side of a casket,
a drop arm provided with a head and with
a lug integral with said head, said last-men-
tioned lug having a thickness approxi-
5 mately equal to one-half the width of said last-
mentioned head, a pin extending through
said lugs and terminating substantially
flush with the outer edges thereof, and an
inclosing member provided with an open-
10 ing into which said lugs extend, said opening

being further provided with surfaces against
which the heads of said pins loosely fit.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN DAVID LAWRENCE.

Witnesses:

EDWARD FROHLING,
EDWARD V. BAINWIN.