

1,054,289.

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10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE GOODRICH, OF McRAE, ARKANSAS.

BURIAL-CASKET.

1,054,289.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 25, 1913.

Application filed October 16, 1912. Serial No. 726,180.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE GOODRICH, a citizen of the United States, residing at McRae, in the county of White, State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial-Caskets; and I do hereby 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 has special reference to burial caskets and the essential object of the invention is evolved in the provision of a composition casket rendered impervious or resistible to the action of moisture and water whereby the life thereof is lengthened and leakage and decay prevented.

Another object of the invention is to construct a casket consisting of a frame preferably of soft wood covered with wire and having an inside lining of felt while cement is hardened around the wire to pass through the same and cause adherence of the felt, the frame being constructed to permit the expansion and contraction which may occur during hot or cold weather.

With these and other objects in view, the invention resides more particularly in the peculiar combination and arrangements of parts as will be partly illustrated as a preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings and described in the specification, although the invention is protected for all desirable changes and uses within the scope of the invention as claimed.

Figure 1 is a side elevation with the improved casket. Fig. 2 is an end elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the casket with a portion of the cement covering removed as well as the cover. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device before the interior lining and cement covering are applied. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the cover. Fig. 6 is a cross sectional view of the casket in finished condition before decorating.

As illustrated, the improved casket embodies preferably a slatted frame 10 preferably formed of sections of soft wood and having transverse bottom slats 11 and vertical side and end slats 12. These slats are connected to a bottom frame 13 and to a top frame 14, the latter frame having a closure seat or a rabbeted portion 15. This frame is covered with wire mesh 16 which is elec-

tric welded wire and secured to the frame in any desirable manner. A lining of cloth or heavy cotton or wool felt 17 is secured to the surrounding inner sides of the frame and is provided with a plurality of rows of securing means 18 preferably longitudinally arranged to engage the slats and cause the lining to tightly adhere thereto and resist water and moisture. After this lining is secured in position, the wire covered frame is coated with plaster indicated by the numeral 19, consisting preferably of sand and Portland cement, the same being pushed directly through the screen wire and close up against and in contact with the felt lining so as to fit closely around the small wood slats and in conjunction with the lining, to cause tight adherence thereto. After the same becomes dry, the coffin or casket is placed in water for fifteen (15) or twenty (20) days so that the same becomes as hard as flint and serves absolutely to prevent any leakage or decay. When this is done, the casket is removed and may be decorated inside and out in any suitable manner.

The lid is indicated by the numeral 20 and consists of a cement covering 21 over a frame 22, the lid being made slightly smaller say from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch, than its seat so that there will be room for the cement when the coffin or casket is finally closed. The handles 23 and 24 are made integral with the lid and sides of the casket, being molded of cement whereby after the lid is cemented on, the lifts and handles are made a part of the coffin or casket and there is no possible chance for a leak of either air or water. The utility of the frame, preferably of wood slats, is to allow for all expansion and contraction that may ever occur during hot or cold weather and the body of the coffin or casket will never leak for the want of a chance to expand or contract.

I claim:

A burial casket comprising a substantially rectangular frame, transverse parallel slats connected at their ends to the inner faces of the longitudinal members of the frame, vertical parallel slats secured at their lower ends to the outer faces of the entire frame, a substantially rectangular frame of slightly larger dimensions than the aforementioned rectangular frame placed upon the upper ends of the slats, the inner and outer faces of the last named rectangular

frame extending beyond the inner and outer faces of the vertical slats, a lining covering the inner faces of the open structure thus formed, a wire screening covering the entire exterior of said structure, and cement embedded through the wire mesh between all the parallel slats and adhering to the lining, the cement also covering the wire screening, and a similarly constructed flat

cover fitted in a seat in the upper rectangular frame.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE GOODRICH.

Witnesses:

G. B. HOPPS.

VIRA HOPE HOPPS.