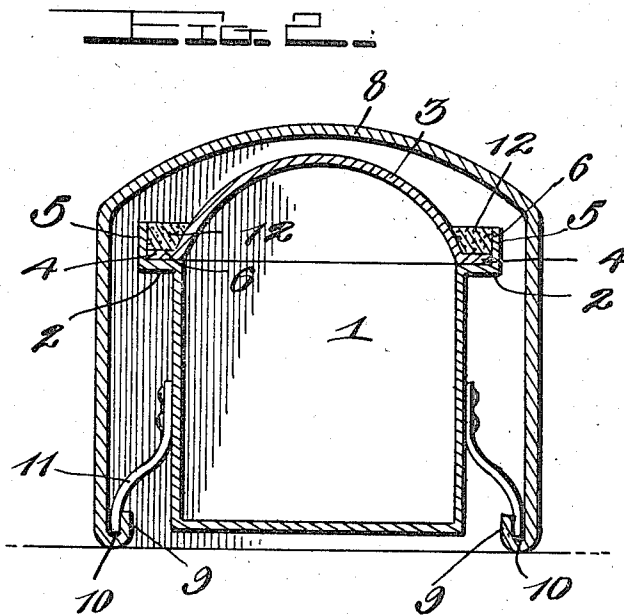
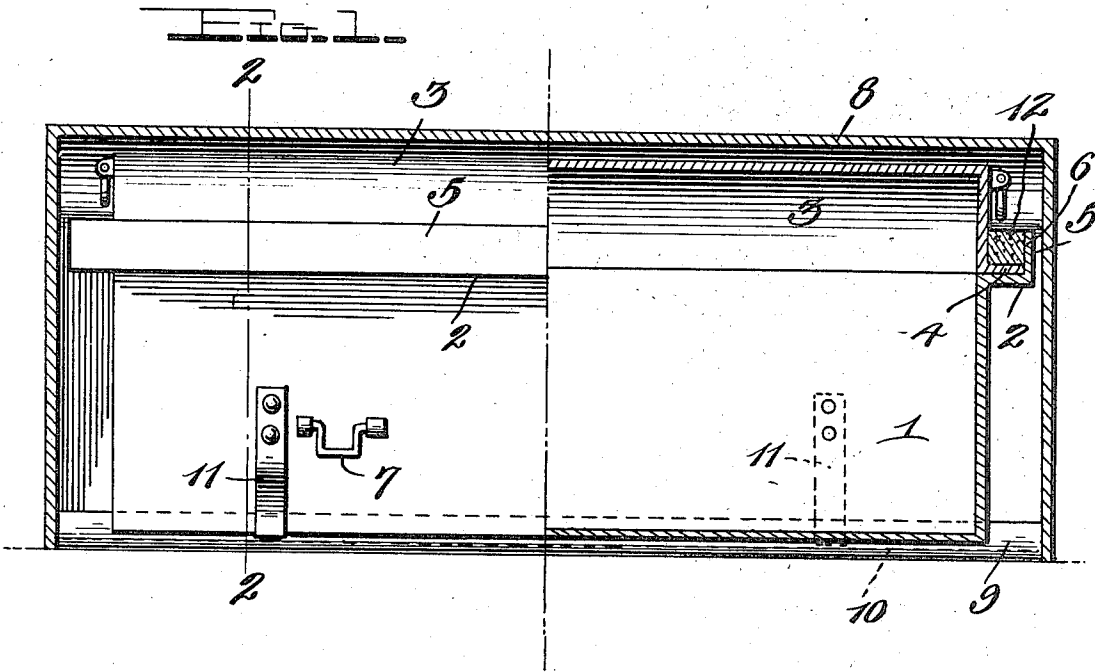


E. C. WHITMER.
BURIAL CASING OR VAULT.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 16, 1912.

1,060,050.

Patented Apr. 29, 1913.



Inventor

Earl C. Whitmer,

Witnesses
Chas. L. Griesbauer.
A. B. Norton.

By

Watson E. Coleman.
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EARL CLAYTON WHITMER, OF WILTON JUNCTION, IOWA.

BURIAL CASING OR VAULT.

1,060,050.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 29, 1913.

Application filed March 16, 1912. Serial No. 664,344.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EARL CLAYTON WHITMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wilton Junction, in the county of Muscatine and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burial Casings or Vaults, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in burial vaults and has for its primary object to provide an improved housing or casing for the vault body, and means carried by said body and supported upon the walls of the vault casing to hold the vault body in spaced relation to the casing walls.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which will possess advantages in points of efficiency and durability, is inexpensive of manufacture and at the same time is simple in construction and operation.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel features of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, pointed out in the claims, and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view, the vault being shown partly in elevation; and Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 indicates the body of a vault which is to be formed of sheet metal or other suitable material and having a horizontal flange 2 formed upon its upper edges. An arcuate cover 3 is provided having a horizontal flange 4 formed on its edges and adapted to rest upon the flange 2 of the vault. Formed on the outer edge of the horizontal flange 2 is a vertical upstanding flange 5 which forms, when the cover is in place, a trough 6 wherein cement or other suitable sealing material is placed to render the vault air tight and absolutely water proof. Handles 7 are secured to each side of the vault to permit easy handling of the same.

An inverted U-shaped casing 8 is provided which is to be formed of the same material as the body of the vault and is adapted to be arranged over and inclose the vault as shown in Fig. 2. The longitudinal edges of the casing are bent upon themselves as shown at 9 to form the channels 10. Secured to each side of the body of the vault

are the downwardly projecting resilient catch members 11, the lower ends of which are adapted to engage in the channels 10 when the casing is arranged over the body to prevent the removal of the casing. These spring members 11 are to be secured to the side of the body of the vault, by means of solder or other suitable material so that no openings will have to be made in the side of the body for the reception of bolts, rivets or other securing means which would permit air or water to enter the body.

In the use of my improved vault, the coffin is to be placed in the body member of the vault and securely sealed therein by placing the cover 3 upon the vault and then filling the trough 6 with cement as shown at 12, or other suitable sealing material to render the vault air tight and absolutely water proof. The casing 8 is then arranged over the vault body and moved downwardly thereon until the ends of the catch members or spring plates 11 spring into the channels 10 upon the longitudinal edges of the side walls of the casing. With the vault thus suspended within the casing in spaced relation to the walls thereof, the whole is then lowered into the grave.

It will of course, be understood that the edges of the casing 8 rest upon suitable supporting means arranged in the bottom of the grave to prevent the casing from sinking into the ground. The heavy spring plates 11 yieldably support the body 1 within said outer casing in spaced relation to the walls thereof and to the ground surface, thus providing an air space, which entirely surrounds said body. By this means, it will be appreciated that rapid deterioration of the vault body 1 is overcome. Thus it will be seen that the spring catch members 11 have a double function, in that they not only lock the outer casing to the body of the vault but also yieldably support the vault body within said casing, said springs sustaining the entire weight of the vault body and preventing the same from sinking into the ground.

From the above description taken in connection with the drawings, the use, advantages, and construction of my improved casing and vault will be readily understood.

While I have shown and described the preferred form of my invention it will be obvious that various changes in the details of construction and in the proportions may

be resorted to for successfully carrying my invention into practice without sacrificing any of the novel features or departing from the scope thereof.

5 What I claim is:—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a vault body, of a casing therefor of inverted U shaped form adapted to be arranged over said body and disposed in spaced relation to the walls thereof, the longitudinal edges of said casing being inwardly bent and upwardly extended in parallel relation to the casing walls, said inwardly bent edges of the casing walls forming channels which extend the entire length of the casing, and heavy spring plates, each of said plates being reversely bent and having one of its ends fixed to the vault body, the other ends of said spring plates being disposed within said longitudinal channels of the casing and held by the

upwardly extending edges thereof against lateral movement with relation to the casing walls.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination with a vault body, of a casing therefor open upon one side to receive said vault body, supporting members carried by the vault body and extending below the base thereof, and means on the opposed walls of said casing to receive said supporting members whereby the vault body is supported in spaced relation to the casing walls, and yieldably held against lateral movement with relation thereto.

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

EARL CLAYTON WHITMER.

Witnesses:

NELLIE M. WHITMER,
A. E. WHITMER.