

No. 642,504.

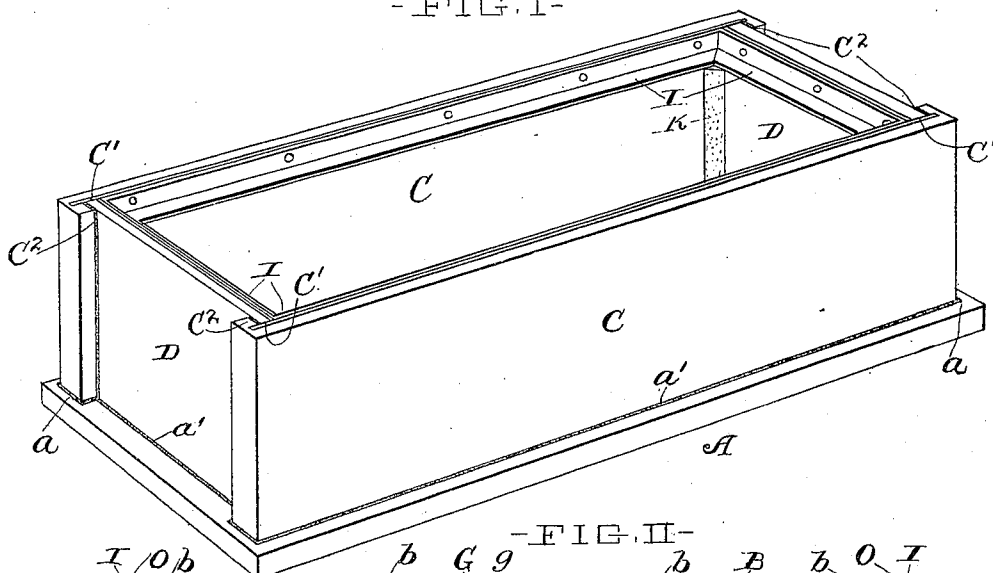
Patented Jan. 30, 1900.

R. G. SYKES.
GRAVE VAULT.

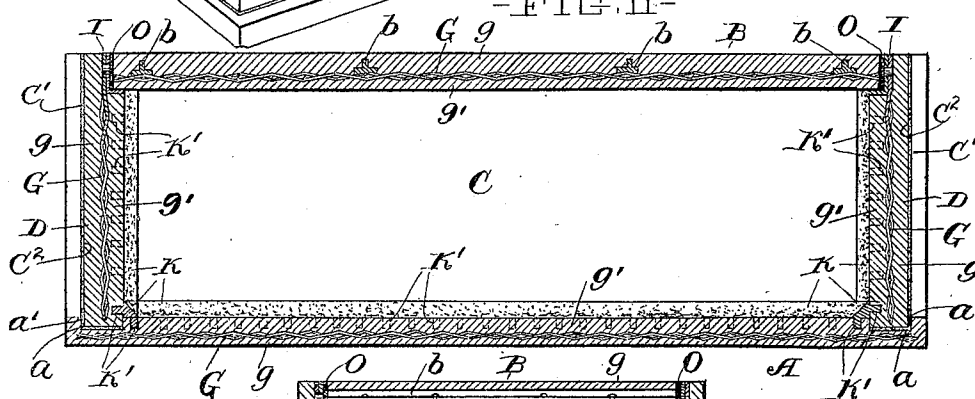
(Application filed Dec. 4, 1897.)

(No Model.)

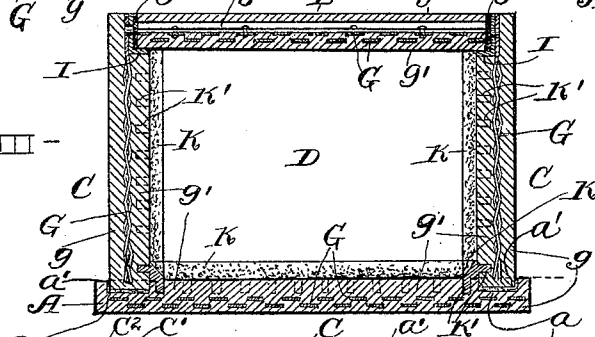
-FIG. I-



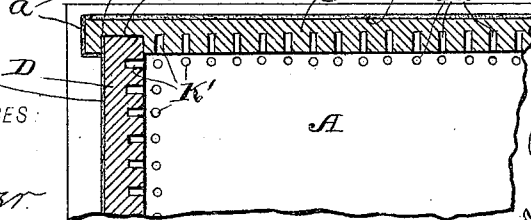
-FIG. II-



-FIG. III-



-FIG. IV-



WITNESSES:

Daniel C. Daly
J. L. Ward / Provr.

INVENTOR

Raymond G. Sykes.

BY

Spencer Dorer & Donnelly

ATTORNEYS,

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RAYMOND G. SYKES, OF NILES, OHIO.

GRAVE-VAULT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 642,504, dated January 30, 1900.

Application filed December 4, 1897. Serial No. 660,739. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RAYMOND G. SYKES, of Niles, Trumbull county, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grave-Vaults; 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 pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improved grave-vault designed to receive the coffin or casket containing the corpse.

The object of my invention is to provide a practical and durable grave-vault which can be easily and quickly manufactured, that is impervious to air and water, and from which the coffin or body cannot be removed without the destruction of the vault.

With this object in view my invention consists in certain features of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure I is a perspective of my improved vault without its top or cover. Fig. II is a longitudinal vertical section of the vault with the cover in place, and Fig. III is a transverse vertical section of the closed vault. Fig. IV is a top plan, in horizontal section, of a corner of the vault.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the vault's bottom or base; B, the top or cover; C C, the two sides, and D D the two ends. Each of the parts A, B, C C, and D D is composed of a slab that consists of a sheet of metallic lath G, covered upon each side with a layer of cement, and *g* and *g'* designate the cement on opposite sides, respectively, of a slab. A slab made in the manner described possesses great strength and durability.

The side slabs and end slabs of the vault at their lower ends engage grooves *a*, formed in the bottom slab, and are cemented, as at *a'*, to the bottom slab within the said grooves, that are large enough to accommodate not only the reception of the upright slabs, but also the introduction of the cement *a'* along the external surfaces of the upright slabs at the upper side of the bottom slab. The bottom slab and the upright slabs are therefore firmly united together by cement, and the latter forms a fluid-tight joint between the bottom slab and the upright slabs.

The end slabs of the vault at their upright ends engage grooves C', formed in the side slabs, and are cemented, as at C², to the side slabs within the said grooves, that are large enough to accommodate not only the reception of the engaging ends of the end slabs, but also the introduction of the cement C² between the outer sides of the end slabs and the outer and inwardly facing sides of the said grooves. The end slabs and side slabs are therefore united together by cement, that forms a fluid-tight joint between the side slabs and the end slabs. The body portion of the vault, near its upper end and internally, is provided with a seat for the cover or closing-slab B, and the said seat consists, preferably, of angle-irons I, secured in any approved manner to the metallic lath that constitutes the interior portion of the side slabs and end slabs—that is, an angle-iron I is secured to each of the upright slabs, and all of the angle-irons are arranged in the same horizontal plane, so as to form a suitable seat for the cover B.

The internal corners of the body portion of the vault, below the cover's seat, are provided with cement K, that entirely covers the joints between adjacent slabs, and I would remark that the joints between the upright slabs, along their entire length below the cover's seat, and the joints between the upright slabs and bottom slab, along their entire length, are covered, internally of the vault, with cement, that forms a fluid-tight joint between the connected slabs and is also instrumental in uniting the connected slabs together. Also more or less of the cement employed in the covering of the internal joints of the vault runs in its application into holes or recesses K', formed in the connected slabs, so as to form a key that is instrumental in supporting the said cement and in more perfectly uniting the connected slabs together, and I would here remark that each of the slabs of the vault proper, upon its inner side and in close proximity to the joint between each end thereof and the end of the adjacent slab, is provided with a series of holes or recesses K', arranged at suitable intervals along the said end for the purpose of receiving cement during the application of the cement to the internal corners of the vault. In Fig. IV of the

drawings is shown a corner of the vault before covering the joints interiorly between the slabs of the said corner. The cover or closing-slab is somewhat smaller in dimensions than the opening at the upper side of the seat provided to receive it, but large enough to rest upon the said seat at the inner edge of each upright slab, and the cover when applied is placed in position centrally upon the said seat, and the narrow space between the edges of the cover and the opposing surfaces of the vault proper is filled with cement *O*, that not only forms a fluid-tight joint between the edges of the cover and the vault proper, but is instrumental in uniting the cover and vault proper firmly together. The slab that forms the cover differs in construction from the remaining slabs that compose the vault proper in that it is provided internally with flanged irons *b*, preferably T-irons, that are secured in any approved manner to the metallic lath employed in the construction of the cover and extend transversely of the cover and are long enough to overlap

and rest upon the cover's seat at the sides of the vault proper when the cover is applied. The said irons impart rigidity and strength to the cover and are preferably covered by the cement that forms the upper surface of the cover.

What I claim is—

A vault having its body portion or vault proper composed of upright slabs and a bottom slab suitably assembled and made, respectively, of metallic lathing covered with cement, and angle-irons arranged so as to form a seat for a cover for the vault internally of the vault proper, at the latter's upper end and inner side, which angle-irons are suitably secured to the lathing of the upright slabs, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification, in the presence of two witnesses, this 27th day of October, 1897.

RAYMOND G. SYKES.

Witnesses:

MINNIE MARVIN,
O. S. McCARTY.