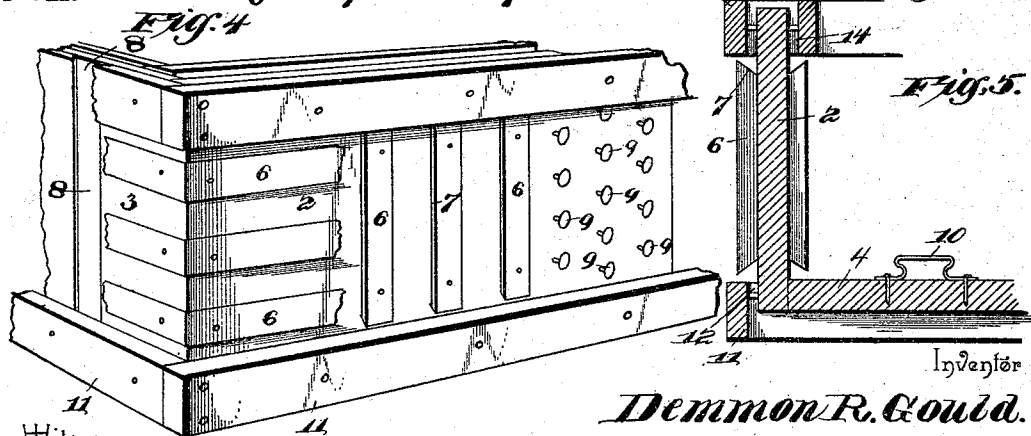
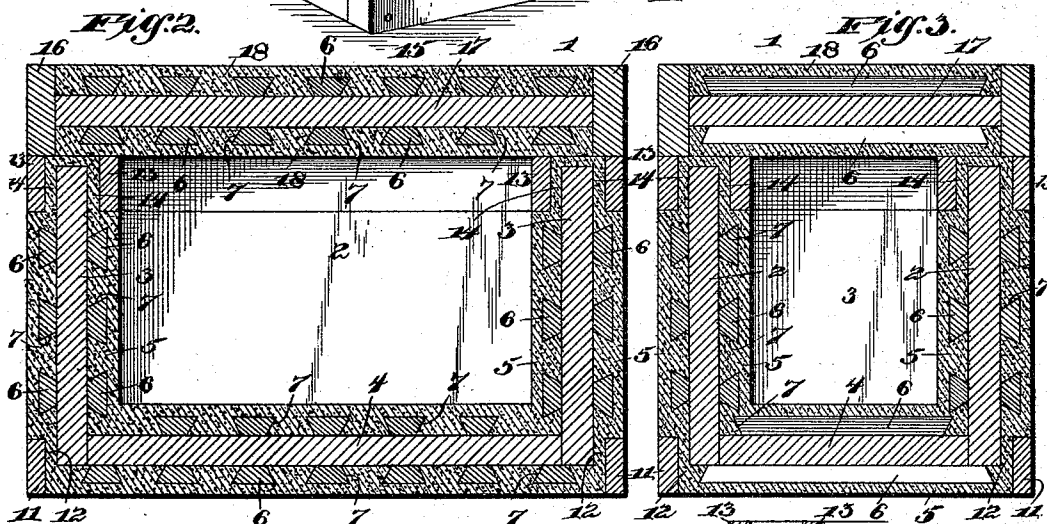
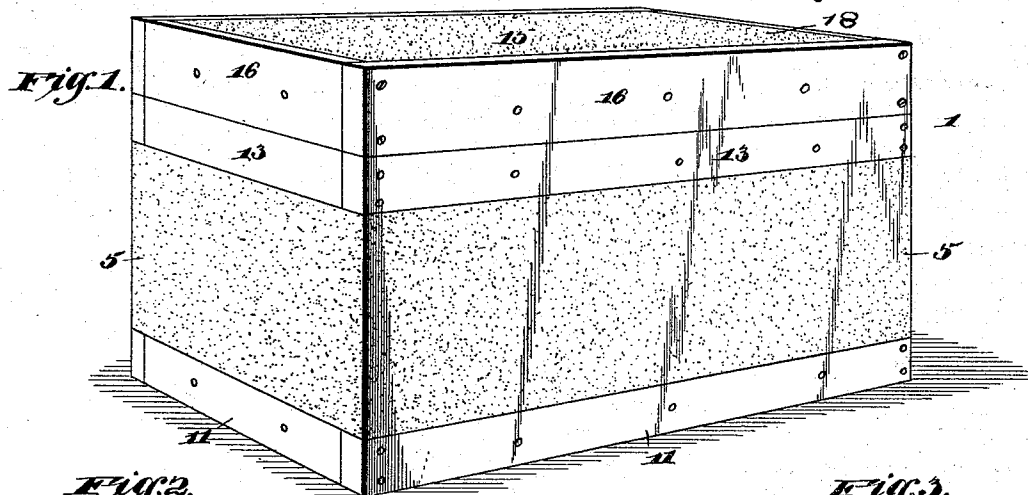


(No Model.)

D. R. GOULD.
COFFIN.

No. 543,152.

Patented July 23, 1895.



Witnesses

Wm. T. Doyle.
D. P. Hollensted.

By *his* Attorneys.

Demmon R. Gould.

Chas. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DEMMON R. GOULD, OF GLENS FALLS, NEW YORK.

COFFIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 543,152, dated July 23, 1895.

Application filed June 30, 1894. Serial No. 516,188. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DEMMON R. GOULD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Glens Falls, in the county of Warren and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Coffin, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to coffins.

The main and primary object of the present invention is to provide a new and useful burial coffin or casket that shall be perfectly air-tight, waterproof, and substantially imperishable.

To this end the invention contemplates a combined wood and cement coffin that shall be comparatively simple and inexpensive in construction, while at the same time being perfectly air-tight and waterproof, and one which will retain its original shape and qualities even after the decay of any exposed wooden portions thereof.

With these and other objects in view, which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a coffin and its lid or cover constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical longitudinal sectional view thereof. Fig. 3 is a similar transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a detail in perspective of a section of the coffin-box without the cement or plastic filling or covering, showing several different forms of anchoring or retaining means for the cement filling or covering. Fig. 5 is a detail vertical sectional view of the construction shown in Fig. 4.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates a wooden coffin-box constructed in any suitable shape and in the proper sizes, and said coffin-box comprises the connected side and end boards 2 and 3, and the bottom board 4, secured to the inner lower edges of said connected side and end boards.

In the present invention the upper and lower sides of the bottom board 4 and the inner and outer sides of the connected side and end boards are adapted to be covered or plastered over with a plastic or cement filling

or covering 5, which may be made of any suitable cement, concrete, or other plastic material that can be readily applied to the sides and bottom of the coffin-box in a soft pliable condition and which will subsequently harden or solidify into a solid stone-like mass that will form the inner and outer walls of the coffin and will be perfectly air and water tight, while at the same time substantially imperishable.

In applying the cement or plastic covering to the bottom and sides of the box it is necessary to make a provision for "holding or anchoring" the same to the wood, and to effect this several different anchoring or retaining means may be employed, such as illustrated in Fig. 4 of the drawings. As illustrated in this figure of the drawings, both the outer and inner sides of the connected side and end boards, as well as the upper and lower sides of the bottom board, may have attached thereto a series of parallel retaining-slats 6, having undercut edges 7 to securely hold the cement or plastic material when the same is applied, and these slats may be arranged on the side and end boards as well as the bottom board of the box transversely or longitudinally thereof, or both transversely and longitudinally, as may be found most desirable. By reason of employing the slats 6 the same form cement-grooves therebetween, and an obvious modification of this arrangement would be to provide the boards comprising the box with transverse or longitudinal dovetailed cement-grooves 8, which would serve to anchor or retain the cement in position in substantially the same manner as the slats 6.

By reference to Fig. 4 of the drawings it will be noted that in addition to the slats 6 and the grooves 8 other anchoring or cement-retaining means are shown, such as headed nails or similar projections 9 or a series of dovetailed-shape sheet-metal anchoring-plates 10; and it will of course be understood that whichever specific anchoring or cement-retaining means are employed all of the boards comprising the coffin-box will be uniformly provided therewith, the illustration of Fig. 4 being simply intended to show the different means that could be employed.

The outer lower edge of the coffin-box 1 is surrounded by the lower side and end connected

batten-rails 11, consisting of suitable-length strips of wood. The lower batten-rails 11 are secured to the outer sides of the box and are held spaced therefrom to leave an intervening filling-space 12, which receives the cement or plastic filling 5 on the outside of the box, and the lower edges of the connected lower batten-rails 11 project below the plane of the bottom board 4 of the box, so that the portion of the cement covering or filling that covers the under side of the bottom board of the box will come out flush with the lower edges of the rails 11, and such rails act in the capacity of a protecting-rim for this portion of the covering or filling to protect the edges thereof and prevent the same from chipping and breaking off.

The upper edge of the coffin-box 1 is surrounded by the upper inner and outer batten-rails 13, which are secured to the outside and inside of the box at its upper edge and are held spaced therefrom to leave an intervening filling-space 14, corresponding to the lower filling-space 12, and also adapted to receive the cement covering or filling that is placed both on the outside and inside of the box. The upper outer and inner batten-rails 13 are arranged on both sides of the side and end boards of the box and project above the plane of the same, or at least above the plane of their upper edges, so as to leave a filling-space above the upper edges of said side and end boards of the box, that receives the plastic covering or filling 5, which is smoothed off flush with the upper edges of the rails 13, so as to form a cement top edge for the coffin, which will outlast the outer and inner batten-rails between which this portion of the covering or filling is placed.

The portion of the cement covering or filling that lines up both the inside and outside of the coffin-box is smoothed off flush with the upper and lower batten-rails, so that there are no projecting edges beyond such batten-rails, and when thus completed the coffin-box will possess the qualities noted and the cement portion thereof will be so placed as to comprise the substantial part of the coffin, so as to provide a coffin that will last an indefinite time.

The lid or cover 15 for the coffin essentially comprises a rectangular frame-rim 16 and an intermediate lid or cover-board 17, secured within the frame-rim 16 at a point intermediate of its upper and lower edges, and said board 17 is provided on both its upper and

lower sides with any of the cement anchoring or retaining means hereinbefore described and is adapted to be covered or faced over with a cement or plastic covering or filling 18, which is lined off flush with the upper and lower edges of the frame-rim 16, so as to be protected thereby.

The construction of lid or cover for the coffin is substantially the same as the construction of the body of the coffin itself and completes therewith a combined wood and cement coffin that is absolutely air and water tight and is practically imperishable.

Changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

In a coffin, the combination of a wooden box body, lower batten rails 11 extending continuously around the lower outer edge of the box body and secured in position at a distance from the outside of the box body to leave an intervening filling space, said lower batten rails also projecting at their lower edges below the plane of the bottom of the box body, upper inner and outer batten rails 13 arranged inside and outside of the box body at the upper edge thereof and secured in position at a distance, respectively, from the inner and outer sides of the box body to leave intervening filling spaces, said upper inner and outer batten rails also projecting at their upper edges above the plane of the upper edge of the box body, and a cement or plastic covering facing the entire inside and outside of the box body and filled in the intervening spaces formed between the box body and the upper and lower batten rails, said cement or plastic filling being also lined up flush with the outer sides of the outer batten rails, the inner sides of the inner batten rails, the lower projecting edges of the lower batten rails, and the upper projecting edges of the upper batten rails, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

DEMMON R. GOULD.

Witnesses:

S. B. GOODMAN,
FRED J. MUNDY.