T. H. SEIFERT.

VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 28, 1907.

900,218. Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

Fig. 1.

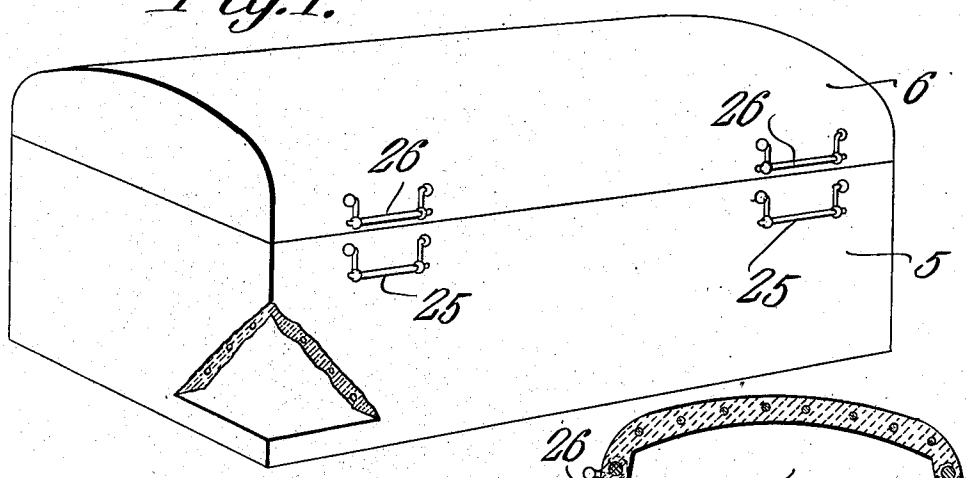


Fig. 3.

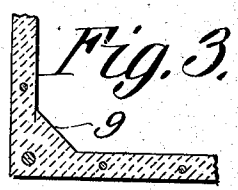


Fig. 2.

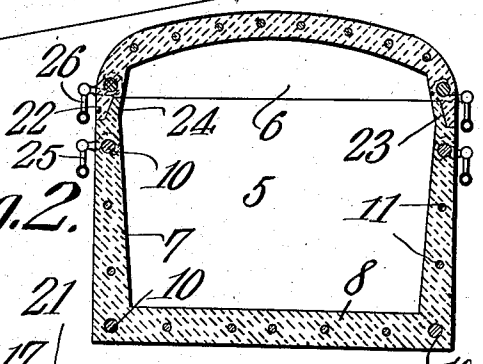
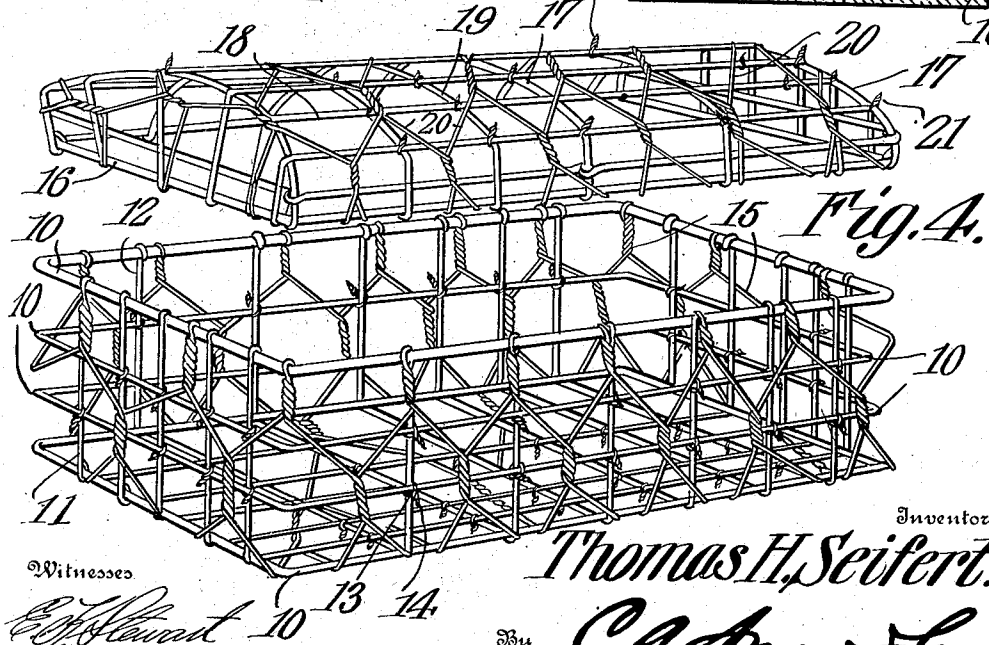


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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VAULT.

No. 900,218. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

Application filed December 28, 1907. Serial No. 408,410.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. SEIFERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springtown, in the county of Bucks and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Vault, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to burial vaults and has for its object to provide an artificial stone vault having a metallic shell or core embedded in the walls thereof thereby to reinforce and strengthen the vault and prevent the cement from disintegrating.

A further object of the invention is to provide a vault having an arched cover or lid the peripheral edge of which is provided with a depending flange adapted to engage a corresponding flange on the upper edge of the body portion, there being a water proof cement interposed between the flanges for hermetically sealing the vault.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a burial vault constructed in accordance with my invention, a corner of the body portion being broken away to show the interior construction of the same. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view showing the manner of reinforcing the side and end walls of the vault. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the reinforcing shells or cores of the body portion and cover of the vault, respectively.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved vault forming the subject matter of the present invention comprises a substantially rectangular body portion 5 and a lid or cover 6, said body portion and cover being formed preferably of a composition consisting of cement 2 parts, sand 1 part and crushed stone 1 part, the several parts being thoroughly combined and placed in a suitable mold to produce the vault shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

The inner faces of the side walls 7 are preferably inclined in an outward direction from the base or bottom of the vault 8, there being diagonally disposed reinforcing braces 9 arranged at the juncture of the side and end walls of the vault to assist in strengthening the latter.

Embedded in the cement body of the vault during the formation of the latter is a reinforcing shell or core consisting of a plurality of substantially rectangular frames 10 arranged one above the other in parallel planes and connected by intersecting, longitudinal and transverse rods 11 and 12 which serve to space the frames 10 the required distance apart and also to impart the desired rigidity to the shell.

The longitudinal bars 11 extend beneath the lower frame of the shell with their terminals attached to the opposite sides of the upper reinforcing frame, while the transverse rods 12 after extending beneath the lower rectangular frame are projected upwardly at the opposite sides of the shell and are fastened to the adjacent sides of the upper reinforcing frame.

The longitudinal and transverse rods are fastened together by tie wires 13 which latter are passed around the rods 11 and 12 at their points of intersection and are thence twisted and bent laterally to form anchoring spurs 14 adapted to be embedded in the concrete forming the body portion of the vault, thereby to assist in preventing disintegration of the cement.

The shell of the body portion is further reinforced and strengthened by the provision of a wire mesh covering 15 which surrounds the bottom, side and end walls of the shell and is rigidly secured to the upper reinforcing frame of the latter, as shown.

The reinforcing core or shell of the cover 6 consists of a substantially rectangular supporting frame 16 similar in construction to the frames 10 and to the opposite ends of which are secured vertically disposed transversely arched end pieces or frames 17, the latter being connected by longitudinal rods 18 having their opposite ends fastened in any suitable manner to the frame 16. One or more intermediate arched rods 19 intersect the longitudinal rods 18 with their terminals fastened to the adjacent ends of the frame 16. The shell of the cover 6 is also provided with a woven wire mesh cover 20 and a plurality of tie wires 21 which latter

serve to fasten the transverse rods to the longitudinal rods and also assist in anchoring the upper shell in the cement forming the lid or cover.

The marginal edge of the cover 6 is provided with a depending flange 22 defining a peripheral rabbet or groove 23 adapted to receive a corresponding flange 24 formed on the side and end walls of the body portion, each flange being provided with an inclined face adapted to receive a suitable water proof cement when the parts are assembled thereby to hermetically seal the vault. Suitable handles 25 and 26 are also preferably formed on the body portion and lid, respectively, with their inner ends coiled around or otherwise secured to the adjacent supporting frames of the reinforcing shells, as shown. If desired, however, the handles may be dispensed with without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A burial vault including a concrete body portion, and a reinforcing shell embedded in the concrete forming the body portion and comprising a plurality of frames supported one above the other in parallel planes and connected by intersecting, longitudinal and transverse rods, a wire mesh covering forming a housing for the intersecting rods and secured to the upper supporting frame, and a cover for the body portion.

2. A burial vault including a concrete body portion having a reinforcing shell embedded therein and comprising a plurality of substantially rectangular frames supported one above the other in parallel planes and connected by intersecting longitudinal and transverse rods, a wire mesh covering forming a housing for the rods and secured to the upper supporting frame, and tie wires disposed at the intersection of the transverse and longitudinal rods and provided with terminal anchoring spurs.

3. A burial vault including a concrete body portion, a reinforcing shell embedded in the concrete forming the body portion and comprising a plurality of substantially rectangular frames supported one above the other in parallel planes and connected by intersecting longitudinal and transverse rods, a wire mesh covering forming a housing for the rods and secured to the upper reinforcing frame, tie rods disposed at the intersection of the transverse and longitudinal rods and provided with terminal anchoring spurs, a concrete cover, and a reinforcing shell embedded in the cover and comprising a frame having spaced arched end pieces secured thereto and connected by longitudinal rods, transverse rods connecting the opposite sides of the frame of the cover shell and intersecting the longitudinal rods, a wire mesh covering forming a part of the cover shell, and tie wires connecting the longitudinal and transverse rods of the cover shell and provided with terminal anchoring spurs.

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

THOMAS H. SEIFERT.

Witnesses:
EDWIN S. KRAMER,
JOHN C. EAKIN.