

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL L. BARNES, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PROCESS OF EMBALMING.

978,814.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 13, 1910.

No Drawing.

Application filed June 11, 1908. Serial No. 437,810.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL L. BARNES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Processes of Embalming, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the art of embalming bodies, and its object is to provide a process for embalming bodies without cutting or mutilation.

The invention consists broadly in the use of formaldehyde applied externally and internally to a body placed in an air-tight casket, when after twenty-four to seventy-two hours it is found that the formaldehyde has permeated the entire body and preserved and embalmed it.

More in detail the invention consists in the use of an alcoholic solution of formaldehyde inside the body placed in the presence of formaldehyde gas or liquid solution of formaldehyde either aqueous or alcoholic or even plain alcohol within an air-tight casket or other chamber for a period of from twenty-four to seventy-two hours.

In operating the process the body is first wrapped in suitable bandages saturated with said liquid solution formaldehyde or even alcohol. The larger cavities of the body, such as the lungs, brain, stomach and bowels, are then filled in the ordinary manner, without cutting or external mutilation, with an alcoholic solution of formaldehyde. This is made by taking paraform and dissolving it in hot alcohol. The body thus treated is then placed in an absolutely air-tight casket, where it is, in the case of a grown person, kept for from twenty-four to seventy-two hours, after which it is removed and the wrappings removed and it is found that the body is permanently embalmed. The reason for this is that the alcoholic solution of formaldehyde within the body seeks water and to get it passes

from the greater cavities through the body to the surface, absorbing the water therein as it does so and leaving the body thoroughly impregnated with the formaldehyde. At the same time the chemical applied to the wrappings passes inward to meet the alcoholic solution. Experiments show that the process can be less satisfactorily worked by using some other water absorbing liquid, such as alcohol for the external application, but formaldehyde solution is preferred. In embalming the bodies of children a shorter time is required.

The claims are:

1. The process of embalming without cutting or mutilation of the body, consisting in filling only the larger cavities of the body with a solution of formaldehyde, placing the same in an air tight receptacle in the presence of formaldehyde and allowing the body to remain therein until the formaldehyde has thoroughly permeated the body.

2. The process of embalming without cutting or mutilation of the body, consisting in filling only the larger cavities of the body with a solution of formaldehyde, inclosing the body in wrappers saturated with a solution of formaldehyde, and retaining the body thus prepared in an air tight receptacle until thoroughly impregnated with formaldehyde.

3. The process of embalming consisting in filling the larger cavities of the body with an alcoholic solution of formaldehyde, inclosing the body in wrappers saturated with an alcoholic solution of formaldehyde and retaining the body thus prepared in an air tight receptacle until thoroughly impregnated with formaldehyde.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

CARL L. BARNES.

Witnesses:

JOHN C. EDWARD,
DWIGHT B. CHEEVER.