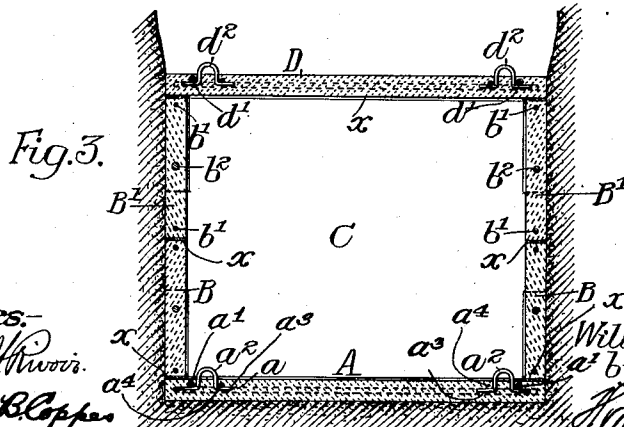
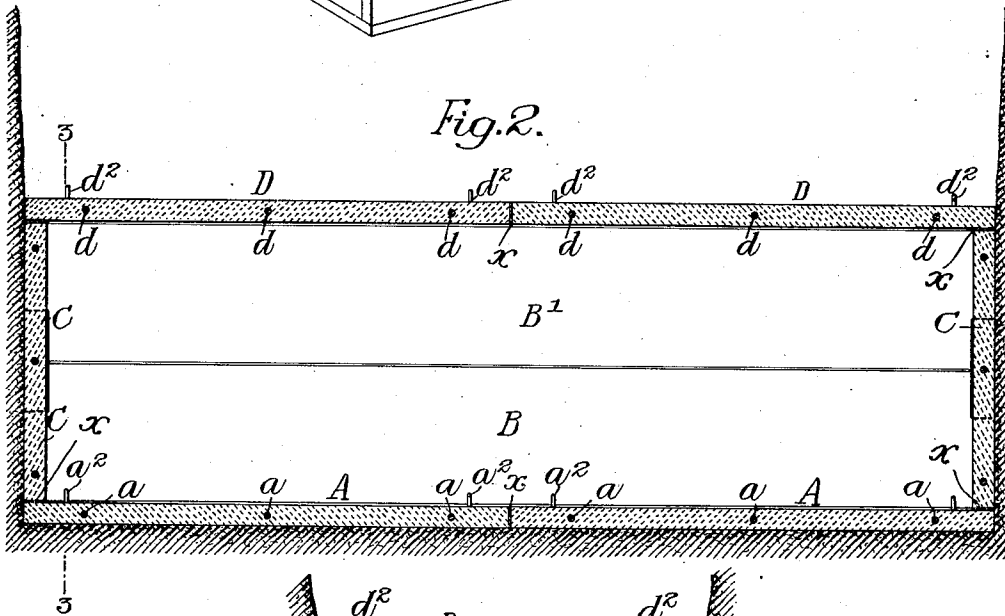
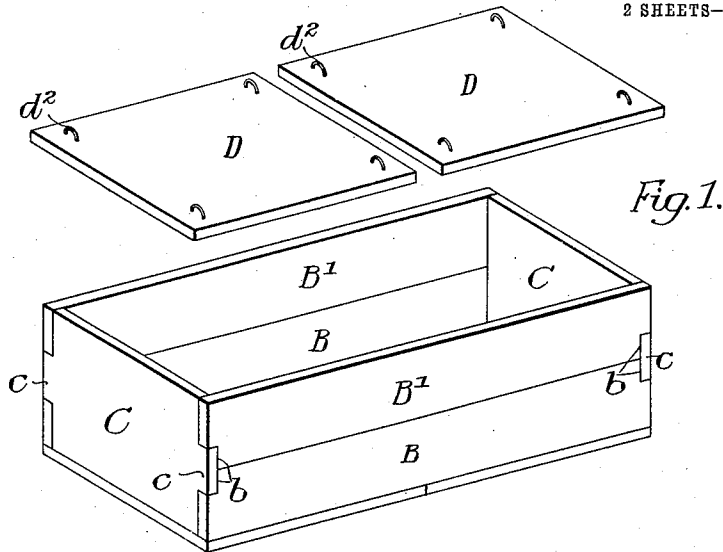


W. J. DRUMMOND.  
BURIAL BOX.  
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 3, 1908.

1,024,471.

Patented Apr. 23, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:  
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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

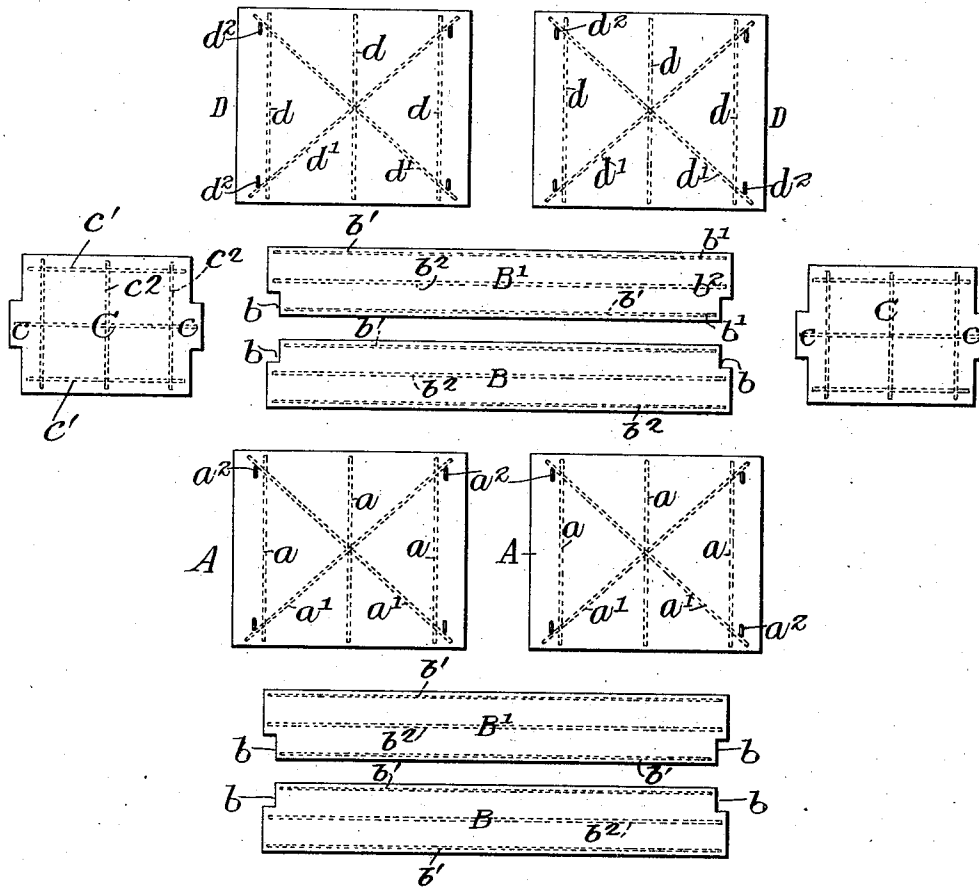
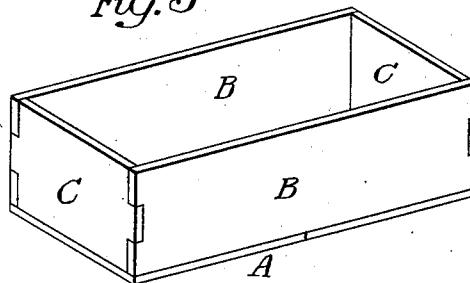


Fig. 5



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. DRUMMOND, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## BURIAL-BOX.

1,024,471.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 23, 1912.

Application filed November 3, 1908. Serial No. 460,870.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. DRUMMOND, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Burial-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap and substantial inclosing structure for a burial casket or coffin, which structure may be readily placed in a grave without the use of derricks or other lifting mechanism, and when completed will be practically air tight.

Other features of my invention will be pointed out hereinafter, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1, is a perspective view of my improved structure showing the cover sections lifted; Fig. 2, is a longitudinal sectional view of the structure in position in the grave; Fig. 3, is a transverse sectional view on the line 3—3, Fig. 2; Fig. 4, is a view showing the several sections of the box detached, and Fig. 5, is a view illustrating a modified construction available for use in small graves.

It has been customary to use a box of wood or sheet metal to inclose a burial casket; to construct in the grave a brick structure covered with a stone slab to inclose the casket, or to make a very heavy structure out of cement which requires a derrick and considerable rigging to lower the same into position within the grave. Wooden and metal boxes deteriorate and are useless in a very short time. Brick vaults are satisfactory but they are very expensive, occupy a large space and take considerable time to build, and the cement structures are cumbersome and are not only expensive to make but also to place in the grave. I overcome all these objections by making a concrete inclosing structure in a number of sections, any one of which can be readily lifted into position by a mason; the entire structure being capable of assembly with very little labor in a very short time.

Referring to the drawings, A, A, represent two slabs of concrete of the proper width and length and of sufficient thickness to insure rigidity; such slabs being designed to serve as the bottom of the structure. The slabs A may be reinforced in any suitable manner, preferably as shown in Fig. 4, where they are represented as having a se-

ries of transverse metal rods  $a$  and diagonal rods  $a'$  embedded within the material forming the same so as to strengthen each slab and make it perfectly rigid. In order that the slabs may be readily handled, I may provide eyes  $a^2$  adjacent the several corners of the same, which eyes may be of sections of wire bent to form extensions  $a^3$  which underlie the reinforcing rods  $a'$  and short reinforcing sections  $a^4$ , as clearly shown in Fig. 3. When the structure is complete, the wire eyes  $a^2$  can be bent down so as to be practically flush with the surface of the bottom slabs.

The sides are made in two sections B, B', one mounted directly above the other, and each section is notched at each end, as indicated at  $b$  in the drawings, for the reception of tongues  $c$  projecting from the end sections C. The side sections have a series of longitudinal reinforcing rods or wires  $b'$ ,  $b^2$  extending the full length of the sections; the central rods or wires  $b^2$  being preferably heavier than the upper and lower rods or wires  $b'$ , and two of the rods or wires extend the full length of each side section so as to overlap the end sections C.

The end sections C are preferably reinforced with a series of longitudinal and vertical rods or wires  $c'$  and  $c^2$ ; the central longitudinal rod or wire extending the full length of the section so as to enter the tongues  $c$ , as indicated, and this reinforcing of the corners of the structure makes it very substantial.

D, D represent the top plates or slabs, of a construction similar to the bottom slabs A; having transverse reinforcing rods  $d$  and diagonal reinforcing rods  $d'$ , and adjacent each corner of the top plates or slabs, eyes or loops  $d^2$  are placed so that the slabs can be readily handled. The eyes  $d^2$  are retained in the slabs in the same manner as the eyes  $a^2$ .

In assembling my improved inclosing structure a grave of the proper size is dug and substantially leveled on the bottom. The two bottom slabs A are then placed in position, as in Fig. 2; said slabs being cemented together at  $x$ , and cement is placed on top of the slabs adjacent each longitudinal edge of the same. The bottom side sections B are then placed in position, engaging such cement, after which a layer of cement is placed on top of the slab sections A adjacent the ends of the same and then the end sec-

tions C are placed in position; the tongues *c* entering the recesses in the ends of the side sections B, as indicated in Fig. 1. A layer of cement is placed for contact between the adjoining portions of side sections and the end sections at each corner, after which the upper portions B' of the side sections are placed in position and extend over and rest upon the tongues *c* of the end sections; being cemented to said end sections and to the lower portions of the side sections B. Before the cement at the joints of the several sections sets, I preferably pack the earth back of the sides and ends as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3, so as to hold the sections in proper position during such setting action, and when such cement hardens the structure is practically homogeneous, ready to receive a casket or coffin. After a burial casket has been placed in position a layer of cement is placed on the upper edges of the sides and ends and then the top slab sections D are placed thereon in proper position; being also cemented together at their meeting edges. The grave can be filled immediately after the top slab sections are set in place, for when the cement at the several joints finally hardens, the structure is substantially a single unit of concrete stiffened by reinforcing members. Owing to the material of which the structure is made, it is capable of withstanding the weight of the earth without crushing, and it is not liable to deteriorate.

While I prefer to make the sides of the structure in sections, as shown in Fig. 5, smaller sizes may be made having single side portions, in cases where they can be readily handled and placed in position. I prefer to use the two sections, however, as in such case all portions of the structure can be handled and readily placed in position by a single mason.

It will be understood that the arrangement of the reinforcing rods can be modified without departing from the main fea-

tures of my invention; that the end section may be made in two pieces notched at the ends, and that the side sections may be provided with tongues if desired.

I claim:

The combination in a burial structure made up of a series of molded slabs of concrete, of two bottom slab sections, each slab having reinforcing means including transverse and diagonal bars of metal embedded therein, metallic loops projecting from the upper surface of said bottom slab sections having portions embedded within said slabs and anchored below the metal reinforcing bars, the sides of said structure being made up of two longitudinal slab sections cemented together and to the bottom sections, each side section having its ends notched or rabbeted to form recesses when said sides are assembled, end sections having centrally disposed tongues projecting therefrom in opposite directions and adapted to interconnect with the recessed ends of the side sections, said side and end sections having longitudinally disposed metal rods forming reinforcing means, those of the side sections extending substantially the full length of the same so as to overlap the tongues of the end sections and reinforce the reduced ends of said side sections and top slab sections of concrete reinforced by metal bars or rods, said top sections also having metallic loops or eyes projecting from the upper surface of said sections and having portions within said slabs anchored below the metal reinforcing bars; the slab sections forming the completed structure being cemented together at their several abutting edges.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM J. DRUMMOND.

Witnesses:

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WM. A. BARR.