

No. 25,659.

PATENTED OCT. 4, 1859.

H. MARSHALL.
COFFIN,

Fig 1

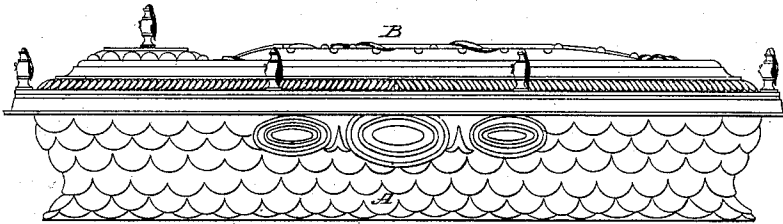


Fig 3

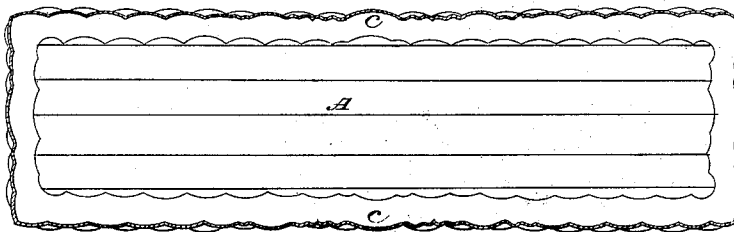


Fig 5

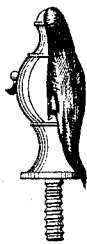


Fig 4

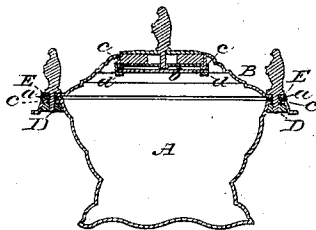
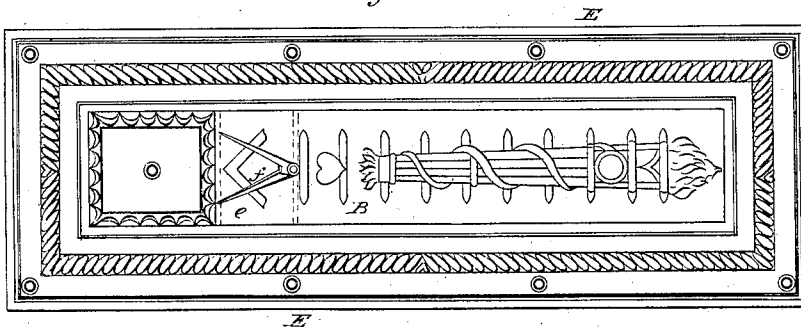


Fig 2



Witnesses:

H. Males
H. Louch

Inventor:

H. Marshall

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

H. MARSHALL, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

COFFIN.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 25,659, dated October 4, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, H. MARSHALL, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented an Improved New and Useful Article of Manufacture—to wit, a Coffin Made of Corrugated Sheet and Wrought or Cast Iron; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a side elevation of a corrugated sheet iron coffin constructed after my invention. Fig. 2, is a top view. Fig. 3, is a horizontal section, and Fig. 4, a vertical transverse section of the same.

Similar letters of reference in each of the several figures indicate corresponding parts.

The nature of my invention consists in a new article of manufacture, to wit, a coffin having its bottom, ends and sides wholly constructed of corrugated sheet metal which is rolled or stamped into proper form and surrounded at the upper edge of its body with a wrought or cast-iron frame which serves as a brace to the body and a holdfast for screws, substantially as hereinafter set forth.

To enable others, skilled in the art, to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A, represents the body and B, the top of the coffin. The bottom, ends and sides of the body A, I make of corrugated sheet metal; rolled or stamped into proper form, the corrugations being disposed as shown in the drawings or in any other manner that will give the greatest strength and offer the most resistance to external or internal pressure. Around the upper edge of the body A, I construct an angular flange C, of corrugated metal, the corrugations of said flange being disposed as represented, or so as to run transversely to the flange. Under the angular flange or in the recess formed around the upper edge of the body of the coffin by the same, I arrange a wrought or cast iron frame D, as shown, so as to stiffen the body and answer another end presently stated. The top B, I also make of corrugated sheet iron, the corrugations being disposed as represented, or in any other manner that will give the greatest strength and stiffness or withstand the most pressure both internally and externally. Around the edge

of the top, a corrugated flange E, is constructed. The corrugations run parallel with the corrugations of the flange C, as represented, and being so disposed that the convex corrugations of one flange stand opposite the concave corrugations of the other flange when the top and body are fitted together. The coffin thus constructed, it is believed, will answer all the ends of the heavy cast iron coffins at present in use, and if so, a very important object will have been attained in point of cheapness, lightness and beauty of design.

In the use of the common cast iron coffins, owing to their great weight, the devices employed to sustain them while lowering in the grave and transferring from one point to another sometimes give way and the horrible spectacle of a disfigured corpse exposed to the view of the mourners. To avoid this sad spectacle is one of the designs of my light corrugated sheet metal coffin.

To fasten the top and body together, I employ screws of a symbolical character, such as shown in Fig. 5. These screws pass down through the flanges C, E, and take a firm hold in the wrought metal frame D as represented, and they with the aid of the rubber or gutta-percha packing *a*, introduced between the corrugated flanges C, E, form a perfectly air-tight joint; the rubber being crimped by the pressure of the screws and made to conform to the corrugations of the flanges, as represented. In order to afford a chance for friends to view the corpse after the coffin is thus closed the ordinary glass window *b*, is provided in the top B. The glass plate is suspended between an angular flanch *c*, projecting down from the top B, all around the window space and another angular shaped flanch *d*, screwed or attached to the flanch *c*, as shown. Thus arranging the window relieves the packing piece of all up pressure. To pack the window air-tight an india-rubber gasket is placed between two plates which are moved apart or brought together by a screw, such as shown in Fig. 5. By inserting the packing device in the window space as shown and screwing up the screws, the plates will be caused to compress the rubber, force its edges against the sides of the window space so as to pack the window air tight.

I propose, in carrying out my invention on a large scale, to have a section or sections of the top at *e*, or other point made sepa-

rate from the other portion and to match
said section or sections by means of a dove-
tail or other similar method with the main
portion. By this construction, emblems or
5 symbolical figures / or others of appro-
priate character may be readily introduced.
I also propose, in order to prevent any dam-
age to the exterior of the coffin from the con-
tact of dirt to place a corrugated metal cas-
10 ing of arch form over the coffin, said case
being open at bottom and closed at sides,
ends and top.

What I claim as my invention and desire
to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The new article of manufacture herein 15
named, to wit, a coffin having its bottom,
ends and sides wholly constructed of corru-
gated sheet metal which is rolled or stamped
into proper form, and surrounded at the up-
per edge of its body with a wrought or cast- 20
iron frame which serves as a brace to the
body and a holdfast for screws, substantially
in the manner and for the purpose herein
described.

H. MARSHALL.

Witnesses:

S. H. WALES,
WM. TUSCH.