(No Model.)

W. STRONG.

PICTURE CASE FOR TOMBSTONES.

No. 291,106. Patented Jan. 1, 1884.

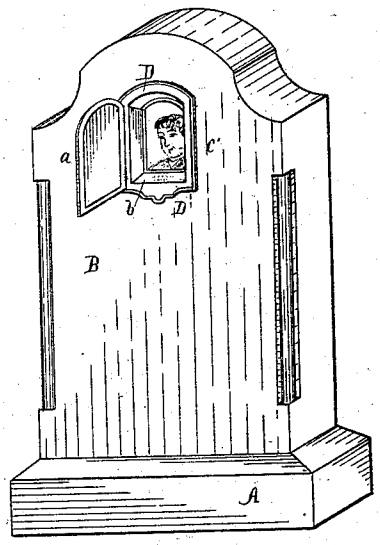
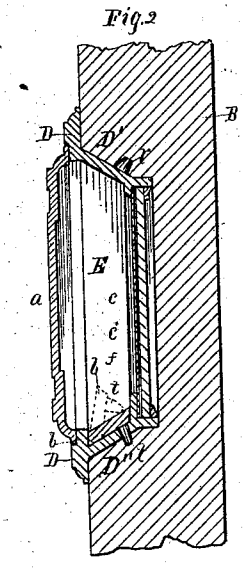
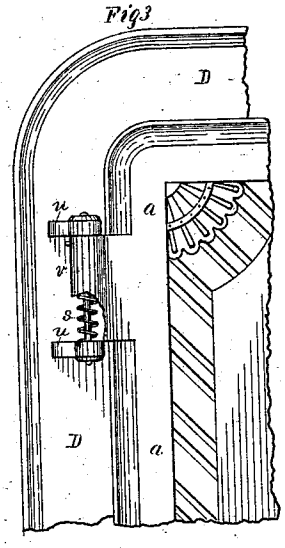
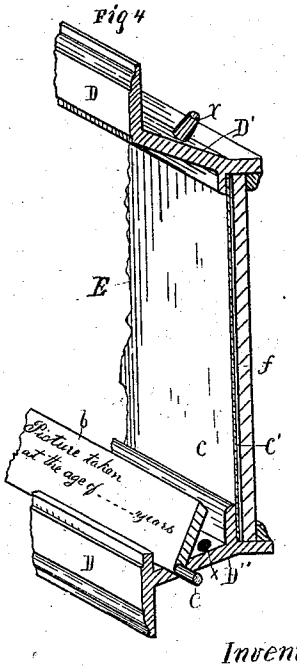


Fig. 1







Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM STRONG, OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

PICTURE-CASE FOR TOMBSTONES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 291,106, dated January 1, 1884.

Application filed June 26, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM STRONG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kalamazoo, county of Kalamazoo, State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Picture-Cases for Tombstones, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a tombstone or other grave-marking device with a picture of the deceased in a manner to be practically accessible to the sight and impervious to the weather.

The construction of a device illustrating my invention consists in forming a mortise or recess in the stone and combining therewith a picture-case and picture and suitable means for securing said case in the recess. Other features appear in the detailed description.

In the drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 shows a tombstone in perspective with a picture attached; Fig. 2, a vertical section of Fig. 1 through the picture-case; Fig. 3, a broken portion of the picture-case door, and Fig. 4 a broken perspective view of the picture-case in vertical section near one side wall of the case.

In Fig. 2 a recess or mortise is shown cut into the stone B, in which mortise a picture-case, E, is located. The sides of the picture-case recess are formed on an incline converging toward the back side of the recess. The sides of the picture-case are made on a corresponding incline. This construction facilitates the operation of locating the case in the case-recess and of securing it therein by the peculiar means shown. A stud or studs, *r*, connected with the upper side of the case E, are located in holes in the stone formed to receive them, Figs. 2 and 4.

b is a hinged plate, provided with stud *t*, (one or more,) which, when the plate is shut down, as in Fig. 2, enters hole *x* through the lower wall, D″, of the case and into a hole in the stone beneath. The inclined sides of the recess and case are at such an angle in proportion to the size and shape of said recess and case that when the case is entered the stud *r* will enter the hole in the stone and the case will fit when in place. This plate *b* shuts against the lower bead, which holds in the glass *c*, and thus hides from view the means of securing the case E in place. The face of this plate may be plated or polished and provided with an inscription to designate when the picture was taken or at what age of the deceased, Fig. 4. Such an inscription may be placed on the door, if preferred.

c′ is the picture, and *f* a backing, of cement or other suitable material, to hold the picture in and protect it from dampness, should it be required.

D D is a flanged rim to the case, integrally formed therewith, covering the face of the stone around the edge of the recess, and serving as a portion with which to connect the door *a*. In the construction shown in Fig. 2 this rim is mortised to receive the door, thus making it more impervious to the weather. The door may be made to automatically close, thus preventing a liability of its being left open by thoughtless persons. A spring-hinge or other suitable means may be employed to cause the door to swing shut. In Fig. 3 a hinge, *v*, having an incased spring, S, is shown; but other hinges or devices may be employed to effect the object which seem the most practical.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with a tombstone or equivalent grave-marking device having the securing-holes in the upper and lower beveled sides, of a picture-case containing a picture accessible to the sight and impervious to the weather, having studs on its upper side and holes through its lower side, and a hinged lid having studs adapted to enter said holes and extend into the holes in the mortise, all substantially as set forth.

2. A tombstone or other grave-marking device having a recess adapted to shield the picture from the weather, and provided with slanting holes in its upper and lower side, in combination with a picture-case containing a picture accessible to the sight, having the slanting studs on its upper side, and a lid having studs on its lower face adapted to enter the lower holes, said lid adapted to hide the mode of securing the case in the stone, and having its upper face polished to contain an inscription, all substantially as described.

In testimony of the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

WM. STRONG.

Witnesses:

FRANK C. GIBBS,

AUG. W. BOWLES.