J. C. BECK & J. M. DODDRIDGE.

DETACHABLE CASKET HANDLE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 26, 1914.

1,128,573. Patented Feb. 16, 1915.

Fig. 1.

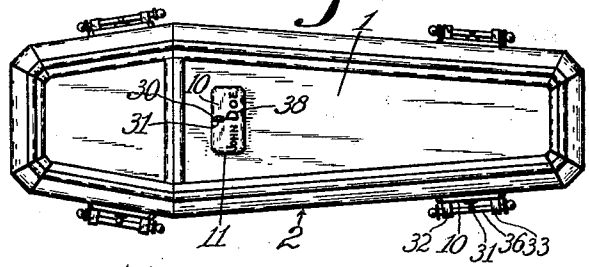


Fig. 2.

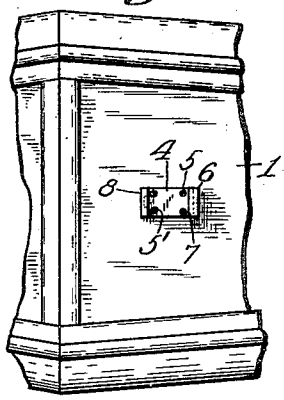


Fig. 3.

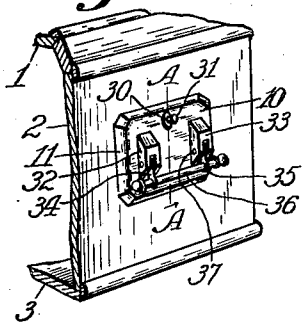


Fig. 4.

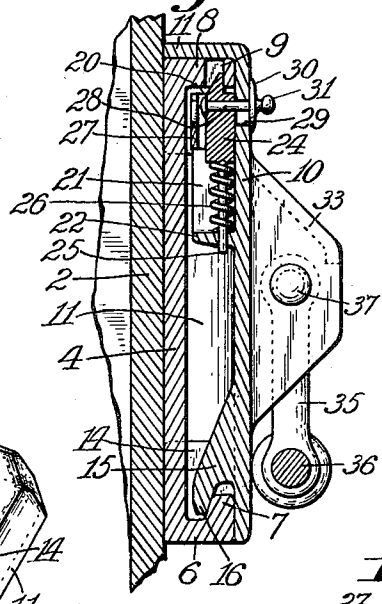


Fig. 5.

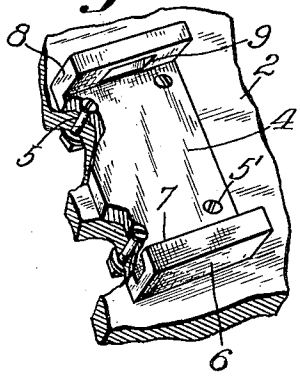


Fig. 6.

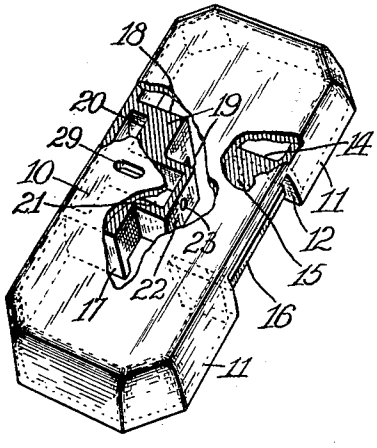
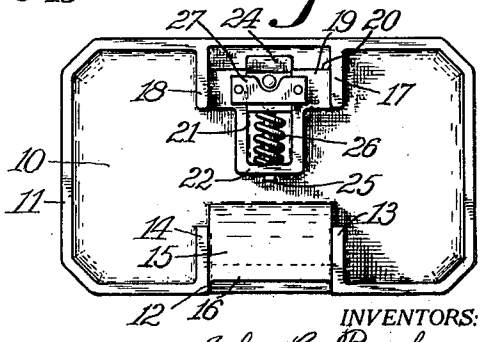


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. BECK, OF INDIANAPOLIS, AND JAMES M. DODDRIDGE, OF MILTON, INDIANA.

DETACHABLE CASKET-HANDLE.

1,128,573. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 16, 1915.

Application filed March 26, 1914. Serial No. 827,467.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN C. BECK and JAMES M. DODDRIDGE, citizens of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion, and Milton, in the county of Wayne respectively, and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Detachable Casket-Handle, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to boxes or receptacles that are required to be carried by hand, especially burial caskets or coffins, the invention having reference more particularly to detachable handles and name plates adapted for use thereon.

An object of the invention is to provide an improved frame or plate which may be slightly modified for various purposes, and improved means for detachably securing the frame or plate to a box or receptacle.

A further object is to provide an improved frame or name plate that shall be attractive in appearance and permit of its being made in various ornamental designs, more particularly in order that customers may select styles of coffins or caskets according to their fancy with inexpensive attachments to which any one of the different styles of handles or name plates preferred may be detachably connected, so that they may be saved after having served their purpose and economically used repeatedly.

A still further object is to provide a detachable casket handle that shall be so constructed as to be adapted to be quickly applied to a casket and also readily removed therefrom, and which shall be strong and reliable in use.

With the above mentioned and other objects in view the invention consists in a novel base or holding device adapted to be permanently secured to a casket or box, and in a novel frame or plate adapted to be connected firmly to the base or holding device and provided with a movable latch for removably securing the frame or plate to the base or holding device, the invention consisting further in the parts and combinations and arrangements of parts as hereinafter particularly described and further defined in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan of a burial casket or coffin provided with the improved detachable handles and also the improved name plate as preferably constructed; Fig. 2, a fragmentary top plan of the casket having the improved base or holding device thereon; Fig. 3, a fragmentary perspective view of the casket having one of the detachable handles thereon; Fig. 4, a section approximately on the line A A in Fig. 3; Fig. 5, a fragmentary perspective view showing a portion of the casket to which the improved base or holder is secured; Fig. 6, a perspective view of the improved name plate partially broken away, and Fig. 7 is a rear elevation of the handle frame or the name plate.

In the different figures of the drawings, similar reference characters indicate corresponding elements or features of construction herein referred to and described.

As illustrating one of the useful purposes for which the invention is advantageously used, a burial casket is shown which comprises a cover 1, a side wall 2, and a bottom 3. The side wall is provided with a suitable number of holders comprising each a base plate 4 which preferably is composed of sheet metal and is placed against the wall and permanently secured thereto by suitable means, such as stove bolts 5, 5′. The plate preferably is longer vertically than in horizontal direction, and its normal lower end portion is bent or extends outward and constitutes a flange or support 6 from which extends a lip or connecting device 7 that preferably is formed by bending the metal over so as to extend upward opposite to the main portion of the plate, to be engaged by a tongue on a front plate. The normal upper portion of the plate is bent or extends outward so as to form a flange or lug 8 that is opposite to the flange 6 and it has an opening or recess 9 therein to receive a latch bolt. The holder may be secured to the lid as shown.

The improved handle frame preferably is formed as a casting of suitable ornamental design and comprises a front plate 10 having a flange 11 thereon adapted to have contact with a plane surface of the casket. The plate preferably is oblong or longer horizontally than vertically in normal position, and the lower portion of the flange preferably has a gap 12 therein adapted to receive the flange 6, two guide ribs 13 and 14 extending from the flange 11 at opposite sides of the gap and along the

front plate 10 to which they are integrally connected. The guides serve to guide the frame or name plate relatively to the base or holder. The inner side of the plate 10 has a relatively thick base portion 15 fixed thereon that has a preferably tapering or wedge-shaped tongue or projection 16 thereon adapted to be moved into engagement with the inner side of the lip 7 for connecting and securing the lower portion of the handle frame to the holder. The inner side of the plate 10 preferably has also two guide ribs 17 and 18 on the upper portion thereof to receive the lug or flange 8, the plate having also a relatively thick portion 19 adapted to form a shoulder 20 that extends opposite to the upper portion of the flange 11 and providing space into which the lug 8 is received, the shoulder normally engaging the under side of the lug. A guideway 21 is formed at the inner side of the plate 10 and also an abutment 22 having a guideway 23 therein. A latch bolt 24 is movably arranged in the guideway 21 and has a guide rod 25 thereon extending through the guideway 23, a spring 26 being seated under compression between the latch bolt and the abutment so as to extend about the rod. The latch bolt is beveled on the end portion thereof so as to be readily retracted when pushed against the lug or flange 8 when applying the frame to the holder, the latch bolt being projected by its spring into the opening or recess 9. The latch bolt is retained in its guideway by means of a guide plate 27 secured to the relatively thick portion 19 which constitutes a latch frame. The latch bolt is provided with an operating stem 28 that extends through a slot 29 formed in the plate 10, the stem preferably being provided with a cover plate 30 that covers the slot, the stem being provided also with a knob 31 on its front end.

The front of the plate 10 is provided with lugs 32 and 33 to which arms 34 and 35 provided with a handle bar 36 are respectively connected preferably by means of pivots 37. The handle bar, as will be seen, may be made in various lengths, in some cases extending throughout the length of the casket so as to be connected with a number of handle frames. The plate 10, as will be understood, is modified by omitting the lugs 32 and 33 therefrom and a name 38 is placed on the front of the plate, the latter being arranged upon the lid 1 of the casket, so that in case the name plate is expensive it may be removed immediately before the burial takes place.

In practical use the handle frame is placed at the front of the holder and at a slight inclination with the lower portion of the flange 11 in contact with the wall of the casket, and so that the flange 6 is between the guide ribs 13 and 14, the tongue 16 being above the lip 7, after which the frame is moved slightly so as to bring the tongue behind the lip, thus connecting the lower portion of the frame to the base plate, after which the plate is moved over entirely against the wall of the casket which brings the shoulder 20 against the under side of the lug 8, the latch bolt being forcibly retracted and spring-pressed immediately afterward into the opening or recess 9, thus completely connecting the frame to its holder, the operation being quickly and reliably performed. The name plate is connected to its holder on the lid in the same manner. After the handles or the name plate have served their purpose and it is desired to remove them, it is only necessary to manipulate the knob 31 so as to retract the latch bolt, after which the upper portion of the handle frame or plate is moved outward and permits the plate to be lifted upwardly and forwardly so as to disconnect the tongue 16 from the lip 7.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A frame comprising a front plate provided with an inclosing bearing flange having a gap therein, the plate having a tongue extending toward the gap, a latch bolt movably mounted on the front plate, and a base having a flange adapted to fill the gap in the flange of the plate and to be engaged by the tongue, the base having an opening to receive the latch bolt.

2. A detachable handle holder comprising a base plate adapted to be secured to a support, one end of the plate having a supporting member provided with a connecting device adapted to be engaged by a connecting tongue on a front plate, the opposite end of the base plate having a lug provided with an opening adapted to receive a latch bolt carried by said front plate.

3. A handle frame comprising a front plate provided with a guideway and also an abutment, the plate having a slot therein adjacent the guideway, a latch bolt movable in the guideway, a spring between the bolt and the abutment, a stem secured to the bolt and extending through the slot, lugs fixed on the front plate, and a handle bar connected with the lugs, for connection with a holder having a lug on one end provided with a recess to receive the latch bolt.

4. The combination of a base having a flange on one end portion thereof, the opposite end portion of the base being constructed to be engaged by a latch bolt, a front plate having a flange thereon and adapted to cover the base, the flange of the cover having a gap therein to receive the flange of the base, means for connecting the front plate to the flange of the base, and a

latch bolt movably mounted on the front plate to engage said opposite end of the base.

5. A detachable casket handle comprising a base plate having a flange on one end and a lug on the opposite end thereof, the flange having a lip thereon extending toward the lug, the lug having a recess therein opposite to the flange, a frame provided with an inclosing flange having a gap therein to receive the flange of the base, the frame having a tongue thereon to engage the lip and having also a shoulder to engage the lug of the base, the frame having also a slot therein adjacent the shoulder, a latch bolt mounted on the frame and provided with a spring to project the bolt into the recess, and a stem secured to the bolt and extending through the slot.

6. The combination of a base plate adapted to be secured to a support, one end of the plate having a supporting member provided with a connecting device, the opposite end of the base plate having a lug provided with an opening, the lug and the connecting device being arranged oppositely each to the other, with a front plate provided with a tongue for engagement with the connecting device, and a latch bolt movably mounted on the front plate to be entered into the opening of the lug.

7. The combination with a base plate adapted to be secured to a support, one end of the plate being provided with a connecting device, the opposite end of the plate having a lug opposite to the connecting device that is provided with an opening, of a front plate provided with an inclosing flange thereon and adapted to cover the base plate, the front plate having members on the inner side thereof constructed for guiding entrance between the connecting device and the lug of the base plate, one of said members being adapted to be connected with the connecting device, and a latch bolt movably mounted on the remaining one of said members to be entered into the opening of the lug.

8. A handle frame comprising a front plate provided with a guideway and an abutment and having also a shoulder adjacent to the guideway, the plate having also an inclosing flange thereon extending opposite to the shoulder, a latch bolt movably mounted in the guideway and projectable beyond the shoulder and toward the flange, a spring between the bolt and the abutment and normally projecting the bolt, and an operating device connected to the bolt and extending through and beyond the front plate, for connection with a holder having a lug on one end to be received between the flange and the shoulder and provided with an opening to receive the latch bolt.

9. A detachable handle holder comprising a base plate adapted to be secured to a support, one end of the plate having a flange thereon provided with a lip extending toward the opposite end of said plate adapted to be engaged by a tongue on a front plate, the opposite end of said plate having a lug provided with an opening adapted to receive a latch bolt carried by said front plate.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN C. BECK.
JAMES M. DODDRIDGE.

Witnesses:
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."