

(No Model.)

W. H. DOWLING.  
COFFIN FASTENER AND HINGE.

No. 470,291.

Patented Mar. 8, 1892.

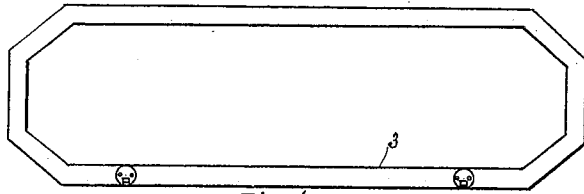


Fig. 1.

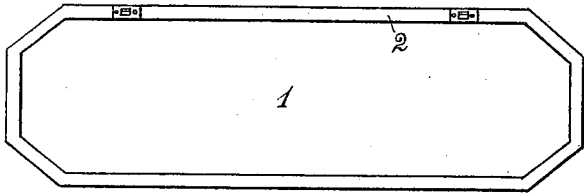


Fig. 2.

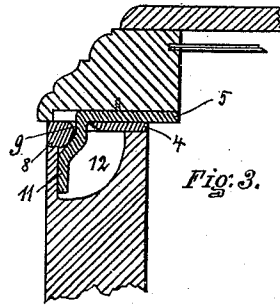


Fig. 3.

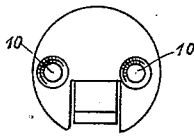


Fig. 9.

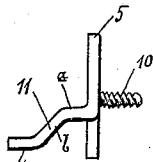


Fig. 10.

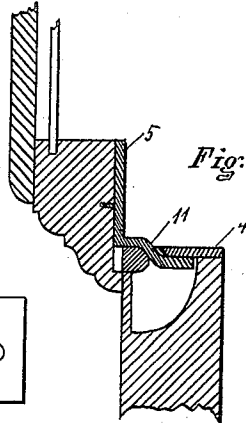


Fig. 4.

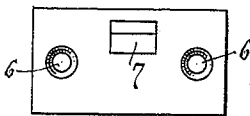


Fig. 6.

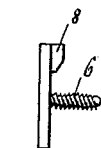


Fig. 7.

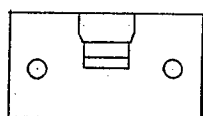


Fig. 8.

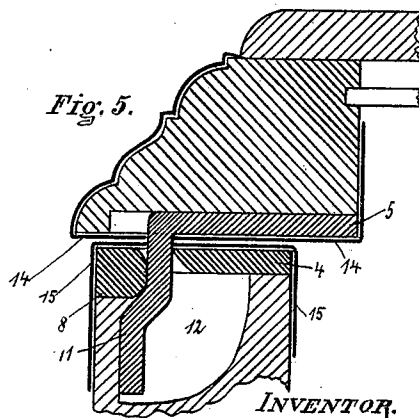


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES.

Rich. A. George.

McRobinson

INVENTOR.

Wm. H. Dowling  
By R. L. Perry  
Attys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. DOWLING, OF UTICA, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
JOSEPH B. NELBACH, OF SAME PLACE.

## COFFIN FASTENER AND HINGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 470,291, dated March 8, 1892.

Application filed March 16, 1891. Serial No. 385,203. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. DOWLING, of Utica, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Detachable Hinges; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to a detachable hinge more especially intended and applicable to burial-caskets.

In the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, and in which similar letters and numerals of reference refer to corresponding parts in the several views, Figure 1 shows an inside view of the casket-cover having my improved hinge applied. Fig. 2 shows a top view of a casket open and having the plates adapted to be attached to the body portion of the casket applied thereto. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view showing the hinge in closed position. Fig. 4 is a corresponding figure with Fig. 3, showing the hinge and cover in open position. Fig. 5 is an enlarged view showing the hinge on a cloth-covered casket, to which this hinge is particularly adapted. Figs. 6, 7, and 8 show a top, edge, and bottom view of the stationary portion or plate of my hinge. Figs. 9 and 10 show a back and edge view of the movable portion of the hinge.

This hinge is more especially and particularly adapted to use with cloth-covered caskets, in that the metal portion of the hinge that is exposed when the cover is removed is very small and smooth in form, in that there is no hook or peculiar form that will catch onto foreign material, and the portion of the hinge that is attached to the casket is entirely concealed, and all that is necessary in connection with that portion is a short slit in the cloth directly over the opening through the stationary portion of the hinge.

Referring more particularly to the reference-numerals marked on the drawings, 1 indicates the body of a casket having walls 2,

on which is adapted to rest and be secured cover 3.

The hinge proper consists of stationary plate 4 and movable plate 5. The plate 4 is secured upon the edge of the wall 2 of the casket by means of screws 6, and the plate is provided with an opening 7 and a thickened wall 8, having a rounding face 9 adjacent to the opening 7 through the plate. The movable portion or plate 4 is secured to the cover of the case by screws 10, and the body thereof is preferably made circular, so that it may be fitted readily into a recess made by an auger or bit. The plate 5 is provided with a projecting finger 11, a portion of which is cut out of the general outline of the plate-body and projects from the plate 5 at a point near the center and extends first substantially at right angles to the body of the plate, thence at an acute angle toward the open side of the plate, and thence again in a direction substantially at right angles to the plate to its end, forming portions *a*, *b*, and *c*, respectively. The opening 7 through the plate 4 is preferably substantially of a width in the clear of the thickness of the finger 11. The plate 4 is mounted over a recess 12 in the wall of the casket to permit the swinging movement of the finger 11.

Referring to Fig. 5, 13 and 14 indicate, respectively, the cloth cover of the body of the casket and of the cover.

The operation of the device is very simple and easily understood without description, except that it might be well to mention, to distinguish from other constructions, that in the closed position the portion *b* of the prong or finger of the hinge engages on the rounded surface 9 of the stationary portion of the hinge in securing the cover in closed position; also, that the angle between the portion *a* of the prong or finger and the body engages in the wall of opening 7 toward the inner side of the casket, making a firm connection in the hinge, and that when the hinge is swung into open position, as shown in Fig. 4, the straight portion *c* of the finger or prong engages on the flat under surface of the stationary portion of the hinge and firmly secures the cover in edgewise position; also, that there is a slight carrying movement of the hinge as it

swings from its closed position to its open position, and also, in distinction from other hinges, that this is a detachable hinge that can be applied to a vertical wall and where  
5 no part of the hinge projects horizontally to a greater distance than the cover to which it is attached.

It is evident that this hinge can be somewhat modified without departing from the  
10 equivalent of this construction.

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

The combination, in a detachable hinge, of the movable plate 5, having a projecting finger

11 of uniform thickness and bent into portions *a*, *b*, and *c*, and the stationary plate 4, having opening 7, with rounded and thickened wall 8 at one side of the opening 7 and projecting below the under face of the plate 4, the opening 7 being at an angle to substantially conform to the part *b* of finger 11 in open position, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. DOWLING.

Witnesses:

M. E. ROBINSON,  
L. S. CLARKE.