March 29, 1927. 1,622,529

B. G. McMILLER

METALLIC COFFIN CASE

Filed Feb. 16, 1925

Fig. 1.

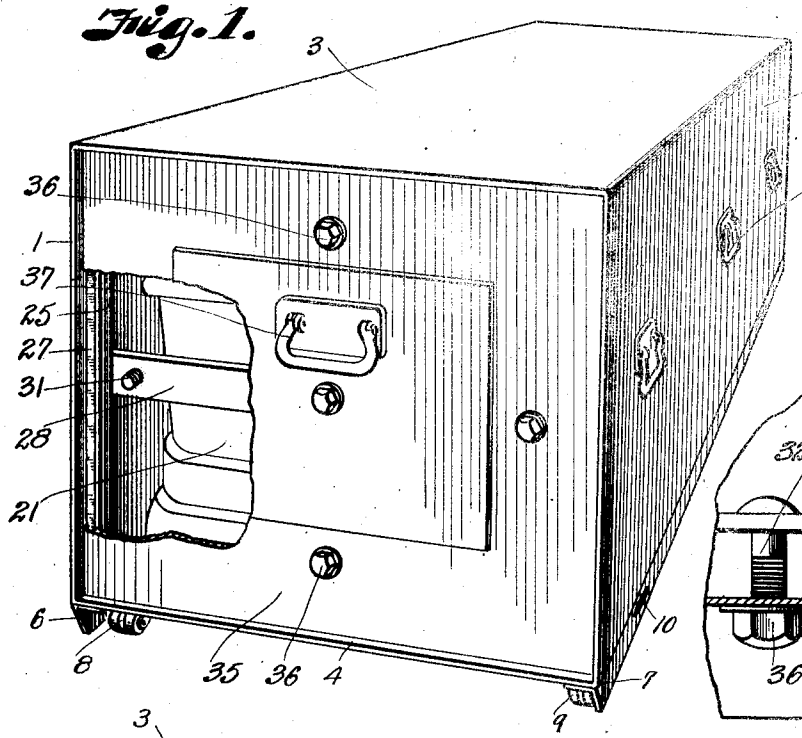


Fig. 3.

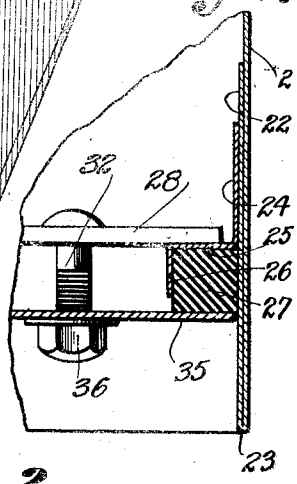


Fig. 2.

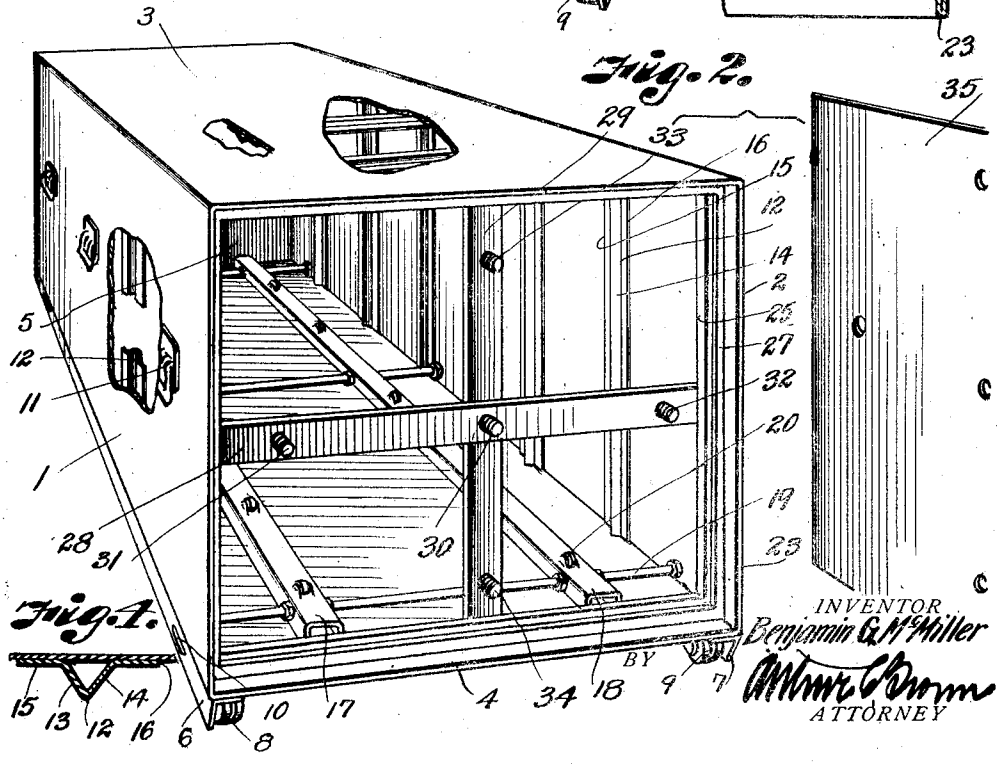


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN G. McMILLER, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

METALLIC COFFIN CASE.

Application filed February 16, 1925. Serial No. 9,653.

This invention relates to metallic coffin cases, the primary object being to provide a coffin enclosing case which will protect the coffin from deterioration, due to moisture, dampness and the like and the invention consists in certain novel parts and combinations of parts, all of which will be specifically described hereinafter, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a coffin case constructed in accordance with my invention, parts being broken away to show the interior thereof.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the end cover removed, parts of the walls being broken away to show the bracing studding or ribs.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view through the end closing means, and

Fig. 4 is a sectional view through one of the studding members.

The case is illustrated as an elongated rectangular shell having side walls 1, 2, a top 3 and a bottom 4. These may all be formed from a single piece of sheet metal and appropriately fastened along the meeting edges of the sheet metal. The rear end 5 may be fastened to the bottom, top and side walls in an appropriate manner to make a hollow case, open at one end only. At the bottom of the case are angles 6 and 7 running longitudinally of the case and having rollers 8 and 9 whereby the case may be moved over a floor or other support. The angles are also provided with slots 10 through which the lowering straps may be inserted to permit the case to be conveniently lowered into the grave. The case is also provided with appropriate handles 11.

A device of this class should be permitted to be hermetically sealed and yet be light and easily handled so I find I can make the case of comparatively light gauge metal and re-enforced by studding 12. The studding is in the form of a V–T since it consists of two diverging wall portions 13 and 14 and two diametrically opposite wings 15 and 16 which are fastened to the wall or top of the case in an appropriate manner affording adequate resistance to outside pressure. The number of studding members employed is immaterial, in each instance an adequate number will be used to prevent liability of collapsing of the case and ordinarily there will be a greater number of studding members for the top 3 than for the side walls 1 and 2. I do not employ studding for the bottom but there are inverted channel members 17 and 18 on the bottom, held in space by the entire rods 19 which also constitute spacing rods.

The channels carry rollers 20 on which the bottom of the casket 21 may rest so that the same may be conveniently slid into the protecting case. In order to permit the case to serve the purpose for which it is intended, it should be capable of being hermetically sealed and to this end the sheet metal for the bottom, sides and top is bent back flat against the bottom, top and side walls to form a re-enforcing sheet portion 22 of double thickness leaving the edge 23 in the form of a fold and at the re-enforced portion I provide a sealing pad which consists of a strap 24 having an angular flange 25 extending inwardly toward the center of the case, the angular flange co-operating with the inner ply 22 to form a channel 26 to receive a packing 27 which may consist of rubber or other suitable material. The packing carrying flange or flanges extend entirely around the inner wall of the case and the flange constitutes an abutment for the locking spider consisting of the two bars 28 and 29 fastened together at their middle portions by the bolt 30. The bar 28 carries two threaded studs 31 and 32, while similar studs 33 and 34 are on the bar 29. The bolt 30 and the threaded studs or bolts 31, 32, 33, 34 are adapted to pass through openings in the end plate or cover 35 so that the end cover may abut against the packing and be securely fastened thereagainst by the nuts 36, one for each stud or bolt.

The end cover 35 may be provided with a handle 37 if desired. The spider arms or bars 28 and 29 are adapted to swing about the axis of the bolt or stud 30 and since the diameter of the case is less than the diagonal dimensions, it is obvious that the bars can be inserted in the case and then swing to the position shown in Fig. 2 so the spiders will have the ends of the arms back of the abutment member 25 so that when the nuts are screwed into place the spider will draw the end cover 35 tight against the packing, thereby hermetically sealing the casket within the case so that liability of deterioration due to moisture or dampness will be entirely eliminated.

The casket case may be made of any suit-

able sheet metal such as galvanized iron or the like and it may be painted if desired, although this is not ordinarily recommended.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:—

1. A coffin case comprising an oblong metallic hollow member open at one end, a bead projecting inwardly from the sides, top and bottom of the case near the end, a locking spider comprising a pair of bars, the ends of which may abut against the inner face of the bead, means pivotally connecting said bars together, an end closing member co-extensive with the cross section of the case to bear against the bead and means on said bars for fastening the closing member to the spider.

2. A coffin case comprising a hollow metallic member closed at one end and open at the other, re-enforcing members on the inner walls of the case, a plate secured within the open end of the case and having an inwardly and outwardly disposed flange, the inwardly disposed portion of the flange being disposed longitudinally of the case to co-operate with the walls of the case to provide a rectangular groove, a yielding packing in the groove, a spider bearing against the inwardly disposed portion of the flange, a closure bearing against the packing and means for securing the closure and packing together so that the packing will be clamped between the spider and the closure to provide a hermetic seal.

3. A coffin case comprising a hollow sheet metal inclosing member closed at one end and open at the other, braces on the sides and top of the case, inverted channels supported by the bottom of the case, rollers carried by the channels, a packing bead carried by the inner faces of the top, bottom and sides of the case, a spider consisting of two right angularly disposed bars bearing against the inner face of the packing, a closure bearing against the outer face of the packing and means for securing the spider and closure together.

4. A coffin case comprising a hollow metallic member of sheet metal closed at one end and open at the other, the edge of the sheet metal at the open end being bent back upon itself to form a double thickness, a strip of sheet metal secured within the case and having a flange bent inwardly and outwardly to co-operate with the wall of the case to provide a groove, a packing in the groove, a spider bearing against the inner face of the flange, a closing member bearing against the packing and means for securing the packing and closing members together.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

BENJAMIN G. McMILLER.