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COMBINED BURIAL CASKET AND VAULT THEREFOR.

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925,533. Patented June 22, 1909.

Fig. 1.

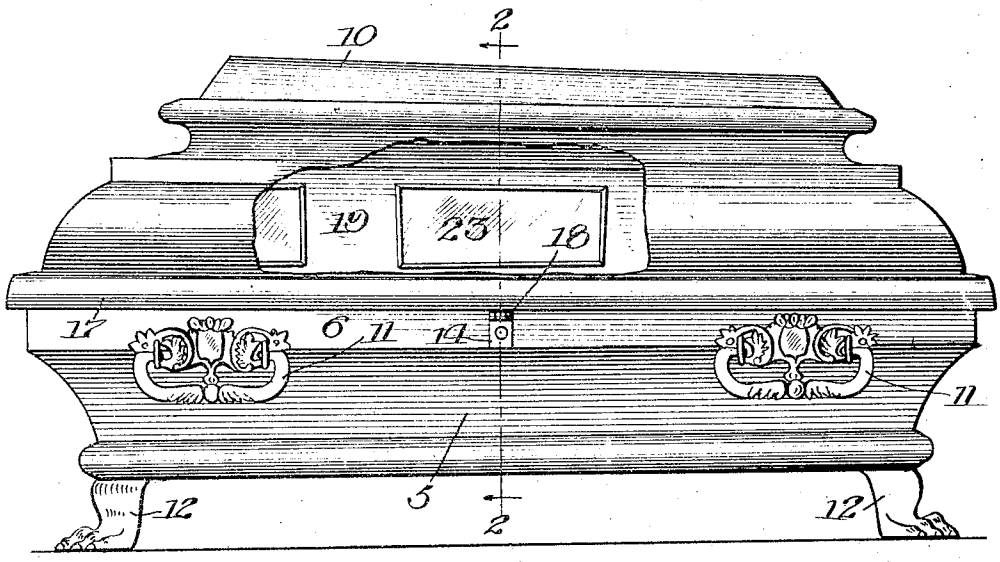
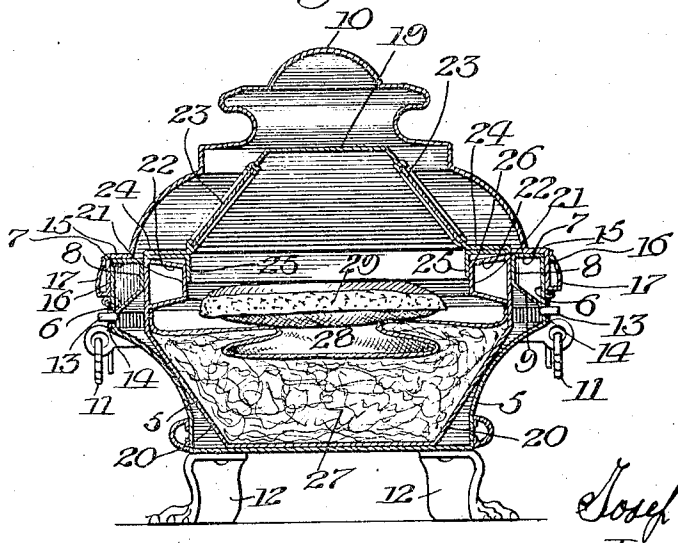


Fig. 2.



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COMBINED BURIAL-CASKET AND VAULT THEREFOR.

No. 925,533. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 22, 1909.

Application filed March 18, 1909. Serial No. 484,304.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEF TOPOL, a subject of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Burial-Casket and Vault Therefor, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in a combined burial casket and vault, and it consists in certain peculiarities of the construction, novel arrangement, and operation of the various parts thereof, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a combined casket and vault which shall be simple and inexpensive in construction, strong, durable, efficient in operation and ornamental in appearance, and which shall be so made that the cover of the vault can be readily secured in place thereon or removed therefrom, and also that the cover of the casket can be sealed, when desired, in position on the same.

A further object is to provide a combined casket and vault therefor, especially adapted for long distance shipments, as across the ocean or from one point to another, while the vault itself does not add excessively to the weight to be handled or the space occupied, and which is admirably suited for temporary disposition in a crypt or other like depository.

A further object is to provide means in the cover of the casket in order that it will afford a view within the same so that the face or body can be clearly exposed to view while at the same time the casket will be tightly closed.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be disclosed in the subjoined description and explanation.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention pertains, to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe it, referring to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a combined burial casket and vault therefor embodying the invention, showing a portion of the cover of the vault broken away to disclose a portion of the cover of the casket; and Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Like numerals of reference, refer to corresponding parts throughout the different views of the drawing.

The reference numeral 5 designates the body of the vault, which may be made of any suitable size and material, but preferably of metal and usually sheet metal, although it may be made, when desired, of cast metal. As is clearly shown in the drawing the body 5 has each of its sides bent inwardly from the bottom to points near the top of the body, from which points the sides are extended vertically as at 6, the upper portions of each of which is then extended horizontally and inwardly as at 7, then downwardly as at 8, and then diagonally as at 9, thus forming a hollow reinforcing portion which may extend throughout the perimeter of the body 5, or on the sides thereof only. The portions formed by the parts 6, 7, 8 and 9 not only provide reinforcement for the upper portion of the body 5, but also furnishes means on which the cover 10 of the body of the vault may rest and be secured and, besides, provides means for holding the casket body firmly in position within the vault body, as will be presently explained.

The body 5 of the vault may be ornamented in any suitable manner, and may be provided on its sides with handles 11 of the ordinary or any preferred construction, and also with supporting-legs 12 of any suitable kind.

Each of the vertical parts 6 of the vault-body is provided near its lower end with a lug or projection 13 to engage apertured plates 14, one of which is hinged to the lower portion of each side of the cover 10 of the vault, and said hinges and lugs are used for securing the cover in place on the body, for it is apparent that the lugs 13 may be passed through the openings in the plates 14 and, if desired, may be locked in their engaged positions by any suitable means. It is obvious that similar lugs and plates may be used at the ends of the body and cover, and that any number of the same may be employed.

The cover 10 for the vault may be made of any suitable material and size to fit the upper portion of the body 5, but is preferably formed of metal, either sheet or cast metal,

and has at its perimeter an outwardly extended flange 15 which is adapted to rest on the upper surface of the portion 7 of the body, and may be secured thereto by screws or, if desired, may be cemented or otherwise secured to the upper portion of the body. As shown in Fig. 2 the flange 15 of the cover has a downward extension 16 at its perimeter, which extension is turned outwardly and then upwardly as at 17, thus forming a reinforced portion on the lower part of the cover. The plates 14 are secured by means of hinges 18 to the lower portion of the reinforcement 17, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

The cover 10 for the vault body 5 may be suitably ornamented and of any desired shape, but is preferably of the shape shown in the drawing, that is, has a dome-like appearance when viewed from the ends, and is hollow for the reception of the cover 19 for the casket 20, which may be made of any suitable material but preferably of sheet metal and of sufficient size to rest against the inwardly curved portions of the sides of the vault body 5 and the inwardly curved portions of the ends of said body, thus firmly holding it in position. The upper portion of the casket 20 is extended vertically, as shown, while the lower portion is inwardly and downwardly inclined. The upper portion of the vertical part of the casket is provided on its inner perimeter with a reinforcing bead 21, which is substantially rectangular in cross-section, and is preferably formed by bending the metal out of which the casket is made inwardly from the top thereof, then downwardly and then outwardly, and joined to the inner surface of the vertical portion of the casket, as will be clearly understood by reference to Fig. 2 of the drawing, in which figure it will be seen that the upper portion 22 of the reinforcing bead is inwardly and downwardly beveled.

The cover 19 for the casket 20 is preferably made of sheet metal and angular in cross-section, and has in its sides a number of panes 23 of glass through which the inner portion of the casket may be viewed. The lower portion of the cover 19 is provided around its perimeter with an angular extension 24, the horizontal portion of which will rest on the outer portion of the bead 22 while the downward part 25 of the extension 24 will rest against the inner surface of the perimetric bead 22, thus providing a space 26 which may be filled with cement, solder, or other suitable material, in order to render the casket air-tight.

The casket 20 may be provided with suitable upholstering 27, which may be lined on its upper surface with silk or other suitable material 28, on which a pillow 29 may rest, as well as the body for which the casket is intended.

From the foregoing and by reference to the drawing it will be seen and clearly understood that the cover 10 of the vault body 5 may be removed from said body by detaching the hinged plates 14 from the lugs 13, and that the casket body 20 will be held between the sides and ends of the body 5 by reason of their curved construction, so as to firmly hold the casket in position and against movement with respect to said body. When in position in the body 5 it is apparent that the outer surface of the perimetric bead 22 of the casket will rest against the inner surface or part 8 of the perimetric bead on the inner surface of the body 5 formed by the parts 6, 7, 8 and 9, and that said upper portion of the casket will be firmly held thereby, when it is apparent that solder or cement may be applied to the upper portion of the bead 22, after which the cover 19 may be mounted thereon and sealed thereby in position.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is—

In a combined burial casket and vault therefor, the combination with a vault-body having the lower portion of its sides and ends curved inwardly and provided at its upper portion with an inwardly extended perimetric enlargement, of a casket-body having the lower portion of its sides and ends inclined inwardly and at its upper portion an inwardly extended perimetric bead or enlargement having its upper surface inwardly beveled, a cover for the casket having at its lower portion an angular perimetric extension adapted to engage the upper and inner surfaces of the perimetric enlargement on the vault-body, and a cover for the vault-body having means on its lower portion to engage the upper part of said body.

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