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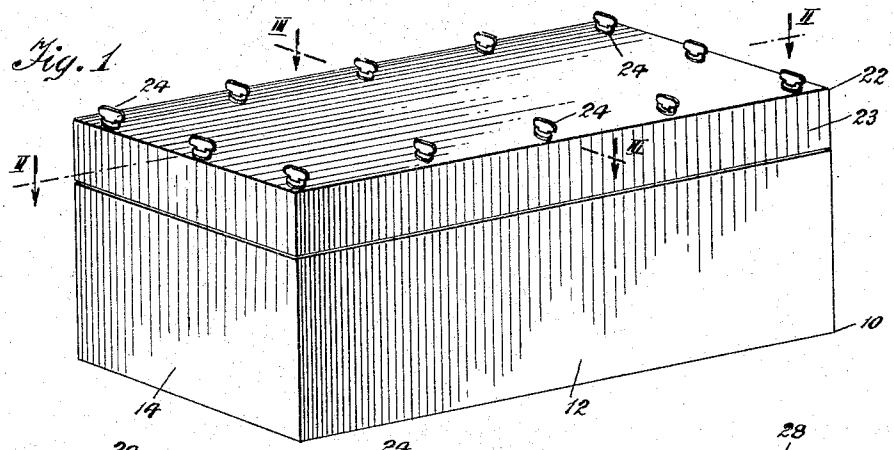
PORTABLE VAULT.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1916.

1,223,374.

Patented Apr. 24, 1917.

Fig. 1



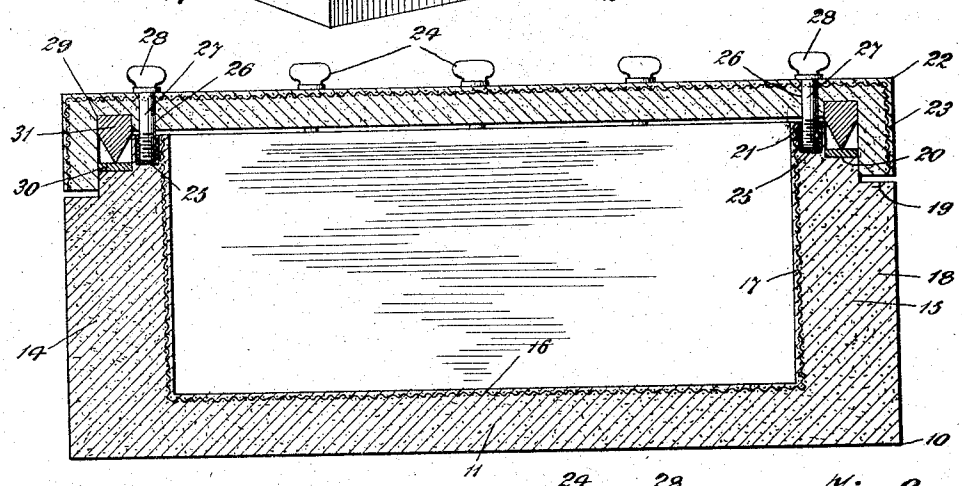


Fig. 2

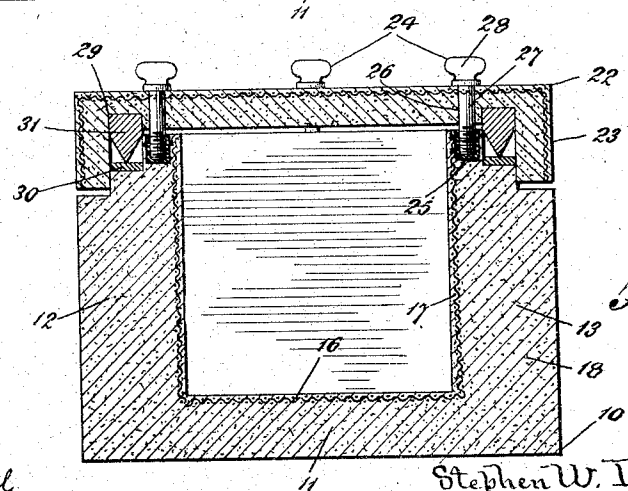


Fig. 3

WITNESS

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PORTABLE VAULT.

1,223,374. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 24, 1917.

Application filed January 22, 1916. Serial No. 73,585.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN W. DYCKMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, borough of Bronx, county of Bronx, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Portable Vaults, of which the following is a full, clear and exact specification.

This invention relates to a class of articles of manufacture adapted to be used for burial purposes.

My invention has for its object primarily to provide a vault of practically a waterproof and airproof construction designed to be employed for placing a coffin therein, and which may be made so as to be portable if desired. The invention consists essentially of an open top box-like body made of metallic shell or reinforcing member with a covering of waterproof and airproof plastic material, and the upper edges of the walls of the body are formed to provide a number of rightangularly shaped superposed annular ledges disposed on horizontal planes as well as being disposed on an upward incline. Removably positioned on the open top of the body is a lid made of a metallic reinforcing member with a covering of waterproof and airproof plastic material, and depending from the underside of the lid is an annular marginal flange disposed on one of the annular ledges of the body.

Other objects of the invention are to provide locking elements whereby the lid and the body may be releasably fastened together; and to provide a sealing device so that air and moisture will be prevented from being admitted into the vault between the body and lid when locked.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, the said invention being more fully described hereinafter, and then pointed out in the claim at the end of the description.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of portable vault embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line II—II of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line III—III of Fig. 1.

The vault has an open top box-like body 10 which may be of any preferred size and shape, though the body is preferably substantially rectangular to provide a bottom 11, two side walls 12, 13 and two end walls 14, 15. The body 10 is composed of a metallic shell, or reinforcing member, as 16, of wire cloth, or other intersticed, or corrugated metal corresponding to the shape of the body, and this shell is embedded in the walls and bottom of the body proper by covering the shell with plastic material to provide an inner layer, as 17, and an outer layer, as 18. As shown, the outer layer 18 is preferably greater in thickness than the inner layer, and these layers are practically waterproof and airproof by being made of cement, particles of gravel, or other substance mixed with water, or other liquid to form a paste-like mass which is spread by any suitable means on both surfaces of the shell and in conjunction therewith may be employed a material commercially known as masterbuilders' waterproof compound, though instead of the ingredients any other plastic material may be used. The upper edges of the side walls 12, 13, 14, 15 of the body 10 are formed to provide a number of rightangularly shaped superposed annular ledges 19, 20, 21 disposed on horizontal planes as well as being disposed on an upward incline.

On the open top of the body 10 of the vault is a lid 22 of a size preferably corresponding to the extreme perimeter of the body, and depending from the underside of the lid is an annular, or substantially rectangular marginal flange 23. When this lid is positioned on the top of the body 10 parts thereof will rest on the top ledge 21 of the body, and the depending flange 23 is of a width so that its free edge will contact with the ledge 19 while the flange is also of a width similar to the width of this ledge.

In order to releasably fasten the lid 22 to the body 10 I provide a number of locking elements, as 24, all of which may be similarly formed. Each of the locking ele-

ments 24 has an interiorly threaded socket member 25 embedded at spaced intervals in the ledge 21 of the body so that the open ends of all of the socket members are in opposed relation to the lid, and through the lid are spaced openings 26 each in register with the opening of each of the socket members. In each of the openings 26 of the lid is a freely rotatable screw bolt 27, and these bolts are of lengths so that their threaded ends are screwed in the socket members, while on the upper end of each bolt above the lid is a head 28 to allow the bolts to be manually rotated.

By accordingly screwing the bolts 27 in the socket members 25 the lid may be tightened or loosened as desired on the body of the vault, and serving to prevent the admission of air and moisture into the vault between the lid and the body, a sealing device 29 is provided. The sealing device 29 is composed of an annular, or substantially rectangular band member 30 of a shape corresponding to the shape of the body 10 as well as being of a size to encompass the outer perimeter of the body under the ledge 21 for being disposed on top of the ledge 20, as shown. The annular band 30 may be of a suitable thickness, and this band is made of lead, or other soft pliable metal, or material which is susceptible of being easily punctured, or cut without breaking or splitting, and on the underside of the lid 22 adjacent to its marginal flange 23 is an annular, or substantially rectangular blade 31. The blade 31 is preferably formed with a tapered free edge, as viewed transversely. This blade is arranged so that when the lid is on the body of the vault its cutting edge will be in contact with the central part circumferentially of the band 30, and this blade is of a width so that when resting on the puncturable band member 30 the underside of the lid proper and the free edge of its flange 23 will be slightly spaced above the ledges 19 and 21 of the body of the vault. When the lid is then forced into close contact with the ledges 19 and 21 of the body by tightening the bolts 27 the cutting edge of the blade 31 will be caused to be sunken in the band member 30 to a depth for providing a moistureproof and air-tight joint between the members of the sealing device, and in this manner all moisture and air will be prevented from entering the interior of the vault between the lid and its body. Moreover, a vault made in accordance with this invention may be sufficiently light in weight for being portable if desired.

In the foregoing description, I have embodied the preferred form of my invention, but I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself thereto as I am aware that modifications may be made therein without departing from the principle, or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention, therefore I reserve to myself the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope thereof.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:—

A portable vault, consisting of an open top box-like body formed of an intersticed metallic reinforcing shell having a covering of waterproof and airproof plastic material, and the upper edges of the walls of the body being formed to provide a number of right-angularly shaped superposed annular ledges disposed on horizontal planes as well as being disposed on an upward incline, a cover on the open top of the body also formed of an intersticed metallic reinforcing member with a covering of waterproof and airproof plastic material, an annular flange depending from the lid, and disposed so that its free edge rests on the lower ledge of the body, threaded bolts freely rotatable in spaced openings in the lid, and adapted to be screwed in threaded sockets provided in the walls of the body for releasably fastening the lid thereto, a puncturable metallic band on one of the ledges adjoining the flange of the lid, and an annular blade on the underside of the lid, adapted to be sunken in the band when the lid is locked to the body whereby moisture and air will be prevented from entering between the lid and the body when locked together.

This specification signed and witnessed this 20th day of January A. D. 1916.

STEPHEN W. DYCKMAN.

Witnesses:
J. F. PHELAN,
EDWARD CLEMONS.

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