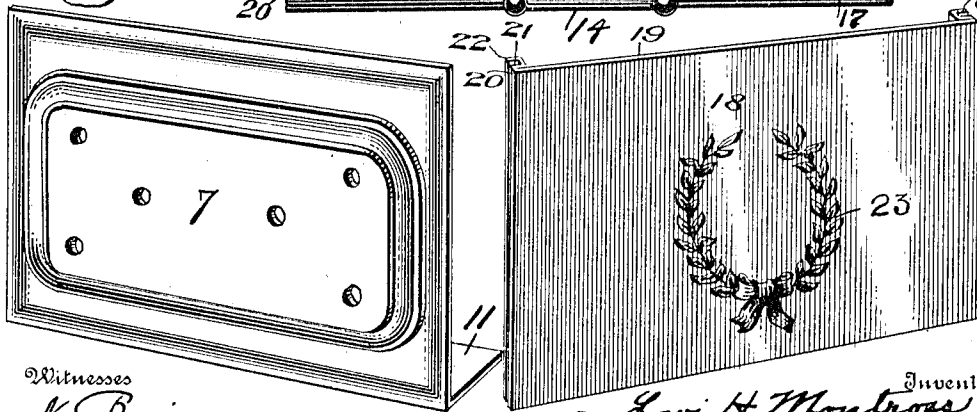
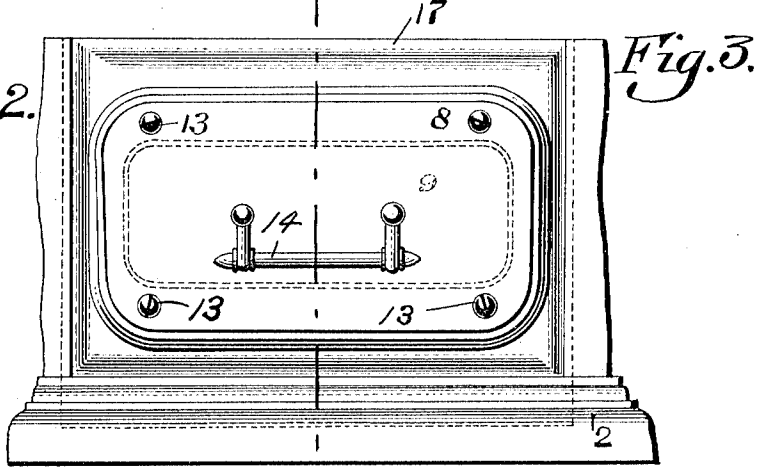
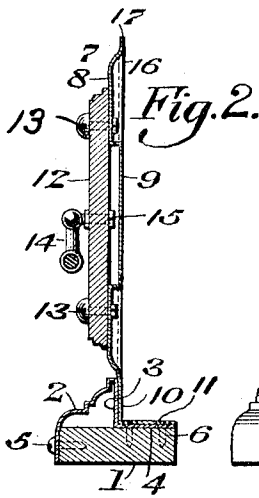
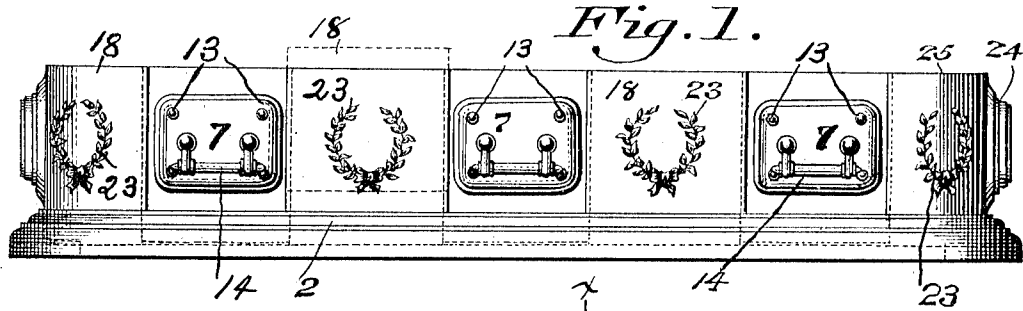


L. H. MONTROSS.
 CARRIER AND DECORATION FOR BURIAL GASKETS.
 APPLICATION FILED OCT. 15, 1908. RENEWED JAN. 23, 1911.

1,001,424.

Patented Aug. 22, 1911.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 7.

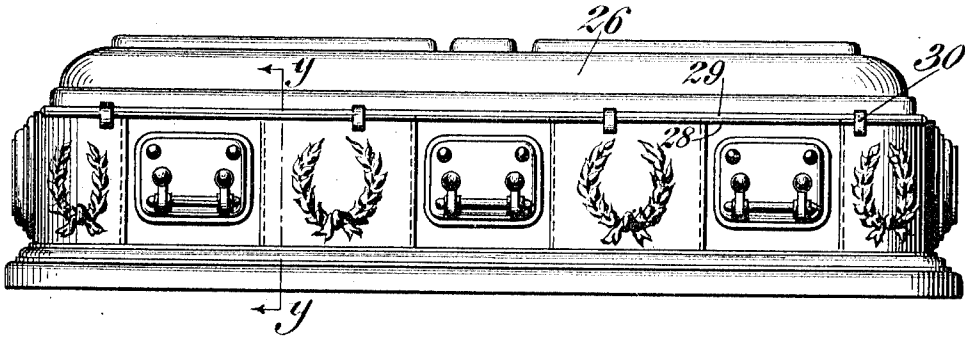


Fig. 8.

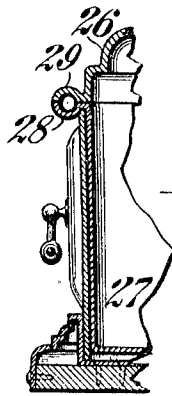
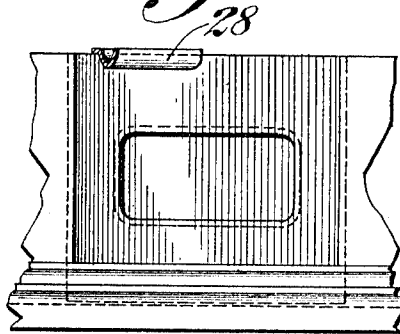


Fig. 9.

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CARRIER AND DECORATION FOR BURIAL-CASKETS.

1,001,424.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 22, 1911.

Application filed October 15, 1908, Serial No. 457,786. Renewed January 23, 1911. Serial No. 604,237.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI H. MONTROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Camden, in the county of Camden, State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Carrier and Decoration for Burial-Caskets, of which the following is a specification.

The purpose of my invention is to provide a carrier for caskets which is at the same time capable of variation in appearance and which shall partially or wholly hide the lower or body portion of the casket and serve as a decoration or ornamentation therefor.

A further purpose of my invention is to provide for interchangeability of paneled parts in casket decoration and in means for carrying the casket.

In carrying out each and every of the purposes above mentioned I attain advantages and the accomplishment of further purposes which will appear in the specification itself and which will be evident independently to those skilled in the art.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings one form thereof which is at present preferred by me, since the same has been found to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings:—Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a structure embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents an enlarged side elevation of a portion of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a section upon line $x-x$ of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents a top elevation of a portion of Fig. 1. Figs. 5 and 6 represent panels made use of in my structure in perspective views. Fig. 7 represents in side elevation a casket in place within one of my carriers. Fig. 8 represents a portion of the carrier and casket of Fig. 7 in fragmentary side elevation. Fig. 9 represents a

portion of the structure of Fig. 7 in transverse section upon the line $y-y$ thereof.

1 designates a base of sound deadening and yielding materials, preferably wood, most desirably used for engaging with the floor of the hearse. Upon it I mount a metallic or other molding 2 depressed at 3 and laterally and inwardly extended at 4 to provide a seat for the panels hereinafter described, and indirectly to provide a seat for the casket itself. This molding in the form shown is held in place by screws 5 and 6 which latter are made use of to hold the panels also.

At such intervals as may be desired along the base I secure panels which I have illustrated as of the form of panels 7 but which evidently may vary considerably therefrom and the purpose thereof is multifold. They are secured to the base or molding in any suitable way as by screws 6 and provide means of attachment of any form of casket hardware without the trouble and injury incident to the attachment of this hardware directly to the casket, leaving the latter intact, a matter of great importance with metallic caskets. In the form illustrated the panel 7 has been shown outwardly swelled at 8 and inwardly depressed at 9 for purposes hereafter pointed out. The lower portion at 10 is arranged to fit within the particular molding shown and is laterally extended at 11 to provide for attachment to the base. A plate 12 of any suitable material, preferably of wood is secured to the panel by means of bolts or screws 13, which are shown projecting outside the plate. This form of attachment is convenient, but will be seen not to be necessary, as the panels can be mounted in other ways.

I mount any suitable form of handles 14 by means of fastenings 15, preferring to mount the handles of whatever character upon the plate 12 because of the inward depression of the panel itself at this point. Where the panel is not shown depressed, I may mount the handles upon the panel.

I have illustrated individual handles and the form of supporting means which I prefer.

My construction evidently provides a

number of possible arrangements of the panels 7 with respect to each other and the casket for they can be mounted close together or spaced, and where spaced, the casket can be shown in between them, or intervening panels may be used. I have illustrated such panels.

In my preferred form I have completely filled the space between the adjoining panels 7 with intermediate connecting panels to form a complete and continuous outer coating for the casket united sufficiently to the carrier base and suitably fastened to prevent lateral displacement of the panels. The two types of panels cooperate with each other and with the body of the casket, receiving support from each other and transmitting strain laterally and transversely and also receiving support from the sides and lateral extensions of the casket. The engagement with the casket to prevent relative vertical movement is preferably accomplished by making use of the upper edge of the panel as at 17, as shown in Fig. 4, to engage with part of the casket body, preferably with grooves formed upon the under side of the upper edge of the casket body where there is a projecting ledge from the casket.

I have illustrated one form of such cooperation between the panel and a casket in Fig. 9, mutually reinforcing the casket and panel by this means.

The form of panel which I prefer to make use of intermediate the panels 7 is that shown at 18 and best illustrated in Fig. 6. Its top edge 19 engages with the casket body similarly to the edge 17 while its lateral edges are preferably reversely bent at 20 to form a pocket 21 with inner limiting edge 22. Evidently this pocket can be formed upon either of the panels though it is of course desirable not to have it on the panel 7 in cases where it alone is to be used. A further objection, though not an insurmountable one to placing the pocket in the panel 7 lies in the fact that this panel would generally be of much heavier material than the panel 18.

While any form of decoration or ornamentation, surface or embossed might be made use of in the panel 18 I have illustrated a wreath 23.

In the particular form illustrated the end panels 24 are preferably not provided with handles or fastenings therefor though this could evidently be done wherever necessary.

The end panels are joined with the side panels next adjoining them by means of corner panels 25 of any desired conformation according to the character of the casket and the exact shape thereof.

It will be evident that I provide means by which any variety of decoration of panels may be made use of, one being substituted

for another upon short notice, and that neither the panels 7 nor the panels 18 need be of the same character of decoration nor the same one as the other.

It will be further evident that the panels 7 need not all be handle panels even when used upon the sides of the carrier and that it will not be necessary to secure such panels so firmly to the base of the carrier when used for connecting purposes only. The lateral extension at 11 adds to the stability of the structure when used upon the handle panels because it brings the strain of these directly upon the bottom of the casket. While evidently this stability could be otherwise provided for even for the handle panels as by securely fastening the vertical portion 10 to the molding and the molding to the base, such stability, and consequently such security of fastening is not necessary in panels 7 which are used for decoration or intermediate support for panels such as 18 alone.

It will be evident that the panels 18 are inserted most desirably by sliding them down vertically but that the pocket could be formed in other ways than that shown as by a separate piece attached and that it is possible to make use of other means of attachment or connection of the panels 7 or 18 than by the tongue and groove illustrated.

While the panels 18 are preferably lowered to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 in which their lower edges engage with the lateral extension 11 they may evidently stop at and engage with the upper edge of or an intermediate part of the molding 2.

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

1. In a casket carrier, a base, a plurality of panels fixed at intervals thereon, and intermediate panels connected therewith and retained by said fixed panels.

2. In a casket carrier, a base, a plurality of independent fixed panels at intervals thereon, and intermediate panels having tongue and groove connection with said fixed panels.

3. In a casket carrier, a base, a plurality of fixed panels secured to said base at intervals for engagement with an outwardly directed flange on a casket, and a plurality of intermediate panels connected with said base and retained by and interlockingly engaging said fixed panels.

4. In a casket carrier, a base, a panel fixed thereto which is outwardly swelled near its edges relatively to the center, a handle plate thereon, and means for fastening the handle plate to the relatively outwardly swelled portion.

5. In a casket carrier, a base, a plurality

of panels fixed to said base, handles supported thereon, and a plurality of removable panels between the fixed panels and united thereto.

5 6. In a casket carrier, fixed panels adapted to be engaged by projections on a casket, handles upon the fixed panels, and

removable panels between the fixed panels and having interlocking connection therewith.

LEVI H. MONTROSS.

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