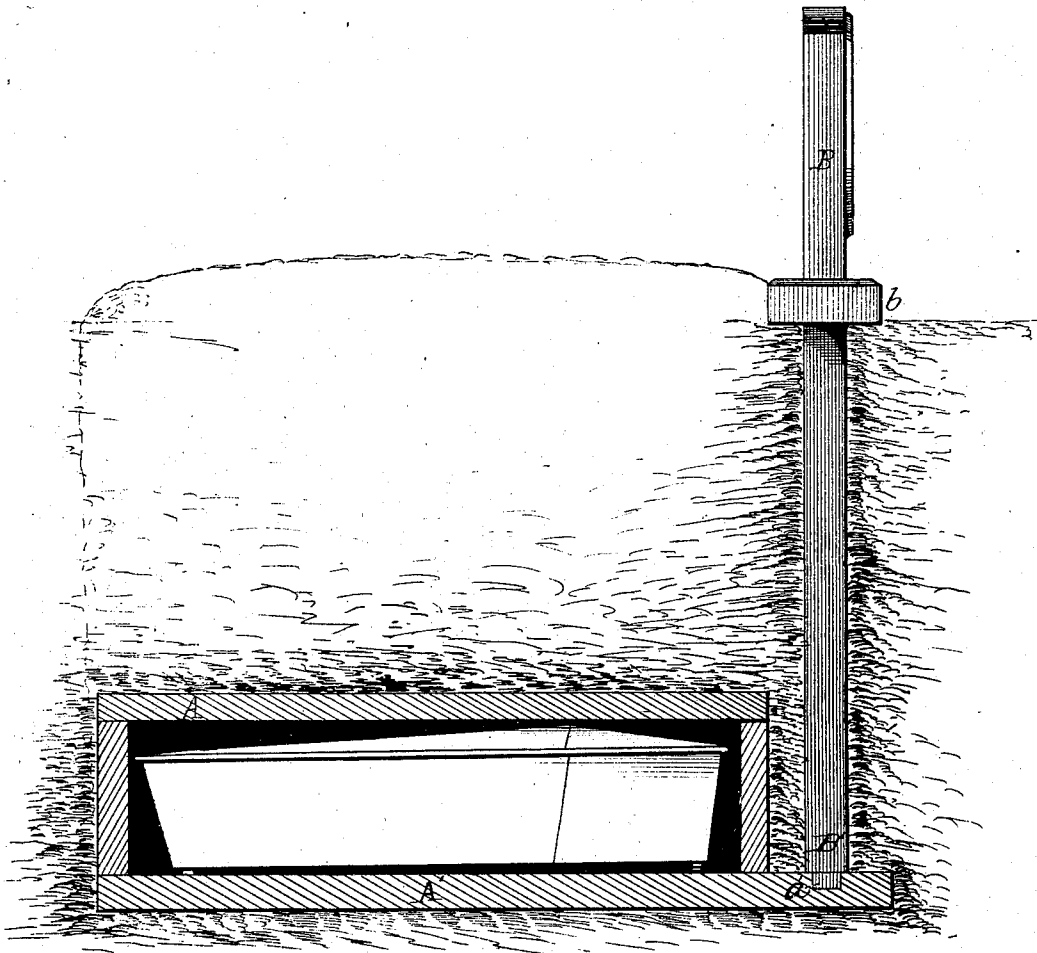


J. DECKER.

COMBINED BURIAL-CASE AND TOMBSTONE.

No. 173,913.

Patented Feb. 22, 1876.



Attest:

John L. Boomer
J. M. Pool

Inventor:

Jerome Decker.

By James C. Norris
att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEROME DECKER, OF HUNTER'S LAND, ASSIGNOR TO MYRA WAGONER, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED BURIAL-CASES AND TOMBSTONES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,913**, dated February 22, 1876; application filed December 3, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEROME DECKER, of Hunter's Land, in the county of Schoharie and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vaults for Burial Purposes, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to an improved burial-case and head-stone for burial purposes; and it consists of a box-like receptacle of stone, earthenware, metal, or other suitable material, with a bottom projecting at one end in which is formed a recess for the reception of the lower end of the head or tomb stone. The receptacle is provided with a cover which is secured thereon by bolts, screws, or by any other convenient means, and is intended to be set in an ordinary grave and buried, the lower end of the tomb or head stone resting in the recess in the projecting end of the bottom, which forms a firm support therefor and prevents its sinking or displacement. The upper portion of the stone projects above the ground to any desired height, and at the surface of the ground is provided with a shoulder which forms a base resting upon the surface thereof.

The drawing represents a sectional view of my improved burial-case and head-stone in position in the ground, in which—

The letter A represents the box-casing forming the receptacle, composed of stone, metal, or other suitable material. Said box or receptacle may be of any desirable shape, preferably, however, of a rectangular shape, as shown. The letter A' represents the bottom of said

casing, projecting a short distance at one end and provided with a recess, *a*, on its upper side for the reception of the shaft B' of the lower end of the head-stone B. Said head-stone may be constructed of stone, metal, or other suitable material, of any desirable length. That portion at or near the surface of the ground, when in position, is provided with a shoulder, *b*, which rests upon the surface of the ground. The part below said shoulder is buried in the ground, its lower edge resting in the recess *a* in the end of the bottom of the burial-case, as before stated.

As thus constructed, the combined vault forms a secure and indestructible casing for the coffin and corpse, and at the same time furnishes a perfect support for the head-stone, preventing the sinking or displacement of the same, either from the action of the elements or by violence.

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

The burial case or receptacle A, having the projecting bottom A' provided with a recess, *a*, at its projecting end, in combination with the head-stone B and shaft B', having the shoulder *b*, all being constructed and arranged as described and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

JEROME DECKER. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

JAMES M. WAGONER,
NATHAN H. DAYTON.