

No. 878,985.

PATENTED FEB. 11, 1908.

L. H. MONTROSS.
BURIAL CASKET CARRIER.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 27, 1906

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

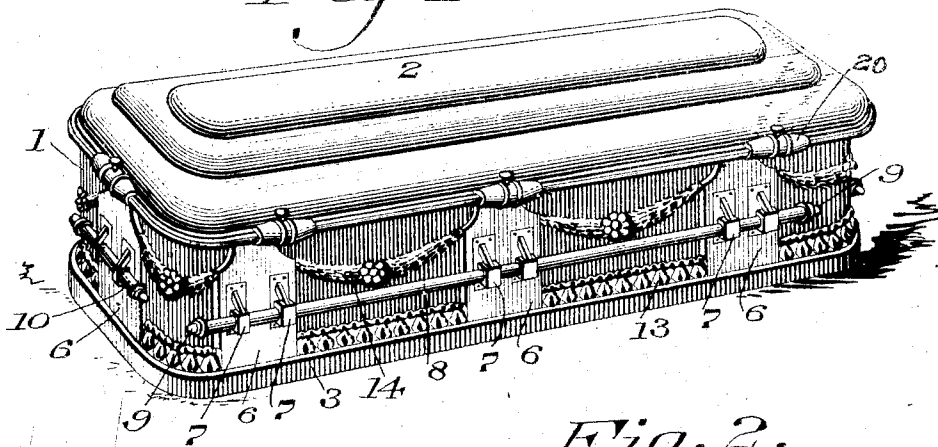


Fig. 2.

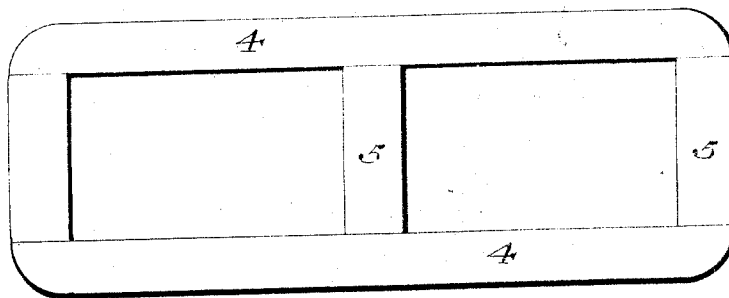
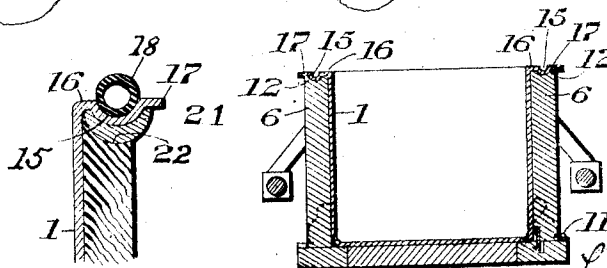


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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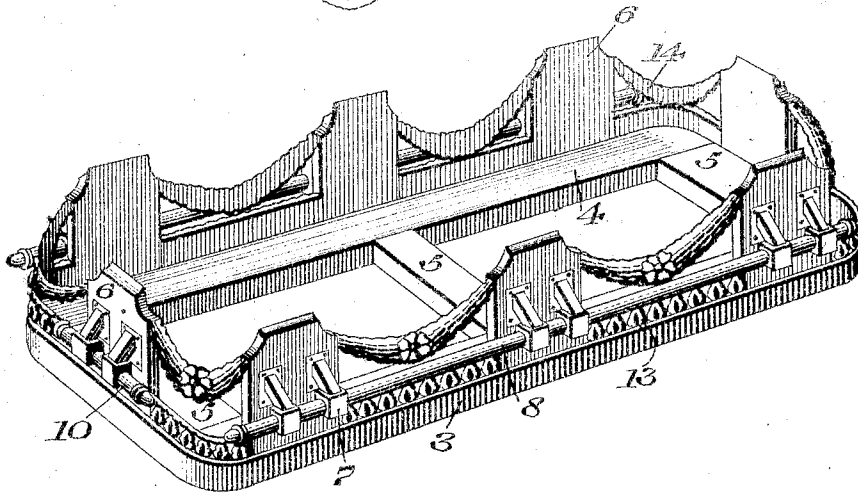
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI H. MONTROSS, OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY.

BURIAL-CASKET CARRIER.

No. 878,985.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 11, 1908.

Application filed December 27, 1906. Serial No. 349,637.

To all whom it may concern:

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

The purpose of my invention is to provide an effective, convenient, strong and decorative support for caskets.

A further purpose of my invention is to avoid damage to metallic caskets due to attachment of handles thereto.

A further purpose of my invention is to avoid buckling or the necessity for excessive bracing of the stays of caskets to accommodate the handles.

A further purpose of my invention is to reduce the expense necessarily connected with caskets.

A further purpose of my invention is to make the handles and decorations separate parts and remove them at the time of burial.

A further purpose of my invention is to supply a removable support for caskets which shall carry the handles and any desired decorations.

Figure 1 represents a casket in its supporting frame, the view being perspective. Fig. 2 represents the frame in bottom plan view. Fig. 3 represents a transverse section of the casket through the handles thereof. Fig. 4 represents a fragmentary section of the lower casket member and carrier. Fig. 5 represents a perspective view of a base similar to that in Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the bottom portion of a casket preferably metallic, having a top 2 and supported upon a frame 3. This frame is made up of any suitable preferably wooden base structure illustrated here as composed of longitudinal strips 4 and transverse connecting strips 5 to form a strong bottom supporting structure. This is intended to receive and carry the casket. To the sides of the frame and from the end also, if desired, I preferably attach side and end members or standards in the form of panels, plates or strips 6 to which the handle brackets 7 are attached.

I have illustrated the side handles as continuous rods 8 resting within the supporting brackets 7 and capped in any convenient or desired manner at 9, but it will be evident

that independent handles may be used within the brackets or that other types than independent bracket supported handles may be used upon the strips 6. I have illustrated an independent handle 10 at the end of the casket, this being but one of many types of handle which might be used either with the bracket 7 or where the handle 6 is completed without separate brackets.

While I preferably attach the panels 6 rigidly to the bottom frame, it will be evident that the same may be pivoted as at 11, Figs. 3, so that the entire side parts may be bent down upon one or both sides or ends to permit a free insertion or removal of the casket, the parts being afterward retained in position by any suitable means such as a latch or spring.

It will be evident that the panels or strips 6 rest or may be made to rest throughout substantially their entire length or through any desired portion of their length against the side of the lower portion of the casket and might even bridge the joint and rest against the upper portion of the casket, if desired. I preferably rest the strip against the side of the casket throughout quite an appreciable portion of the length of the strip. In order to enlarge the surface of the casket upon which the crushing strain due to the lateral component of the lifting strain upon the handle is distributed and I preferably terminate the strip 6 at a point 12 in close proximity to the preferably reinforced upper edge of the lower casket member 1, in order that this reinforced edge may itself assist in preventing buckling.

The form of casket illustrated having a lateral extension at its upper edge on the lower casket portion and having a rib, groove or gutter within this lateral extension, is found to be sufficient to prevent buckling without affecting the joint made between the upper and lower casket parts and therefore without endangering a hermetical seal which I may secure by the joint patented by me in my previous patent, granted May 1st, 1906, No. 819,301, for burial caskets.

Along the edge of the frame 4, I preferably secure any suitable molding 13 and between the handle supports or plates 6 and even past them where these plates are thin enough for the molding to normally project beyond them. It is evident that this molding can be placed upon the casket and that the plates 6 can be made to span the molding or that

the molding upon the casket could be interrupted at the necessary points to permit the plates 6 to pass through the same.

I have illustrated the decorations 14 in the form of festoons. These I preferably support upon the plates 6, that is, from one plate to another but it will be evident that these also could be secured directly to the casket if desired.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a section of a side of the lower portion of the casket, the adjoining panel strip or support, the lower clamp member and a tube used within the joint. This section shows the support for the casket as cut away to allow the clamp to be placed in position and abutting against this clamp. In it the lower casket member is shown flanged and guttered at 15, the gutter being preferably spaced from the body of the casket by a lateral flange 16 and the flange is preferably extended beyond the gutter at 17, these parts cooperating with the parts of the upper casket member to form a joint. The flange cooperates with the panel or strip 6 of the support in two ways, to afford a bearing against lifting strain and to brace against distortion by inward pressure of the brace upon the casket member at this point. It will be evident that the lateral flanges could be reduced or modified and under certain conditions altogether done away with. The flanges 16 and 17, for instance, could be dropped altogether and the gutter 15 would in that case lie directly against the side of the lower member 2.

I have shown clamps 20 as retaining the parts of the joint, the lower part 21 of such a clamp being shown in Fig. 4. In the illustrations I have shown these clamps at the strips 6 and have shown the strips 6 cut away at 22 to permit the clamps to lie therebetween.

It will be evident that a variety of forms of frame can be used and that the strips to which the handles are attached may be of any suitable material or shape and may be varied in position or number as desired.

It will be evident that the upper portion of my supporting frame may be secured to the lower portion in any suitable manner either to secure it rigidly thereto as illustrated upon the left side of Fig. 3, or to make it movable with respect thereto in any suitable way of which one is shown at the right hand of Fig. 3. It will also be apparent that the festoons or other decorations may be moved along with the strips where they are made movable with respect to the base

and that any decorations on the side and end strips may be temporarily detached or loosened for such movement or that such movement may be permitted by looseness in the decorations.

In Fig. 5 I have shown the strips 6 arranged to cooperate at their upper ends with the flange of the lower casket member rather than with the clamp or the flange and clamp. It will be seen that where I refer in this specification or the claims thereof to a plate of strips such as 6, I intend to include any panel or bracket or other structure which would perform the same function and which might consist of but an outline of the strip in question:

I preferably use a wooden base or a padded base to prevent metallic ring and undue noise in the contact of the base with the hearse bottom or supports and to cooperate with the usual retaining devices when used with these supports, which cut into the bottom of the casket or base sufficiently to prevent accidental movement of the coffin thereon.

It will be evident that various changes may be made by those skilled in the art, which will come within the scope of my invention and I do not therefore desire to be limited in every instance to the exact construction herein shown and described.

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

1. In a removable carrier for caskets, a base, panels secured thereto and handles secured to said panels.
2. In a removable carrier for caskets, a base, a plurality of panels secured thereto and handles uniting the panels.
3. In a removable carrier for caskets, a base frame, supports secured to said base frame and adapted to engage at their upper ends with a flange upon the casket and handles upon said supports.
4. In a carrier for caskets, a base, and a plurality of side members therefor unattached at their upper ends and of which one is movably connected with said base at its lower end.
5. In a carrier for caskets, a base, a plurality of side members connected therewith, decorations removably secured to said side members, and handles upon said side members.

LEVI H. MONTROSS.

Witnesses:

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