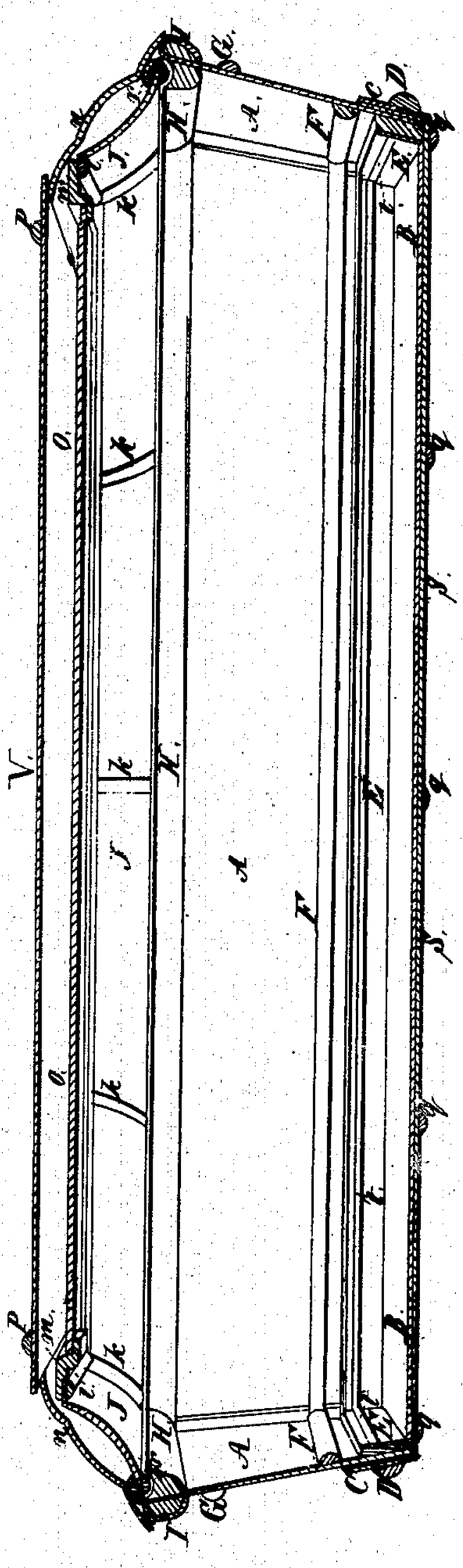
The specification of this patent is not in print.

No. 26,379.

PATENTED DEC. 6, 1859.

I. C. SHULER.
METALLIC COFFIN.



Inventors:

B. F. Blood

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Witnesses:

Isaac C. Shuler

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC C. SHULER, OF AMSTERDAM, NEW YORK.

SHEET-METAL COFFIN.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 26,379, dated December 6, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC C. SHULER, of Amsterdam, in the county of Montgomery and State of New York, have devised various Improvements in the Construction of Sheet-Metal Coffins; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, part of this specification, and which represents a vertical longitudinal section of a sheet-metal coffin embracing my improvements.

The drawing and the method of construction will be understood from the subjoined description.

Galvanized sheet iron is the most suitable metal for the construction of these coffins. I cut out the sides (A) in proper coffin shape, and put the corners together with a double lock-joint on the outside, which joint is beaten down against the sides, being further stiffened by an iron bar soldered opposite to it on the inside; or, reversing the process, I turn the joint inward, and place a stiffening bar on the outside, according to the style of the general outside finish of the coffin. I then set this structure upon an ample bottom (S), whose edges are locked into the edges of the sides, and bent upward against the same and soldered thereto, thus forming the large and stiffening joint (C), which serves as an outside base-frame. All around this joint I still place the outside frame (D), for the further stiffening of the base. Underneath the bottom (S) I then solder on the frame (*q*), also for stiffening the base. On the inside of the base I then set the tray (E) whose upper edge is stiffened all around by the frame (*t*), and is so formed that it can be either bent over against the sides and soldered thereto, or set away, leaving space for molten metal, according to the size and required strength of the coffin. On either side of the top of the walls (A) I place the two frames (H and I) directly opposite each other, the wall protruding between them, and left flush above.

H, and I,-apparently two frames are in fact cast together, being connected at the corners, and leaving a slot through which the walls protrude. The flush portion of the walls, after being riveted to the double frame, is bent down over the outside portion I, for the double purpose of presenting a good soldering surface, and of saving the cast metal from exposure to the elements,—which exposure it is not so competent to endure as is the galvanized iron. The frame H has a groove in its upper surface. I then construct the concave cover (J) on the inside of which is set the entire cast frame (K) as a stiffening. This frame consists, analytically of two rims, held together by the curved studs, the upper rim being fixed in the upper inside angle of the cover J, and the lower fitting into the slot or groove in the frame H. Opposite the frame which fits this groove is another (*r*), over which the flush edge of the cover J, is bent backward and soldered, inclosing the frame (*r*). When the corpse is placed in the coffin, this curved edge is soldered to the flush edge of the walls before mentioned as being bent over the frame I, forming an air-tight joint.

The upper surface of the cover is pierced for the reception of the glass. Into the orifice is dropped the frame or sash (*m*), and when the glass is set, it is secured in its place by the frame (*o*) which is screwed down, on the cement of the window, holding it permanently; yet it may be removed when the glass happens to get broken. To the outer frame (I) is attached the outer cover (*n*) in four pieces which open at the top, being hinged at the bottom to the frame (I). Directly above this is applied the extreme cover (V), which is screwed to the cover (*n*) when the coffin is closed, and is stiffened on the top by the frame (P). Below the frame (I), I place about the body of the coffin the center frame (G) which serves to stiffen the walls in the neighborhood of the handles. The whole may be then grained or painted according to taste.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. The arrangement of stiffening the base of a sheet metal coffin by locking together the surplus edges of the walls and bottom, forming a rim (C) surrounding the base; also the frame (D).

2. The inside tray (E), whose bottom is in permanent contact with the exterior bottom (S), and whose sides may be soldered directly to the walls, (A), or set away, leaving a chamber to be filled with molten metal, as described.

3. The arrangement of scrolling or double-locking the walls at the corners, in order by making a voluminous joint to stiffen and

brace the general structure, whether the body of the joint be formed on the inner or outer side of the coffin.

4. I claim the slotted or double rim H, I, through which the walls protrude, as described, for the purpose of stiffening the upper edges of the walls and sustaining the lid or cover. Also the arrangement of folding the surplus edges of the walls over the frame (I) for the purpose specified.

5. I claim stiffening the cover (J) with the frame (*r*) near its outer edge, on the upper side, and closing the surplus sheet metal over the same.

6. I claim for the purpose of stiffening their respective portions of the coffin the frames of cast or wrought metal (P,) for the blind (V); (K) for the cover (J); (G) and (F) for the walls in the vicinity of the handles; (*t*) for the upper edge of the tray (E); and (*q*) for the exterior bottom (S).

7. I disclaim hinging the sections of the concave sides of the cover to the body of the same; I claim hinging them to the body of the coffin.

ISAAC C. SHULER.

Witnesses:
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