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G. A. SCHEHR.

DROP HANDLE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1905.

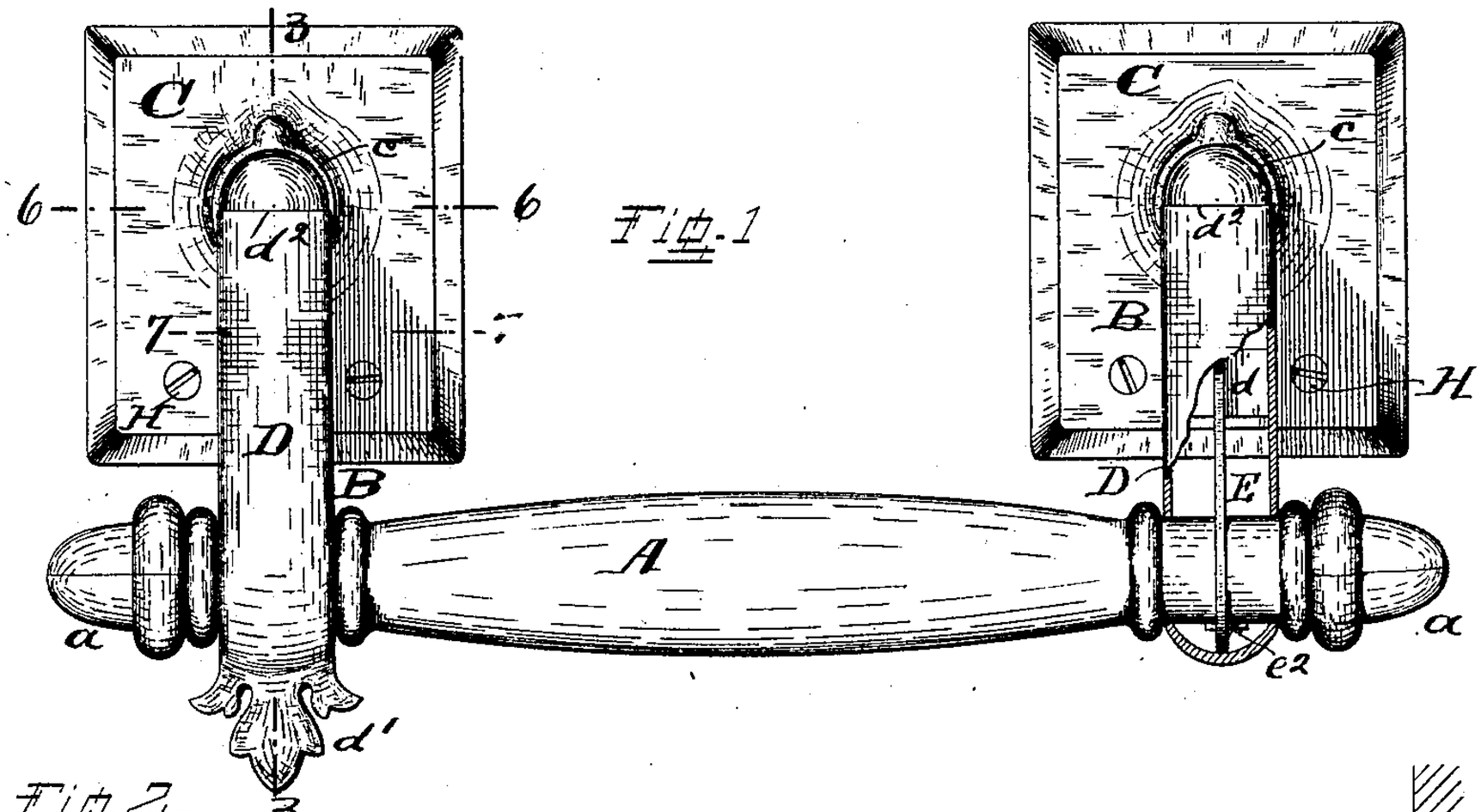


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

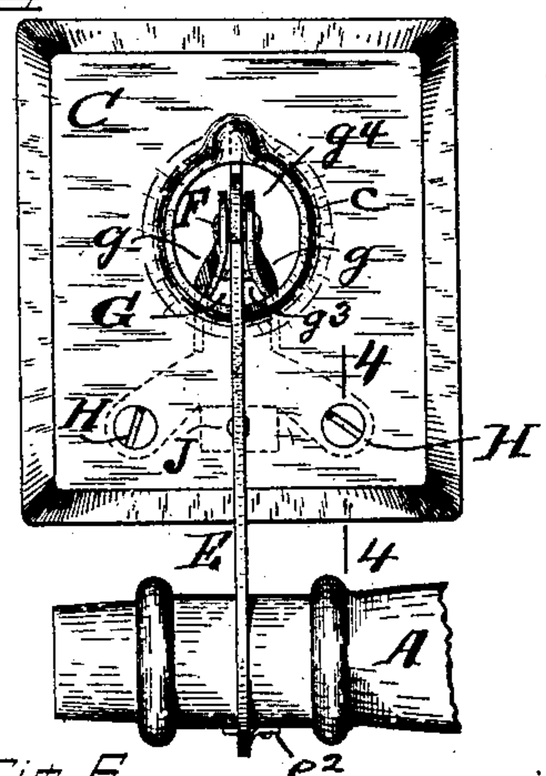


Fig. 5

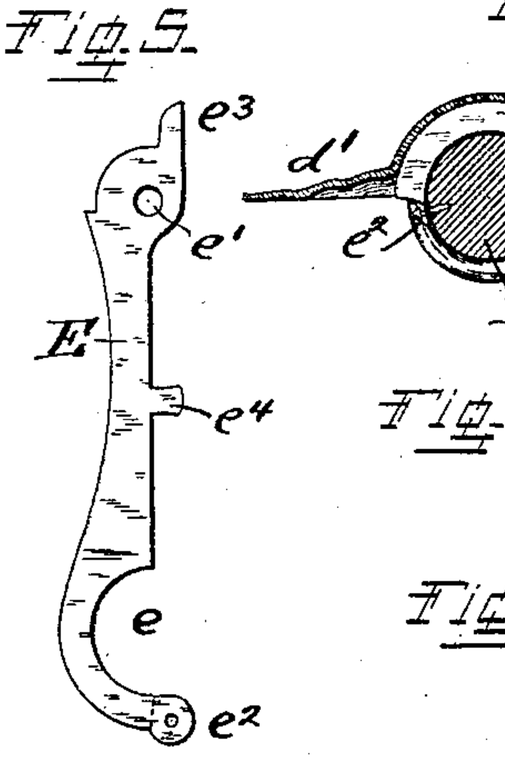


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 6

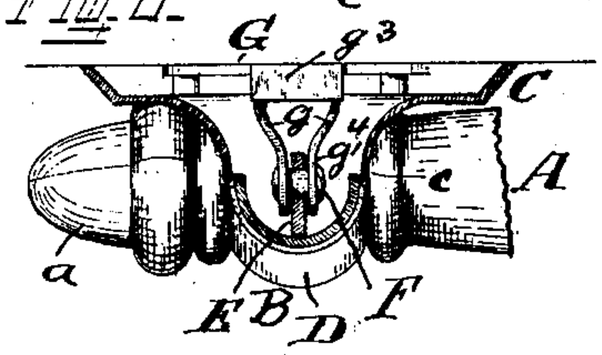


Fig. 7

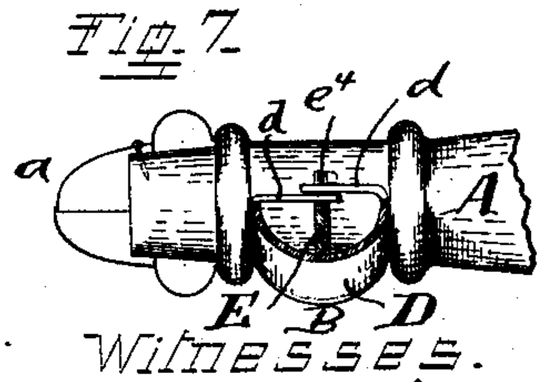


Fig. 9

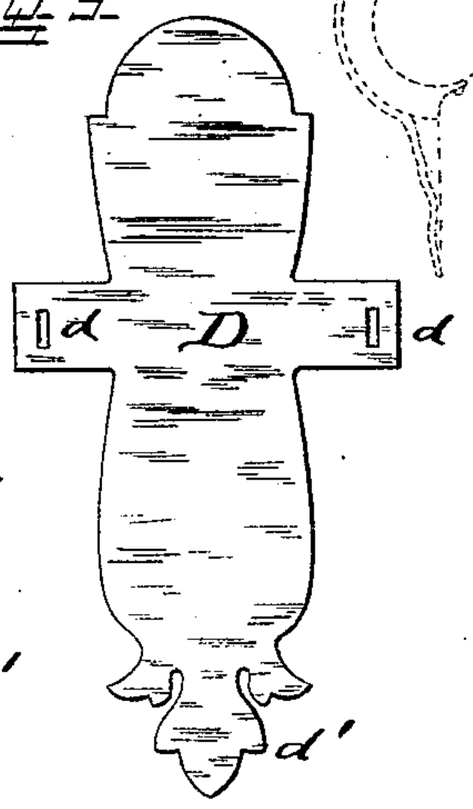
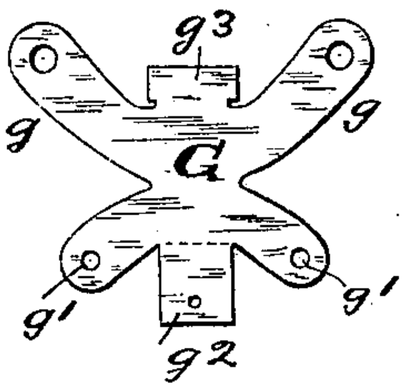


Fig. 8



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DROP-HANDLE.

No. 814,735. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 13, 1906.

Application filed October 2, 1905. Serial No. 280,879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. SCHEHR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, Hamilton county, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drop-Handles; and I do declare the following to be a clear, full, and exact description thereof, attention being called to the accompanying drawings, with the reference characters marked thereon, which form also a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in drop-handles, more particularly such which are used in connection with caskets and coffins. Since their use in such connection is only a temporary one, the time of actual service being comparatively short, it has been the aim to construct such handles as cheap as possible without sacrificing, however, wherever avoidable, the desirable substantial appearance and strength.

The general object of the invention is to construct such a handle in a simple and inexpensive method and with a limited use of metal, without impairing, however, the necessary strength and stability required for the purpose, while maintaining at the same time the desirable substantial appearance.

The invention consists, therefore, of a handle constructed so as to satisfy these conditions, and such construction, together with its various parts, is hereinafter described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows such a handle of usual style as it appears when in its normal position on the side of the coffin, parts being broken away. Fig. 2 shows part of a similar view with certain parts of the handle removed. Fig. 3 is a sectional side view of certain parts and taken on a line indicated at 3 3 in Fig. 1, the position of the handle being, however, an operative one—that is, one in which it appears when used for carrying the particular object to which it is attached. Fig. 4 is part of a similar figure, the section being taken in a plane parallel to the one of the preceding figure, but to one side thereof, the section-line being indicated at 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 shows in side view one of the structural parts used in the construction. Fig. 6 is a horizontal section on line 6 6 of Fig. 1, showing also parts below. Fig. 7 is a horizontal section on line 7 7 of Fig. 1, showing also parts below. Fig. 8 shows the blank out of which a certain part is formed—to-wit, the bracket which supports the arms of the handle on the coffin. Fig. 9 shows the blank out of which a certain other part is formed—to-wit, the ornamental shell of the arm which connects the handle to the above-mentioned bracket.

In the drawings, A indicates the handle proper, supported at or near each one of its ends by swinging arms B, the other ends of which arms are pivoted to brackets G, which are attached to the particular objects on which the handle is used, which in this case is presumed to be a coffin. These brackets are usually covered by ornamental base-plates or escutcheons C C, which ordinarily have no further functions except to hide structural parts and are therefore of light metal. My present invention consists of certain details of construction of the above-mentioned members, and more particularly of the swinging arms B B and of the brackets on which they are supported and whereby they are attached in position. The larger part of these arms consists of a convex hollow shell D, of sheet metal sufficiently thin to permit stamping and pressing to shape and also the impression of ornamentations, they serving for ornamental purposes merely and to produce, by reason of their bulky appearance, the desired substantial aspect of massiveness. The principal structural parts of these arms are the skeleton-links E E, of metal of a thickness sufficient to stand the required strain, but permitting formation by stamping. At one end they are provided with a semicircular recess *e*, which receives part of the handle A, and at the other end they have a small opening *e'*, which receives the pivot-pin F, whereby they are pivotally supported between two lugs *g g*, which form parts of bracket G, attached to the side of the coffin and from which they laterally project. The handle is held in place by twisting the perforate ends e^2 of the links and by inserting a screw or tack, as best shown in Fig. 3. Brackets G are also shaped out of sheet metal, their blank being shown in Fig. 8, and from which blank lugs *g g* are bent up at right angles. For their attachment the flat side or back of this bracket has two openings *g' g'*, which receive attaching-screws H. (See particularly Fig. 4.) Between these openings part of the back is turned outwardly and then downwardly, as shown at g^2, forming a brace against which the hollow escutcheon C rests, as best shown in Fig. 3, and whereby possible collapsive strains are resisted. A rivet J

may connect them by passing through both. The metal between lugs *g g* is also turned up and forward and down against the upper edges of these lugs on which this metal rests, as best shown at g^3 in Fig. 3. (See also Fig. 6.) This part g^3 forms a shoulder against which an upward extension or nose e^3 of link E comes to rest when they are raised up during use of the handle, as shown in Fig. 3. The strain and action on all structural parts are considerable at that time, since the weight of the coffin is to be sustained, but by having shoulder g^3 resting against the upper edges of lugs *g g* an equivalent resistance is presented. Forward of this shoulder and around pivot-pin F these lugs *g g* approach each other, as shown at g^4, so as to hold links E in proper position and confine them against lateral displacement.

Links E E, as well as their pivotal connection to brackets G G and the attachment of handle A to them, are covered by the ornamental shells D, as already mentioned, and a suitable blank for which is approximately shown in Fig. 9. After pressed to a convex shape, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, and curved, as shown in Fig. 3, to fit around and over the links they are held to these latter by parts *d d* of the blank, which are bent around and over the inner edge of the link and with their perforated ends inserted over a lug e^4, as best shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 7. The lower ends of these shells are extended down straight and ornamented, as shown at *d'*.

The upper ends of arms B B work in and out through an opening in the central raised portion *c* of the escutcheons, and the upper edge of shells D meets closely the edge of this upturned metal, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, thus hiding completely all structural parts, and particularly the ends of pivot-pin F, thus producing a smooth, nicely-finished, and elegant appearance. A shoulder d^2 on shell D by butting against the edge *c* when the handle is raised, as shown in Fig. 3, completely closes the interstice thereat.

The same screws H which hold brackets G in place serve also to hold the escutcheons, the heads of these screws being used to hold these latter, while a shoulder *h* holds the brackets, the screws having two diameters of varying thicknesses.

The extreme ends of the handles A are covered by ornamental tips or buttons *a*, each made of two sectional sheet-metal shells pressed together, as shown in Fig. 7, and held by a tack. Some features of this invention are of course also applicable to shorter handles requiring only one link.

It will be noted that all members entering into the construction of this handle are made of independent sheet-metal parts and no cast metal is used anywhere.

Having described my invention, I claim as new—

1. In a drop-handle, the combination of attaching brackets, skeleton links having an opening at one end and a semicircular recess at the other, pivot-pins occupying these openings for connection to the attaching-brackets, a handle fitted into the recesses, means to hold the handle in place and a shell to cover each link.

2. In a drop-handle, the combination of attaching-brackets, skeleton links pivotally connected to these brackets and having a semicircular recess at their free ends and an attaching-lug e^2 thereat, a handle fitted into these recesses and held therein by these lugs which are twisted to receive a tack or screw for connection and a shell to cover each link.

3. In a drop-handle, the combination of attaching-brackets, skeleton links pivotally connected to these brackets and having a semicircular recess at their ends and a lug e^4 projecting from their inner edge, a handle secured within these recesses and a sheet-metal shell to cover the front edge of these links and having lugs *d d* adapted to engage lug e^4 as shown and described.

4. In a drop-handle, the combination of attaching-brackets, skeleton links having semicircular recesses at their free end pivotally connected thereto, a handle supported between the free ends of these links and in the recesses thereat and a sheet-metal shell attached to cover their front edge and the front half of the handle only at the point where the same is supported by the links.

5. In a drop-handle, the combination of the handle proper, swinging arms or links which between them support the handle at one of their ends, attaching-brackets having laterally-projecting lugs to which the other ends of these links are pivotally connected and an escutcheon-plate to cover each bracket, said plates being provided with an opening to permit attachment of the links to the brackets within, that part of these plates in which this opening is located being raised so as to also cover and hide the pivotal connection between bracket and link.

6. In a drop-handle, a one-piece sheet-metal attaching-bracket having the forwardly-projecting lugs *g g*, the forwardly-bent shoulder g^3 resting upon the upper edges of these lugs, in combination with the handle-supporting arms supported on them and provided each with a nose which is adapted to rest upon this shoulder when the handle is used.

7. In a drop-handle, a one-piece sheet-metal attaching-bracket having the forwardly-projecting lugs *g g*, the forwardly-bent shoulder g^3 resting upon the upper edges of these lugs which latter are bent to approach each other in front of this shoulder, handle-supporting skeleton links supported in the narrow space between these lugs and an ornamental shell to cover each link.

8. In a drop-handle, the combination of the handle, the arms supporting it, an attaching-bracket for each arm, to which they are pivotally connected, an escutcheon-plate to cover each attaching-bracket and attaching-screws with a projecting head and an intermediate shoulder, they pasing through both, the head holding the plate and the shoulder holding the bracket.

9. A drop-handle having ornamental pressed-metal tips at its ends, each formed of two semicircular longitudinally-divided shells.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE A. SCHEHR.

Witnesses:
C. SPENGEL.
C. MEYER.