

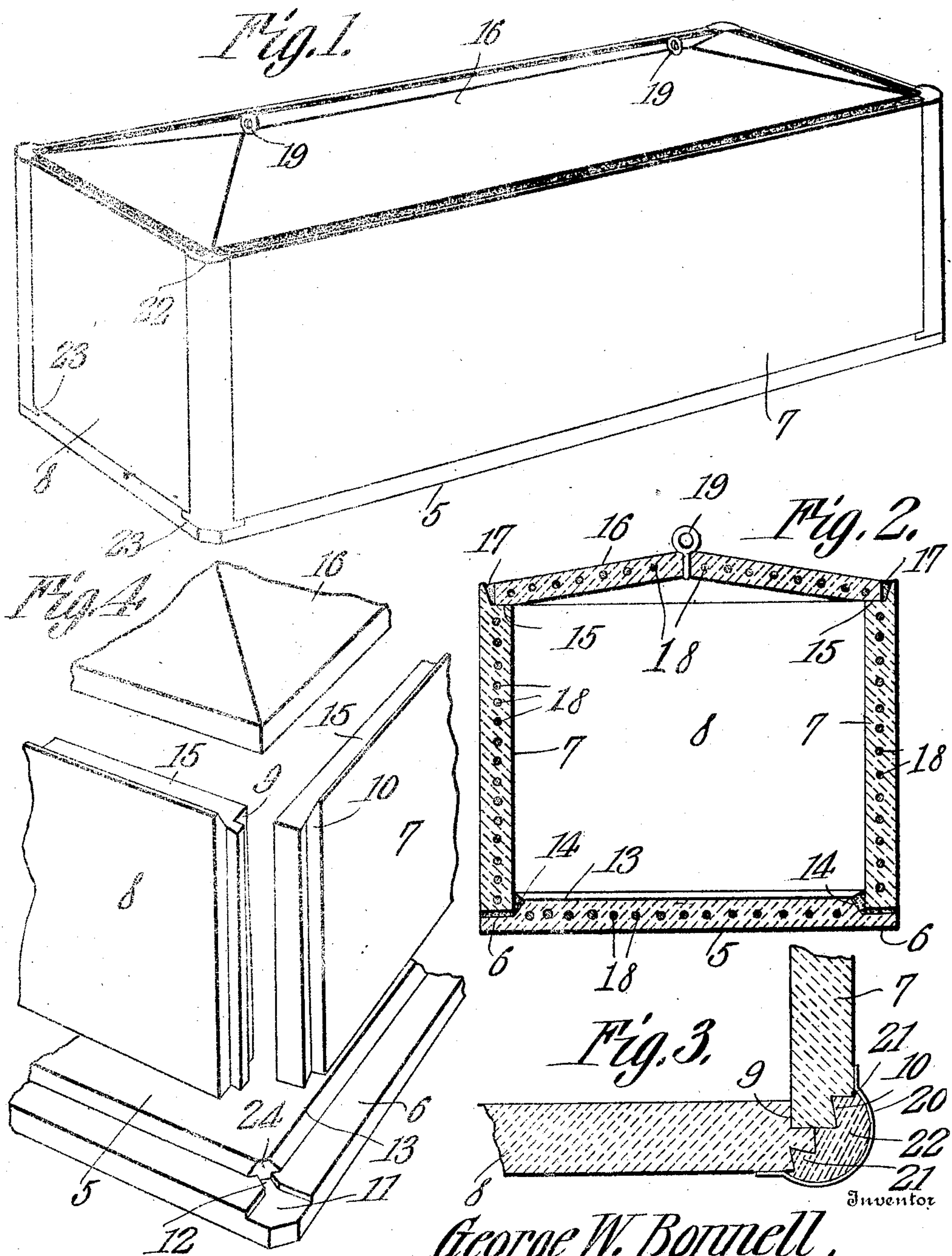
G. W. BONNELL.

VAULT

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 30, 1908.

919,686.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909.



Witnesses

[Signature]
S. P. Acker.

George W. Bonnell,

By *C. A. Snow & Co.*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BONNELL, OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

VAULT.

No. 919,686.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 27, 1909.

Application filed December 30, 1908. Serial No. 469,938.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. BONNELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lincoln, in the county of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Vault, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to burial vaults, and has for its object to provide an artificial stone burial vault formed of a plurality of separate sections capable of being quickly assembled in a grave or in a place remote therefrom, and carried to said grave for the reception of a coffin or casket.

A further object of the invention is to provide a burial vault having a marginal cement-receiving groove at the juncture of the side walls with the top and bottom sections of the vault, thereby to render the latter positively air and moisture proof.

A further object is to provide a novel form of mortar lock at the corners of the vault, and further to strengthen the separate vault sections by the provision of reinforcing wires embedded in the cement or other material constituting said sections.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a burial vault constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view. Fig. 3 is a detail longitudinal sectional view showing the construction of the corner lock. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the vault showing the side walls or slabs in position to be placed on the bottom section or slab and with the top section or cover arranged above the side slabs.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved burial vault forming the subject matter of the present invention comprises a bottom section or slab 5 having laterally extending marginal flanges 6 formed integral therewith and which serve to receive

and support the separate side sections or slabs 7 and the end sections or slabs 8. The end sections or slabs 8 are formed with terminal recesses 9 for the reception of the adjacent ends of the side sections or slabs 7, these side sections 7 being also provided with terminal vertically disposed recesses 10 which form pockets for the reception of cement, mortar or other adhesive material. The walls of the recesses 10 are preferably disposed at an acute angle, thereby to assist in retaining the cement within the pockets and thus firmly binding the side and end walls together.

Arranged at each corner of the bottom section or slab 5 is a pocket or recess 11 having a channel 12 communicating therewith and which serves to guide the cement or other material to the recess 11 when the several sections are assembled and the cement or other material poured in the groove 12.

The lower section or slab 5 is provided with a central enlargement or thickened portion 13 the peripheral edge of which is inclined downwardly in the direction of the flange 6, thereby to produce a marginal cement-receiving groove 14 extending around the interior walls of the vault when the side and end sections are positioned on the flange 6, as best shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The upper longitudinal edges of the side and end sections are rabbeted at 15 to form a seat for the cover section 16, the vertical walls of the rabbet 15 being inclined outwardly so as to produce a cement-receiving pocket or groove 17 between the rabbeted edges of the side and end walls and the marginal edge of the cover.

The side and end sections as well as the top and bottom sections of the vault are preferably reinforced and strengthened by the provision of reinforcing rods or wires 18, the top section or slab 16 being also provided with one or more eye-bolts 19 for convenience in handling the same.

In assembling the vault in a grave the base slab 5 is positioned on the bottom of the grave after which the side sections are arranged on the bottom section with their lower longitudinal edges resting on the marginal flange 6, the side and end sections being temporarily supported in assembled position on the base section by means of segmental clamping members 20. These clamping members 20 preferably extend the entire height of the vault and are provided with

laterally extending fingers 21 which bear against the exterior walls of the side and end sections, while the intermediate curved portions of the clamping members are spaced from the recessed ends of said side and end sections to form pockets for the reception of the concrete or cement, indicated at 22. After the cement has been introduced in the pocket 22 a quantity of liquid cement is poured into the marginal groove 14 so that the cement will flow beneath the lower longitudinal edges of the side and end sections and cause the latter to adhere to the flange 6, a portion of the cement introduced into the groove 14 being fed through the channel 12 into the recess 11 to form a mortar-receiving lock 23 on the base section or slab at each corner of the vault. Attention is here called to the fact that each corner of the enlargement is cut away at 24 and also inclined downwardly in the direction of the flange 6 to assist in guiding the cement into the groove 12 and thence into the recess 11 to form a mortar lock 23. After the cement in the pockets 22 has set or hardened the clamping members 20 are removed, or if desired these clamping members may be left in position on the vault. When the side and end sections of the vault have been thus assembled with the base, the casket or coffin is placed within the vault and the cover 16 positioned on the latter with the marginal edge thereof resting in the rabbeted portion 15 of the side and end sections, the groove 17 being subsequently filled with cement or other adhesive material to prevent the entrance of air or moisture at the upper portion of the vault.

The particular shape of the recesses 10 serves to bind the cement or mortar therein and thus form a firm bond between the side and end sections of the vault at the corners thereof. It will also be noted that by reason of the inclination of the marginal edge of the enlargement 13 the cement or other adhesive material will be directed downwardly between the lower longitudinal edges of the side and end sections and flange 6, it being of course understood that a small quantity of cement will be spread on the flange 6 before positioning the side and end sections thereon and that the cement subsequently introduced within the groove 14 will flow over the surface of the cement on the flange 6 and assist in binding the parts together.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. A burial vault including a bottom sec-

tion having a thickened portion defining a laterally extending marginal flange, the edge of the thickened portion being inclined downwardly in the direction of the flange, there being a mortar-receiving pocket formed in the flange at each corner of the bottom section, side and end sections resting on said flange and having their abutting ends formed with vertically disposed recesses for the reception of a binding medium, the walls of said recesses being arranged at an acute angle to each other to assist in preventing accidental displacement of the cement.

2. A burial vault including a bottom section having an enlargement defining a laterally extending flange, the marginal edge of the enlargement being inclined downwardly in the direction of the flange, there being a mortar-receiving pocket formed in the flange at each corner of the bottom section and having a channel in communication therewith, separate side and end sections resting on the flange of the bottom section and having their abutting ends provided with mortar-receiving recesses, a clamping member engaging the side and end sections at each corner of the vault and spaced from the mortar-receiving recesses in the side and end sections, and a cover for the vault.

3. A burial vault including a bottom section having an enlargement defining a laterally extending flange, the marginal edge of the enlargement being inclined downwardly in the direction of the flange, there being mortar-receiving pockets formed in the flange at each corner of the bottom section, and having a channel communicating therewith, the corners of the enlargement being inclined in the direction of the channels, separate side and end sections resting on the flange and having their abutting ends provided with mortar-receiving recesses and their upper longitudinal edges rabbeted, a cover seated on the rabbeted edge of the side and end sections, and clamping members extending the entire height of the side and end sections and spaced from the overlapped ends thereof to form a pocket for the reception of a binding medium.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BONNELL.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. FANELL,

H. P. KAUFFMAN.