

J. C. SIMPSON.  
BURIAL VAULT.  
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976,407.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

Fig. 2.

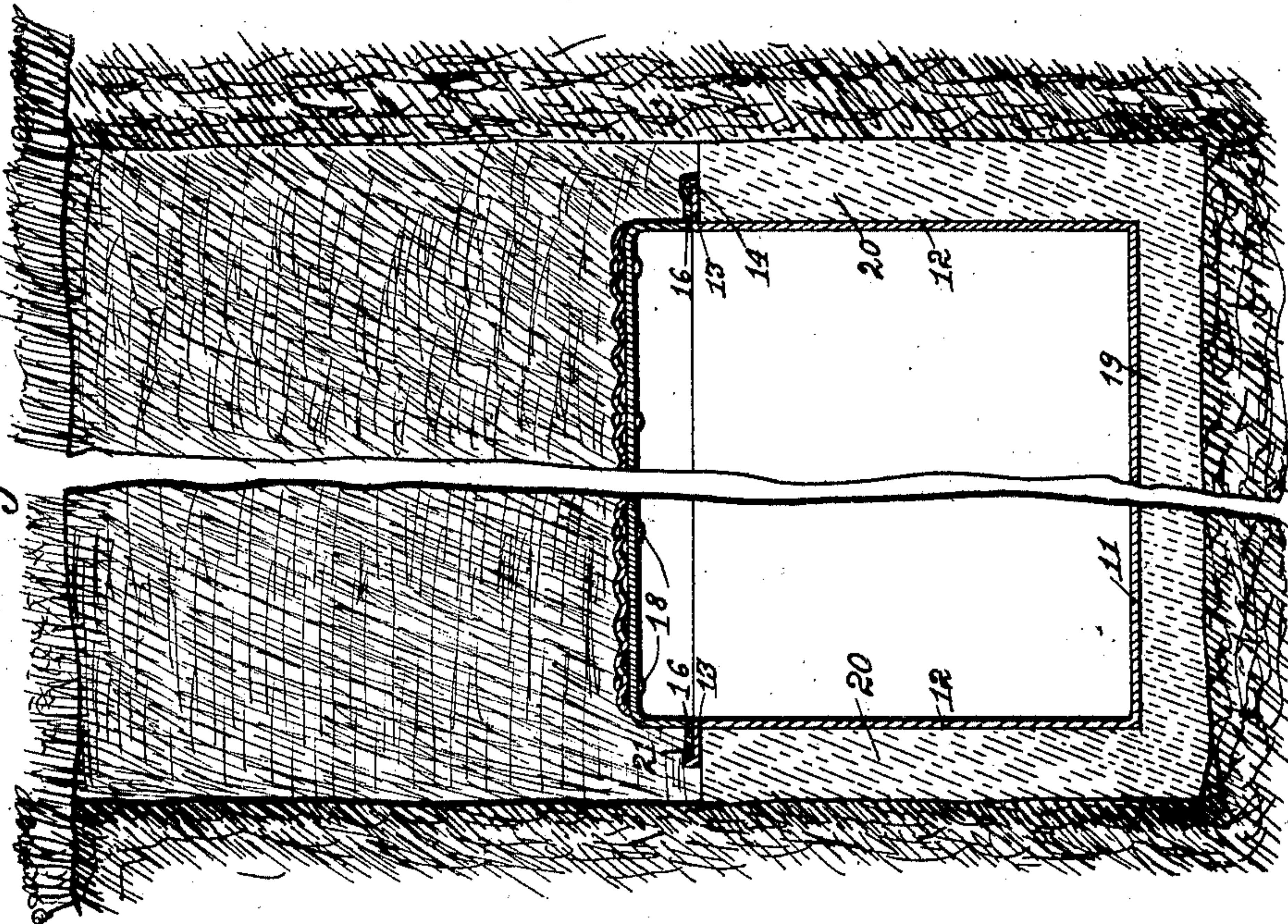
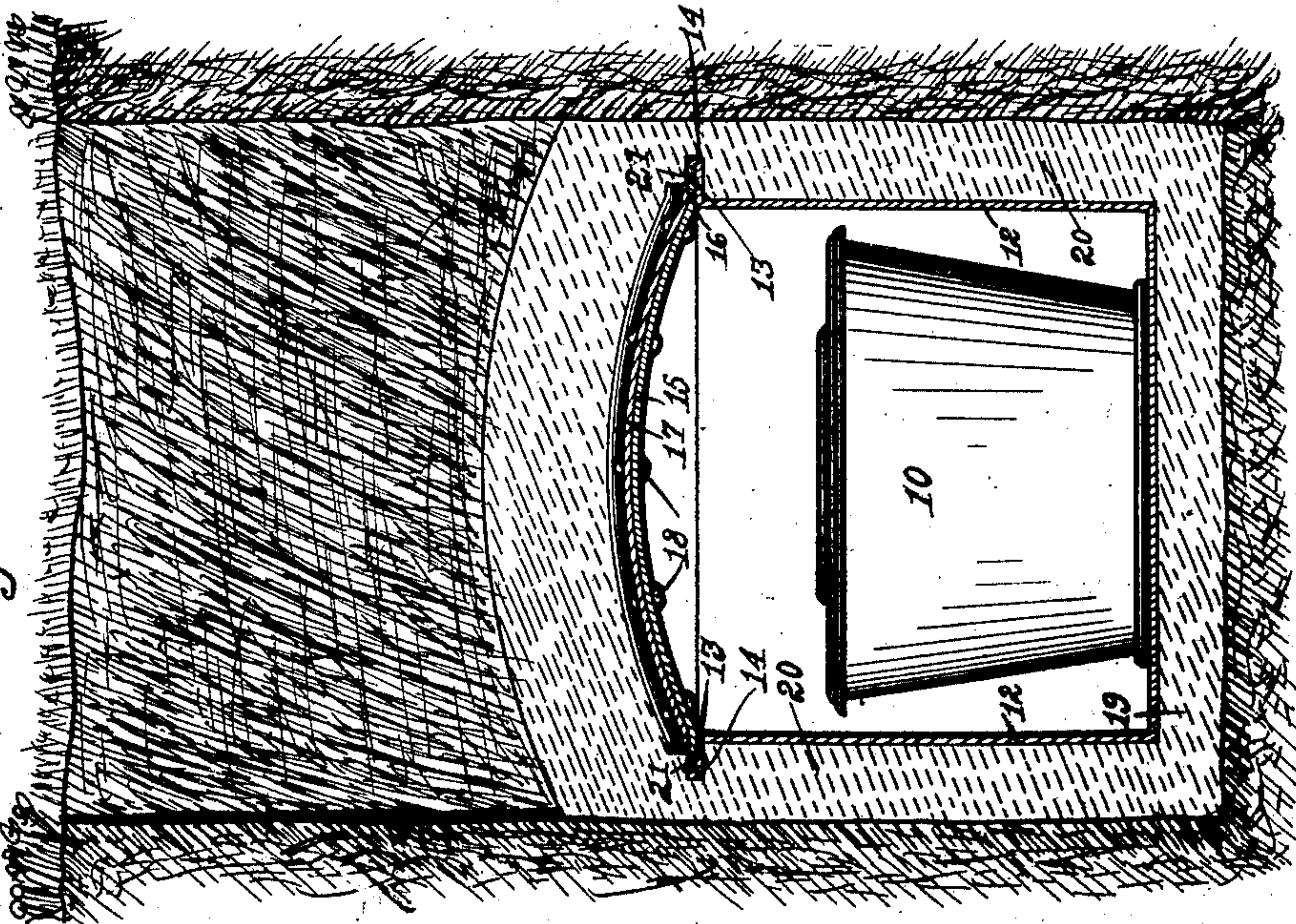


Fig. 1.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEREMIAH C. SIMPSON, OF IOWA FALLS, IOWA.

## BURIAL-VAULT.

976,407.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

Application filed October 1, 1909. Serial No. 520,498.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JEREMIAH C. SIMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Iowa Falls, in the county of Hardin and State of Iowa, have invented a certain new and useful Burial-Vault, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide means of simple, durable, and inexpensive construction for forming a burial vault of concrete that may be readily, quickly, and easily constructed, and that will be air and water tight to thoroughly protect the coffin placed therein.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the various parts of the device whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claim, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a transverse, sectional view through a burial vault embodying my invention with a coffin contained therein, and Fig. 2 shows a central, longitudinal, sectional view of same with the central portion of the burial vault omitted, and illustrating only the end portions thereof. The coffin is also omitted and the top layer of cement that covers the burial vault is also omitted.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, I have used the reference numeral 10 to indicate a coffin of ordinary construction.

My improved burial vault is designed to be made of concrete within a grave. In the construction of same, I provide a body portion made of sheet metal and comprising a bottom 11 with sides and ends 12. At the upper edge of the sides and ends, the sheet metal is extended outwardly at 13 and then upwardly at 14. This sheet metal body portion may be made of any desirable kind of sheet metal and can be made of comparatively light and inexpensive material. The cover is preferably formed of two pieces of sheet metal, the first or under layer being slightly arched at its central portion at 15 and having its edges 16 extended horizontally to rest upon the parts 13 of the body portion. The two flat faces thereof may lie close together. In order to strengthen and reinforce the top, I provide an upper layer of sheet metal comprising a body portion 17

provided with transverse corrugations 55 throughout its length and connected with the lower layer 15 by means of bolts or rivets 18. By thus having two sheets of metal, I provide means whereby the upper sheet may be corrugated for the purpose of strengthening and reinforcing it, and the lower sheet may have its edges flat so as to form a tight joint with the part 13. The contour of the lower layer 15 is such that when placed in position on the parts 13, there will be a slight space between the edges of the part 15 and the upright edges 14, for purposes hereinafter made clear.

In constructing my improved vault, I first place in the bottom of the grave a layer of concrete 19 of any desired thickness to form a suitable base for the vault. I then place the sheet metal body portion on the concrete. This may be done immediately after the concrete is placed in position. I then fill in between the sides and ends 12 of the body portion and the sides and ends of the grave vault, a wall of concrete 20 extending upwardly to the parts 13 of the sheet metal body, as shown in Fig. 2. When this has been done, the vault is ready to receive the coffin, and after the coffin is placed in position, I then place the two-part cover in the position shown in Fig. 1 and form an air and water tight joint between it and the part 13 by placing a quantity of solder or other sealing material 21 between the edge of the cover and the up-turned edge 14. After this is done, I then complete the concrete vault by placing over all of the device, the top layer of concrete 22. Obviously, all of this operation may be done without waiting for the setting or hardening of the concrete; hence no time need be lost in preparing the grave to receive the coffin or in sealing up and finishing the grave vault after the coffin has been placed in position. If the concrete sides and ends 20 are filled in a short time before the coffin is placed in position, then the material will set and harden sufficiently to form a firm support for the outwardly extending parts 13 so that as soon as the coffin is placed in position, the cover may be placed on the parts 13 and then the concrete top may at once be placed in position and earth filled in on top of it without danger of springing the sides of the sheet metal body portion and



without in any way interfering with the air tight joint between the cover and the body portion.

I claim as my invention:

- 5 An improved burial vault, comprising a sheet metal body portion having a bottom, sides and ends and also having a flange at the top extending around the sides and ends and projected first outwardly and then up-  
10 wardly, a sheet metal top comprising an arched body portion having straight flanges at its sides and ends, said flanges being designed to lie flat against the horizontal portions of the flanges on the body portion of  
15 the burial vault and to lie within the upwardly extended portions of said flanges to

provide a convenient and easy means for soldering the cover portion to the said body portion, a second sheet metal layer on top of and connected with said cover, and provided 20 with reinforcing corrugations, the side edges of said lower top portion being projected beyond said edges by said corrugated top portion to permit soldering the edges of the lower cover portion, and a layer of concrete 25 material completely surrounding said sheet metal portions, for the purposes stated.

Des Moines, Iowa, September 4, 1909.

JEREMIAH C. SIMPSON.

Witnesses:

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