J. E. BROOKS.

CASKET HANDLE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 30, 1914.

1,167,044. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Fig. 1.

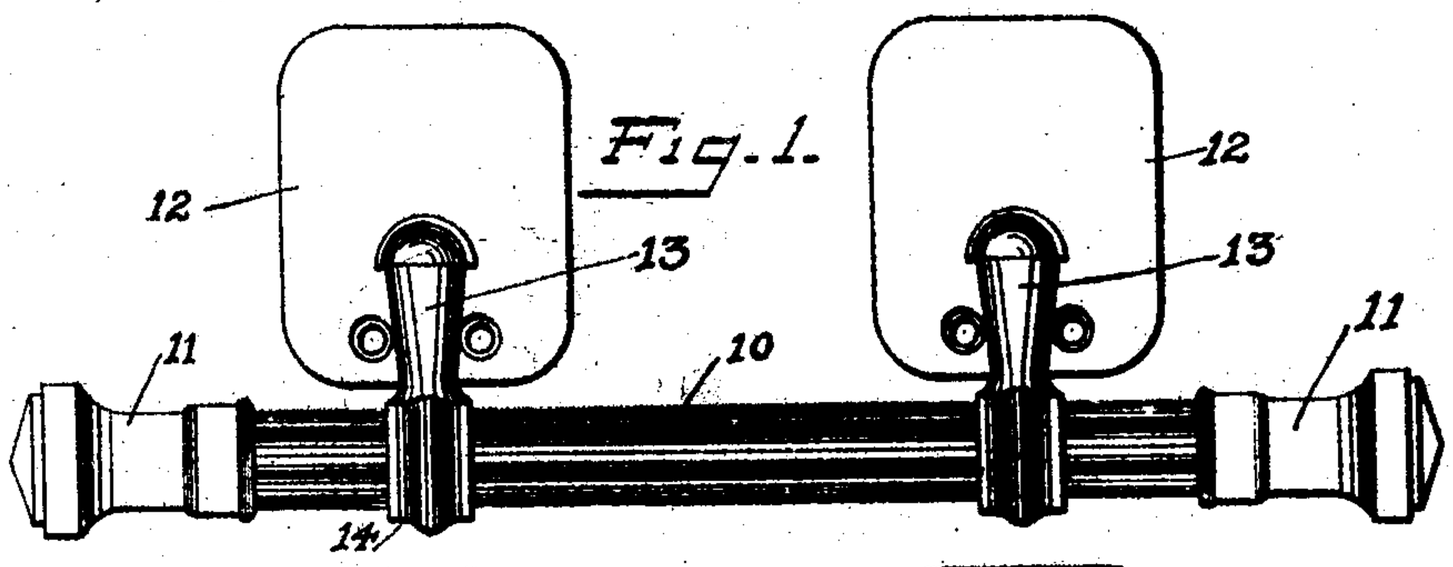


Fig. 2.

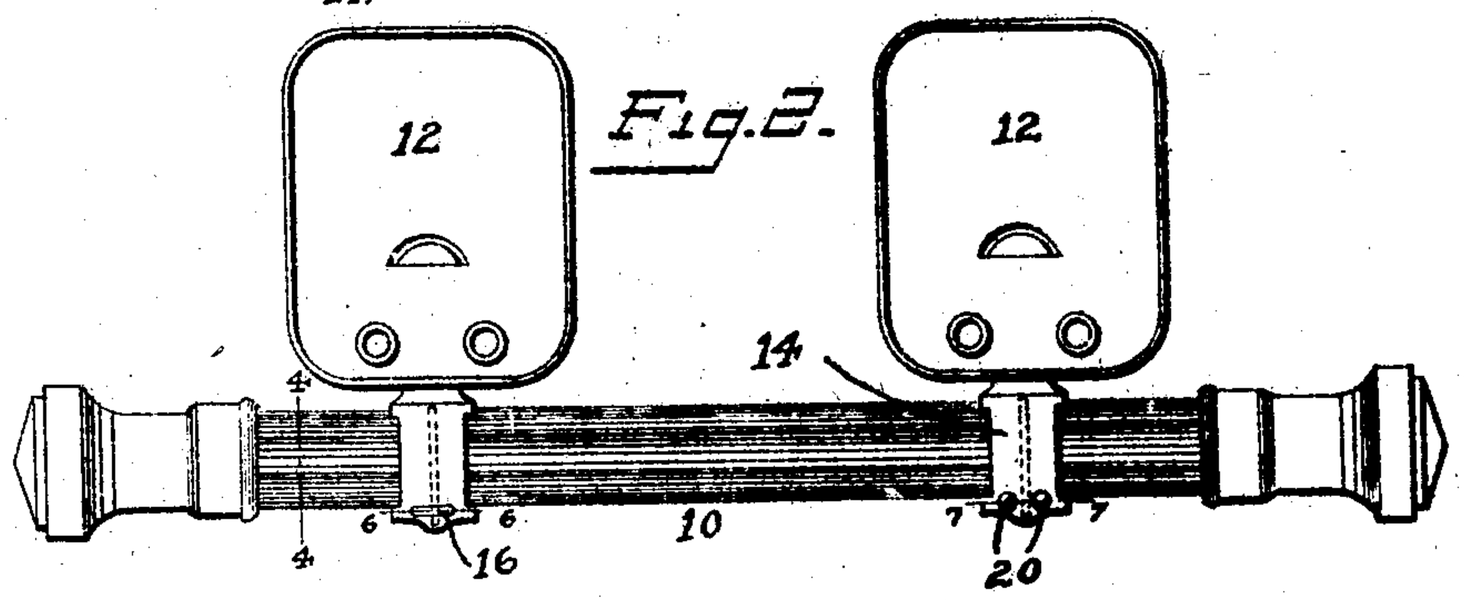


Fig. 3.

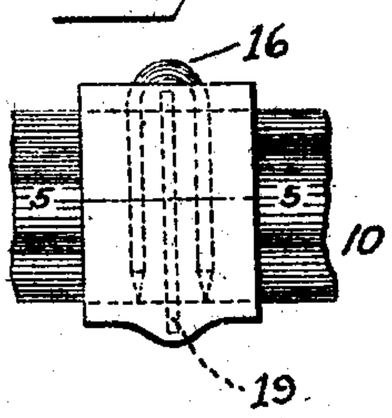


Fig. 4.

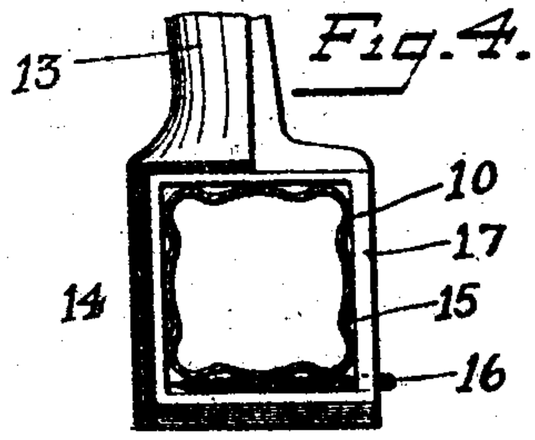


Fig. 5.

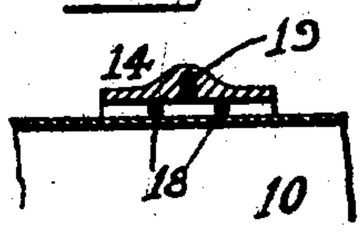


Fig. 6.

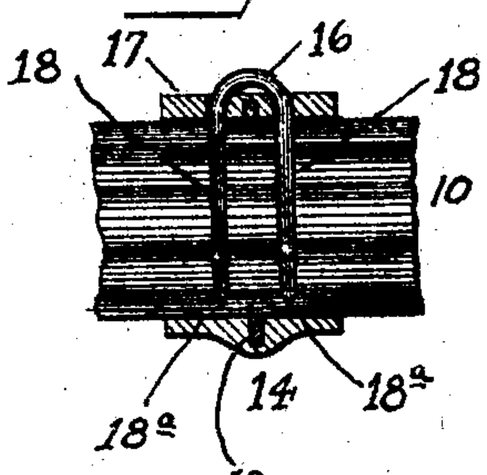


Fig. 7.

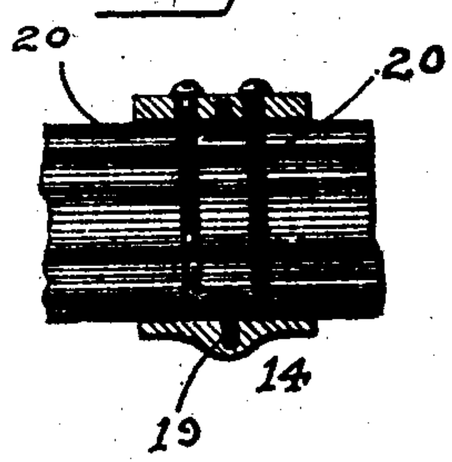
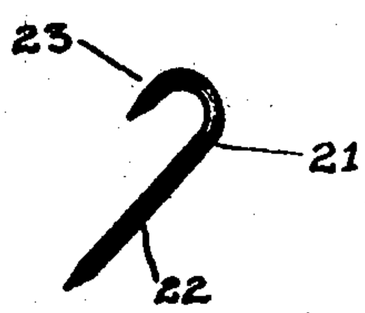


Fig. 8.



WITNESSES:

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CASKET-HANDLE.

1,167,044. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Application filed September 30, 1914. Serial No. 864,276.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS E. BROOKS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the town of East Haven, county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casket-Handles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to casket handles, and more particularly to casket handles embodying a bar which is supported from the wall of the casket by a plurality of arms pivoted to one or more attaching plates, or so-called socket plates.

The invention also has particular reference to handles of this type in which the handle bar, which is passed through openings in the supporting arms, is of polygonal cross-section, in which case the openings in the arms are also of polygonal form.

Heretofore it has been common practice to secure the bar to the arm by means of a screw, which is passed through the apertured end of the arm into contact with one face of the bar. The placing of these screws in position is a somewhat tedious matter, and, moreover, when only one screw is used for each supporting arm, as is usually the case, the arm and the bar may readily become twisted with respect to each other, so that they do not have a proper perpendicular relation.

One of the primary objects of the present invention is to provide improved means for securing a polygonal bar in a correspondingly formed opening of a supporting arm, whereby the operation of assembling is considerably facilitated.

Another object of the invention is to provide a securing device which will permanently hold the arm and the bar in the proper relation to each other, and will prevent the twisting of said parts relative to each other.

It is also aimed to provide a device for fastening the bar in the arm, which is of a very inexpensive character, which can be very readily applied, and which secures the parts together in a very substantial and satisfactory manner.

To these and other ends, the invention consists in the novel features and combinations of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the casket handle embodying my improvements; Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same, showing one form of fastening device associated with one supporting arm, and another form of fastening device associated with another supporting arm; Fig. 3 is an enlarged bottom view of the arm at the left of Fig. 2, showing a portion of the handle bar; Fig. 4 is an enlarged section on line 4—4 of Fig. 2; Fig. 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Fig. 3; Fig. 6 is an enlarged section on line 6—6 of Fig. 2; Fig. 7 is an enlarged section on line 7—7 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view of a still further modified form of fastening device.

In the drawing, I have shown my improvements as applied to a casket handle, comprising a bar 10 of polygonal cross-section, with the usual ornamental tips 11, which bar is supported from the wall of the casket by socket plates 12 to which the supporting arms, or hangers, for the bar 10 are pivoted in the usual manner. In the form shown, the bar 10 is of square cross-section, and each supporting arm 13 is provided at its lower end with a hollow square portion 14 embracing the bar. The opening 15 in the lower portion 14 of each arm corresponds in general configuration to the cross-section of the bar, but is somewhat larger than the bar, so that the latter may be freely passed into the opening 15 in assembling the handle. In the form shown, the bar 10 is ornamented by grooving, or fluting, the wall thereof, said bar being constituted by a sheet metal tube.

In the form shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the fastening device takes the form of a staple 16 which is driven through one of the walls of the part 14 in a direction transversely to the bar, and which is frictionally interposed between one face of the bar and the opposing inner face of the socket 14. By preference, the staple 16 will be driven through the rear wall 17 of the part 14, so that the head or connecting portion of the staple will not be visible at the front of the handle. More-

over, by preference, the pointed ends 18ª of the two legs 18 of the staple will extend approximately into contact with the inner surface of the front wall of the socket 14, as shown in Fig. 4. Thus, when the handle is in use on a casket, the fastening device will be substantially invisible. The legs 18 of the staple form spaced parallel bearing members which bear on the handle member along transverse parallel lines. This is a very important feature, because by providing these parallel spaced bearing members, the pressure on the bar is uniformly distributed relative to the arm so that the arm and bar are effectively held in their proper perpendicular relation. By providing parallel bearing members which extend substantially across one face of the bar, and which are tightly locked in the supporting arm, twisting of the bar and arm relative to each other is entirely obviated. The bearing members are preferably located at substantially equal distances from the center of the arm, where possible, but this it not essential in all cases. In the example illustrated, it is expedient to have the bearing members on opposite sides respectively of the center of the arm, because the socket portion of the arm is provided with an interior reinforcing piece 19 of hard metal at the center, and obviously the bearing members can be more easily driven through the arm at the side portions thereof which are of soft metal. In the particular form now under discussion, the staple 16 is so driven into the socket portion of the arm as to straddle the hard metal reinforcing piece 19, as shown in Fig. 2.

In the example illustrated in Fig. 7, the fastening device comprises two separate pins 20. These pins provide separate bearing members which extend across and in contact with the bar, and are interposed between one surface of the bar and the opposing surface of the socket in the arm. In the broad aspects of the invention, it is immaterial whether the transverse parallel bearing members are interconnected, as shown in Fig. 6, or are separate from each other, as shown in Fig. 7, but practically it is preferable to employ a staple, such as shown in Fig. 6, on account of greater facility of assembling.

In Fig. 8 I have shown a fastening device 21, which has a long bearing arm 22, and a short bearing arm 23. This provides in effect a staple having arms or branches of unequal length. It is not necessary in all cases that both bearing members extend completely across the bar, and, in some instances, both bearing members can be shorter than the width of the corresponding face of the bar, so long as they provide bearings at different points in the length of the bar.

It will be obvious that the improved fastening device can be applied much more readily than the usual fastening screw heretofore employed, and that by reason of the extended bearing surface of the fastening device, and its location relative to the supporting arm and the bar, the twisting or canting of the arm on the bar is entirely prevented.

The fastening member is forced in so tightly against the wall of the bar and the opposing wall of the socket in the arm that it acts like a wedge for frictionally clamping the arm on the bar with great firmness. In the form shown, the upper wall of the socket in the arm is drawn into especially tight engagement with the bar, and at the lower part of the arm the bearing members of the fastening device bite into the bar to a certain extent, which aids considerably in locking the parts together. To facilitate the biting of the fastening device into the wall of the bar, the fastening device may be provided with suitable barbs or serrations. However, the fastening device need not always be driven through the rear wall of the socket, for it is adapted to coöperate with any wall of the socket and an adjacent wall of the bar.

Without limiting myself to the construction shown, I claim:

1. In a casket-handle, the combination of a member having a socket of polygonal outline, a polygonal bar extending into said socket, and a fastening device driven through one wall of said socket and interposed between another wall of said socket and the opposing portion of the bar, said fastening device having spaced bearing portions engaging the bar at different points; substantially as described.

2. In a casket handle, the combination of an arm having a socket of polygonal outline, a polygonal bar in said socket, and a fastening device interposed between one wall of the socket and the opposing wall of the bar and having portions bearing on the bar at different points in the length of the latter; substantially as described.

3. In a casket handle, the combination of an arm having a socket of polygonal outline, a polygonal bar in said socket, and a fastening device interposed between one wall of the socket and the opposing wall of the bar and having portions bearing on the bar at different points in the length of the latter, said fastening device being directed transversely to the bar; substantially as described.

4. In a casket handle, the combination of a supporting arm having a polygonal socket, said socket constructed of soft metal with a central reinforce embedded therein, a sheet metal bar or tube of polygonal cross-section extending through the socket of the arm, and a staple for securing the bar to the arm, driven through one wall of the polygonal socket with its leg portions disposed on opposite sides of said central reinforcing piece.

said staple extending substantially across said socket opening and engaging the bar at different points in the length of the latter; substantially as described.

5. In a casket handle, the combination of a member having a polygonal socket, a polygonal bar entering said socket, and a staple driven through one wall of the socket and having its arms or branches extending across and frictionally engaged with one wall of the bar; substantially as described.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand on the 28th day of September, 1914.

JULIUS E. BROOKS.

Witnesses:
ADELE M. LONGSTEIN,
HELEN F. STALINKE.