

United States Patent Office.

ISAAC CHARLES, OF ALLEGHENY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 114,761, dated May 16, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN CEMENTS FOR COATING AND SEALING COFFINS, &c.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, ISAAC CHARLES, of the city and county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Cement for Hermetically Sealing Burial-Caskets and Coffins; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The nature of my invention consists in mixing beeswax and asphaltum together so as to form a hard, flexible, and adhesive cement for closing the joints, coating the interior and exterior surfaces of, and hermetically sealing burial-caskets and coffins.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe more fully the process of making and using the same.

I take a good article of beeswax, about one (1) part, and a good article of asphaltum, about fifteen (15) parts. I melt, in a suitable vessel, the asphaltum, and as soon as it is completely liquid add the beeswax, so stirring and mixing the articles together as to form one thoroughly-mixed and homogeneous mass. The stirring of the melted ingredients should be continued after the vessel has been removed from over the fire, and until the mass has become sufficiently congealed to prevent any separation of the two ingredients.

In applying the cement to the joints of coffins, or coating their surfaces, and for sealing on the lids, I melt the cement, and, with a suitable vessel, pour it, while hot, in, on, along, and over the joints of the coffin until every joint and crevice in it is covered and perfectly closed and cemented.

The surfaces of the casket or coffin are coated with

the cement by pouring the melted and hot cement on the surface to be coated and then rubbing and smoothing it down with a hot metal roller or other suitable tool or device.

The lid of the casket or coffin is sealed on its body by pouring the cement while hot along and around on the top edges of the sides and ends of the body of the casket or coffin, and then securing the lid to its place by means of screws or nails.

It would be of advantage to have a groove made in the top edges of the sides and ends of the casket or coffin for the purpose of receiving and holding the cement; but the lid may be securely sealed on the body without such groove.

The hereinbefore-described cement being hard, flexible, and very adhesive, and also impervious to air and water, burial-caskets and coffins constructed of wood may, by the use of it, be made air-tight and water-proof, and also much stronger and more durable, and made to answer as a substitute for the costly and heavy metallic burial-casket and coffin now in use.

Having thus described the nature, application, and advantages of my improvement,

What I claim as of my invention is—

A cement composed of the hereinbefore-named ingredients, in about the proportions specified, and prepared and used in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

ISAAC CHARLES.

Witnesses:

A. C. JOHNSTON,
JAS. G. THOMPSON.