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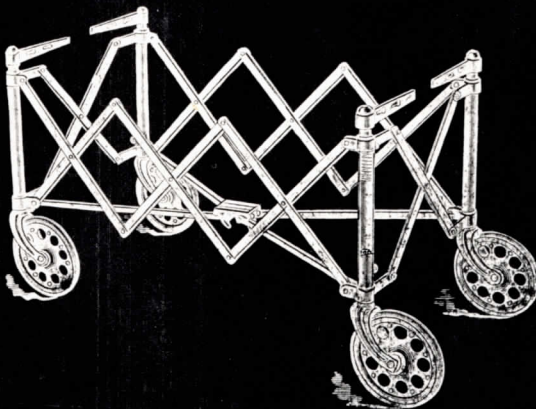
Because the steel is ribbed under tons of pressure.
 Because it remained intact under tons of rock piled upon it.
 Common size weighs 165 pounds. Air-tight and water-tight.
 Preserves casket and corpse indefinitely. Safe and sanitary.
 Absolutely indestructible. Coated with zinc. Every case is tested. The above claims have been demonstrated and proven true.

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Manufactured by The Brown Stamping Company, Toledo, Ohio

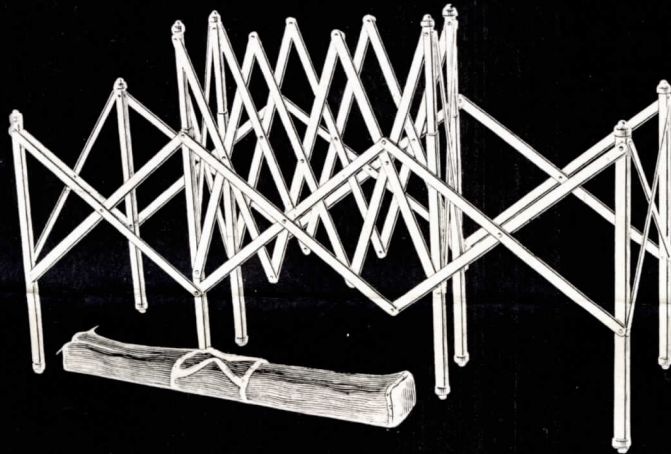
It Embraces Your Favorite Features

Every feature you have ever wished for is embodied in The Bomgardner truck. See whether your truck has a sliding post for adjustment. If it has and is not a Bomgardner it is an infringement on our patent No. 608,442 which is the only patent ever granted for sliding posts in connection with a church truck that is valid.



It adjusts to any size casket.

The New Bomgardner Folding Pedestal



as shown, shows the same Pedestal adjusted for either adult or child. It can be adjusted to any size between the extremes and folds into a package 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 x 28 ins. and weighs but 10 1/2 lbs. Sells for \$12.00 in either nickel, brass or oxidized finish. Raises in height as it is collapsed, so that the top of the casket is always

the same distance from the floor. Write the Bomgardner Manufacturing Co., for printed matter pertaining to their Lowering Device, Church Truck and Pedestal. SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

BOMGARDNER MANUFACTURING CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO.

ing the following statements:

"Booth was a young man of twenty-six, strikingly handsome, with a pale olive face, dark eyes, and that ease of manner which came to him by right from his theatrical ancestry. Booth, in his flight, gained the Navy Yard bridge (East Potomac bridge) in a few minutes, and was allowed to pass by the guards, and shortly afterward Herold came on the bridge and was allowed to pass; a moment later the owner of the horse, which Herold rode, came up in pursuit of his animal, and he, the only honest man of the three, was turned back by the guards.

"If Booth had been in health there is no reason why he should not have remained at large a long time. He might even have made his escape to some foreign country, though sooner or later a crime so prodigious will generally find its perpetrator out. But it is easy to hide among sympathizing people; many a Union soldier, escaping from prison, has walked hundreds of miles through the enemy's country, relying implicitly upon the friendship of the negroes. Booth, from

the time he crossed the Navy Yard bridge, received the assistance of a large number of men. With such devoted assistance Booth might have wandered a long way, but there was no final escape save suicide for an assassin."

These comments on the possibilities of Booth's escape by one of the wise, if not in fact the wisest, diplomats known to the civilized world, challenges attention; in fact, they were prophetic and (as subsequent events disclosed) are paralleled only by the prophets of old.

Hay says, "from the nature of things Poch could have escaped, * * * but there was no final escape save suicide for the assassin." Who will deny the correctness of his prophesy, since Booth did escape, remained in hiding thirty-eight years and did commit suicide? It was this power of foreseeing the possibility of coming events that made Secretary Hay the greatest of diplomats.

A newspaper writer named M. W. Connolly, employed in Fort Worth, Tex., says that he is strongly inclined to believe

that the man who killed himself in Enid is John Wilkes Booth, and recites a story in which he claims that Col. Albert Pike, a man of National reputation, once identified an individual in a saloon in Fort Worth as the assassin of the War President with the exclamation: "My God! John Wilkes Booth!" Mr. Connolly says he had seen this man in Village Mills, Tex., and recognized him as he entered the saloon, but upon hearing the exclamation of Col. Albert Pike he made a hasty exit and upon strict search he could not be found.

And these were not the only ones who saw and recognized this man as Booth. Dr. H. W. Gay has this to say with reference to him:

"I knew John Wilkes Booth in 1857, and while I was at Fort Donelson a prisoner of war, the news was flashed over the world that President Lincoln had been slain by John Wilkes Booth. I was horrified to think of such a thing, for Booth, though a boy when I knew him, in appearance was a most accomplished gentleman with whom I had ever come in contact. All who knew him well were captivated by him. He was the most hospitable, genial fellow to meet, and when drinking or much in company, he was always quoting Shakespeare, or some other poet. I read of his capture and death and never doubted it until the year 1869. I was then living in what is now Tate county, Mississippi. One evening about dusk a man came to my house claiming to be one of the Ku-Klux clan run out of Arkansas by Clayton's militia. I soon recognized this man as an erratic fellow. During his stay at my house he told me that John Wilkes Booth was not killed, but made his escape and spent a short while in Mexico with Maximilian's army, but got into trouble and his life was saved by the fact that he was a Catholic. The man also stated that during his short stay in Mexico he had lived in disguise as an itinerant Catholic priest. He also told me the story of how Booth had escaped after the assassination, and it corresponds exactly with Mr. Bates' story as told by St. Helen, even to the crossing of the Mississippi river at Catfish Point, and going thence up the Arkansas river to Indian Territory."

Dr. Gray says, also, that he knew Booth met his mother and brother Junius Brutus Booth in San Francisco.

W. B. PENNIMAN.

(To be continued in our next issue.)

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BLACK FUR \$600
RUG FOR

BEST QUALITY SIZE 42X84
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

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OLD ONES MADE OVER

if you will kindly give me for publication, if found available, such information on the subject as you may possess.

"While I have not what may be styled direct or positive evidence that the man killed was Booth, I have such circumstantial evidence as would seem to prove the thing beyond a doubt. Still, I would be very glad to examine any evidence to the contrary.

"Hoping to hear from you soon, I am, very respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,
 "JOHN P. SIMONTON."

During the war there was no current publication which took a more keen or active interest in the affairs of the time than Harper's and so Mr. Bates placed himself in communication with the editor of Harper's Weekly with the result that H. M. Alen replied: "Of the facts you mention we have not the slightest doubt."

The body of Booth was exhumed and given over to the family and re-interred in the Booth plot in the Baltimore cemetery, and in commenting on this incident Mr. Bates says that it was identified by a gold-filled tooth and the fact that a leg came off inside a boot leg when it was lifted by those engaged in the labor of making the disinterment. Those of us who have officiated in these matters can realize the fallacy of an identification based on facts of this nature. Seven years had elapsed before the body was exhumed. At the time of the death embalming was not practiced as it is today and the mere fact of a leg and foot remaining in a boot upon being handled would not indicate to an undertaker that the leg had been broken before the subject died. And this was the claim that those in authority attempted to set up.

No stone was left unturned by Mr. Bates in attempting to establish before the Federal government that Booth was not captured or killed. He wrote the War Department and asked if it would be important to establish the fact that Booth was not taken, stating that he had accidentally become possessed of information to the effect that Booth was not killed. After passing through the different subdivisions of the War Department and receiving the notation of the different department heads Mr. Bates' own letter was returned to him with the notation that the matter was of no importance to the government, and this piece of information was vouchsafed by G. Norman Lieber, Judge Advocate General, under date of January 22, 1898.

Not being satisfied with the disposition of this matter by the War Department, Mr. Bates turned to the State Department, addressing a letter to the late John Hay, stating in substance the facts which had been submitted to the War Department, and received the following letter in reply:

"Department of State,
 "Washington, D. C., April 27, 1900.

"F. L. Bates,
 "Dear Sir:—The Secretary of State requests me to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 24th of April and to thank you for it.

"Very respectfully,
 "E. J. BABCOCK,
 "Private Secretary."

It is of interest to note that while Secretary Hay refused to take notice of the communication sent him by Mr. Bates, in January, 1890, he is credited with mak-

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1882

1909

Evansville Coffin Company

EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

MANUFACTURERS AND JOBBERS

FINE FUNERAL FURNISHINGS

THE STORY OF A MUMMY WITH A HISTORY.

Wonderful Experiences of an Undertaker in the Southwest Who Embalmed
and Now Has the Body of a Man Who Claimed That he was John
Wilkes Booth, Assassin of President Abraham Lincoln.

(Continued from our last issue.)

"It will be noticed that Gen. Wallace says that the body of Booth was buried under a 'brick pavement in a room of the old penitentiary prison of Washington city,' to his 'certain knowledge,' while Gen. Dana says, and is equally positive of his 'certain knowledge' that the 'body was buried out in the old navy yard, and a battery of artillery run over the grave to obliterate all trace of it.' This is a complete contradiction of the statement of Gen. Wallace, based on his 'certain knowledge,' and this cannot be an immaterial mistake merely as to detail between these two gentlemen, because each has stated matters of material physical facts, based on his own knowledge, yet in direct contradiction of each other. Then the question is, who is right? For if the body was buried as Gen. Wallace says, 'under a brick pavement in a room in the old penitentiary prison of Washington city,' then it could not have been buried as Gen. Dana says, 'out in the navy yard,' the grave being obliterated by 'running a bat-

tery of artillery over it.' It was not in the building if it was out in the yard, and not in the yard if it was in the building. Then who is right?

"It is a physical impossibility for them both to be correct, but it is possible for them both to be mistaken. And so, in being mistaken their 'certain knowledge' of these facts must fall. To these statements, contradictory as they are, I hold their solemn signed letters, including the statements made, which I thought at the time, and now think, come from among the best sources of information on this subject, yet they are to be further contradicted and worse confounded by the statement of others.

"The public press in referring to the death of the late Wm. P. Wood, of Washington city, said: 'In the passing of the late Wm. P. Wood, in Washington, several weeks ago, there has gone a man whose associations with the central figures in the Lincoln assassination tragedy were of the most intimate character. Col. Wood was of the Secret Service at the

time of the assassination, the thirty-eighth anniversary of which will occur next Tuesday, and was in Cincinnati when President Lincoln was shot. A telegram from Secretary of War Stanton to him requesting him to come to Washington was the first information Col. Wood had that John Wilkes Booth was the assassin of President Lincoln. Col. Wood, in speaking of the burial of the body of Booth said: 'The body of Booth was taken off the steamer Ide, April 27, 1865, down the Potomac river; from the steamer it was placed on a boat by Capt. Baker and his nephew, a lieutenant in the New York Seventy-first volunteers, and carried to an island twenty-seven miles from Washington, and secretly buried there. The story was given out that Booth was buried under the flagstones in the district jail to keep the public mind at ease and satisfy public curiosity.'

"So while Gen. Wallace and Gen. Dana contradict each other they are both contradicted by Col. Wood, making confusion worse confounded, while Capt. E. W. Hillard, of Metropolis, Ill., recently published a statement in which he said that he 'was one of four privates who carried the remains of Booth from the old Capitol Prison in Washington to a gunboat, which carried them about ten miles down the Potomac river, when the body was sunk in the river.'

"And now comes the climax in the shape of a voluntary letter from the United States War Department, as follows:

"War Department,

"Office of the Judge Advocate General,

"Washington, May 13, 1898.

"F. L. Bates, Memphis, Tenn.

"Dear Sir:—I am collecting matter for a detailed account of the assassination of President Lincoln by J. Wilkes Booth, and seeing your letter to this department concerning the evidence you therein state you possess, that Booth was not captured and killed by the Federal troops, I have been prompted to write you in my private capacity as a citizen, and not as an employe of the War Department, and inquire

Vermont.

C. W. Angeel has purchased the business of C. A. Piper at Middleburg.

Virginia.

E. Lee Cox, of Berkley, has added a handsome floral and casket wagon, mounted in silver and elaborately carved, to his equipment.

Washington.

The Vancouver Undertaking Co., of Vancouver, has been sold to W. F. Hamilton & Son.

West Virginia.

The Williamson Undertaking Co. is a new firm at Fairmont.

J. R. Gott & Son, of Hinton, have erected a fifty-foot addition to their establishment.

P. L. Mulligan, of Montgomery, re-

cently knocked a daring negro, whom he had caught in the act of stealing a casket, senseless.

Wisconsin.

Vig & Ormudson succeed F. R. Gohde & Co. at Viroqua.

Andrew Munson, of Argyle, has sold to Davis & Everson.

Phillipson & Schlitzberg, of Fox Lake, have been succeeded by J. F. Schlitzberg. In addition to the duties imposed by his undertaking business, J. F. O'Neill, of Onconto Falls, has assumed the management of the local opera house.

Louis Schreiber, of St. Francis, has filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy, claiming liabilities of \$3,383.54, with assets amounting to \$1,814.10.

tended tour through Ireland, much improved in health.

Besides being engaged in the undertaking business, C. A. Baldi Bros. & Company, of 1011 Eighth street, Philadelphia, also publish an Italian newspaper and conduct a large real estate and banking business.

Otto F. Koch, of Bradford, who has been located in that city for the past twenty-four years, has entered into co-partnership with his brother, Louis E. Koch. The firm will now be known as Koch Bros.

According to the local press, J. W. Spitzer, of Montoursville, while engaged in removing the remains of a woman who died eight years ago, from the Quaker Hill graveyard, was astonished to find the body in an excellent condition and solid as if petrified.

South Carolina.

B. F. Whitner, of Bennettsville, licensed in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia, has opened a modern establishment in that city.

Aiken has a new corporation known as the Aiken Hardware Company, capitalized at \$25,000. This concern will, among other business, conduct an undertaking department, which will be in charge of W. J. Staubes, of that city.

South Dakota.

Noble & Son, of Mitchell, have added a handsome funeral car and a tent, to their modern equipment.

Tennessee.

Fields-Baird Furniture & Undertaking Co. are a new firm at Milan.

The Fields-Baird Furniture and Undertaking Company, is a new concern located at Milan.

Steelman & Burns, of Knoxville, have dissolved partnership. Thos. M. Burns will continue the business, while M. F. Steelman, will enter another field.

Alleging that Paul Wann, of J. H. Wann & Son, of Chattanooga, repeatedly refused to file death certificates for bodies that he handled Captain J. C. Garner, clerk of the board of health, recently preferred charges of neglect against him, for which he was arrested.

Texas.

A. B. Barrow & Co. have been succeeded by A. B. Barrow at Rotan.

Geebert Sudderth succeeds to the business of Sudderth Bros. at Leonard.

Herman Lohrmann has purchased the business of C. A. Simank at Industry.

E. T. Horn, of Galveston, has been succeeded by the Dolson-Horn Furniture Co.

Lochman & Oehl have been succeeded by the W. P. Oehl Furniture Co., at Moulton.

Otto Riebe, of San Antonio, was recently operated on for abscess of the kidneys. The operation was a very difficult one and Mr. Riebe is reported to be in a serious condition.