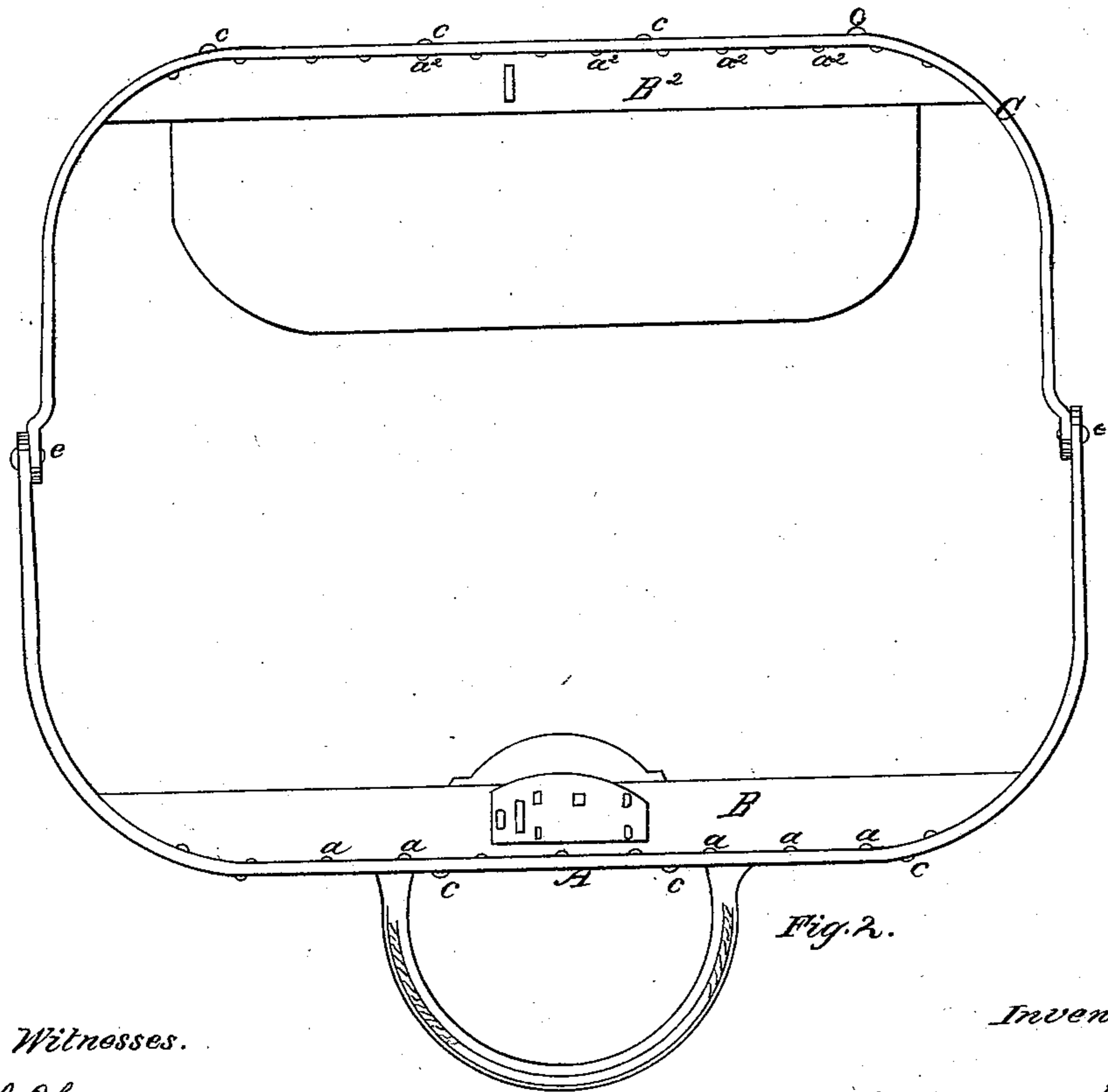
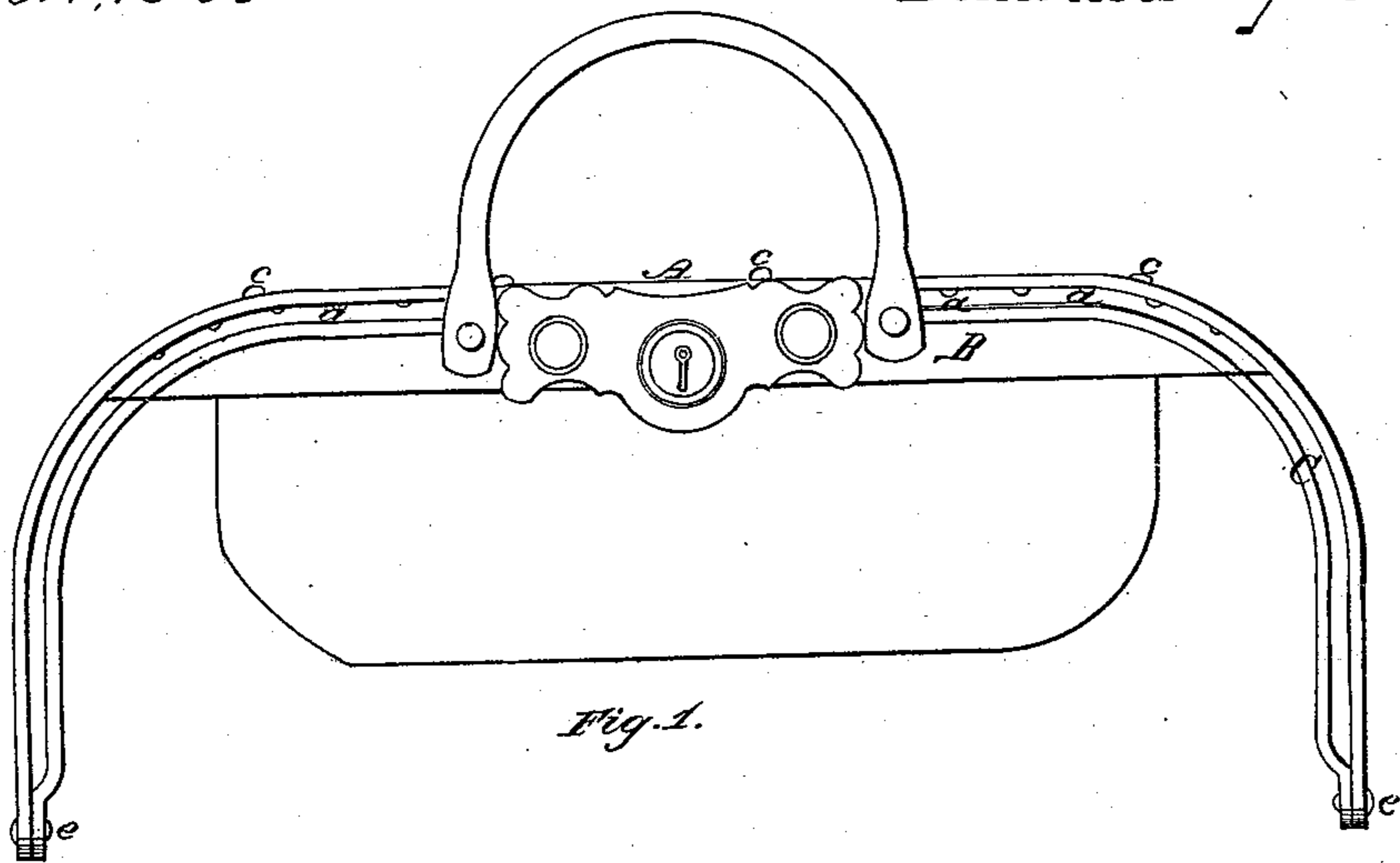


W. T. Messereau,

Traveling Bag,

N^o 54,190.

Patented Apr. 24, 1866.



Witnesses.

C. D. Gordon
Ced. M. H. H. H.

Inventor.

W. T. Messereau by his atty
Attest. D. B. B.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM T. MERSEREAU, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVED BAG-FRAME.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 54,190, dated April 24, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. MERSE-
REAU, of Newark, Essex county, New Jersey,
have invented, made, and applied to use cer-
tain new and useful Improvements in the Con-
struction of Carpet-Bag Frames; and I do de-
clare the following to be a full, clear, and cor-
rect description of the same, reference being
had to the accompanying drawings, making
part of this specification, and to the letters of
reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved carpet-
bag frame when closed; Fig. 2, a view of the
same when opened.

In the drawings like parts of the invention
are indicated by the same letters of reference.

The nature of my invention consists in cer-
tain new and useful improvements in the con-
struction of carpet-bag frames, as hereinafter
described.

The object of my invention is to greatly re-
duce the cost of manufacturing the frames of
carpet-bags, and at the same time to produce
a very much more substantial article than has
heretofore been used.

To enable others skilled in the arts to make
and use my invention, I will proceed to de-
scribe the same.

A shows the cover of my improved frame,
formed of wrought-iron or any suitable metal,
and bent into the proper or required shape.

B is a wooden support placed directly be-
neath the front edge of the same, to which it is
secured by means of the nails *c*, which nails
also pass through and hold the leather or other
material forming the bag, one end of the same
being inserted between the cover A and the
support B before the nails are driven into the
same.

On some occasions it may be preferable that
the leather or other material forming the bag
should be sewed to the frame rather than held
by means of the nails *c*, in which case the
wooden support B is provided with the open-
ings *d*, through which the needle, in sewing
the material to the frame, is passed.

C shows the jaw of my improved frame,
which jaw may be made of wrought-iron or any
suitable metal, and is riveted to the lower
extremities of the cover A by means of the
rivets *e* passing through the same. This jaw
C, a short distance above the point of its be-
ing riveted to the cover A, is bent outward
from the inside of the cover A, and is made
sufficiently smaller than the cover A to admit

of its being closed fully within the same when
the bag is closed and locked.

B² shows a wooden support placed directly
beneath the jaw C, to which it is secured by
means of the nails *c*, which nails also pass
through and hold the leather or other mate-
rial forming the bag, one end of the leather or
other material being inserted between the jaw
C and the support B² before the nails are driven
into the same. This wooden support B² is also
provided with the openings *d*², to admit of the
leather or other material being sewed to the
jaw C, as stated in the case of the cover A.

My improved carpet-bag frame being thus
constructed, it will be observed that when the
same is closed the jaw C is brought entirely
within the cover A, thus closing the mouth of
the bag much more firmly than in the carpet-
bag at present in use, and preventing the hand
being thrust between the jaw and the cover
into the bag, as is quite common in bags
mounted upon a frame constructed in the usual
way. In fact, no access can be had to the in-
terior of a bag mounted upon a frame con-
structed as described without first unlocking
the same.

Again, by constructing the bag-frame as de-
scribed the cost of manufacturing the same
is greatly reduced, as the use of stays or brack-
ets heretofore employed is dispensed with,
while the same is much more substantially con-
structed, and is rendered more durable and
economical in every respect.

The wooden supports B and B² may have
attached to them the lock and handle of the
bag.

While I have shown the jaw C as bent out-
ward from the inside of the cover A, I am
aware that precisely the same result may be
attained if the cover, instead of the jaw, be
bent outward, the object to be attained by said
bending being that the jaw shall, when closed,
be closed entirely within the cover.

Having thus described my invention, what
I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters
Patent, is—

The jaw C, in combination with the cover
A, when the same shall be constructed and
combined, substantially as and for the purpose
specified.

WM. T. MERSEREAU.

In presence of—

A. SIDNEY DOANE,
STEPHEN M. OSTRANDER.