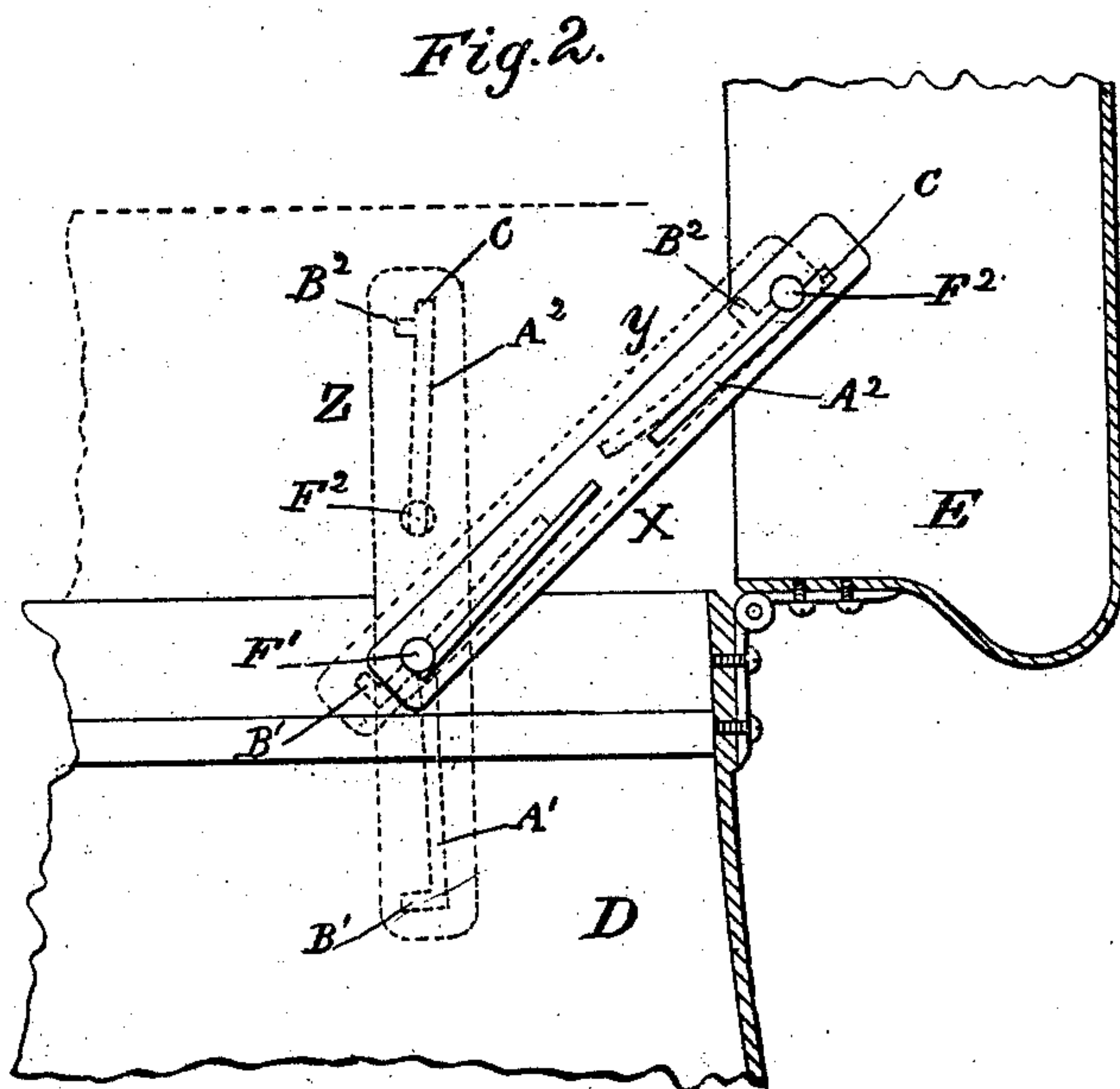
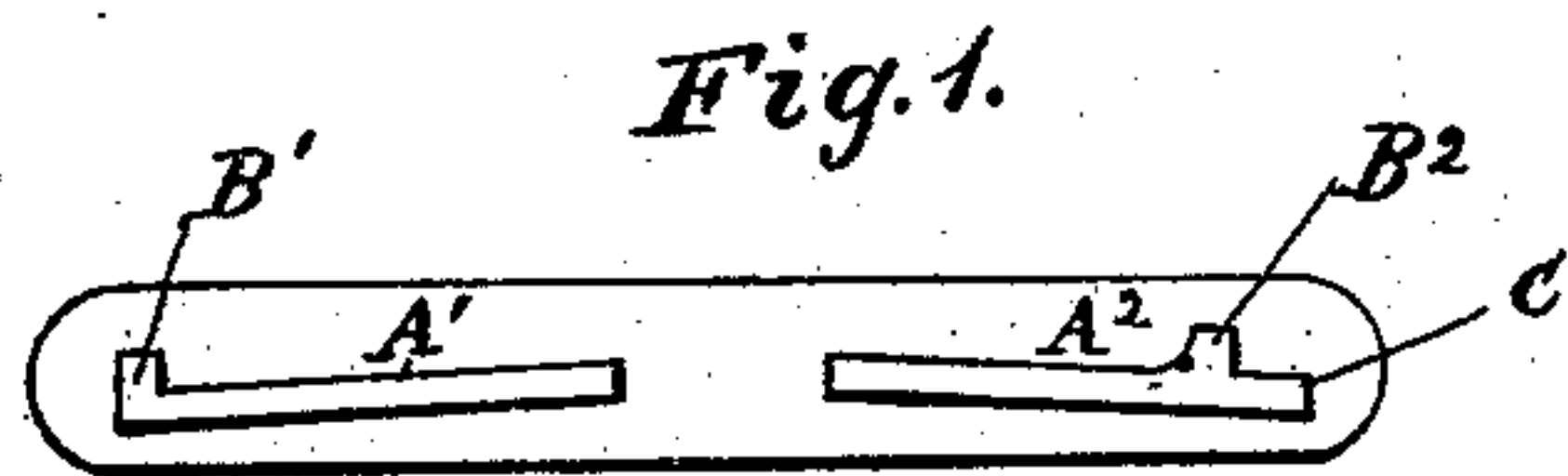


S. FOOTE.
TRUNK.

No. 176,780.

Patented May 2, 1876.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN FOOTE, OF KENSICO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRUNKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **176,780**, dated May 2, 1876; application filed April 15, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN FOOTE, of Kensico, in the county of Westchester, and in the State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trunks; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention relates to trunks or boxes, or other similar articles; and consists of a sliding and self-fastening latch or strut, for supporting and retaining in position the lid of an opened trunk, box, or other similar articles, which I claim is entirely different in its construction, movements, and other respects from the various devices now used for the above mentioned purposes. It is made in one piece, of any suitable metal, and works, in the interior, at hinged rear end of a trunk or box, or other similar articles, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and application, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents the latch or strut I have invented. Fig. 2 represents part of a transverse vertical section of rear portion of an opened trunk, with the latch or strut attached thereto; also representing, by dotted diagrams, the positions of latch when unfastened, *y*, and after lid is closed, *z*.

In Fig. 1, A^1 and A^2 are slots, with a space between them, notched to receive buttons F^1 and F^2 , the notches both being on the same side of and square to the slots. The notch B^1 is at extreme end of slot A^1 , and notch B^2 a lit-

tle short of corresponding, and opposite end of slot A^2 making the prolongation C.

In Fig. 2, D represents part of the body, and E part of the lid, of an opened trunk. F^1 and F^2 are the buttons or pins upon which the latch slides and fastens.

In opening, the button or pin F^2 in the lid draws latch over from the position shown by dotted diagram Z, and passes along up in slot A^2 to notch B^2 , when latch drops thereon, and is carried upward, sliding on button F^1 , to notch B^1 , when latch again drops on button F^1 , and is then fast in place, preventing lid from moving either way until desired. To close, draw lid forward, at same time lifting latch at *x*, which raises it off both buttons; being thus loosened, it slides downward into prolongation C, (shown by dotted diagram *y*), and is then free to be closed down. If desired, lid may be held part way up by notch B^2 in either raising or lowering.

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

A metallic plate provided with two slots, A^1 and A^2 , which extend on an incline from near the center to near the ends thereof, the slot A^1 having a rectangular recess, B^1 , at its outer end, and the slot A^2 having a recess, B^2 , and an extension, C, beyond the recess, and the plate secured to the trunk lid and body by the buttons F^1 F^2 , substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of March, A. D. 1876.

STEPHEN FOOTE.

Witnesses:

ISAAC RANSOR,

JOHN B. WYCKOFF.