

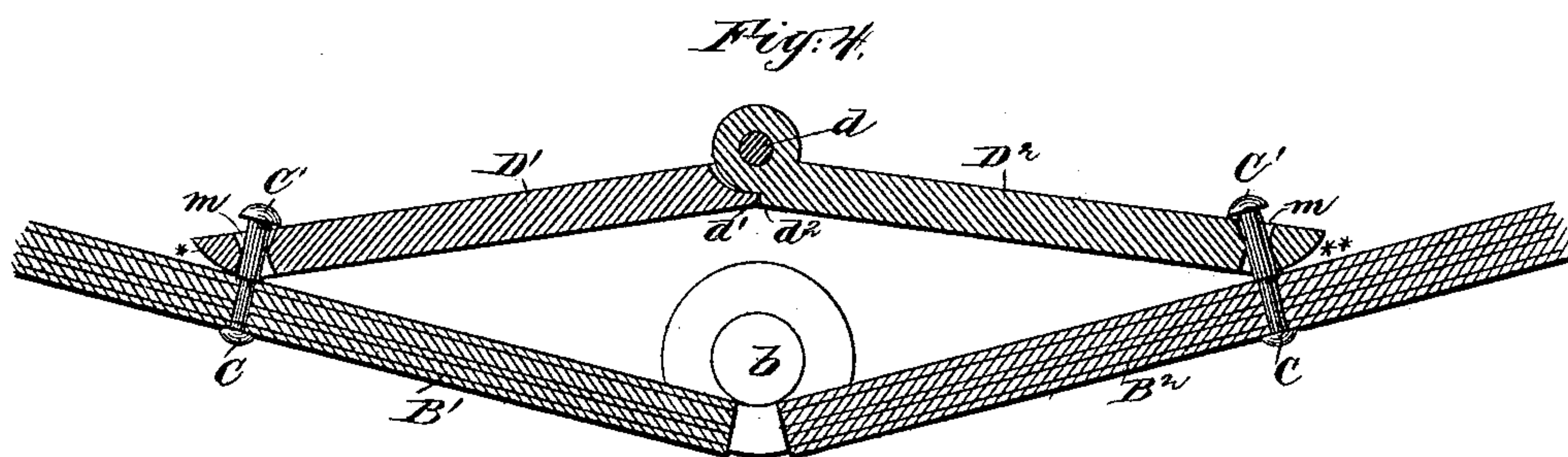
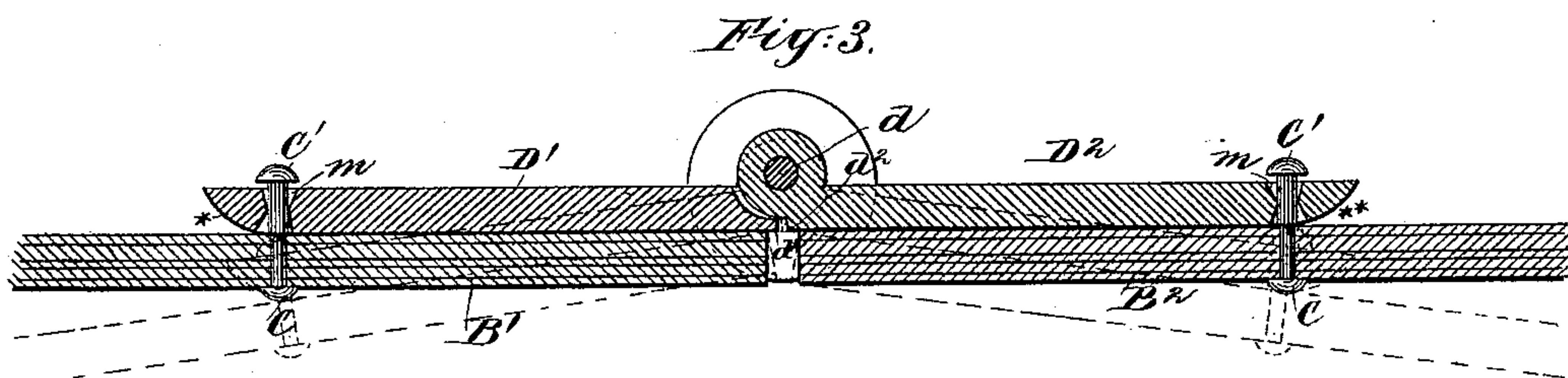
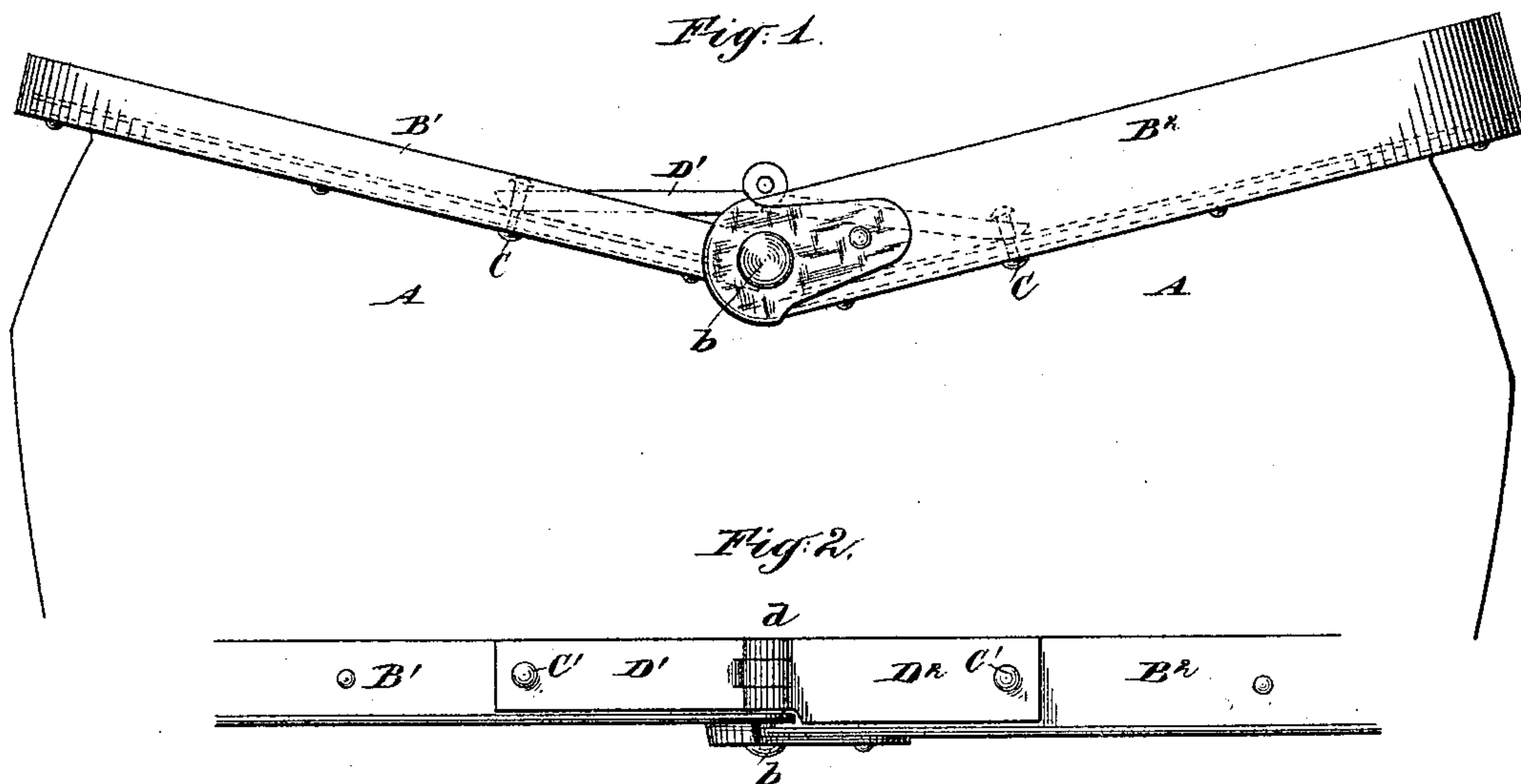
(No Model.)

H. RUPF.

TRAVELING BAG FRAME.

No. 365,024.

Patented June 14, 1887.



Witnesses:
Charles R. Searle,
H. A. Johnston.

Inventor:
Henry Rupf
by his attorney
Thomas Drew Stetson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY RUPF, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

TRAVELING-BAG FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 365,024, dated June 14, 1887.

Application filed November 11, 1886. Serial No 218,538. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY RUPF, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Traveling-Bags, of which the following is a specification.

The improvement relates to the braces or stay-hinges for holding the top extended. Such have been extensively introduced within a few years and are much approved. In one style, when the hinged frame which constitutes the top of the valise or traveling-bag is closed, the bracing device lies closed between them, and as the frame is extended the brace correspondingly extends. It is necessary on opening to bring the frame into the completely-open position and to turn it a little farther in the same direction, so as to bring the joint a little higher than the main portion of the frame. The brace or stay-hinge follows the same movement. On reversing the motion and commencing to close the hinged frame again the brace remains up and braces the frame, so that it cannot close. The knuckle-joint is formed with an offset or shoulder in each piece. These shoulders abut together and prevent the device from turning but a little beyond the straight position. I work on the same general principle. I have devised and practically wrought out an improvement by which the end is attained with fewer parts than usual. I employ simply two pieces of metal knuckled together by a pin, and each piece secured to its part of the hinged frame of the bag by a rivet fitting loosely in a double-tapered hole. The bearing-surface of each piece against its adjacent frame is formed with a rounded bevel. This allows the rolling motion which is necessary to the work, as will appear farther on. The double-taper hole allows the bearing of the brace against the rivet to be practically a knife-edge. It does not change its place as the brace changes its position. This is important by allowing the action to be effectual with the joint of the brace rising but very little above the straight line.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification, and represent what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the top of the

entire back in an open position. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the joint at one end. Figs. 3 and 4 are on a larger scale, each a vertical section through one of the joints. Fig. 3 shows the joint with the parts exactly in a right line; the dotted lines show it in the extreme open position, being opened beyond the right line. Fig. 4 corresponds to Fig. 1. It shows the position assumed by the device and the other parts when the parts are set free after having been opened beyond the right line. The brace or stay-hinge is in this figure performing its function of holding the back open.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A is a portion of the leather or other material constituting the body of the traveling-bag.

B' B² are the parts of the ordinary metallic frame hinged together at *b*. They may be opened a little beyond the straight position, and they must be so operated to allow my brace or stay-hinge to come into action automatically.

D' D² are the two parts of my brace. They are knuckled together at *d*. The parts are formed each with an abutting shoulder at *d'* *d*². Each is also rounded, by which I mean beveled, with a rounding bevel near each end, as indicated at * * *. A double-taper hole, *m*, is made in each piece D' D² near the end. A rivet, C, is stiffly set in each of the parts B' B². These rivets are received in the holes *m*, and are provided with heads C', adapted to hold the pieces efficiently, but with a little looseness. The smallest portion of each double-tapered or hour-glass-shaped hole bears against its rivet, tending to compress the parts D' D² together. The form of the holes *m* causes the bearings to be narrow—practically knife-edges—so that the bearing does not change place as the hinge or knuckle *d* is raised above or depressed below a right line between these bearings. This allows a small amount of movement of the knuckle to be effective in causing the brace to be thrown into or out of action. When the knuckle *d* has been thrown up slightly, the abutting shoulders *d'* *d*² are efficient to prevent the stay-hinge from being any farther bent upward out of the straight line, and it remains there, bracing the parts

B' B² and holding them rigidly and strongly in the open position. The rounded ends *** afford a fair bearing of the under face of each piece against the frame B' or B².

5 Whenever it is desired to close the bag, a sufficient force of the finger on the knuckle *d* depresses it until the parts D' D² form a right line and a little farther. Then the stay-hinge collapses, the knuckle *d* sinking down into or
10 near the line of the knuckle *b*, and the bag may then be closed and secured by the ordinary means.

I attach importance to the double-taper form of the holes *m* and to the shoulders *d'* *d*².

15 They allow light braces to serve efficiently without springs.

Modifications may be made in the forms and proportions. I prefer to make the parts D'

D² about equal in width to the corresponding metallic frames, B' B²; but this may be varied. 20

I claim as my invention—

In a traveling-bag, in combination with the hinged frame B' B², having the rivets C C', the parts D' D², having shoulders *d'* *d*², allowing the brace to rise only to the proper extent, 25 and hinge-piece *d*, each provided with double-tapered holes, producing knife-edge bearings at *m*, as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, at New York city, this 10th day of 30 November, 1886, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY RUPF.

Witnesses:

CHARLES R. SEARLE,
S. M. HAVILAND.