(No Model.)

F. J. PALICA.

TRAVELER'S TRUNK OR SAMPLE CASE.

No. 538,595. Patented Apr. 30, 1895.

Fig. 1.

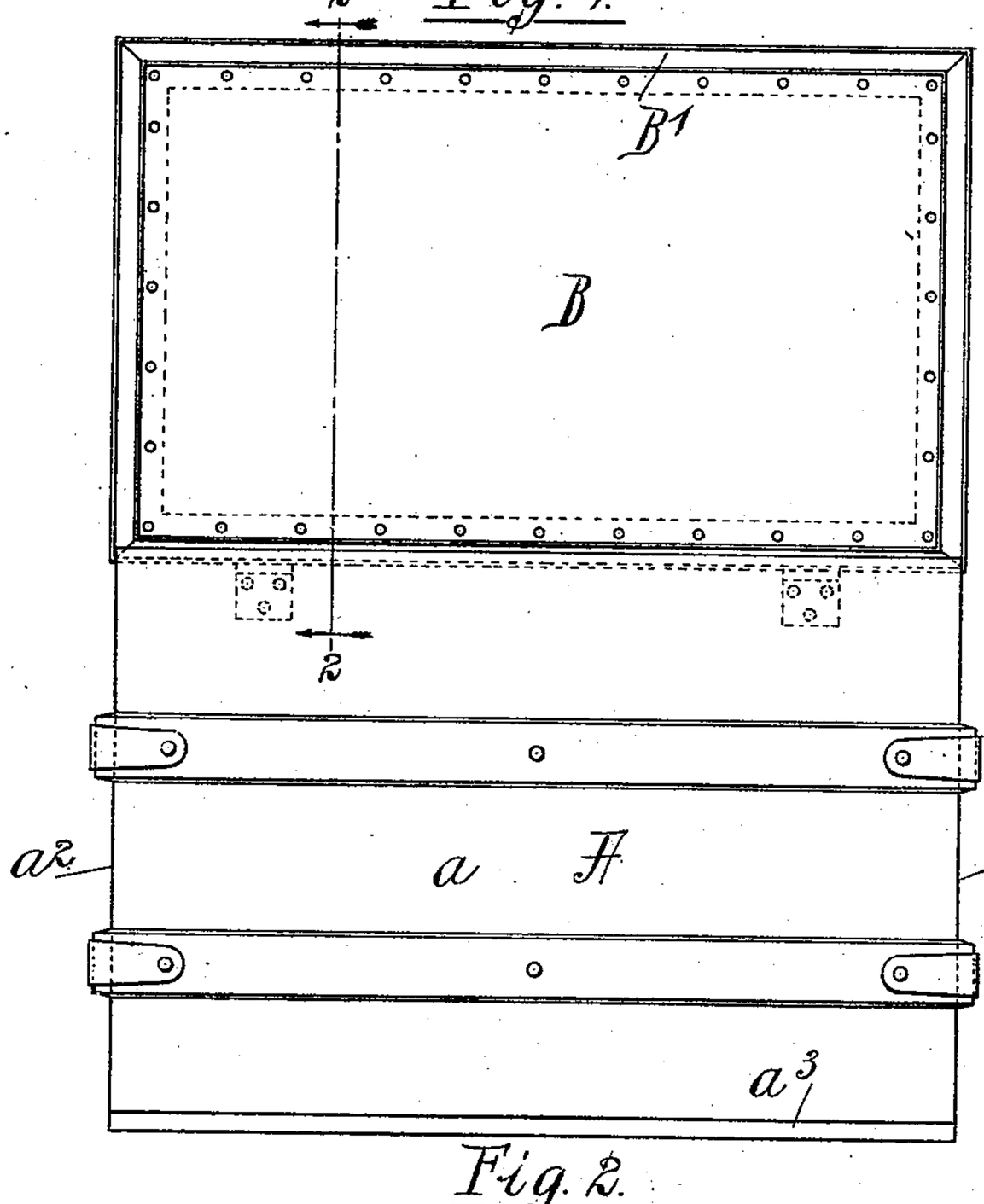


Fig. 2.

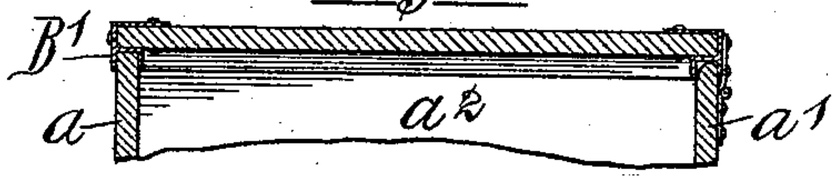
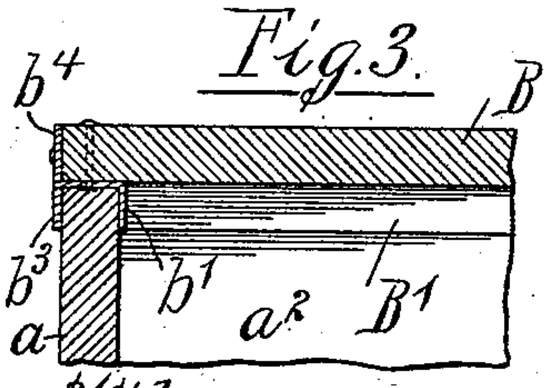


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

Jno. W. Adams.

Louis L. Whitehead.

Fig. 4.

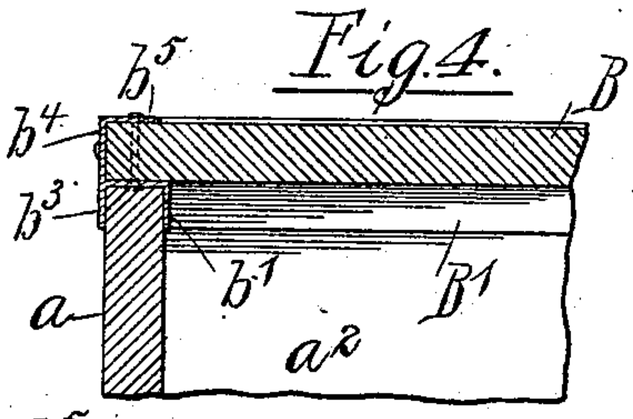


Fig. 6.

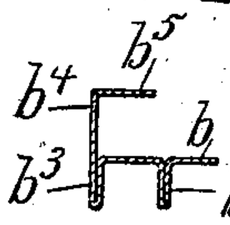
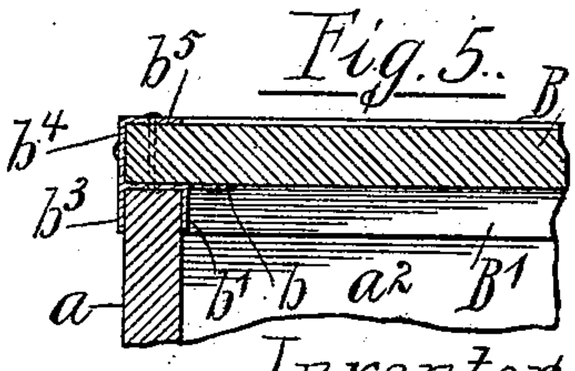


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK J. PALICA, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

TRAVELER'S TRUNK OR SAMPLE-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,595, dated April 30, 1895.

Application filed March 26, 1894. Serial No. 505,123. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK J. PALICA, of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Travelers' Trunks or Sample-Cases; and I 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, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in travelers' trunks, and sample cases, and has for its object to provide means whereby a hinged over-lapping cover and the adjacent parts of the body of the trunk may be made to mutually brace and support each other when the cover is closed, with the effect of giving great strength to resist the strains to which the trunk is subjected in handling.

To this end the invention consists in the matters hereinafter set forth, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a trunk constructed in accordance with my invention, the cover being open. Fig. 2 is a reduced sectional detail taken on line 2 2 of Fig. 1, but showing the cover closed. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are detail sections showing different forms of flanges adapted for application to the cover to engage the walls of the body. Fig. 6 is a detail section of a flange-plate having several angles and made from a single sheet of metal by properly folding the same.

A designates the body of the trunk, and B the cover or lid thereof. Said body is herein shown of rectangular shape and comprises the usual front, rear and end walls, a, a' and a^2 rigidly secured to each other, and to a suitable bottom a^3. The cover B is hinged to the rear wall a', and when closed preferably completely covers the open top of the body A, being made of substantially the same length and width as the corresponding exterior dimensions of the said body A.

At the edge of the cover is secured a channel plate B', which, in its simplest form, as shown in Fig. 3, comprises depending flanges b' and b^3 connected by an intermediate part or web b^2, which lies against and is fastened to the inner face of the cover, the outer flange b^3 of the plate being extended up and across the edge of the cover, as shown at b^4.

In Fig. 4 an additional flange b^5 is shown connected to the part b^4 and overlapping the upper side of the cover, so that the edge of the cover is in this modification entirely incased by the plate.

In Fig. 5 the construction is the same as in Fig. 4, with the addition of the inwardly extending flange b engaging the inner face of the cover within the flange b', in the same manner as in Fig. 1.

In each of the constructions shown the several flanges of the plate are preferably made integrally with each other, and said plate in any of its angular forms may be made by folding into the proper shape a single sheet of metal or other suitable material, as indicated in Fig. 6, in which case some of the flanges will be double and others of single thickness. Although the open top of the body of the trunk is shown as being perfectly plain, with the cover adapted to extend over and rest upon all four of the trunk walls, it will be obvious that said cover may be dropped between two opposite sides, as the front and back of the body, and may extend over and rest upon the remaining two opposite sides, in which case the latter two sides will be cut down below the former a distance equal to the thickness of the cover. This, however, will not interfere with the use of the flange plate herein described on those edges of the cover which rest on the body walls, while those edges of the cover which fit between the body walls may be provided with flange plates of the kind set forth in my pending application, Serial No. 505,122, filed concurrently herewith. When the rear edge of the cover extends over and rests upon the wall a' and is provided with the form of the channel plate B' which embraces both sides of said rear wall, the upper edge of the latter will be rounded over, as shown in Fig. 2, to permit the inner depending flange b' to clear the same.

The flange plate or angle bar B' will ordinarily be made of metal, but any other material found suitable for the purpose may be employed if desired. Being relatively thin such metallic or other flange plate will obviously occupy practically no space, and will

not reduce the capacity of the trunk. In its ordinary details, not relating to my invention, the trunk may be constructed in any manner found desirable and convenient for the particular uses to which it is to be put.

Trunks made in accordance with these improvements are particularly well adapted for use by traveling salesmen as sample cases, since they possess great strength and durability and are of relatively large capacity.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a traveler's trunk having an overlapping hinged cover which is provided along its edge with an angle plate comprising a part or web applied to the inner face of the cover, two flanges depending on both sides of the wall of the body of the trunk, and a vertical flange extending upward along the edge of the cover, substantially as described.

2. In a traveler's trunk having an overlapping hinged cover which is provided along its edge with an angle plate comprising a part or web applied to the inner face of the cover, two flanges depending, one at the outside and the other at the inside of the wall of the body of the trunk, and a flange extending upward along the edge of the cover and lapped over upon the upper side of the cover, whereby the edge of the cover is entirely incased by the angle plate, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK J. PALICA.

Witnesses:
ANDREW DIETRICH,
WILL H. CARPENTER.