(No Model.)

E. WOOD.

TELESCOPIC VALISE.

No. 538,996. Patented May 7, 1895.

Fig. 1.

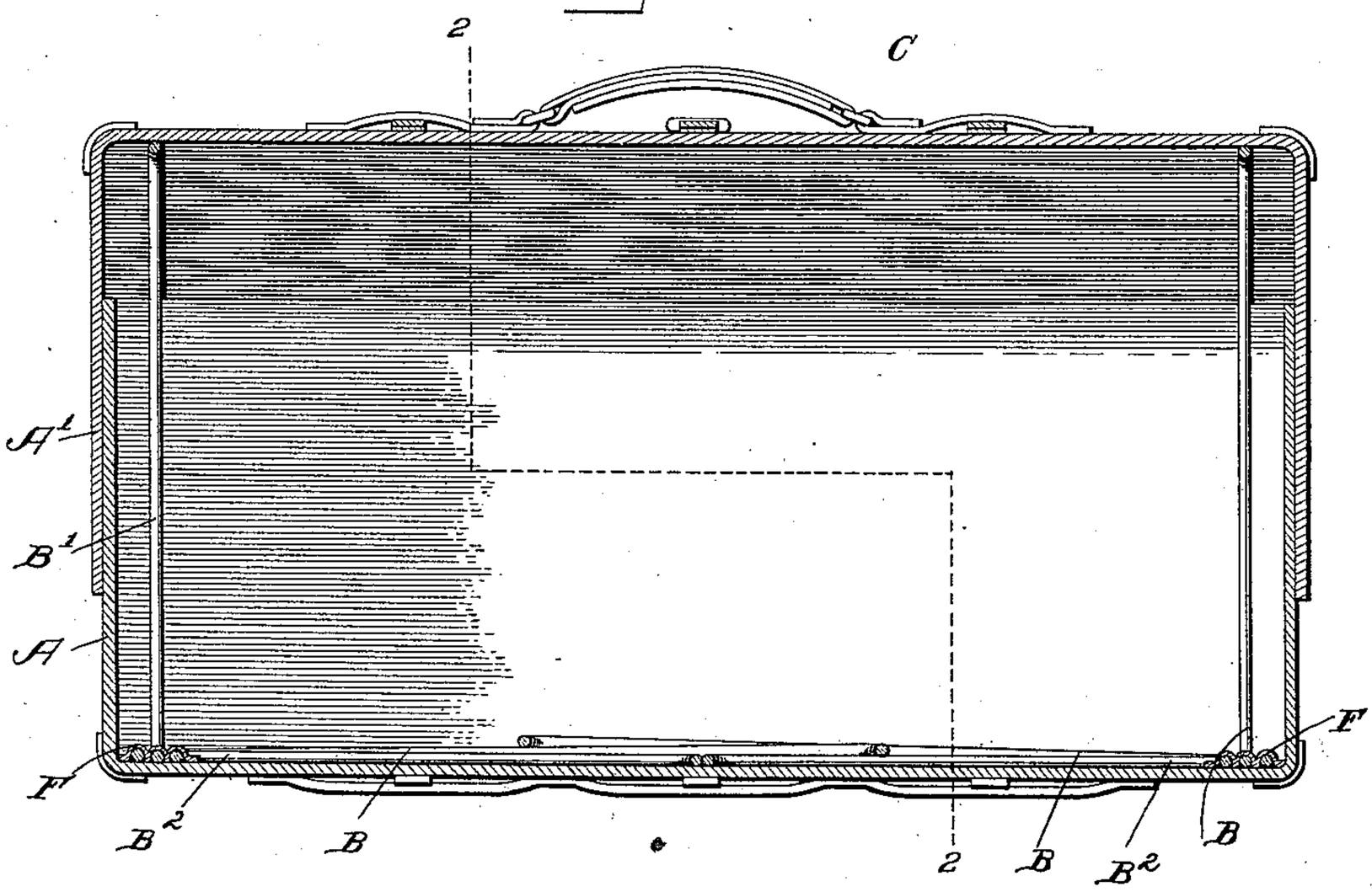


Fig. 2.

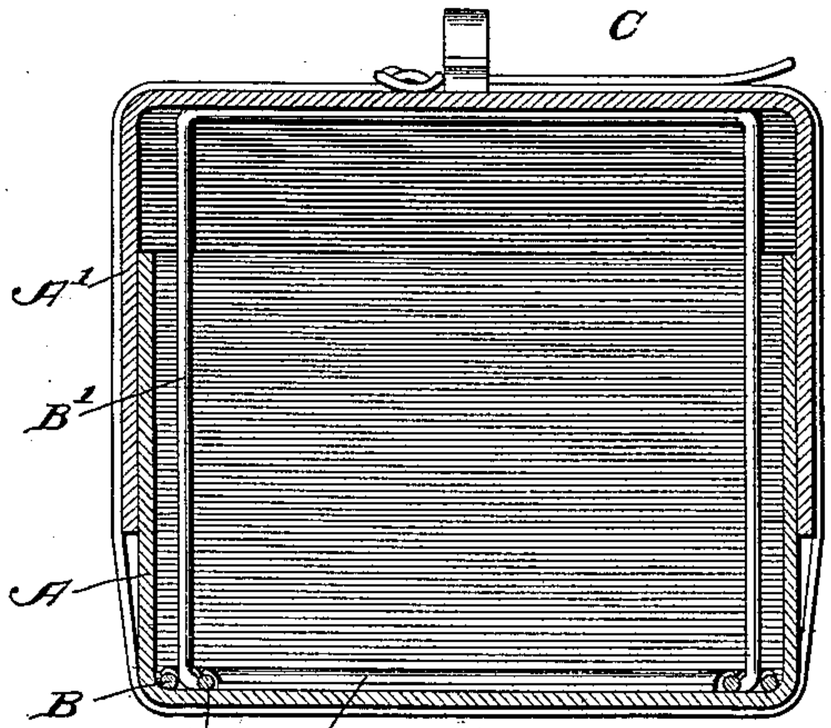
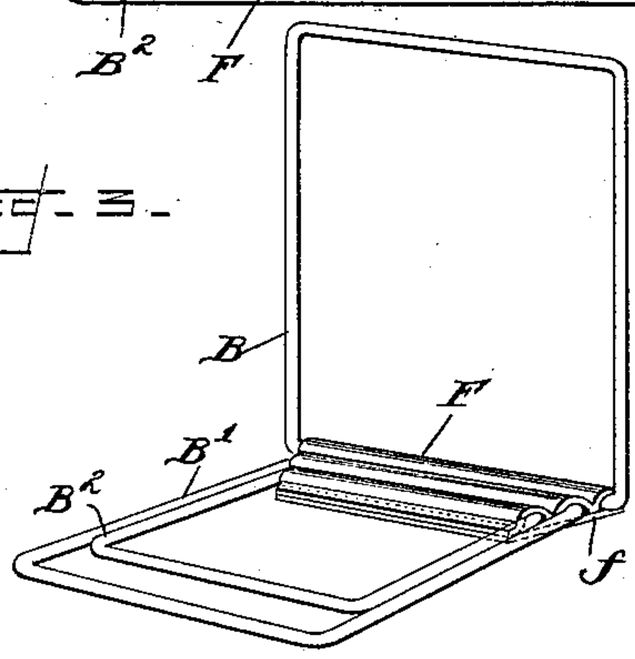


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TELESCOPIC VALISE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,996, dated May 7, 1895.

Application filed January 16, 1895. Serial No. 535,118. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH WOOD, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telescopic-Valises; 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 part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section through a telescopic carrier and my improved distending devices or supports therein. Fig. 2 is a transverse section through line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detached view of a set of "distenders" or supports removed from the valise.

The object of my present invention is to provide a simple adjustable supporting device for preventing collapse or crushing of folding and telescopic traveling bags, valises, and other like knockdown or adjustable transporting packages; and further to provide the support with a series of adjustable frames of different heights to suit different adjustments of the carrier, so that it can be closed upon its contents, yet prevented from mashing them, or being itself distorted by external pressure.

The invention once made known is so useful and so simple that undoubtedly many variations in its form will be readily produced by mechanics and others, and therefore I do not believe my invention limited to the particular construction, which I have selected to illustrate it in the drawings, and which I describe as follows:

Referring to the drawings by letters—A, A′, designate the lower and upper parts of an ordinary telescopic valise, or carrier, the capacity of which is varied by slipping one part over or within, the other, as is well understood. The usual kinds of these carriers in common use are made of canvas, pasteboard, leather, or other material, more or less flexible, and liable to be crushed by external pressure and broken, or compacted, so as to injure the goods packed therein. To prevent this untoward distortion and injury I employ adjustable devices to distend the carrier and prevent collapse thereof by lateral pressure thereon or telescoping thereof, which render the carrier as stiff and strong as more expensive valises or trunks.

The supporting devices consist of angular frames B of wire or other suitable light and stiff material just wide enough to fit easily in the ends of the valise, and of such height as to hold the telescoped portions A, A′, apart to the desired extent; and in order to provide for varying depths of the valise several of these frames may be employed. As shown, three wire frames B, B′, B^2, are secured at each end of the valise, nested one within the other. Each frame is formed of a single wire bent into rectangular shape, the ends of the wire being bent toward each other and forming the bottom or hinge bar of the frame. These lower bars of the frames may be secured directly to the bottom of the valise near the ends thereof, by a piece F, which may be of metal, leather, &c., and is fastened to the bottom of the valise so as to hold the frames thereto; or these lower bars may be secured between piece F and a bottom piece *f* (as shown in Fig. 3) so that the frames can be either permanently or detachably connected to the valise. Either construction allows any frame to be raised, as needed, and the other frames to lie flat on the bottom of the valise out of the way. Frame B′ is shorter than frame B and frame B^2 shorter than frame B′. If frame B is too high, it is dropped and one of the other frames raised. As shown the holders are constructed of wire, but of course may be of other construction.

In practice a supporter is placed at each end of the carrier C, and if desired one or more may be placed intermediate the ends, and the vertical frame is upheld by the articles packed in the carrier.

Obviously the supports prevent collapse or crushing of the carrier in the manner above referred to, and are of great utility; especially where fragile or crushable articles are packed in the valise.

When not in use the supports may lie in the bottom of the valise out of the way. Of course the size and number of frames in the

supporter may be varied, to suit the carrier with which they are to be used, and the convenience of the user.

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

In combination with a telescopic carrier, the herein described adjustable supports consisting of sets of wire frames B, B′, B^2, hinged together and placed within the lower part of the carrier one set at each end thereof, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

ELIZABETH WOOD.

Witnesses:
J. E. HANLY,
RITA M. D. MALOY.