

No. 606,892.

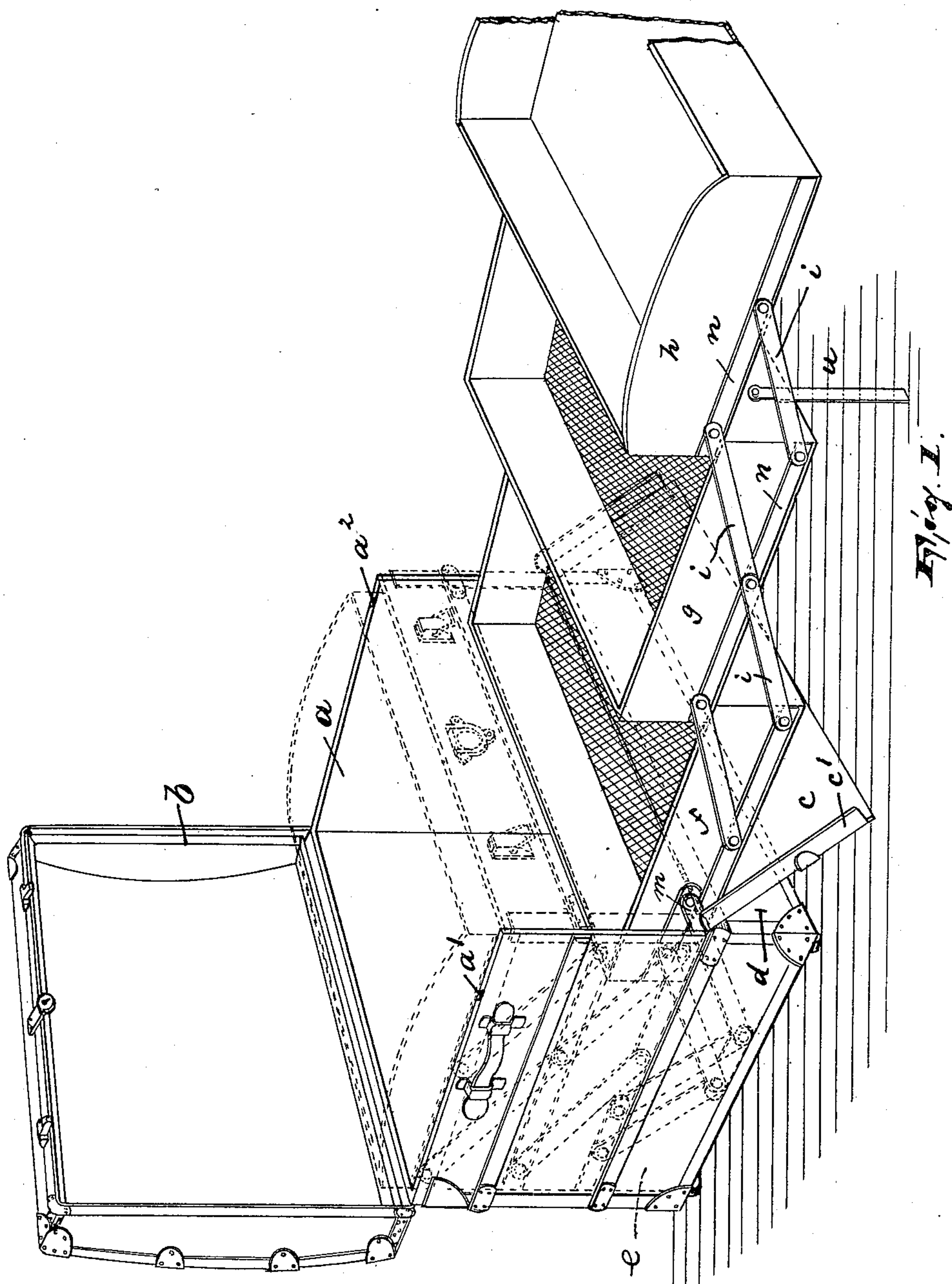
Patented July 5, 1898.

C. H. MERSEREAU.  
TRUNK.

(Application filed Oct. 19, 1897.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES:

*Wm. J. Bell.*  
*Louise Snyder.*

INVENTOR:

*Charles H. Mersereau*

BY

*Partner & Co*

ATTORNEYS.

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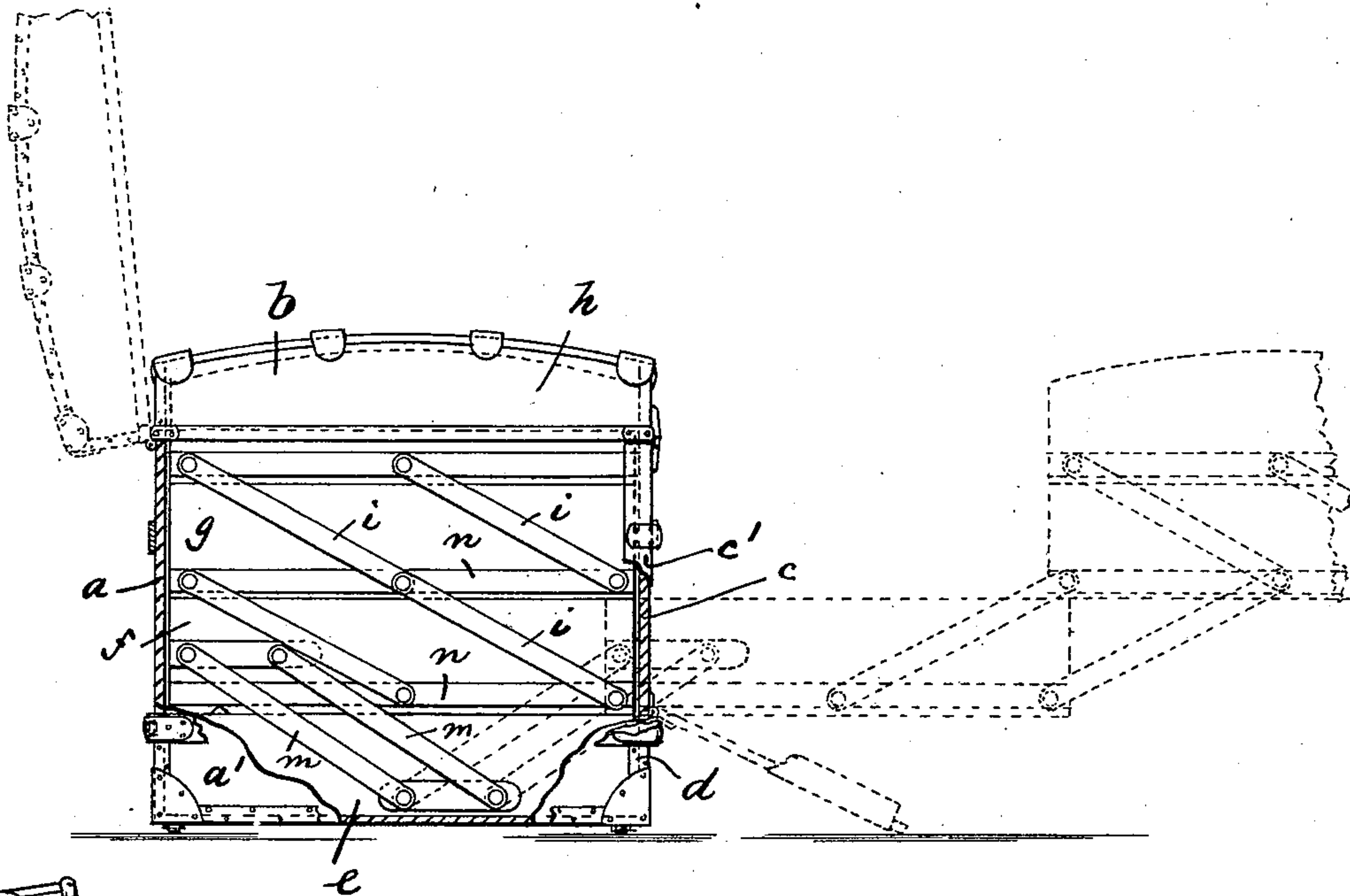


Fig. 2

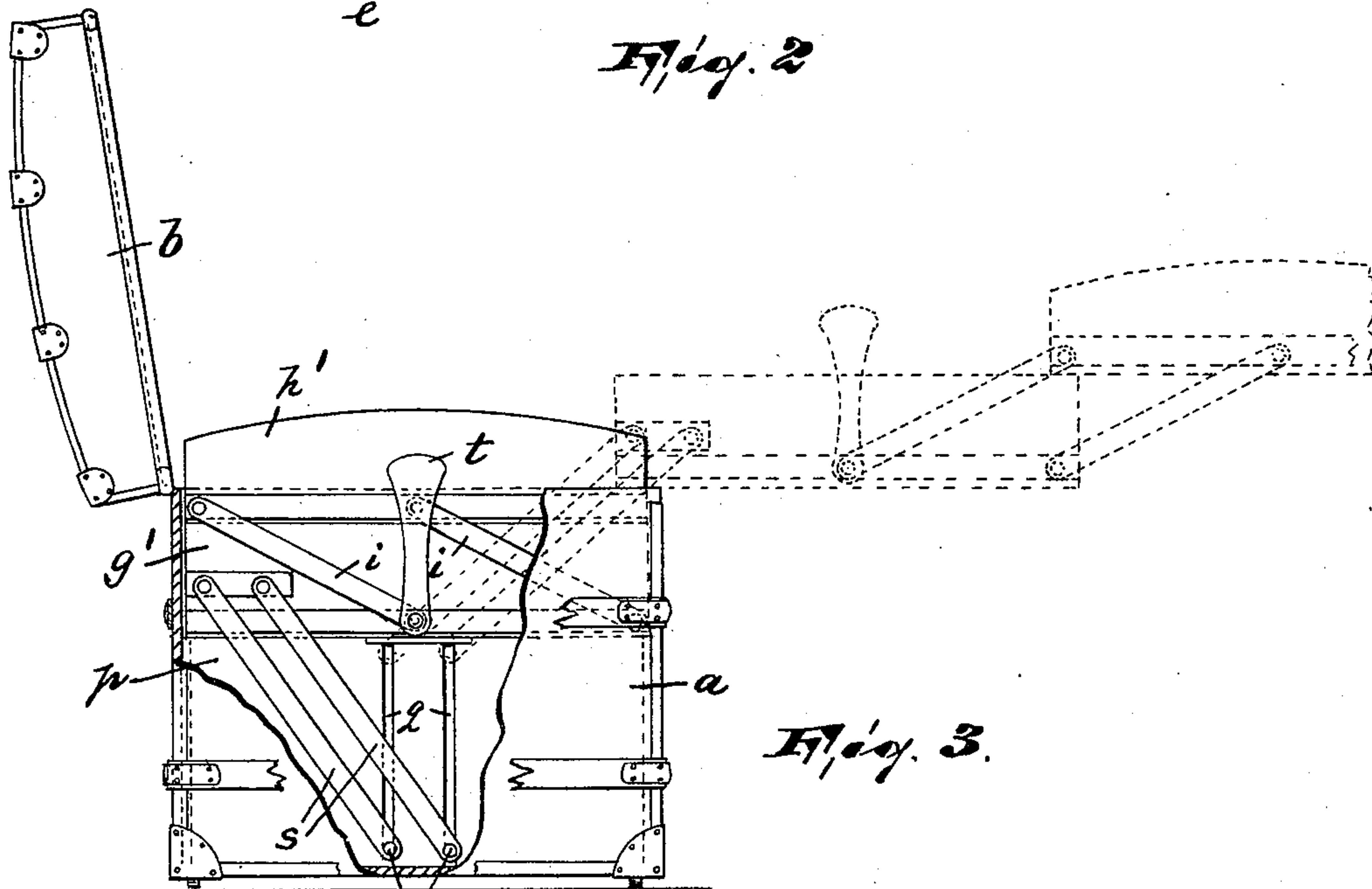


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

Wm. D. Bell.  
Louise Snyder.

INVENTOR:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. MERSEREAU, OF PATERSON, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO THE  
INVENTOR'S NOVELTY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## TRUNK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 606,892, dated July 5, 1898.

Application filed October 19, 1897. Serial No. 655,686. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. MERSEREAU, a citizen of the United States, residing in Paterson, county of Passaic, and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trunks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it ap-  
10 pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a  
15 trunk with a series of tills or compartments pivotally or otherwise connected together, and which tills or compartments can be quickly and readily extended or unfolded to thus completely expose to view each and  
20 every section of the said trunk.

The invention consists in the improved trunk, its movable base or bottom compartment pivotally connected with the lowermost of a series of separate independently-movable  
25 but connected tills or compartments, and in the combination and arrangement of the various parts, substantially as will be hereinafter more fully described, and finally embodied in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved trunk when fully opened, a portion of the top till being broken away; Fig. 2, a side or end elevation of the trunk when closed  
35 and in dotted lines when opened and with the tills extended, a portion of the end of the trunk being broken away to better illustrate the nature of my said invention; and Fig. 3, a view similar to Fig. 2, embodying a slight  
40 modification and illustrating the lid of the trunk opened and in dotted lines the position of the tills or compartments when extended.

In said drawings, *a* represents a trunk of ordinary construction provided with the hinged  
45 lid or cover *b* and having the top or upper portion *c* of its front hinged or pivotally connected with the lower or stationary portion *d* thereof, which upper portion is provided on its sides with flanges *c'*, adapted to engage the end por-  
50 tions *a'* and *a''* of the trunk, and thus furnish a

firm connection with the same when the trunk is closed.

Within the trunk is removably arranged the base till or compartment *e* and on top thereof a series of separate tills or compart-  
55 ments *f g h*, which latter are pivotally connected with and between each other and on each side thereof by a series of parallel links *i i*, while the lowermost one, *f*, of said separate compartments is pivotally connected with the  
60 base-compartment *e* by the parallel links *m m*, which latter, with their upper ends, are arranged on the rear portion of the compartment *f* and with their lower ends at sub-  
65 stantially the central portion of the base-compartment *e*. For the purpose of strengthening said link connections and the said tills or compartments said compartments are pro-  
70 vided on each of their sides with horizontal braces or strengthening-strips *n*, to which said links or arms are pivotally secured by screws or rivets.

It must be remarked that the height of the base-compartment *e* is substantially equal to the height of the stationary lower portion *d*  
75 of the front of the trunk, thus allowing the till *f* to clear said lower portion *d* and to rest on the top edge thereof when the tills are opened or extended. It must further be re-  
80 marked that the various tills *f*, *g*, and *h* can be opened or extended independently of each other—that is to say, for instance, the top till *h* can be opened without disturbing the normal position of the remaining tills.

In the modification illustrated in Fig. 3 the  
85 necessity of providing the front of the trunk with a hinged upper portion is avoided, and thus the folding-till arrangement can be easily and quickly applied to trunks of various  
90 makes and construction. For that purpose the sides of the bottom compartment *p* are provided with centrally-arranged vertical elongated slots *q*, penetrated by the pins *r r*, which latter serve as fulcrums for the links  
95 *s s*, connecting said bottom compartment with the compartment above. By this arrangement the compartments *g'* and *h'* can be easily raised until the bottom of the compartment *g'* is above the upper edge of the  
100 body of the trunk, when said compartments



are opened and operate precisely in the same manner as described in connection with Figs. 1 and 2. For conveniently raising said tills a loop or handle *t* is secured to the till *g'* and on each side thereof and extends above the edge of the body of the trunk.

If it is desired, a leg or legs *u* can be pivotally arranged on one of the separate tills for forming an additional support for said tills when opened or extended.

I do not intend to limit myself to the precise construction shown and described, as various alterations can be made without changing the scope of my invention; but

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A trunk consisting of the body having the upper portion of the front hinged to the lower portion thereof, of a base-compartment removably arranged in said trunk, a series of separate tills or compartments carried by said base-compartment and pivotally connected with and between but independently movable from each other, and a series of links connecting the said base-compartment with the rear portion of the lowermost of said series of tills, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. A trunk consisting of the body having the top portion of its front hinged to the lower portion thereof, a base-compartment removably arranged in said trunk and of a height substantially equal to the height of the stationary portion of the front of said trunk, a series of tills or compartments carried by said base-compartment, and pivotally connected with and between, but independently movable from each other, and means for pivotally connecting the rear portion of the lowermost of said series of compartments with the base-compartment, substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. A trunk consisting of the body, a base-compartment removably arranged in said body and provided in its sides with one or more elongated vertical slots, a series of separate tills or compartments in said trunk and above the base-compartment and pivotally

connected with and between but independently movable from each other, and one or more links pivotally connected with their upper portions to the lowermost compartment of said series and provided at their lower ends with pins or projections slidingly arranged in said elongated slots in the base-compartment, substantially as and for the purposes described.

4. A trunk consisting of the body having the upper portion of the front hinged to the lower portion thereof, of a base-compartment removably arranged in said trunk, a series of separate tills or compartments carried by said base-compartment and pivotally connected with and between but independently movable from each other, a series of links connecting the said base-compartment with the lowermost of said series of tills, and means carried by one of said series of compartments or tills for supporting said series when opened, substantially as and for the purposes described.

5. A trunk consisting of the body, a base-compartment removably arranged in said body and provided in its sides with one or more elongated vertical slots, a series of separate tills or compartments in said trunk and above the base-compartment and pivotally connected with and between but independently movable from each other, one or more links pivotally connected with their upper portions to the lowermost compartment of said series and provided at their lower ends with pins or projections slidingly arranged in said elongated slots in the base-compartment, and means carried by one of said series of compartments or tills for supporting said series when opened, substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of October, 1897.

CHARLES H. MERSEREAU.

Witnesses:

WM. D. BELL,  
ALFRED GARTNER.