

No. 610,500.

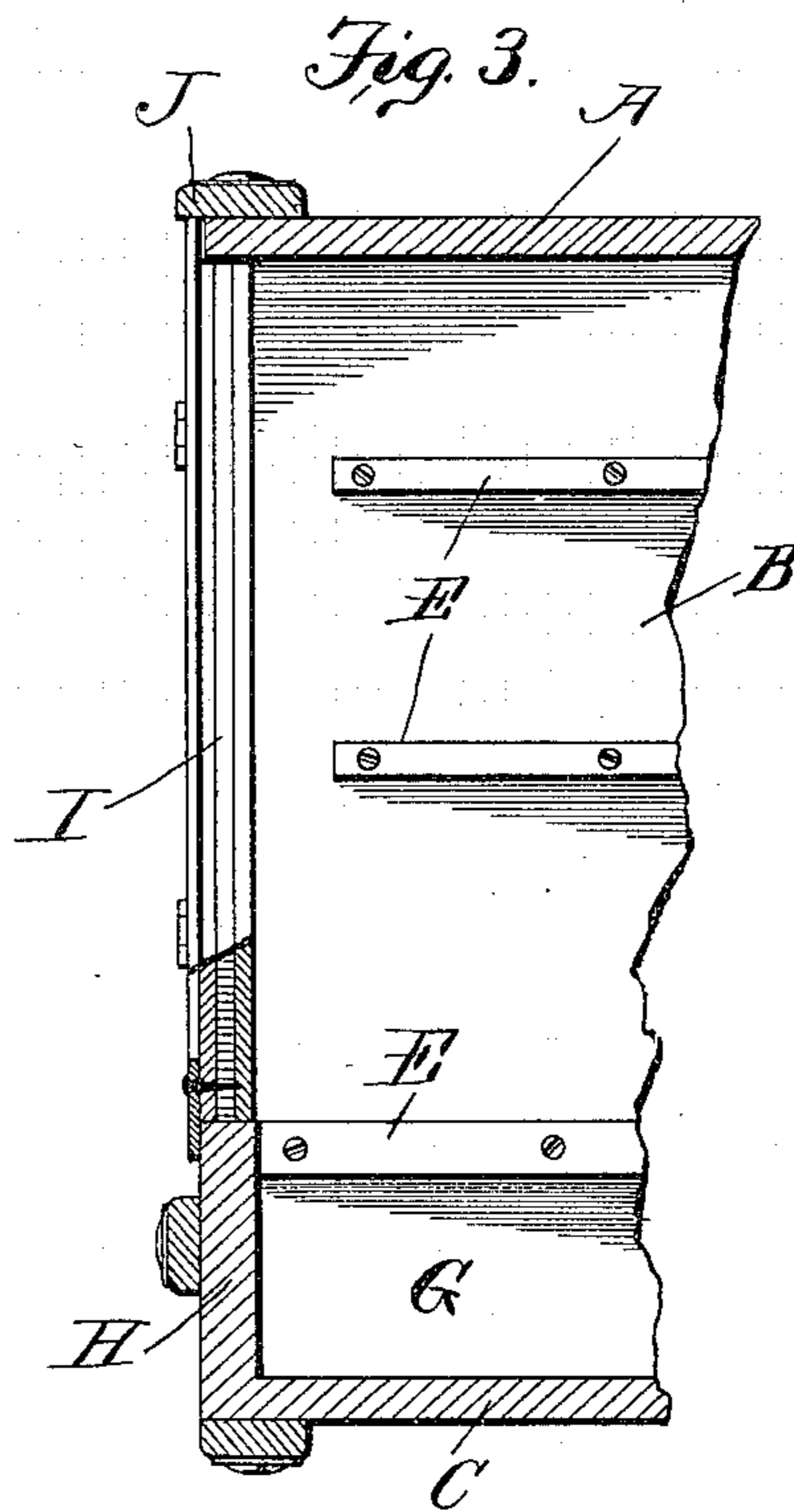
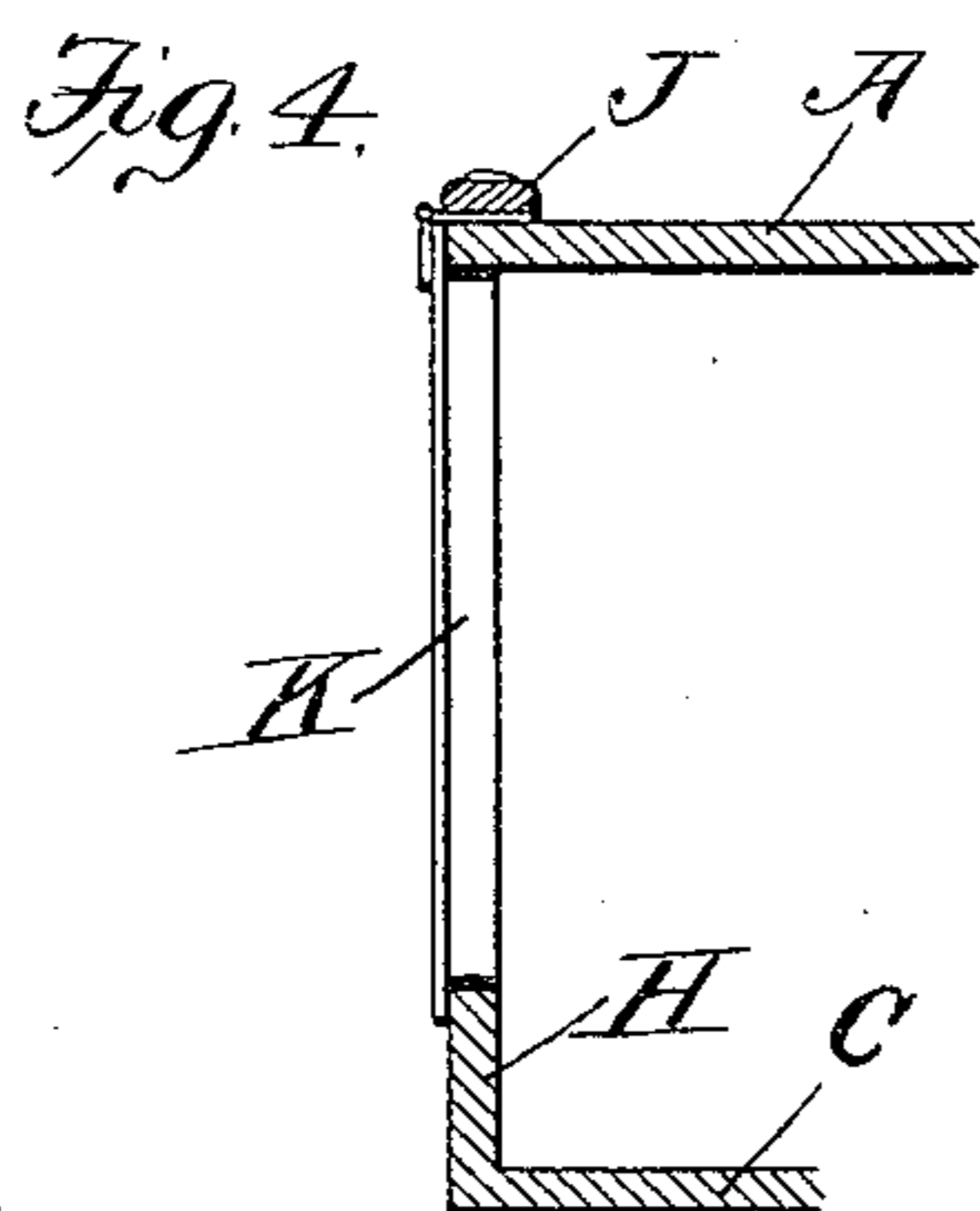
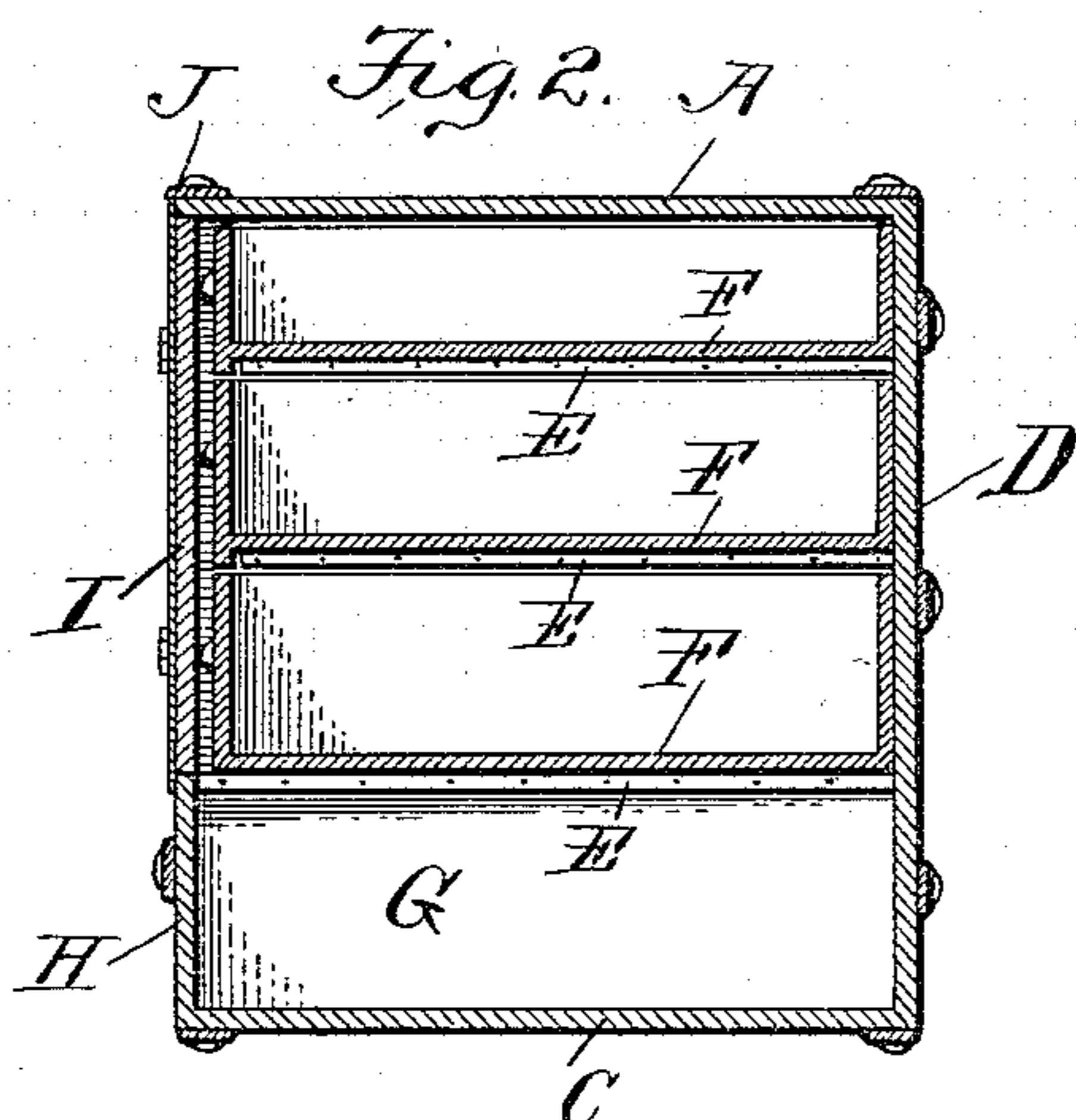
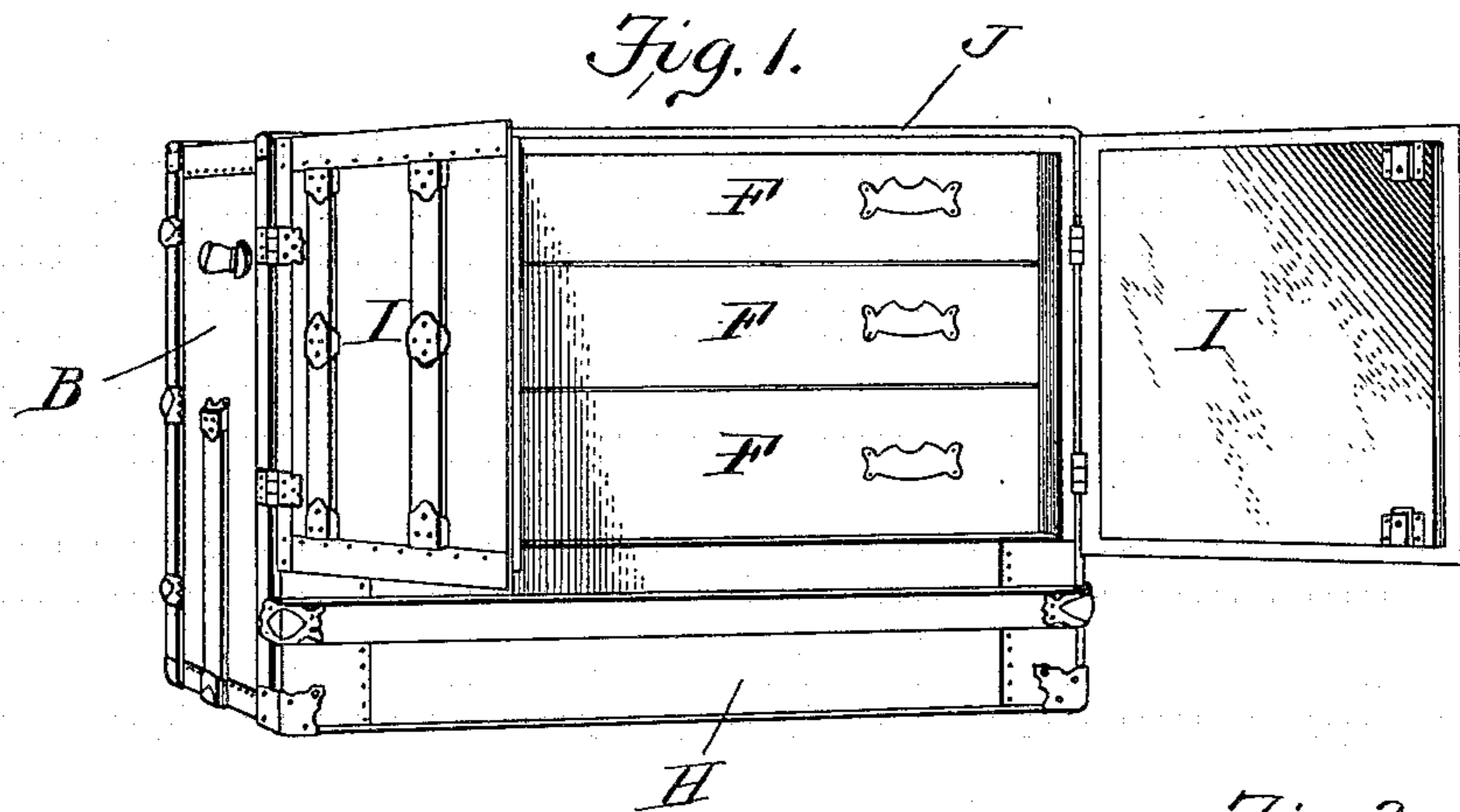
Patented Sept. 6, 1898.

B. T. SMITH & A. E. BAKER.

TRUNK.

(Application filed Apr. 29, 1897.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:
G. A. Pennington
J. R. Cornwall

Inventors:
B. T. Smith
A. E. Baker
Paul W. Bakewell
their atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN T. SMITH AND ALFRED E. BAKER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

TRUNK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 610,500, dated September 6, 1898.

Application filed April 29, 1897. Serial No. 634,349. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN T. SMITH and ALFRED E. BAKER, citizens of the United States, residing in the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trunks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved trunk, one of the doors being open to show the drawers inside. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view showing the front edge of the trunk, and Fig. 4 is a slightly-modified form.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in trunks, the object being to construct a trunk which can be opened from the side, thus permitting a number of trunks to be piled on top of each other in which all are accessible. By thus rendering the trunk easy of access traveling men and others may use the same more conveniently than where the lid is arranged on top.

With this object in view the invention consists in constructing a trunk with doors giving access to the inside thereof, said trunk containing a series of drawers, the bottom drawer forming the upper wall of a compartment in the bottom of the trunk. By constructing a trunk with this bottom compartment we give strength to the whole structure by the presence of the strip on the front side of the trunk, which forms the front wall of said compartment.

Another feature of invention resides in arranging the strip on the upper forward edge of the trunk, which strip forms a protecting ledge or lip for the doors to keep out rain, &c.

Other features of invention reside in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts, all as will hereinafter be described, and afterward pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, A indicates the top wall, B the end walls, C the bottom, and D the rear wall, of a trunk, such parts being braced by suitable brackets and strips, as is common.

On the inside of the end walls we arrange suitable cleats E, properly placed to receive and support drawers F, preferably extending

clear across the trunk, of which there may be any desired number.

G indicates a compartment formed in the bottom of the trunk, the lower drawer forming the top thereof, while an upwardly-projecting wall H on the front side of the trunk forms the front wall. This short section of the front wall is suitably braced, and by its presence the entire structure is strengthened.

I indicates two doors hinged to the end walls of the trunk, said doors when folded together having a rabbeted joint between them, the outer door having suitable locks by which it may be fastened to the top wall of the trunk and the short section of the front wall H.

J indicates a strip arranged on top of the upper wall and at the front edge thereof, said strip projecting forward, forming a ledge to protect the doors from injury and at the same time prevent the entrance of rain into the trunk.

If desired, instead of having the two doors I a single door K may be employed, (see Fig. 4,) which may be hinged to the top wall of the trunk, so as to raise upwardly; or it may be hinged to one of the end walls, thus making the trunk with a single door.

A trunk constructed as above described is very easy of access and very convenient, in that the drawers form sliding trays, which may be removed or inserted at will independently of each other. The front wall G materially strengthens the trunk and also makes an additional compartment in the lower portion of the trunk, to which access is gained by the removal of the lower drawer. By hinging the doors at the end of the trunk a number of trunks may be piled one on top of the other, whereby access may be gained to each. We prefer to form the doors of crossed-grain veneering, as shown near the bottom of Fig. 3, which materially strengthens the same; but it is obvious that other material may be used, if desired.

We are aware that many minor changes in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without in the least departing from the nature and principle of our invention.

Having thus described our invention, what

we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a trunk, the combination with the fixed top, bottom, end, and rear walls, of a front
5 fixed wall which extends partially up the front of the trunk to form a bottom compartment and strengthen the structure, cleats secured to the end walls for a series of drawers,
10 closing the front of the trunk, flanges projecting laterally from said doors and extending over the top, end and front walls, and a

reinforcing-strip J for strengthening the top wall at its front edge and protecting the doors, said strip extending forwardly beyond the
15 plane of the doors substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we hereunto affix our signatures, in presence of two witnesses, this 21st day of April, 1897.

BENJAMIN T. SMITH.
ALFRED E. BAKER.

Witnesses:

F. R. CORNWALL,
HUGH K. WAGNER.