

No. 667,403.

Patented Feb. 5, 1901.

B. E. RICH.
TRAY FOR HAND GRIPS.
(Application filed June 22, 1900.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

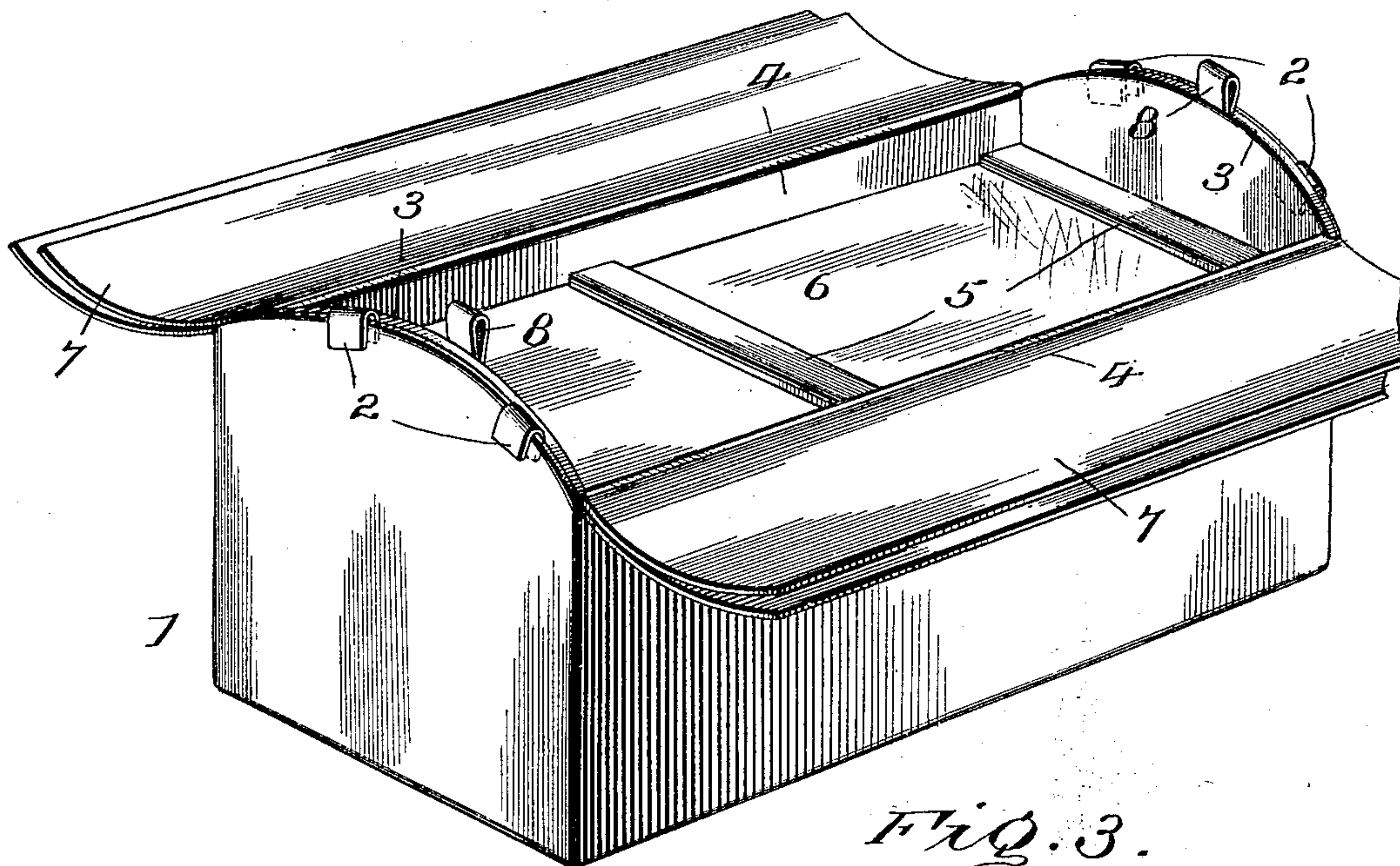


FIG. 3.

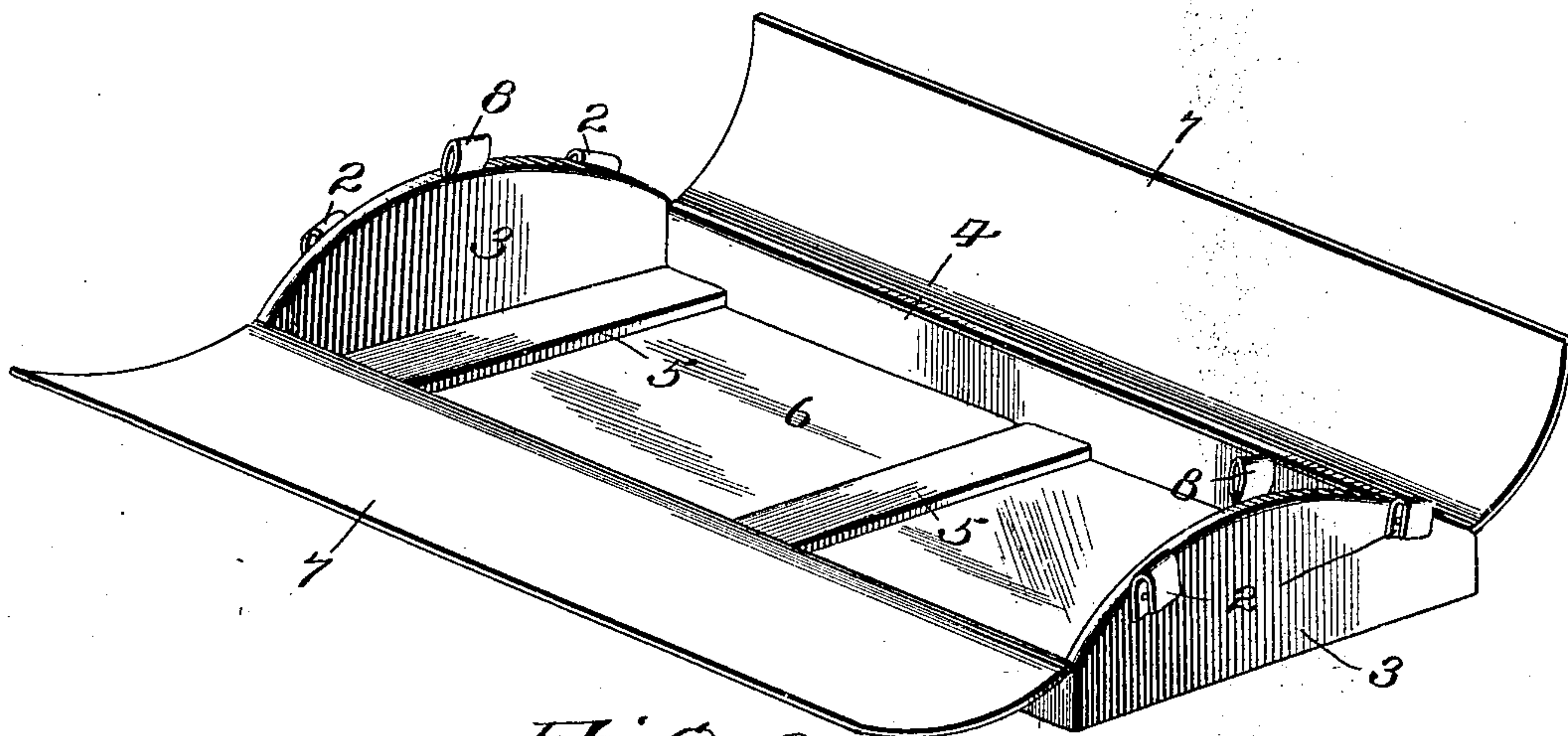
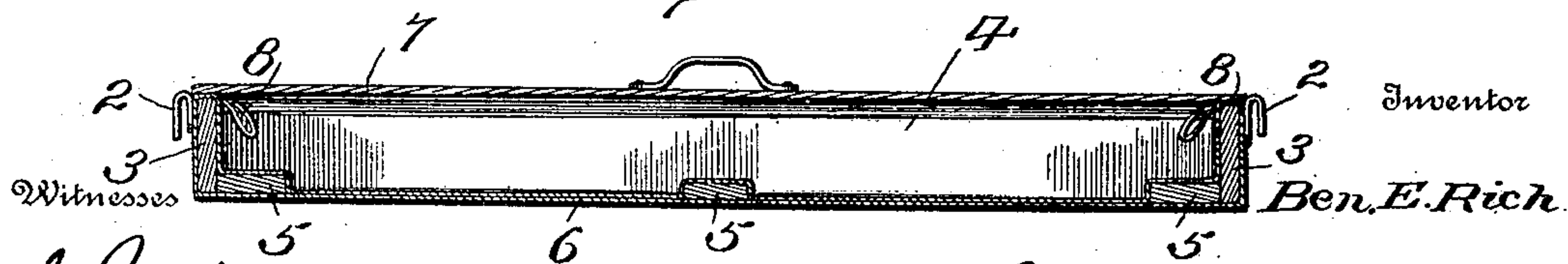


FIG. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN E. RICH, OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

TRAY FOR HAND-GRIPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 667,403, dated February 5, 1901.

Application filed June 22, 1900. Serial No. 21,208. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN E. RICH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chattanooga, in the county of Hamilton and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trays for Hand-Graps; 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 appertains to make and use the same.

The traveling public is well aware of the advantages accruing from the use of trays in trunks and traveling-cases; and it is the purpose of this invention to combine these and other advantages with the ordinary hand-grip, telescope, and like handy receptacle for the traveler.

The tray as constructed for hand-graps and this type of articles is exceedingly light and braces the grip against external and internal pressure and comprises a frame of rigid material and a bottom of flexible material, such as canvas or other textile used for covering the frame, said bottom and frame being reinforced by transverse bars.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof, and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the appended description and drawings hereto attached.

While the essential and characteristic features of the invention are necessarily susceptible of modification, still the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a grip, showing the tray in position, the covers of the grip being thrown open. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the tray, the covers being thrown open.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The grip 1 is typical of the class of receptacles or valises for which the invention is specially designed.

The tray will be of a size to snugly fit within the open end or side of the grip and is held in

suspension by means of hooks 2, preferably applied to the end pieces of the tray and adapted to engage over the end pieces of the grip. By having the tray of such dimensions to snugly fit within the grip the latter is braced upon all sides against external pressure, and by having the hooks 2 engage over the edges of the walls of the grip the latter is braced against internal pressure.

The tray is composed of a rigid frame consisting of end bars 3 and longitudinal bars 4, joined at their ends in any convenient and substantial manner. Transverse bars 5 connect the longitudinal bars 4 and strengthen and stiffen the frame and reinforce the bottom 6, which is composed, preferably, of a textile. The frame of the tray is covered either by leather, canvas, or other textile, according to the required finish of the tray and the cost thereof, and this covering is extended to form the bottom 6 and is fitted about the transverse bars 5. It will thus be seen that the bottom is composed of two layers or plies of material. By constructing the tray in the manner stated it is light and a maximum amount of room is provided compared with the external dimensions of the tray. The top edges of the end pieces 3 arch or curve to conform to the outline of the end pieces of the grip, and the covers 7 are transversely curved and are hinged at their outer longitudinal edges to the bars 4. The tray is conveniently handled by the ordinary loops 8, applied to the end pieces 3 at a medial point. The hooks 2 are of metal and are secured to the end pieces 3 a short distance from the bars 4 and are adapted to engage over the ends of the grip and hold the tray suspended therein. In addition to supporting the tray the hooks 2 by engaging over the top edges of the end pieces of the grip prevent outward displacement of said end pieces when subjected to internal pressure, thereby preserving the shape of the grip and preventing bulging thereof.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

A grip or like receptacle for travelers' use comprising a body having flexible sides or walls, a tray removably fitted in the open end of the grip and comprising a frame of rigid material and of a size to fit against correspond-

ing walls of the grip to brace them against external pressure, and suspending means applied to the tray to engage over the top edges of the walls of the grip to support the tray
5 and prevent outward displacement of the said walls of the grip when subjected to internal pressure, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BEN. E. RICH. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

L. E. JORDAN,
DAVID H. ELTON.