No. 683,908. Patented Oct. 8, 1901.

H. BUYTEN.

TRUNK OR BOX.

(Application filed Mar. 6, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig: 1.

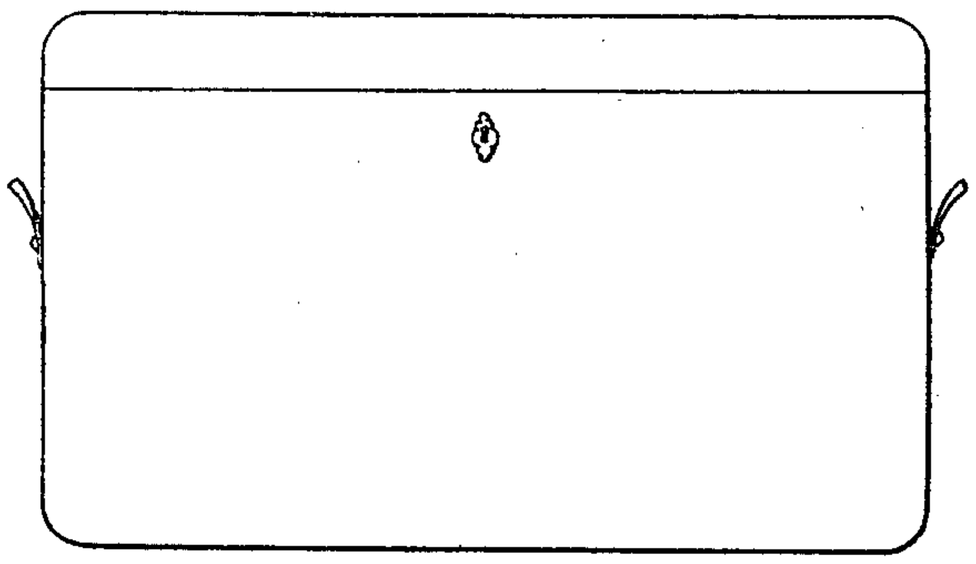


Fig: 3.

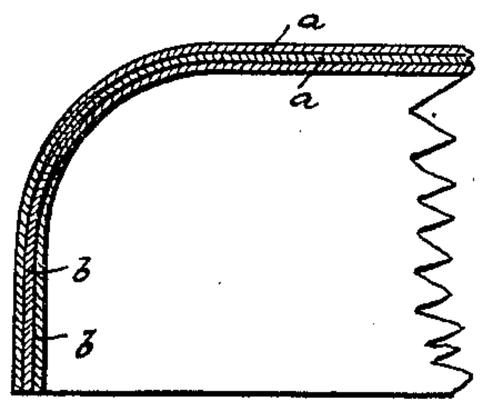


Fig: 2.

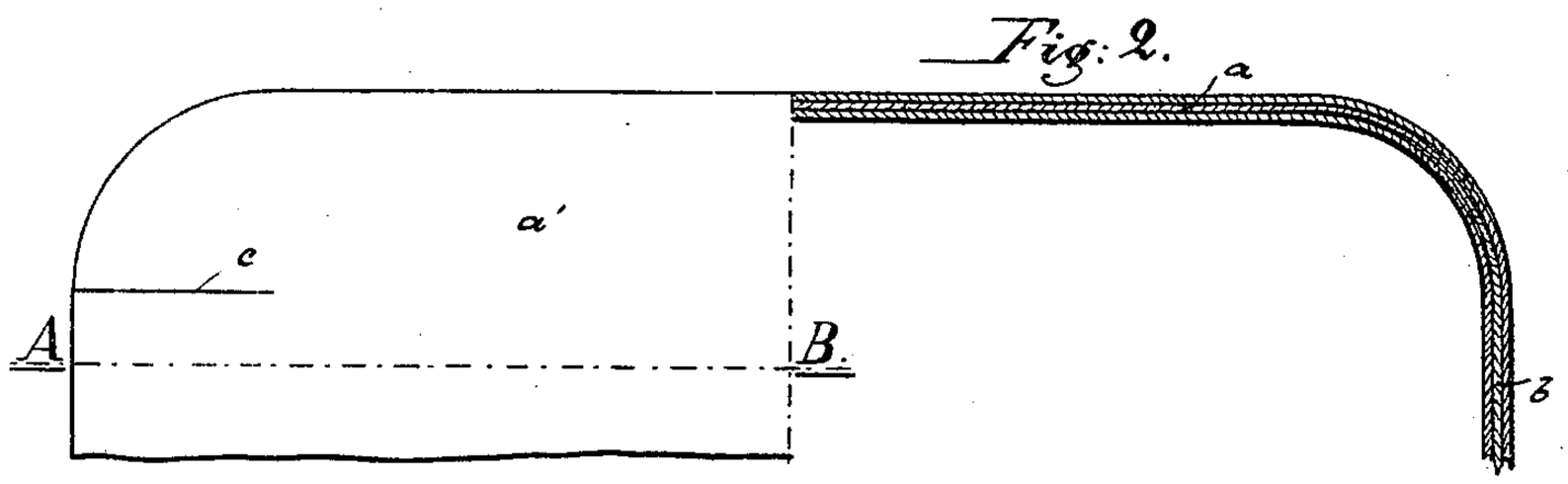


Fig: 4.

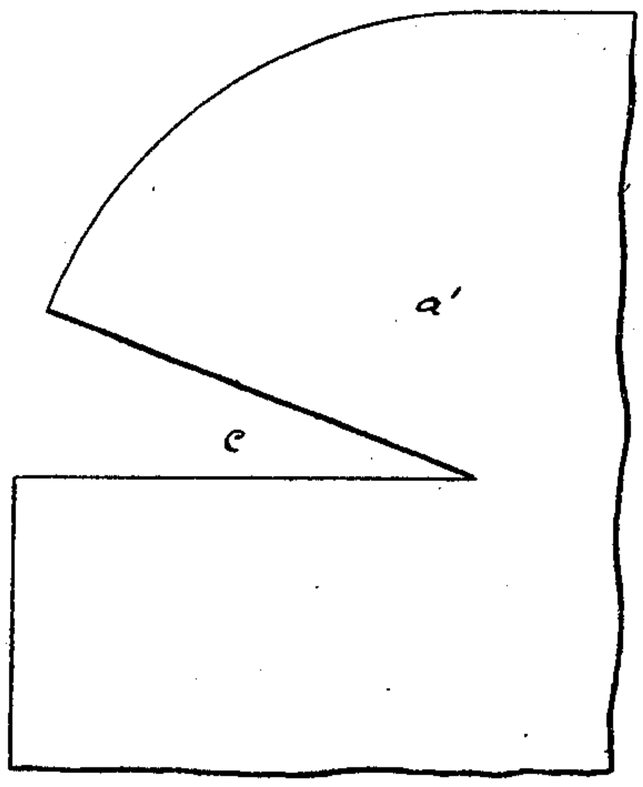
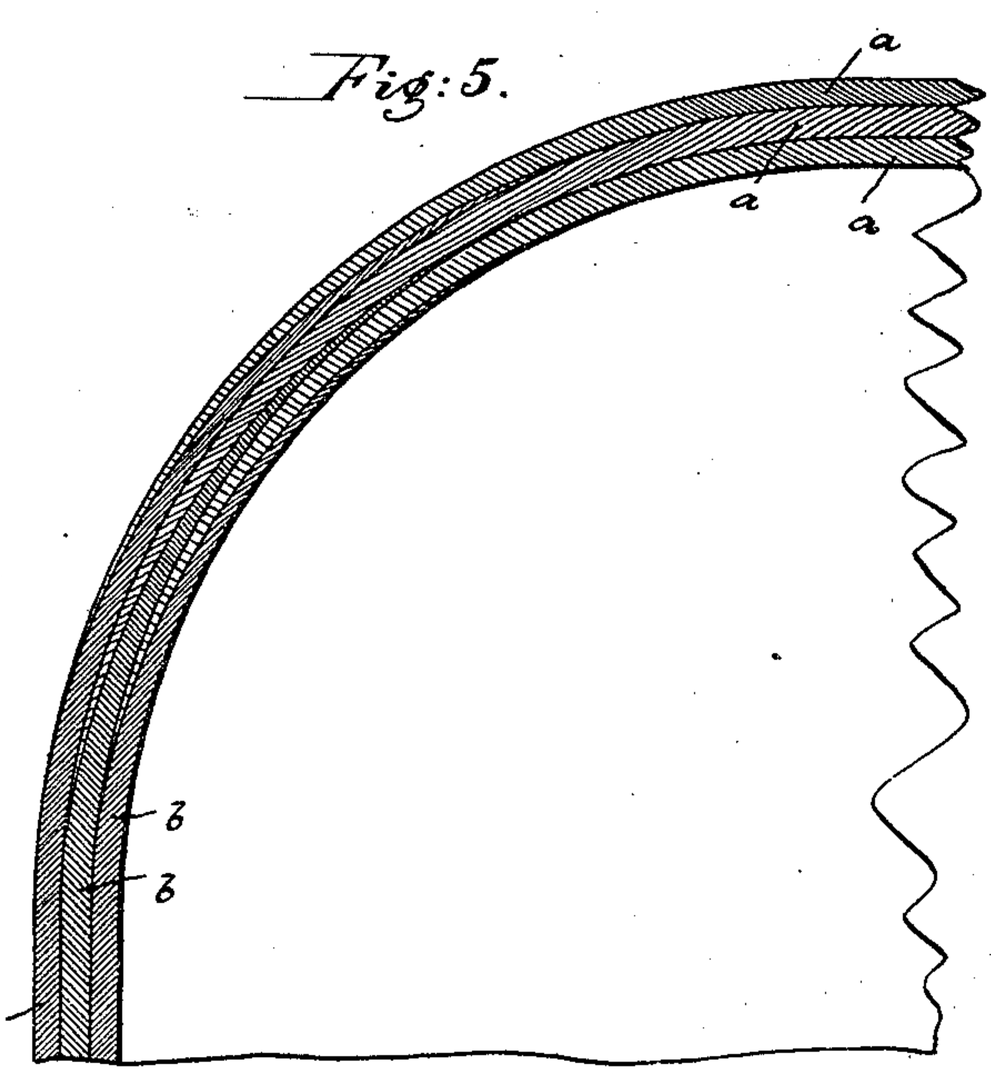


Fig: 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMANN BUYTEN, OF DUSSELDORF, GERMANY.

TRUNK OR BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 683,908, dated October 8, 1901.

Application filed March 6, 1900. Serial No. 7,558. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMANN BUYTEN, a citizen of Germany, and a resident of Dusseldorf, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trunks or Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved construction of wooden trunks or boxes by means of which the strength of the edges and corners is greatly increased.

The sides of the trunk or box are composed of a series of veneers having rounded and chamfered ends which enter between the correspondingly-shaped ends of the adjoining sides. The bottom is connected to the sides in a similar manner and is gored out to form the corners.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a trunk constructed according to my invention; Fig. 2, a sectional plan of part of the trunk; Fig. 3, a section on line A B, Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a plan of one of the veneers for forming the bottom, and Fig. 5 an enlarged detail similar to Fig. 3.

Each of the straight sides *a* or *b* of the box, Fig. 5, is composed of three or more veneers or layers of thin boards, which are provided with glue and are so superposed that the grain will cross. The ends of the veneers are chamfered and rounded and overlap the correspondingly-shaped ends of the adjoining sides to produce a rounded edge containing twice the number of veneers as each of the sides. Thus the strength of the edges is greatly increased, and by their rounded shape they are capable of bearing an increased strain. The bottom *a'* of the trunk or box is preferably similarly constructed, but is gored, as at *c*, at each of the corners, so as to produce triangular flaps, which on being turned upward and into contact with each other produce a rounded corner.

In making the trunk or box I use a mold which corresponds in shape to the article to be constructed. The bottom veneer is first put in with its four ends turned up. Then the outer veneers of the four sides are inserted so that they overlap the upturned ends of the bottom. Then the second layer of the bottom is put in, then the second layer of the sides, then the third bottom layer, then the third side layer, &c. In placing the side veneers their chamfered ends are made to overlap, so as to form the rounded edges. After the insertion of all the layers they may be pressed together by means of a plunger introduced into the mold. All the parts constituting the box or trunk will now be intimately connected to produce an integral body of great strength.

If desired, the trunk may be formed around a core in lieu of being built up within a mold, in which case the pressure is applied from without.

The ends of the inner and outer veneers should be ground off to become almost invisible.

If desired, the trunk may be reinforced by strengthening ribs or bands and may be suitably covered.

The cover or lid may be constructed in a manner similar to the body of the trunk.

What I claim is—

A trunk or box composed of chamfered veneers having straight sides and rounded chamfered ends, and of a bottom having gored and rounded corners that overlap the rounded ends of the straight sides to produce rounded corners containing twice the number of veneers as the adjoining side and bottom, substantially as specified.

Signed by me at Dusseldorf, Germany, this 15th day of February, 1900.

HERMANN BUYTEN.

Witnesses:

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ERNEST BUDRE.