

No. 774,921.

PATENTED NOV. 15, 1904.

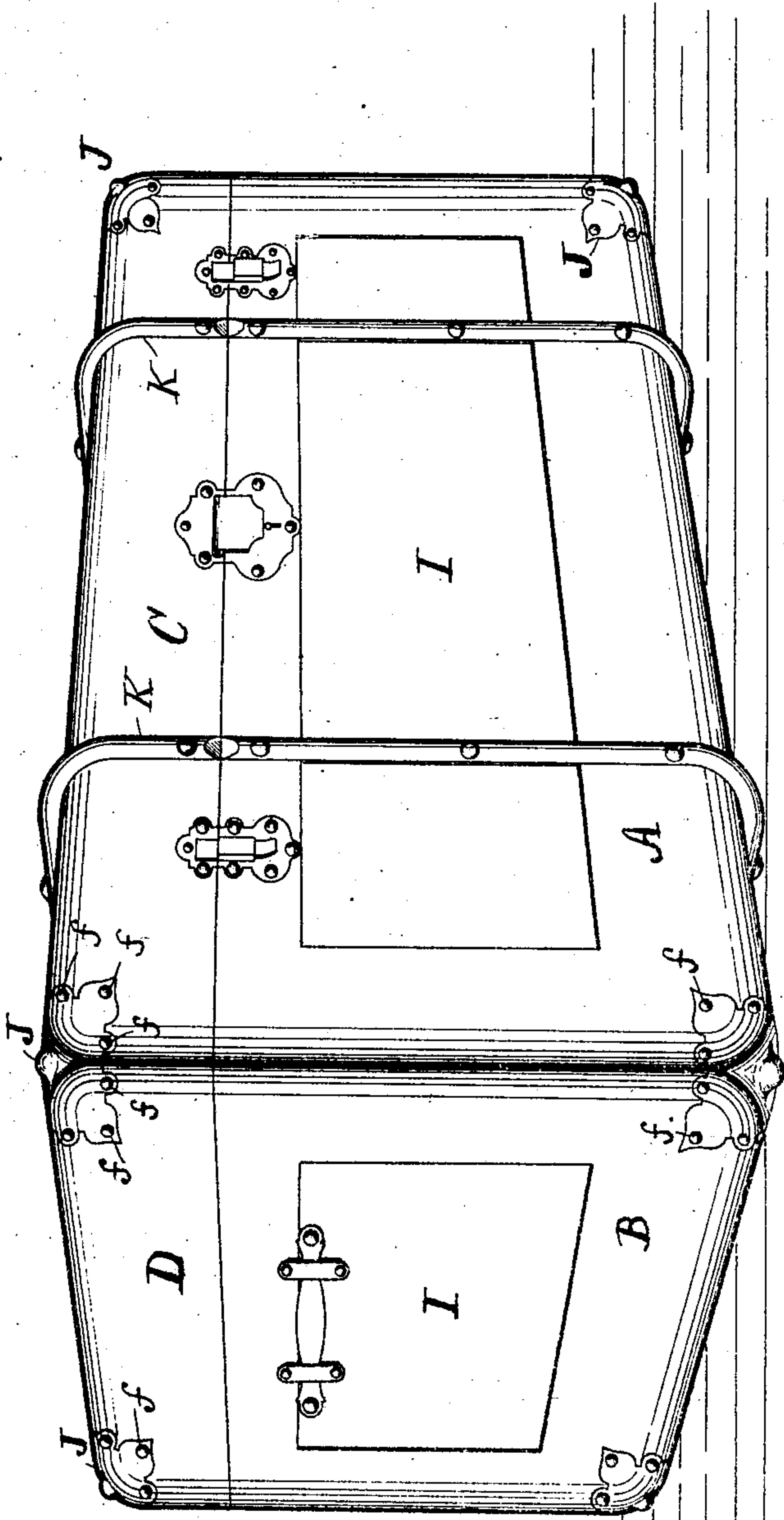
H. ROMÜNDER.
TRUNK.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 26, 1903.

NO MODEL.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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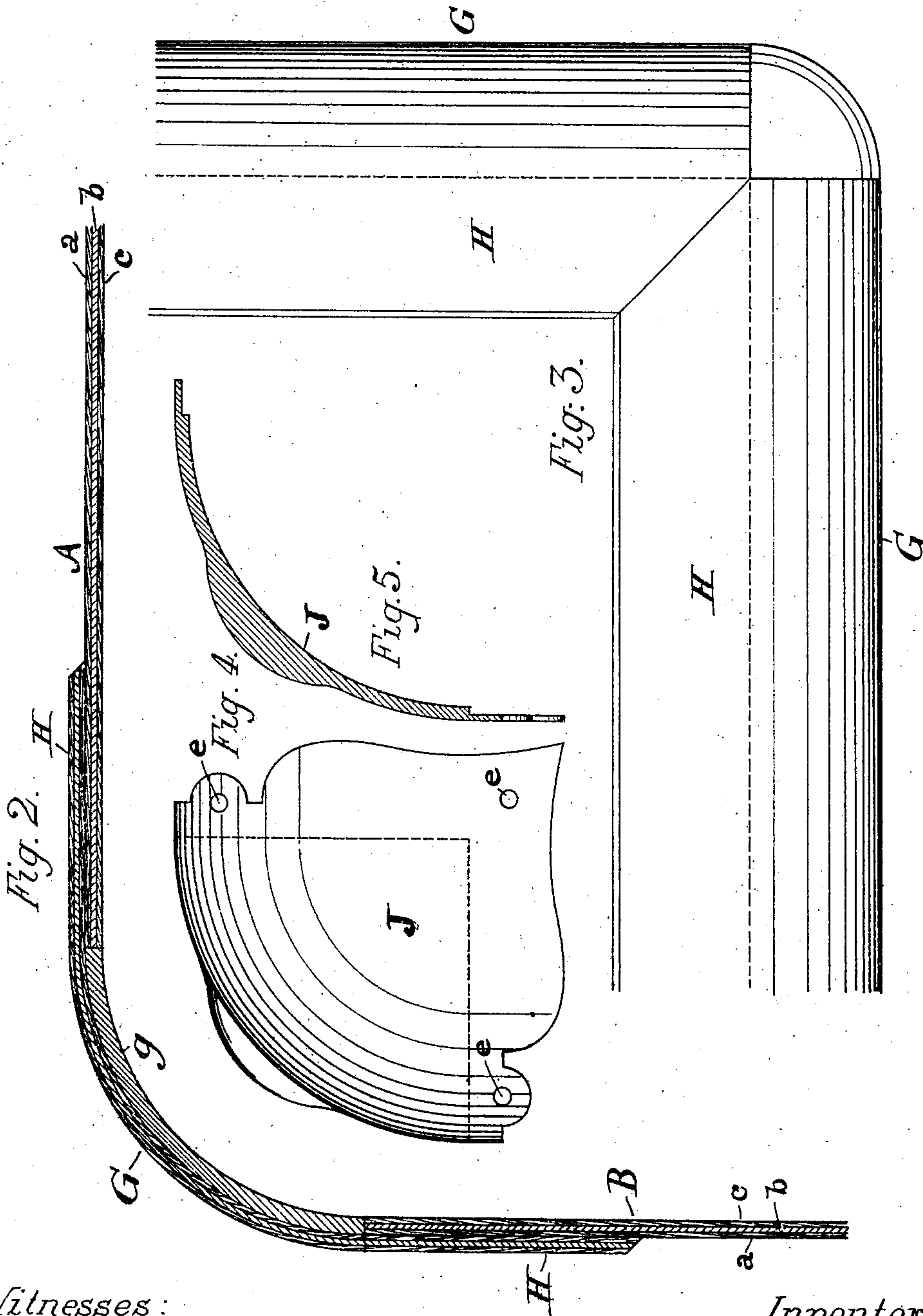
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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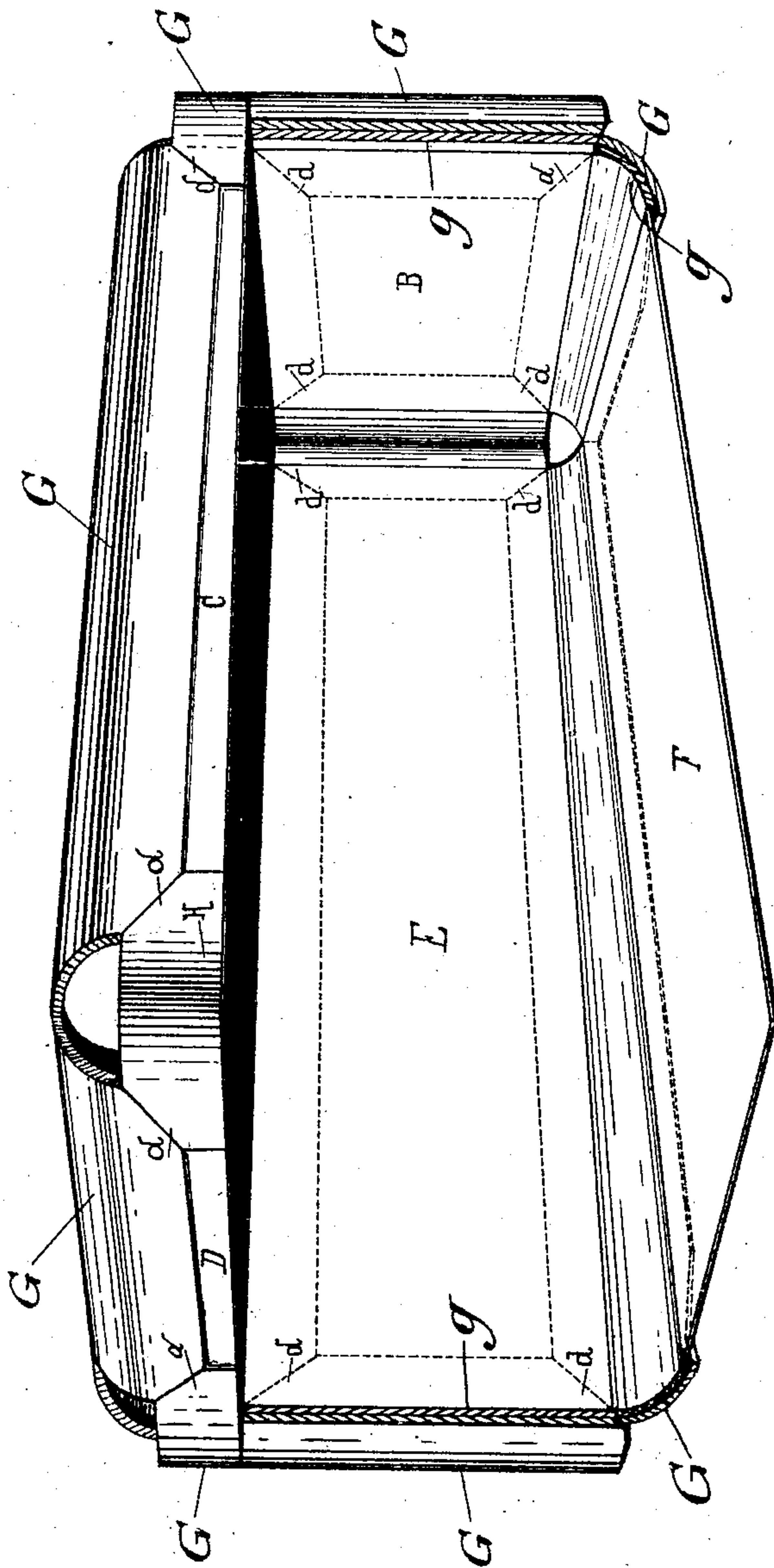
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APPLICATION FILED MAY 26, 1903.

NO MODEL.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMANN ROMÜNDER, OF BLOOMSBURY, NEW JERSEY.

TRUNK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 774,921, dated November 15, 1904.

Application filed May 26, 1903. Serial No. 158,790. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMANN ROMÜNDER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Bloomsbury, Hunterdon county, State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trunks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to trunks, valises, packing-cases, and other boxes and packages, and has for its object to provide such articles of strong and durable character, impervious to moisture without requiring any additional covering, and which shall combine lightness of weight and simplicity and cheapness of construction with unusual strength and durability.

To accomplish these objects, I form the trunk or package of right-angularly-disposed flat plates united by curved edge plates and cover the several open corners with strong caps or corner-plates. By this means the trunk or like package is provided with rounded edges, which are less liable to become damaged from rough usage than is the case with the ordinary sharp edges of a trunk. These flat and curved plates may be composed of any suitable material, as wood-veneer plates consisting each of two or more layers of these veneers of suitable thickness, the grain of alternate layers being reversed and all the layers united by a waterproof gluing composition, whereby they form practically one homogeneous plate of wood, which being formed under heat and pressure into a straight or curved plate is much stronger and more durable than a considerably thicker board with the grain all running in one direction.

One form of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a completed trunk. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of a curved edge plate connecting two adjacent flat body-plates. Fig. 3 is a detail of one of the corners, showing three abutting curved edge plates and the open corner-space between them. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the corner cap or plate, preferably of metal. Fig. 5 is a section thereof. Fig. 6 is a detail showing adjacent flat side and end plates united by curved edge plates. Fig. 7 is a detail showing the con-

struction of the rounded bottom edges. Fig. 8 is a perspective elevation of a partly-formed trunk, showing the side and back body-plates and the bottom plate arranged in position as separated from each other by intervening spaces and showing said plates as connected together by the curved edge plates, the said view also showing the open corner spaces or interstices between adjacent ends of curved edge plates, the said corner-spaces not being covered in this view by the corner-plates.

Same letters indicate similar parts in the different drawings.

A is the front body-plate; B, the side body-plate; C, the front cover-plate or lid-plate; D, the side cover-plate. E is the back body-plate. F is the bottom plate. Each of these plates is constructed, as shown in Fig. 2, of a number of layers of wood veneer *a b c*, so arranged as to have the grain of adjacent layers reversed. Three such layers will ordinarily be sufficient, though more may be used, if desired. These plates A B C D E F are preferably straight or flat. The different layers are held together by any suitable waterproof gluing composition—such, for example, as a compound of glue and potash—and are kept under heat and pressure until they have received their permanent shape, it being understood that the gluing together of two or more adjacent layers the grain of which runs parallel, while the grain of the remaining layers is reversed, does not change the nature of my invention. These straight plates are joined together at the side, top, and bottom edges, so as to form a complete trunk, case, or box, by edge plates which are preferably bent or curved to avoid sharp corners. G (see Figs. 2 and 6) shows such an edge plate, it being understood that such a plate occurs at each of the four top and bottom edges and also at the four vertical edges. These edge plates, like the straight plates, are preferably made of a number of layers of wood veneer alternately reversed and held together under heat and pressure until they have assumed the permanent bent character desired. These bent edge plates are cemented or otherwise secured to the straight body-plates, and thus form a trunk or box complete, except at the eight corners,

the flat side members and curved edge members when united leaving eight corner-spaces to be filled by strong caps or corner-plates, as described hereinafter. The joints thus made
 5 are covered by the flat portions H of said edge plates G, which are provided with the angles $d\ d$, so as to leave a face panel-space I, which may be left open or filled with an additional plate, as preferred. It will be noted that the
 10 approximating edges of the flat members do not meet to form a right-angular joint, but leave an edge space which is filled in with a curved edge member G, that overlaps the edges of said approximating flat members. Thus
 15 the complete trunk or like package is formed by fitting and suitably uniting flat and curved members of suitable material. A curved filling-piece g , which may be of one or more ply wood veneer the grain of which runs, preferably, lengthwise of its curvature, is fitted between the opposite edges of adjacent straight
 20 or flat body-plates, said curved plates g fitting against the inner curvature of edge plates G to fill out the spaces left between the edges of said straight or flat body-plates and to provide therewith a smooth inner surface for the
 25 trunk. Said curved plates g also serve to reinforce the edge plates G, to which they are glued. The otherwise open corners are covered with a cap-plate J, which is preferably
 30 made of metal and provided with a number of perforations $e\ e$, by which it may be securely screwed, bolted, or riveted by the bolts or rivets $f\ f$ to each of the plates G adjacent to
 35 that corner which is covered by said cap. To make these joints absolutely waterproof, rubber or other packing material may be placed between the wood plates and these metal caps
 40 before they are fastened together, thereby producing an impervious joint.

The trunk or box thus formed may be provided with the usual hinges, clasps, lock, and straps or handles or not, as desired, according to the uses to which it is to be put.

45 To further strengthen the body and lid of the trunk or case, straps or bands K K, as shown in Fig. 1, may be provided and secured thereto, which straps or bands I make of forged-steel plate bent half-round and fastened to
 50 the body and lid by means of nails, screws, rivets, or otherwise to insure greatest strength and durability combined with neatness and economy.

It will be noted that the representation of
 55 the completed trunk in Fig. 1 of the drawings shows no lines of junction between the flat and curved plates of which the trunk is composed, it being understood that such lines are hidden from view by paint or other coating
 60 given the trunk in its completed form.

I claim—

1. An improved trunk, valise, case or package composed of separated flat body-plates and curved or rounded edge plates connecting
 65 said body-plates, and caps or corner-plates

consisting of metal or other suitable material, fastened to each three adjacent edge plates forming the corners of the trunk or package and covering the open corners between the
 70 said edge plates.

2. An improved trunk, valise, case or package composed of separated flat body-plates and curved or rounded edge plates connecting
 75 said body-plates, each of said plates consisting of a number of layers of wood veneer of required thickness, the grain of alternate layers being reversed, united by waterproof
 80 gluing composition under heat and pressure, whereby the layers practically become one homogeneous plate of wood; and caps or corner-plates, consisting of metal or other suitable material, fastened to each three adjacent
 85 edge plates forming the corners of the trunk or package and covering the open corners between the said edge plates, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. An improved trunk, valise, case or package, composed of separated flat body-plates, and curved edge plates connecting said body-plates, each of the said plates consisting of
 90 two or more layers of veneer with reversed grain united by a waterproof gluing composition under heat and pressure whereby they practically become one homogeneous plate of wood, impervious to moisture and atmospheric
 95 influences; caps and corner-plates, and bent half-round forged-steel plates, placed around the trunk or package, and suitably fastened thereto, all substantially as shown and described.
 100

4. In an improved trunk, valise, case or package, a number of separated straight or flat wood-veneer plates forming the body part of
 105 the trunk or package, and a number of bent or curved wood-veneer plates, forming the edges of the trunk or package, suitably connected by means of overlapping the adjacent plates a sufficient length to produce strong
 110 joints, the overlapping parts being glued together with a waterproof cementing composition under heat and pressure whereby each joint practically becomes one homogeneous piece of wood, impervious to moisture and atmospheric influences, substantially as shown
 115 and described.

5. An improved trunk, valise, case or package, composed of a number of separated straight or flat body-plates, forming the sides, ends, top and bottom, and a number of bent
 120 or curved plates, forming the edges of the trunk or package, each of said plates consisting of two or more layers of wood veneer, the grain of alternate layers being reversed, and all the layers united by a waterproof cementing composition, under simultaneous heat
 125 and pressure, whereby they form practically one homogeneous plate of wood, impervious to moisture and atmospheric influences and permanently retain the shape they assume while being pressed, the overlapping parts
 130

of the body and edge plates, of sufficient size to produce strong joints, being glued together with a waterproof cementing composition and united under simultaneous heat and pressure until they form practically one homogeneous piece of wood or casing, caps or corner-plates, consisting of metal or other suitable material, suitably secured to the edge plates and covering the opening left between adjacent edge plates at each corner, a suitable waterproof packing being placed between the wood-veneer plates and the said caps or corner-plates, all substantially as shown and described.

6. An improved trunk, valise, case or package, composed of a number of separated straight or flat wood-veneer body-plates, and a number of bent or curved wood-veneer edge plates, cemented or otherwise secured to the straight body-plates, said edge plates having flat portions, suitably secured to and overlapping the adjacent body-plates; together with a number of metal caps or corner-plates, suitably secured to the said wood-veneer plates at the corners of the trunk or package, all substantially as shown and described.

7. An improved trunk, valise, case or package, the side, end, top and bottom plates of which, consisting of flat waterproof wood-veneer plates or other suitable material, are spaced apart and joined at each edge to curved edge plates, which overlap and are suitably connected to the adjacent body-plates, substantially as shown and described.

8. An improved trunk, valise, case or package, the body and lid of which are composed of a number of separated straight body-plates and a number of curved or rounded edge plates, each of said plates consisting of a number of layers of wood veneer, the grain of alternate layers being reversed, and united by a waterproof cementing composition under heat and pressure whereby the layers practically become one homogeneous plate of wood; the curved edge plates being suitably connected with and partly overlapping the straight body-plates; and metal corner-plates or caps, suitably secured to the wood-veneer plates, covering the corners of the trunk or package, substantially as shown and described.

9. An improved trunk, valise, case or pack-

age, composed of separated straight or flat side, end, top and bottom plates, and curved or rounded edge plates, and caps or corner-plates, of metal or other suitable material, all suitably connected to form a trunk or package of great strength and durability, of light weight and impervious to moisture and atmospheric influences, the top and bottom, side, end and edge plates consisting each of a number of layers of wood veneer, the grain of alternate layers being reversed, and all the layers united by a waterproof cementing composition under heat and pressure, whereby they form practically one homogeneous plate of wood, impervious to moisture and atmospheric influences, and permanently retain the shape assumed under pressure, the said wood-veneer plates being suitably connected, the overlapping portions of adjoining plates being glued together with a waterproof cementing composition under heat and pressure until each overlap forms practically one homogeneous piece of wood, impervious to moisture and atmospheric influences; the metal caps or corner-plates being suitably secured to the wood-veneer plates at the corners of the trunk, or package; a suitable waterproof packing material being placed between the wood and the metal plates to produce strong and waterproof joints at the corners of the trunk or package, and straps or bands of bent half-round forged steel, placed around the trunk or package and suitably secured thereto, all substantially as shown and described.

10. An improved trunk, valise, case or package, all the edges of which are formed by curved edge plates, suitably joined to separated flat or straight body-plates, each of said plates consisting of a number of layers of wood veneer glued together with reversed grain by means of a waterproof cementing composition, or of other suitable material; and caps or corner-plates suitably fastened to adjacent plates at the corners of the trunk or package, substantially as shown and described.

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