

No. 791,226.

PATENTED MAY 30, 1905.

P. STEIGER.  
WARDROBE TRUNK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 7, 1904.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

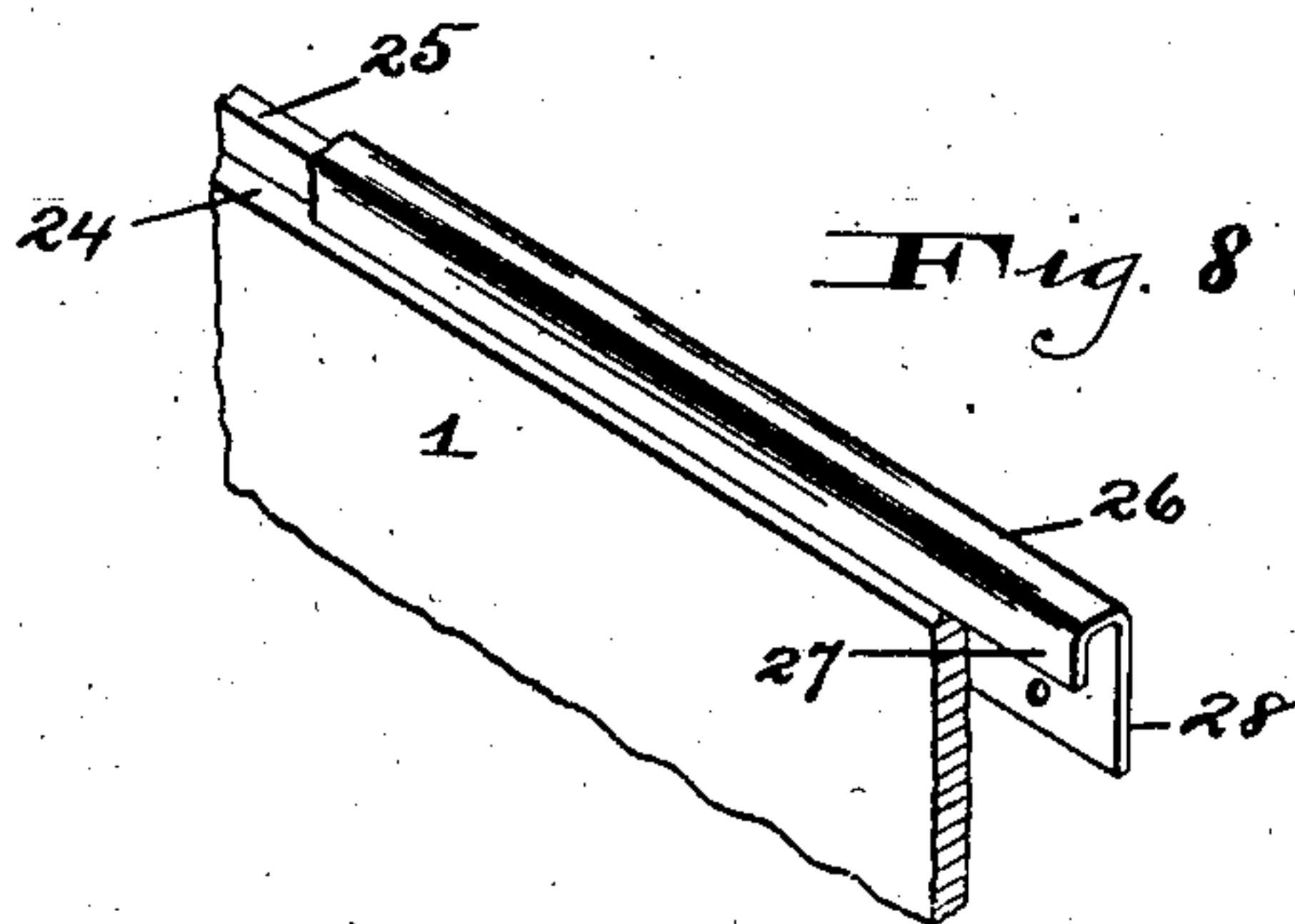
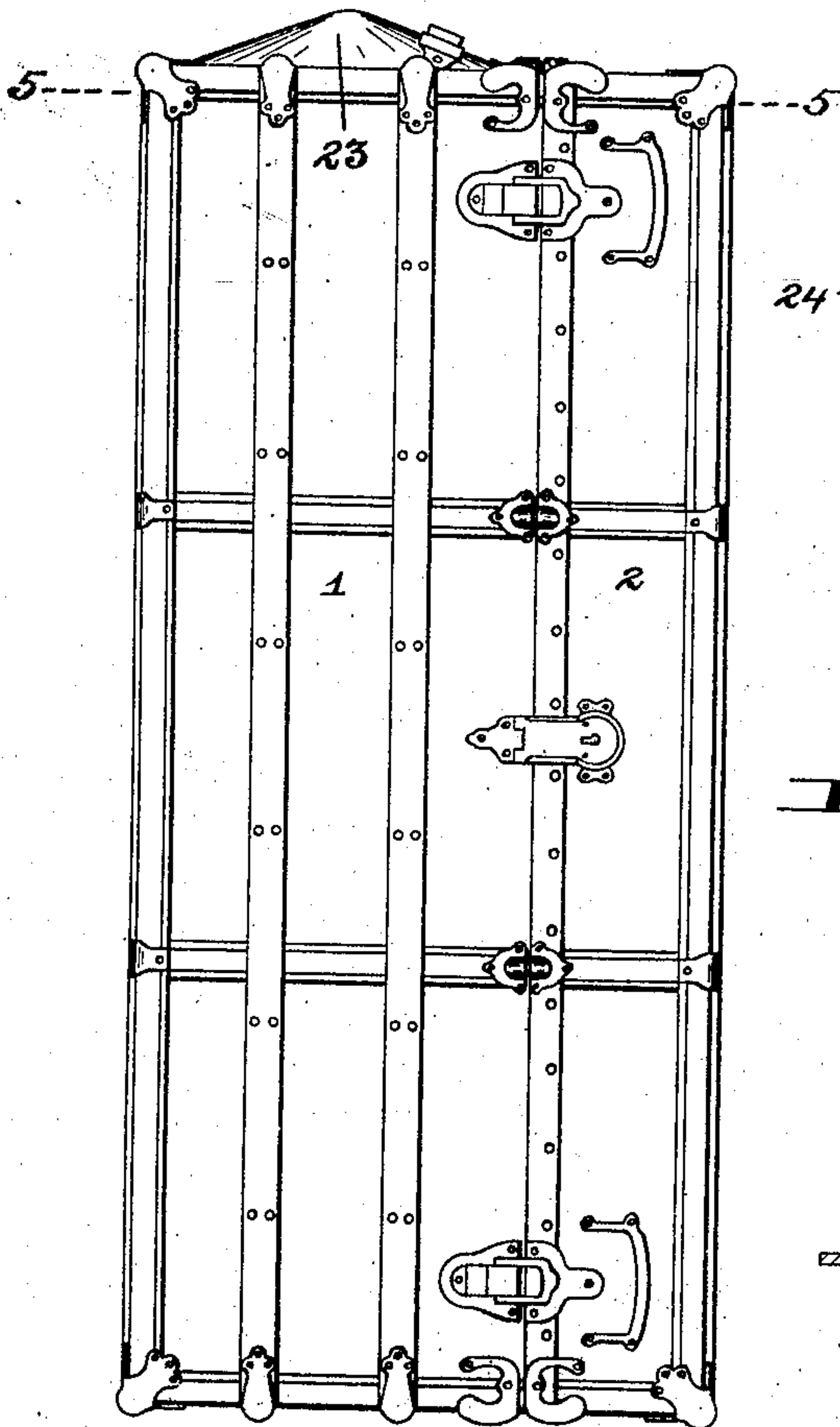


Fig. 1.

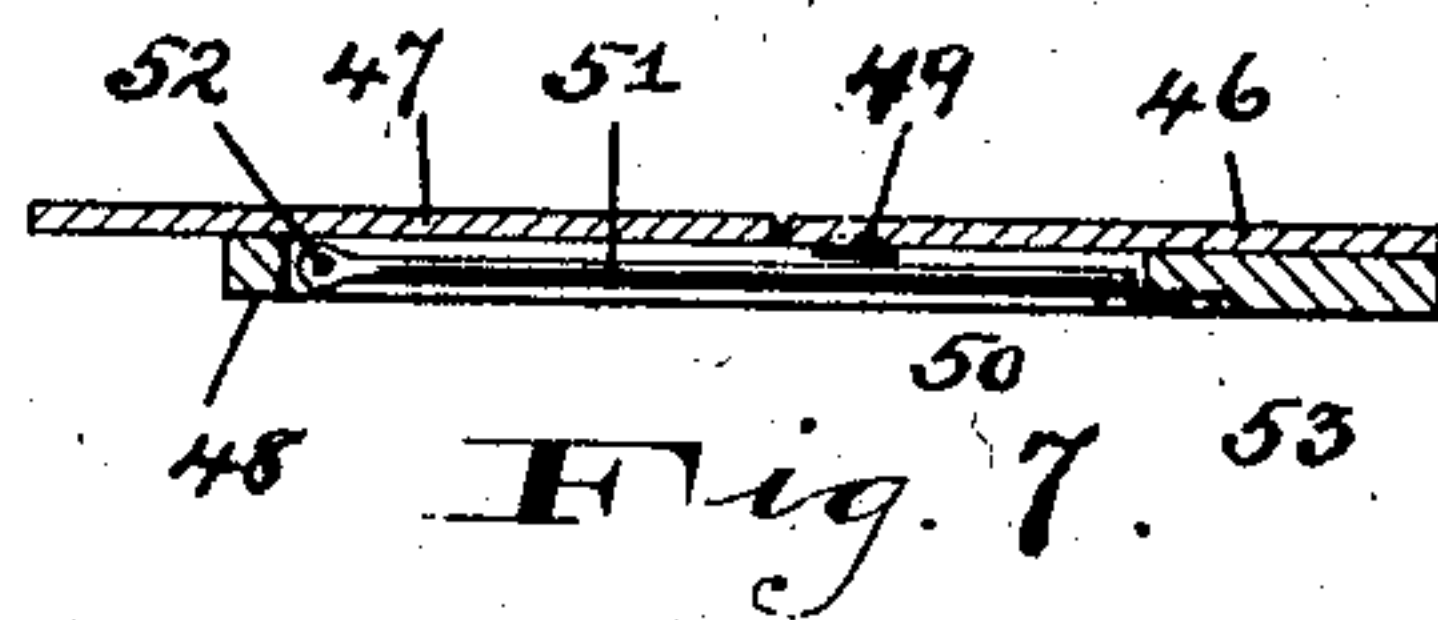


Fig. 7.

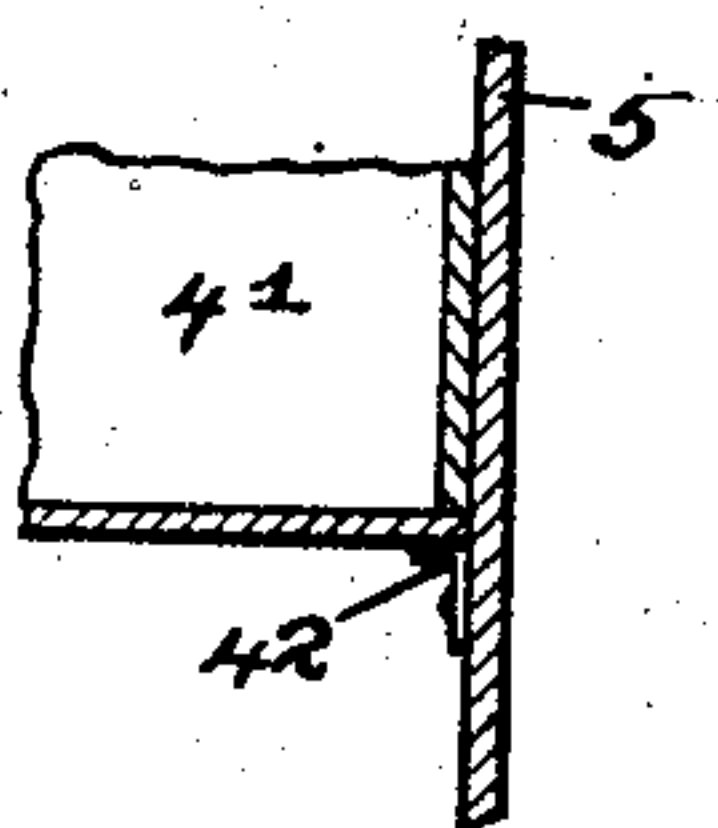
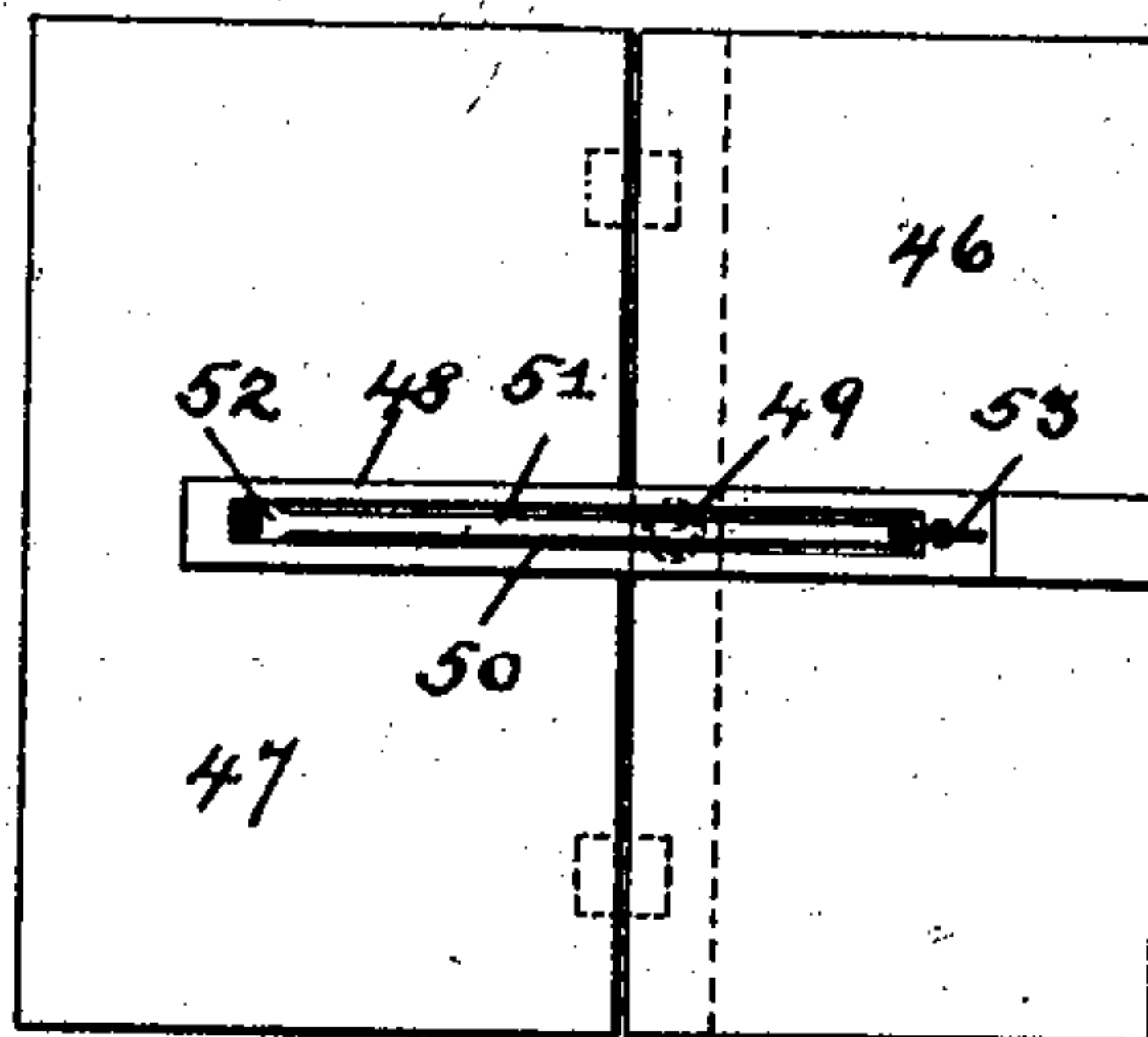


Fig. 11.

Fig. 6



Witnesses.  
J. H. Sirich Jr.  
J. Ferdinand Vogt.

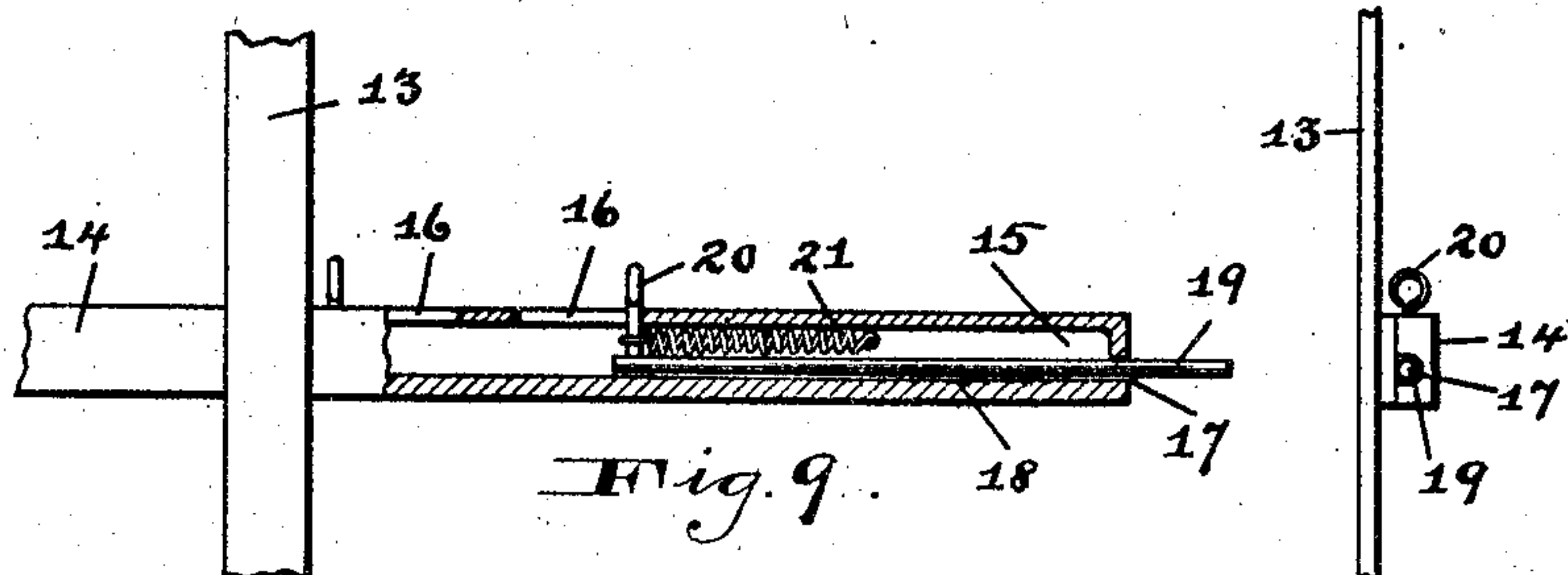
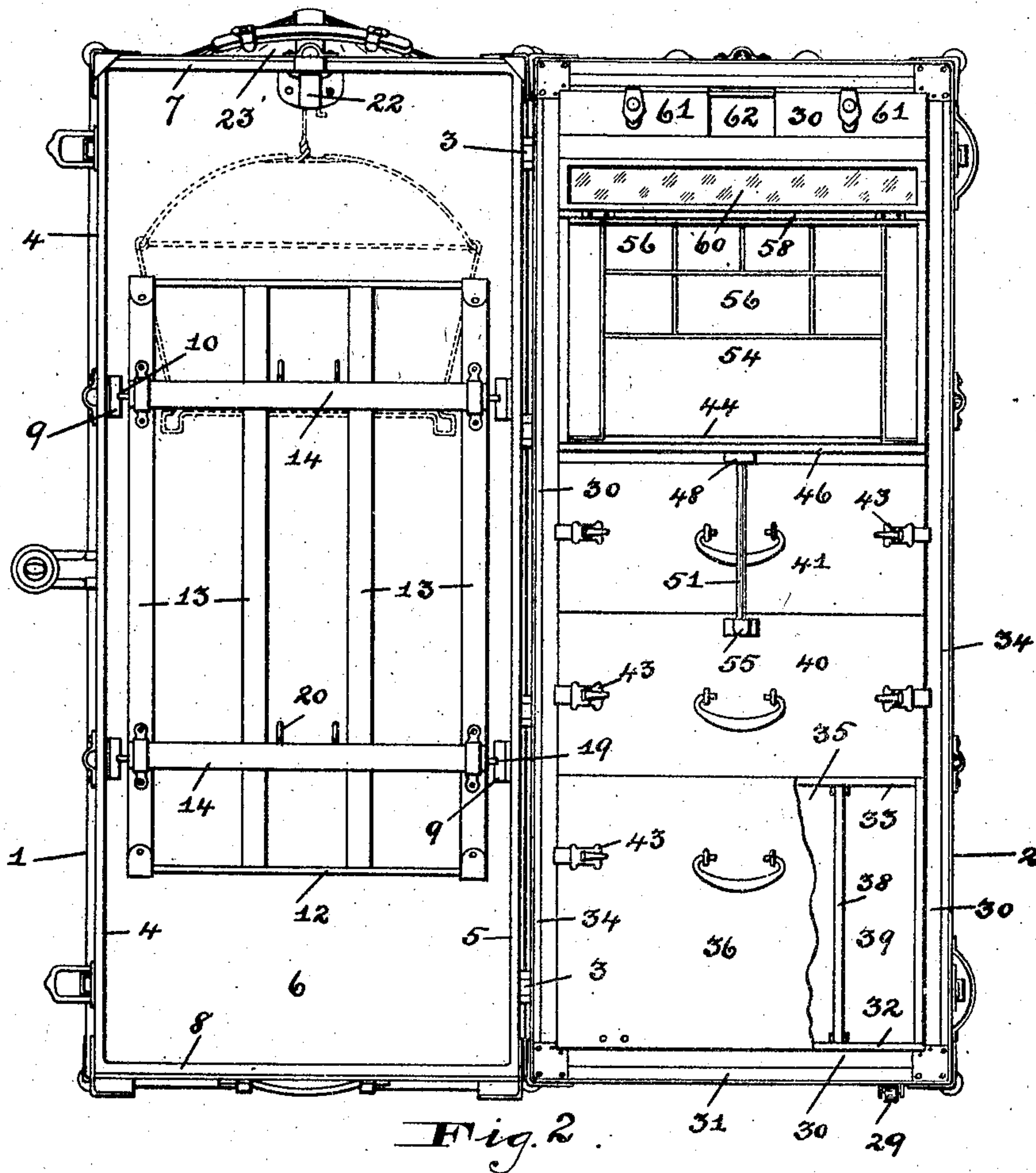
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

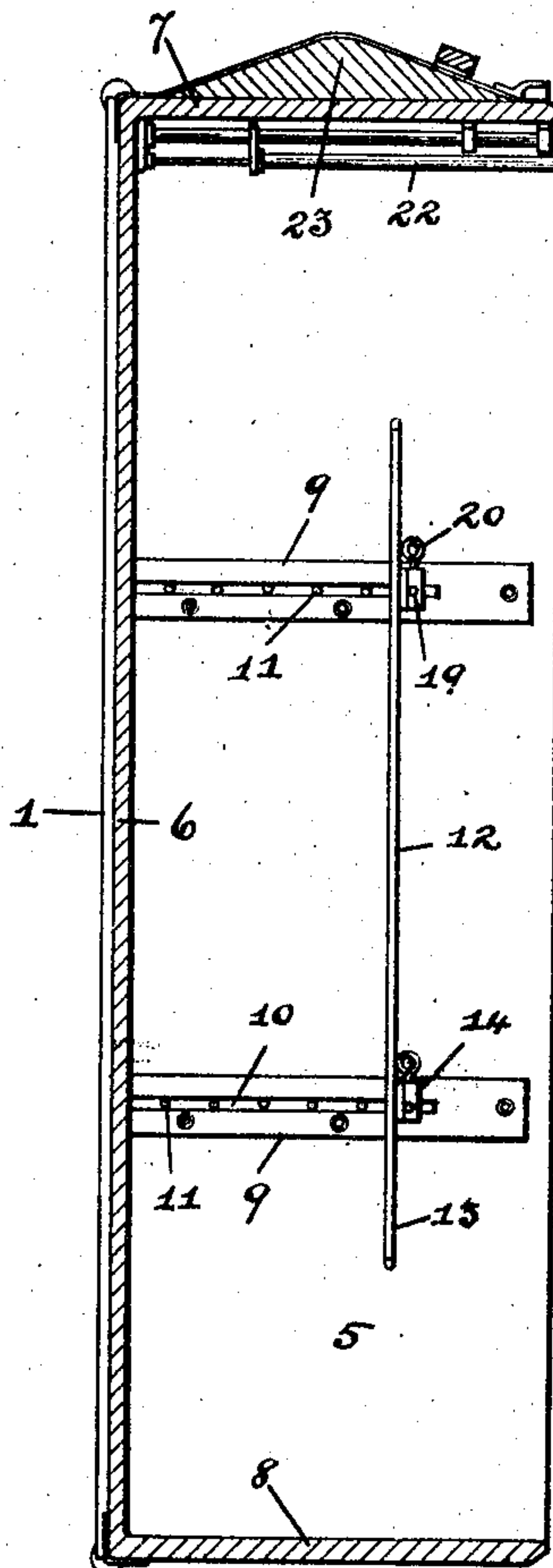


Fig. 3

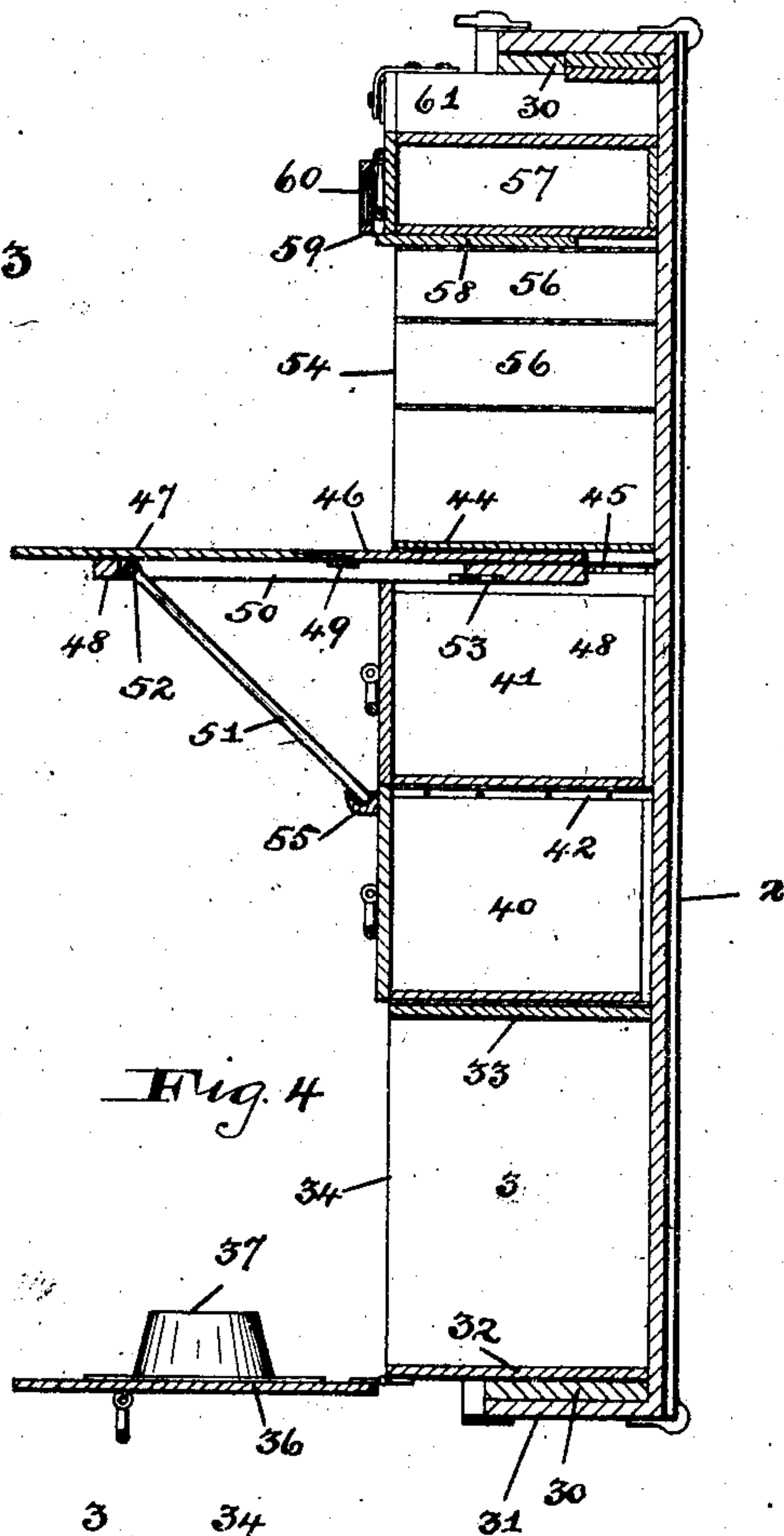


Fig. 4

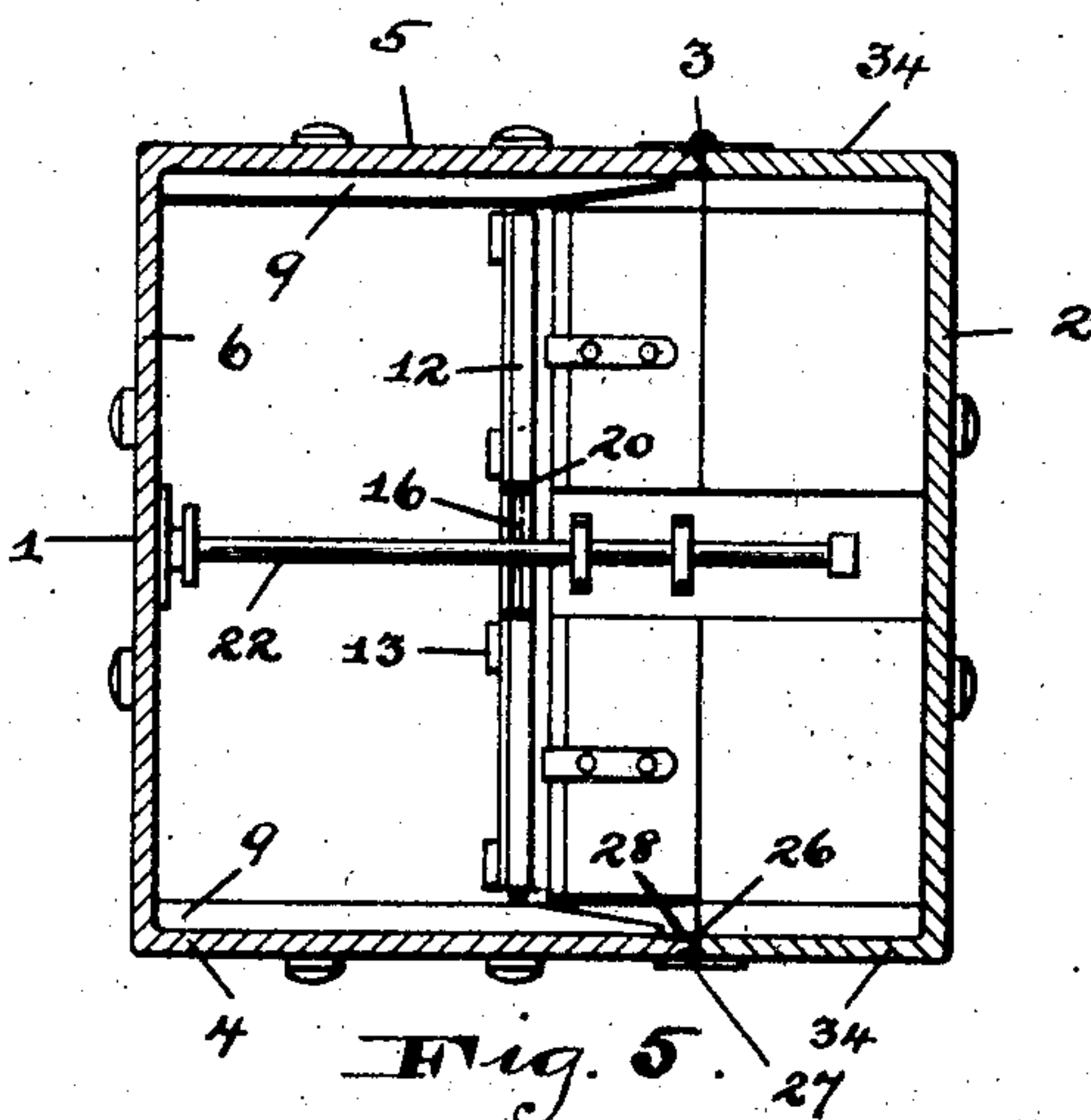


Fig. 5

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER STEIGER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## WARDROBE-TRUNK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,226, dated May 30, 1905.

Application filed December 7, 1904. Serial No. 235,786.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PETER STEIGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wardrobe-Trunks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in wardrobe-trunks, and has among its objects to generally improve the construction and arrangement of trunks of this character, to provide better conveniences for the user, to increase the strength of the trunk, to provide a trunk in which the articles generally required by travelers may be quickly and safely packed for transportation, and which when opened will present a cabinet-desk front of a useful as well as ornamental design.

With these and other objects in view the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 illustrates a side elevation of my improved trunk in the closed condition. Fig. 2 illustrates the trunk in the open position. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation through the wardrobe portion of the trunk in which the clothes are to be hung. Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation through the cabinet portion of the trunk with the desk or movable slide withdrawn. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on the line 5-5 of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of the desk or movable slide removed from the trunk. Fig. 7 is a central vertical section through the same. Fig. 8 is a perspective detail of the metallic channel-reinforce for the edge of the front wall of the wardrobe portion. Fig. 9 is a sectional detail of the sliding bolt in the clamping-rack. Fig. 10 is a side elevation of the same, and Fig. 11 is a detail of the angle-irons for sustaining the drawers and slides in the cabinet-section.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 designates the wardrobe-section, and 2 the cabinet-section, which are connected at one vertical edge by hinges 3. These two sections are constructed in any suitable manner, care being exercised in securing the walls together to insure strength and durability.

The wardrobe-section 1 comprises vertical

parallel side walls 4 and 5, a vertical rear wall 6, and horizontal top and bottom walls 7 and 8, all of which form a rectangular receptacle. The side walls 4 and 5 on the inner sides are provided with parallel horizontal strips 9, which are spaced from each other and extend from the rear wall 6 toward the front, each strip on one wall being secured in a horizontal plane with one of the strips on the other wall. The strips are securely riveted to the side walls, and each is provided with a horizontal groove 10 and a plurality of holes or sockets 11 at the inner side of said grooves, as seen in Fig. 3. These grooved strips are designed to sustain a vertical frame, which latter may be secured in a vertical position within the section 1 at any point between the front and rear to hold the garments in place, as will presently be described.

The frame 12 is formed of parallel vertical bars 13 and cross-bars 14, extending horizontally between the strips 9 on the side walls 4 and 5, and the vertical bars 13 are rigidly secured to said horizontal cross-bars 14. These cross-bars 14 have an interior chamber 15 extending in a lengthwise direction and are also provided with slots 16 in their upper walls which open into said chambers, and both ends of said bars are provided with a perforation 17, as clearly seen in Figs. 9 and 10. Sliding bolts 18 have position in the chambers of the cross-bars, and the outer ends 19 of said bolts project through the end perforations 17 and project laterally from the ends of said cross-bars. At the inner end each bolt is provided with a vertical stem 20, which extends up through the slot 16 and above the cross-bar. A spiral spring 21 is connected by one end to the vertical stem of the bolt, and the other end of said spring is rigidly secured to the cross-bar. This spring serves to normally keep the end 19 of the bolt projected at the end of the cross-bar, and the bolt may be retracted against the action of said spring by moving the stem in a direction lengthwise of the slot 16. It will thus be seen that in order to place the frame in position in the wardrobe-section the bolts may be retracted and the frame positioned so that the ends of said bolts will register with the grooves 10 in the



stationary side strips. When in this position, the frame may be moved toward the rear wall 6 as far as desired and held there upon the release of the bolts, which will enter the  
5 holes or sockets 11, as seen in Figs. 2 and 3.

It is desirable in trunks of this character to suspend the garments in the wardrobe-section behind the frame 12, and in order to do this I provide a telescopic hanger 22, which I se-  
10 cure centrally to the inner side of the top wall 7 and over which the garment-hangers, as seen in broken lines Fig. 2, may be hooked so as to hang pendently between the frame and the rear wall.

15 On the exterior of the top wall 7 I provide a conical block 23, which projects from said wall and serves to prevent the trunk from being stood vertically on that end or in a commonly called "upside-down" position.

20 In a trunk of this character the sections are considerably longer than those of the ordinary trunk, and I have found that the outer side wall 1 will warp or spring to such an extent as to make it extremely difficult to close cabi-  
25 net-section over the said wall, and in order to remedy and entirely prevent this I form a shoulder 24 along the outer vertical edge 25 of said wall, as seen in Fig. 8, and I fit a metal channel-strip 26 over said edge with an exterior  
30 flange 27, which fits down on said shoulder, and an interior flange 28, which takes on the inner side of said wall. By means of this channel-strip the edge of the wall 1 is stiffened suffi-  
35 ciently to prevent warping or springing, and the section 2 may always fit over said edge with ease. The section 1 is also provided with the usual exterior angle-plates and fastening de-  
40 vices to add to its strength and rigidity. The cabinet-section 2 is also constructed exteriorly, as is common in the better class of trunks. The interior, however, has a novel construction and arrangement.

It is very desirable in trunks of this char-  
45 acter to reduce to a minimum the cross-sectional area or dimension in order that the trunk may be more readily handled while on the end. Another desirable feature is to stiffen the trunk at the point where the two sections come together, so that when the trunk is  
50 dropped on a corner strain caused by the jar will not be entirely on the hinges and exterior locking devices. These features have both been cared for in my present construction, as will now be described.

55 The exterior case of the cabinet-section is much shallower than the wardrobe-section, and the exterior of the lower end of this section is provided with a roller 29, which rests and rolls on the floor when the section is  
60 swung open. A rectangular reinforce-frame 30 fits snugly on the interior of the case, and near the bottom wall 31 of the case said frame is provided with horizontal partitions 32 and  
65 33, which are rigidly secured between the parallel sides of the frame 30 to form a com-

partment 35. This compartment is especially designed for hats and is closed at its front by a hinged wall or leaf 36, on which a tapered block 37 is rigidly secured. It will be noted that the partitions 32 and 33 are of a  
70 greater width than the case and that they project beyond the case, as clearly seen in Figs. 4 and 5. A vertical partition 38 in the compartment 35 forms a side compartment  
75 39 for shoes or other articles. Above the compartment 35 this cabinet-frame is provided with sliding drawers 40 and 41, which rest and slide on angle-plates 42, secured to the sides of the frame. A fastener device 43  
80 at each side of the leaf 36 and drawers 40 and 41 serve to hold the latter stationary. Above the drawer 41 the frame is provided with a stationary horizontal partition 44, which is secured within the frame. The po-  
85 sition of this partition is such as to leave a space between it and the upper edge of the drawer 41 for a purpose now to be described.

By reference to Fig. 4 it will be seen that the vertical side of the frame 30 is provided with an angle-plate 45, forming a ledge or sup-  
90 port beneath the partition 44, and that a sliding table 46 has position on said angle-plates and just beneath the partition 44. The construction of this table will be readily un-  
95 derstood by reference to Figs. 4, 6, and 7, from which it will be seen that at its front edge said table carries a hinged leaf 47, which may be folded vertically or at right angles to  
100 said table, so as to project vertically above the latter. A wooden bar 48 is pivoted at 49, on the bottom of the table adjacent the outer edge, and said bar is of a length equal to the distance between the vertical sides of the  
105 frame, and its width is equal to the width of the space between the drawer 41 and the bottom side of the table. This arrangement enables the bar to be swung on its pivot beneath the table, so as to project outwardly from be-  
110 neath the table, or to be turned so as to be parallel with the front edge of the table. The bottom of the bar is provided with a cen-  
115 ter groove 50, in which a rod 51 may fit, as seen in Fig. 7. This rod is pivoted at one end, 52, while its other end may be held within the groove by a turn-button 53 on the bar. The construction of table as described provides  
120 a table that may be moved horizontally in the frame 30 and withdrawn therefrom to serve as a desk or other support, which is very useful in packing or unpacking a trunk. The leaf 47 when raised serves as a closure for the desk-compartment 54 and when lowered, as  
125 in Figs. 2 and 4, serves as an extension for the table.

In order to properly support the leaf 47  
130 when lowered, the bar 48 on the table is turned so as to project outwardly beneath the leaf, and the rod 51 is dropped down in front of the drawer 41 and seated in a socket 55 in the front of the drawer 40, as seen in Fig. 4.



When the table is to be used, the leaf is lowered and the table is drawn outwardly over the angle-plates 45 until the rod 51 can be lowered. After the rod has been lowered the table and leaf may then be moved backward until the lower end of the rod may fit into the socket 55.

Above the table the compartment 54 is subdivided or portioned with a plurality of so-called "pigeon-holes" 56 for the convenient arrangement of papers or letters, as in a desk.

Above the desk-compartment is a sliding drawer 57, and between said drawer and desk I provide a slide 58, provided at its outer edge with a hinged leaf 59, on which a mirror 60 is secured. By partly withdrawing the slide 58 the leaf 59 may be swung upwardly to present the mirror, as seen in Figs. 2 and 4.

Small drawers 61 are arranged at the upper end of the frame, but are spaced from each other to form a center compartment 62, into which the end of the garment-hanger projects when the two sections 1 and 2 are closed.

The entire front of the cabinet-section is constructed of hard wood to improve the appearance and to greatly strengthen the trunk at the central point when closed, as seen in Fig. 5, as said solid front fits snugly into the wardrobe-section and serves to stiffen the latter in a longitudinal direction.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A trunk having a wardrobe-section provided at one end with a garment-support and also provided with a frame adjustably mounted below said garment-support, in combination with a cabinet-section hinged to said wardrobe-section and having a plurality of solid drawers which project from said section into the wardrobe-section when the two sections are closed and form an interior reinforce.

2. A trunk having a wardrobe-section provided with a garment-support and also having a conical block on the exterior above said garment-support, in combination with a cabinet-section hinged to said wardrobe-section and of a smaller area than said wardrobe-section and having drawers and leaf-closed compartments which when the two sections are closed project into the wardrobe-section.

3. A trunk having a wardrobe-section, in combination with a cabinet-section hinged to said wardrobe-section and provided with a

desk-compartment, a movable table adjacent the bottom of said compartment, a leaf hinged to said table and movable in a vertical plane, said leaf serving to close the desk-compartment when elevated and also serving as an extension to the table when lowered, and means for supporting the leaf when lowered.

4. A trunk having a wardrobe-section and a cabinet-section which latter is hinged to said wardrobe-section and is provided with a plurality of solid wood drawers and a desk-compartment, a table slidably sustained adjacent the bottom of said desk-compartment, a leaf hinged to said table and movable in a vertical plane to close the desk-compartment and when lowered serving as an extension to the slideable table and a bar pivoted to the bottom side of said table and capable of swinging horizontally beneath the hinged leaf to support the latter.

5. A trunk having a wardrobe-section and a cabinet-section which latter is provided with a desk-compartment, a table sliding beneath said compartment, a leaf to close said compartment and hinged to said table, a bar pivoted to the bottom of said table and having a longitudinal bottom recess, a rod in said recess and pivoted at one end to said bar and serving as a brace for said bar when the latter is swung outwardly.

6. A trunk having a wardrobe-section provided with an adjustably-sustained frame, a cabinet-section fitting within said wardrobe-section and provided with a plurality of compartments inclosed by solid wood fronts and a solid conical block on the exterior of said trunk and at the upper side thereof.

7. A trunk having a wardrobe-section provided along its longitudinal edge with a metal reinforce channel-strip and having a garment-support at one end, a cabinet-section hinged to said wardrobe-section and provided with a plurality of drawers which enter the wardrobe-section when the sections are closed and the outer case of said cabinet-section overlapping the reinforced edge of the wardrobe-section, and a conical block on the exterior upper end of the wardrobe-section.

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

PETER STEIGER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. B. MANN,

THOS. KELL BRADFORD.