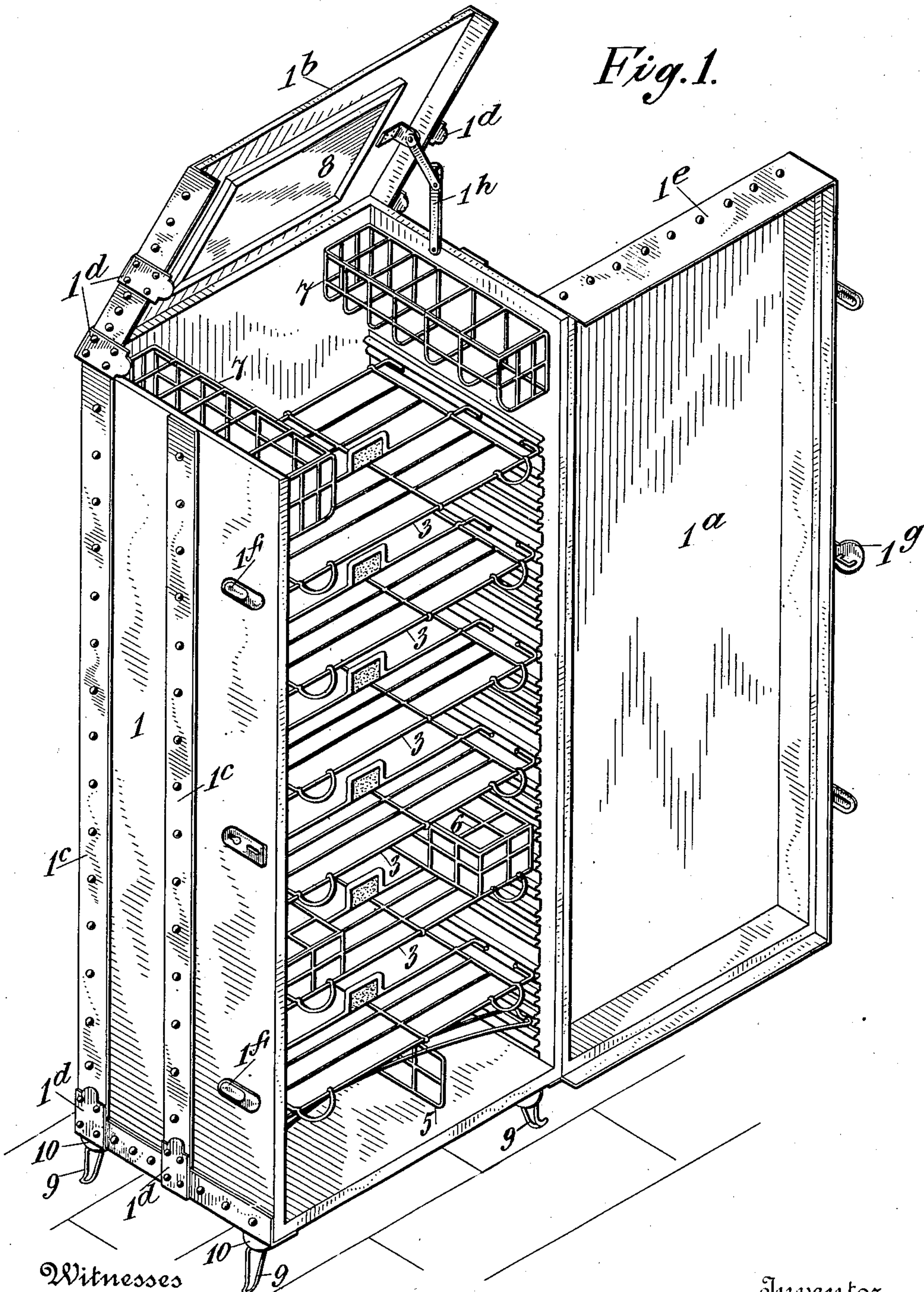


No. 885,979.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1908.

A. I. COE.
PACKING CASE FOR HATS.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 17, 1906.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
Wm. A. Kelly
Bernard Lowen

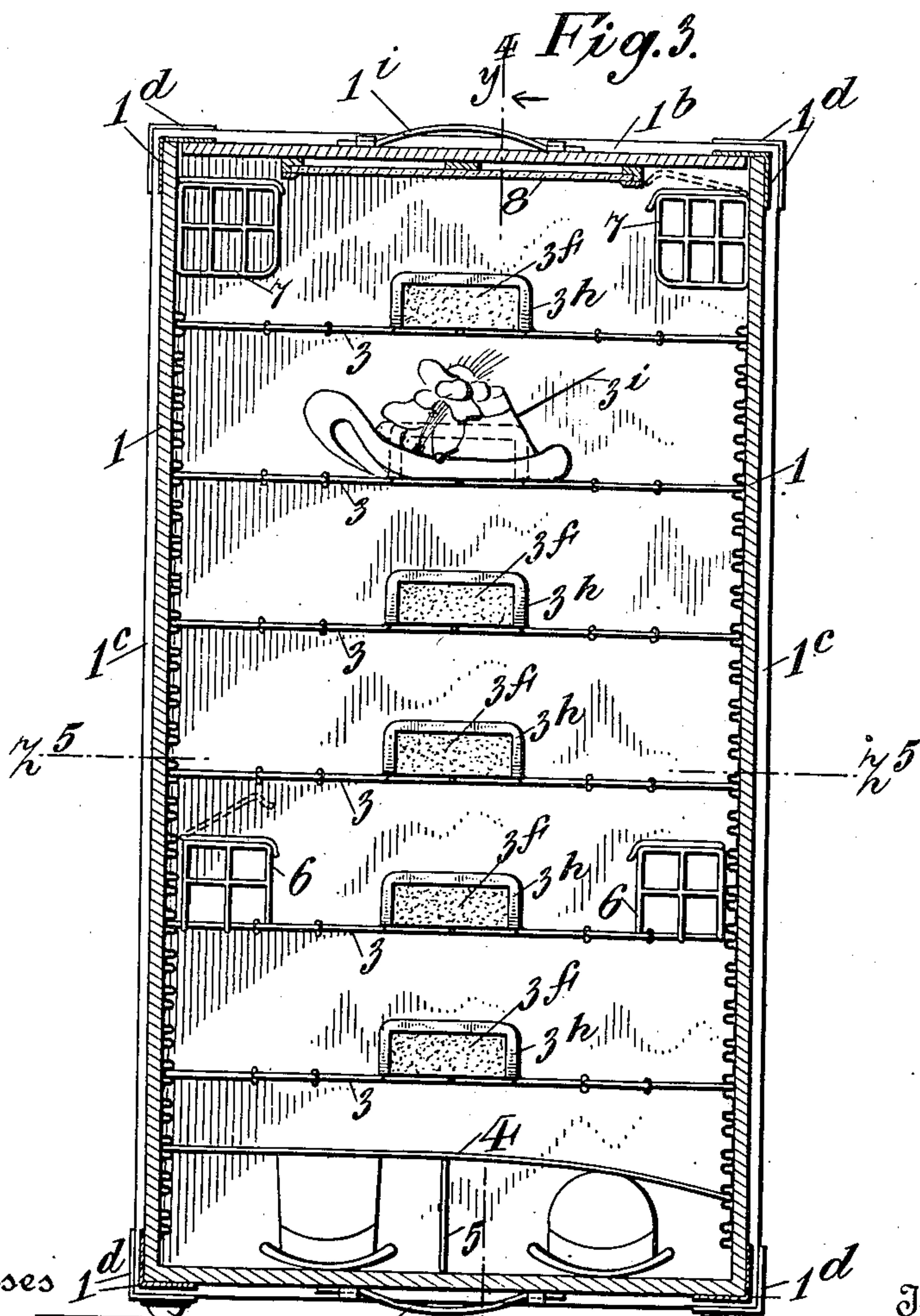
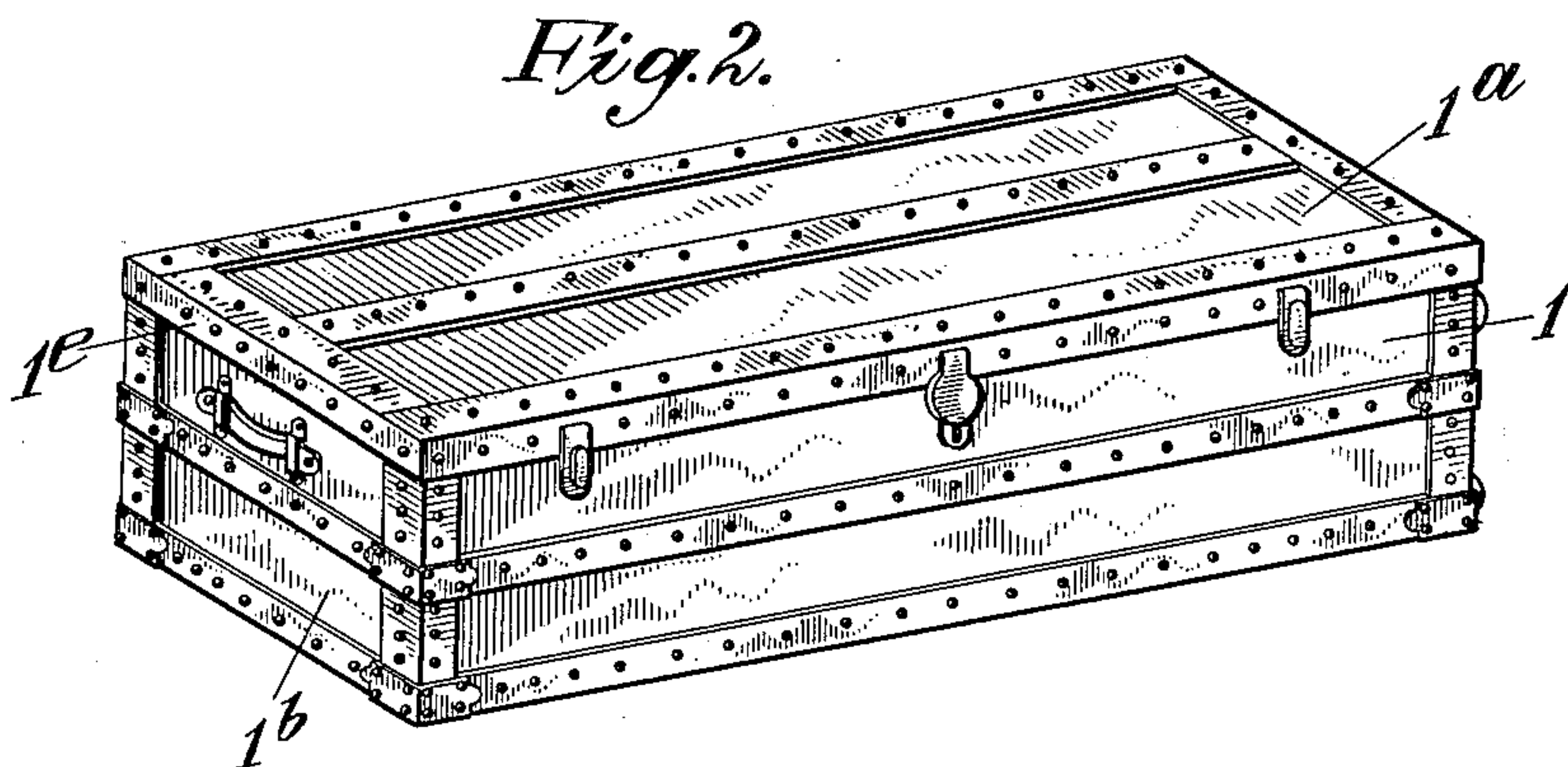
Inventor
Anne I. Coe
By her Attorney
Henry D. Williams

No. 885,979.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1908.

A. I. COE.
PACKING CASE FOR HATS.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 17, 1906.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



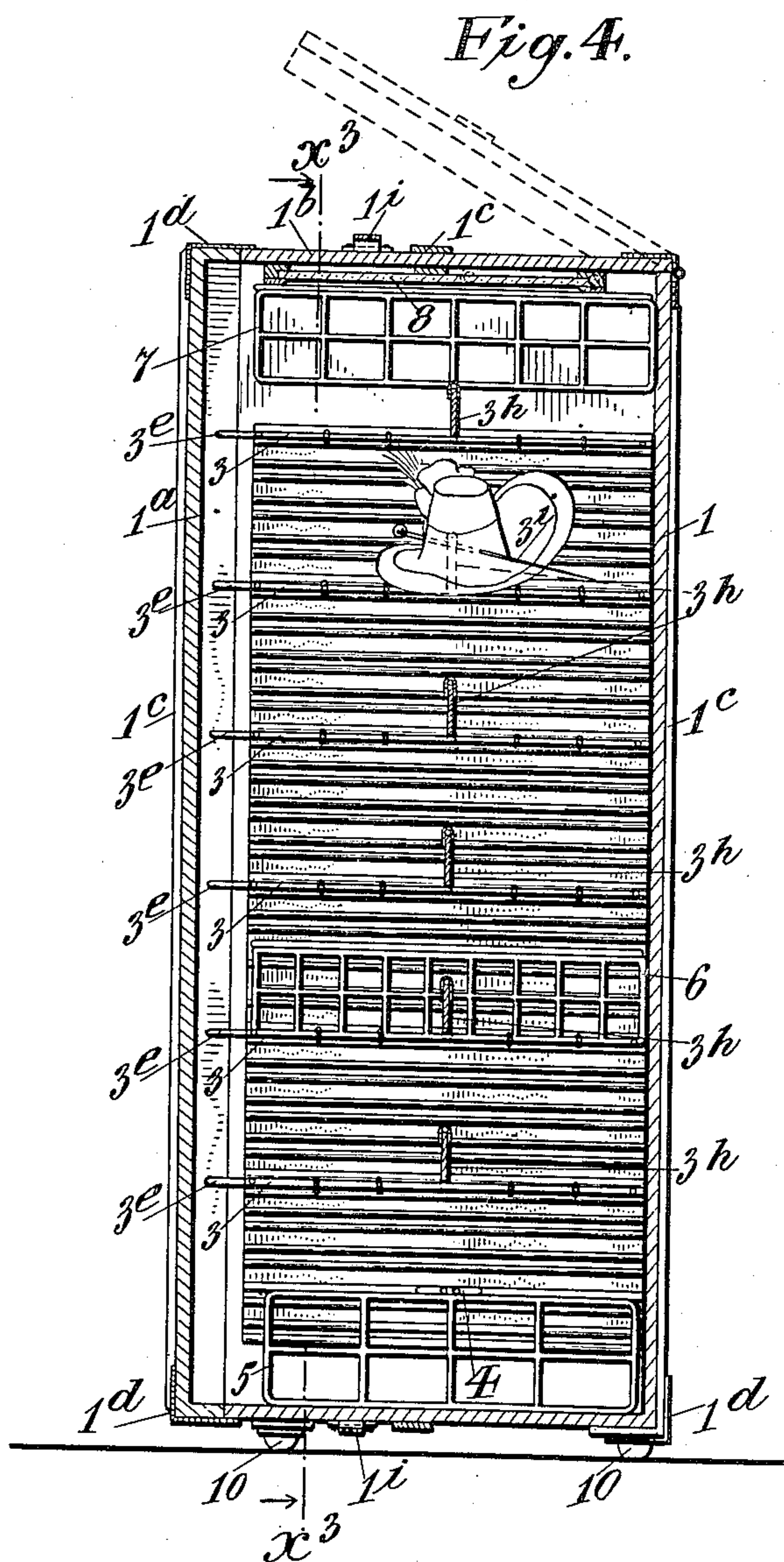
Witnesses *Wm. A. Kelly* *Edward Cowen* *By* *her Attorney* *Sherry D. Williams* Inventor *Anne I. Coe*

No. 885,979.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1908.

A. I. COE.
PACKING CASE FOR HATS.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 17, 1906.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



Witnesses
Wm. A. Kelly
Bernard Fowen

Inventor
Anne I. Coe
By her Attorney
Henry B. Williams

No. 885,979.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1908.

A. I. COE.
PACKING CASE FOR HATS.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 17, 1906.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 6.

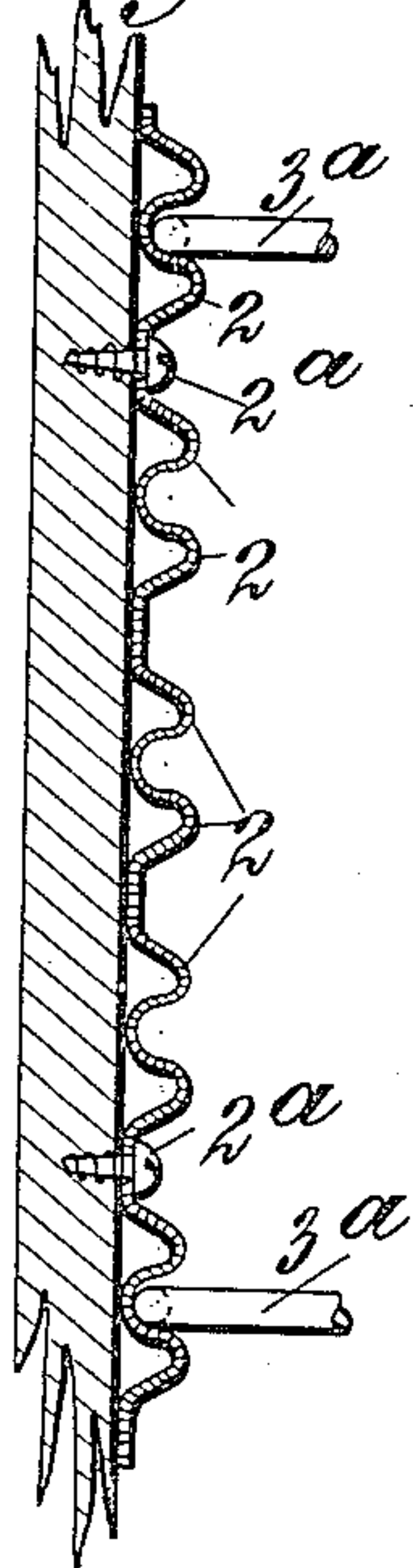


Fig. 5.

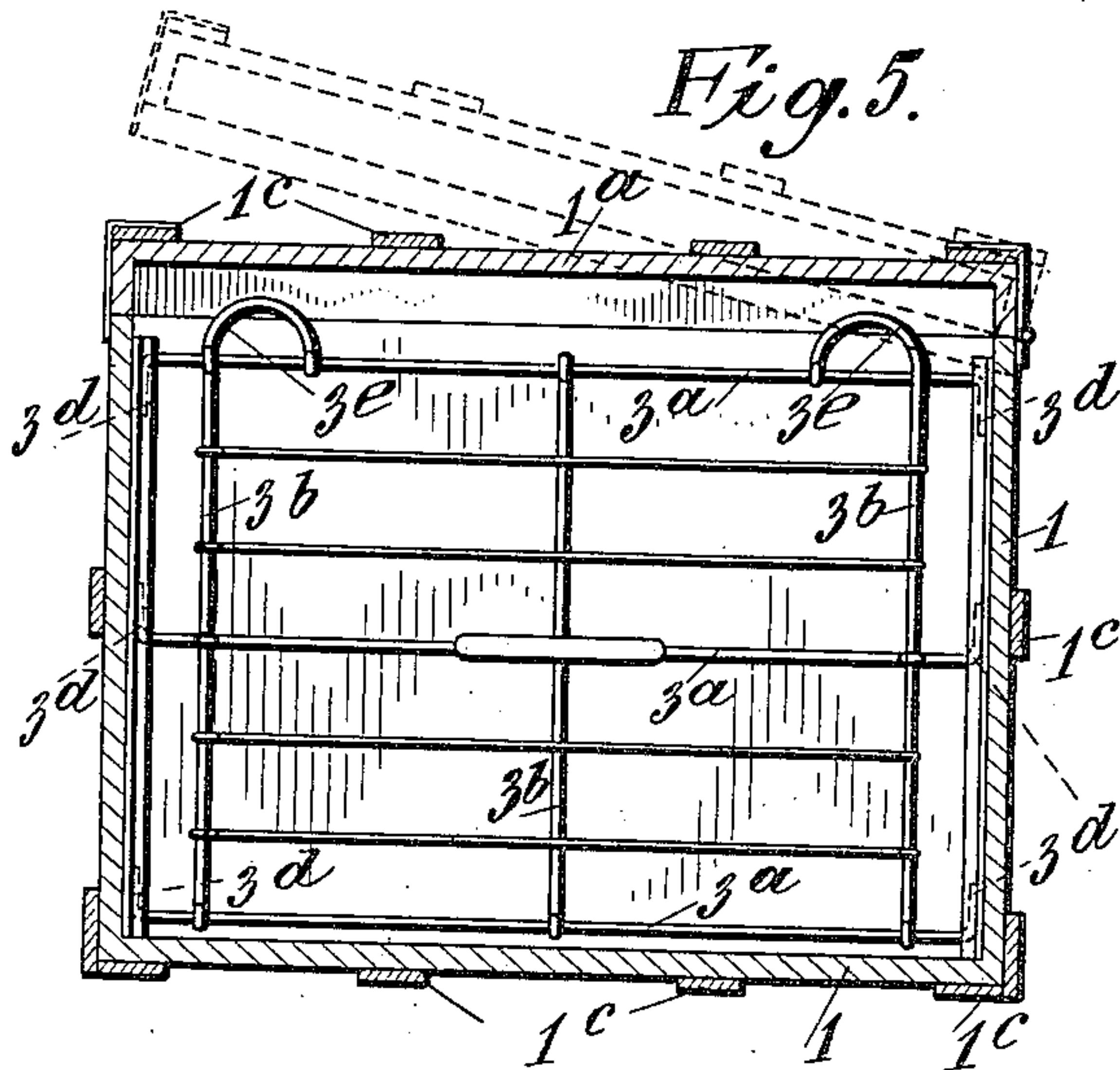


Fig. 8.

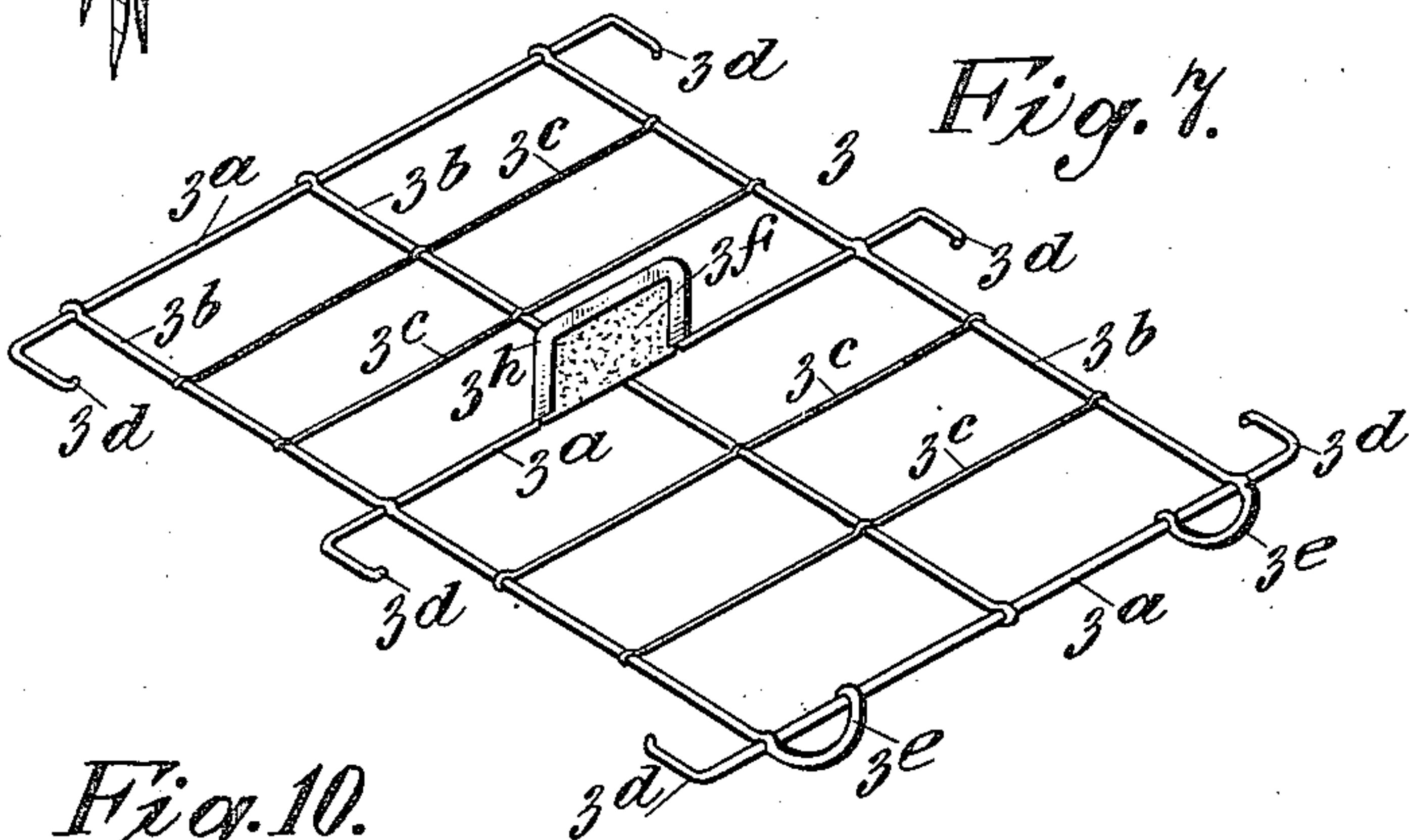
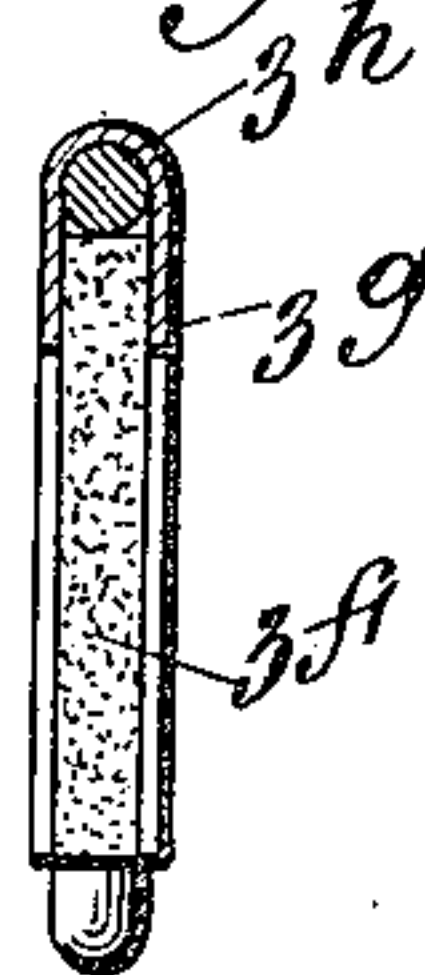


Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

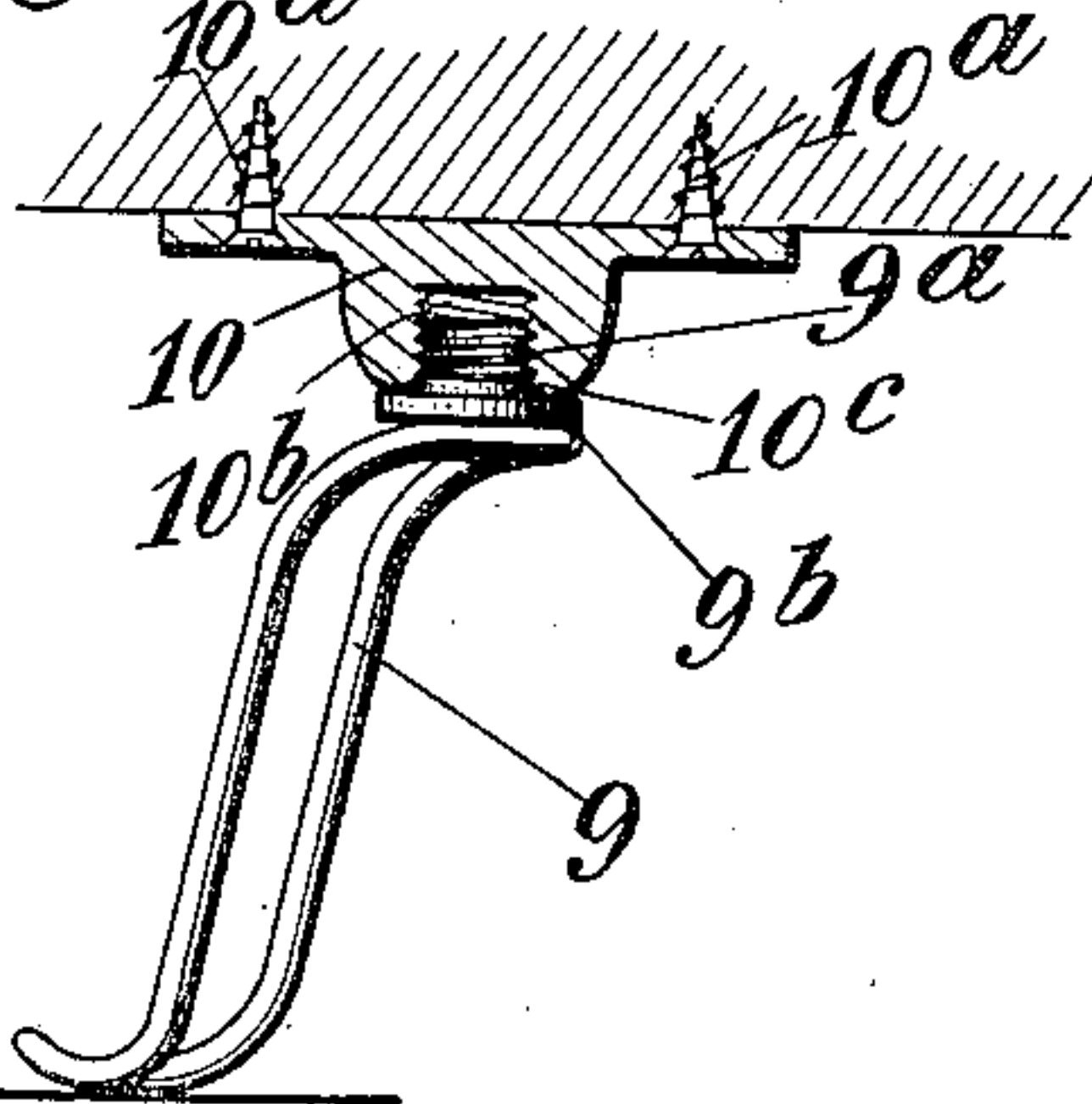
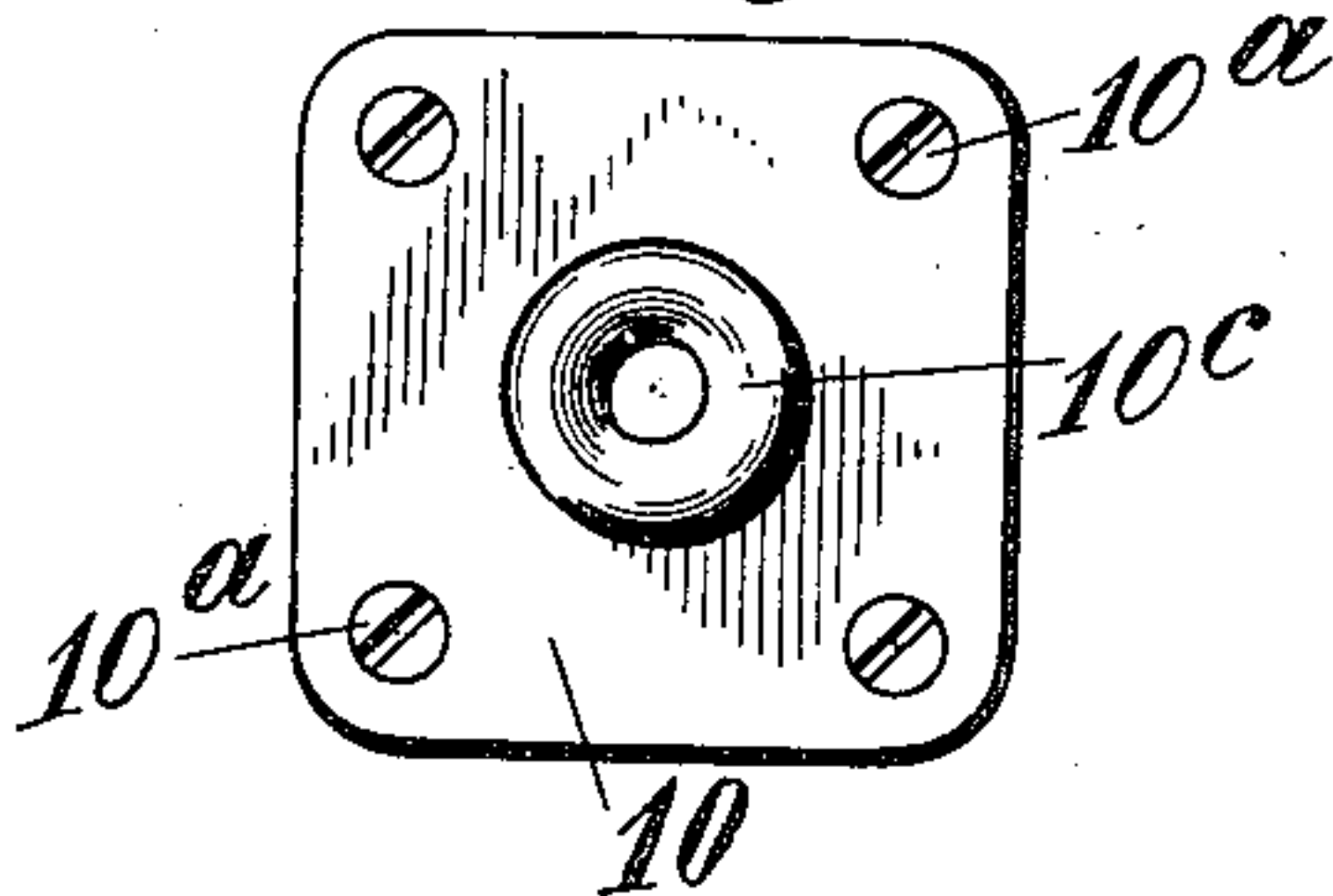


Fig. 11.



Witnesses
Wm. A. Kelly
Bernard Cowen

Inventor
Anne I. Coe
By her Attorney
Henry D. Williams

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNE I. COE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

PACKING-CASE FOR HATS.

No. 885,979.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 28, 1908.

Application filed October 17, 1906. Serial No. 339,289.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNE I. COE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, city of New York, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Packing-Cases for Hats, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention relates to packing cases for hats, and has for its objects accommodation of a large number of hats of different sizes and shapes, economy of space, secure holding of each hat isolated in its place, protection of each hat from injury by other hats or other articles packed in the same case, adaptability of the case both for transportation from place to place and as a receptacle or storage cabinet in the home, economy in cost, lightness, strength and convenience.

The embodiment of my invention shown comprises a case or cabinet having the outward finish and general appearance of a trunk and having ways therein and shelves slidable in the ways and adjustable to different distances apart so as to accommodate hats of different dimensions, and means for firmly securing a hat to each of the shelves.

My invention also includes certain details of construction which will hereinafter appear.

Such embodiment of my invention will now be described by reference to the accompanying drawings, after which I will point out my invention in claims.

The shelves may be severally and independently drawn out more or less, or entirely removed, for inspection of the attached hats, or to make a selection therefrom, or for the attachment or removal of hats.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete device with the door and lid open. In this view the detachable legs are shown as attached, giving the article the appearance of a cabinet or chiffonier. Fig. 2 is a perspective view on a reduced scale showing the device as it appears when packed ready for transportation in the same manner as an ordinary trunk or packing case, the legs being detached. Fig. 3 is a vertical section, about on the line x^3-x^3 of Fig. 4. Fig. 4 is a vertical section about on the line y^4-y^4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional plan at the line z^5-z^5 of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional detail, showing the manner of supporting and guiding the wire hat-supporting

shelves at the side walls. Fig. 7 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the hat-supporting shelves. Fig. 8 is a very much enlarged sectional detail of the flat piece of felt to which the hat is pinned and shows the manner in which the felt is attached to the U-shaped portion of wire. Fig. 9 is a plan detail of a spring or clip used for holding gentlemen's hats in place in the case. Fig. 10 is an enlarged detail of one of the detachable supporting legs and its screw socket, the leg being in elevation and the socket in vertical section. Fig. 11 is an enlarged inverted plan view of one of the screw threaded leg sockets.

The construction and operation of the embodiment of my invention shown will now be described in detail.

Referring to the drawings, the casing or body 1 has a hinged front cover or door 1^a and a hinged top cover or lid 1^b. The casing or body may be made of wood or other suitable material, and is shown as provided with cleats 1^c and corner straps 1^d, the general exterior appearance of the article being that of a trunk or traveling case. As may be seen from Figs. 1 and 2, the hinged lid 1^b is retained in closed position by the door 1^a, the flange 1^e of which closes over it. The door 1^a is provided with the usual snap catches 1^f and lock 1^g. The lid 1^b is provided with an ordinary elbow support 1^h. The device has handles 1ⁱ of the usual kind as in ordinary trunks.

The interior arrangement will now be described. Metal guide ways 2 are secured to the inside of the side walls of the casing 1 and are shown as formed of sheet metal bent to the proper shape and attached to the side walls by nails 2^a. Wire hat-holding shelves 3 slide removably in the guide ways 2, there being a greater number of guide ways than shelves, thus allowing the shelves, by insertion in different guides, to be adjusted to different distances apart, for the accommodation of hats of a variety of shapes and sizes.

Each shelf 3 is shown as formed of wires crossing each other, there being larger cross wires 3^a and tie-wires 3^b to give stiffness and smaller wires 3^c to aid in supporting the hat, the crossing wires being shown as tied together at their junction points by the bending of one wire around the other in a well known manner. The ends of the larger cross-wires 3^a project and are bent over into an L-shape

at 3^d for sliding in the ways 2. Two of the larger tie-wires 3^b at their forward ends are bent into loops 3^e to form handles for conveniently drawing out the shelves.

5 The means for securing a hat to one of the shelves comprises a flat piece of felt 3^b attached, as by a binding strip 3^g, to and within a U-shaped portion 3^h at the middle of the medially located cross-wire 3^a and projecting from the plane of the shelf at about
10 a right angle. The hat, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, is placed over this upstanding piece of felt and firmly secured thereto by passing a hat pin 3ⁱ through the hat and the felt.
15 Thus the hat is held securely in place irrespective of the position of the casing 1. This of course applies more particularly to women's hats. The reticulated structure formed by the crossed wires affords adequate
20 support for the brim of a hat, but permits feathers or other trimming to project through the shelves, so that the shelves may be placed closer together without injury to such trimming than if the shelves were solid.

25 For holding men's hats a spring wire hat clip 4 is employed, of the shape shown, and best seen in Figs. 3 and 9, the ends fitting into the ways 2 and the middle portions lightly but with sufficient firmness engaging
30 with the tops of hats which may be placed upon a shelf or preferably upon the bottom of the casing, as shown in Fig. 3, the hats being separated by a wire partition 5.

For the purpose of rendering the device as
35 a whole more useful, as many of the shelves 3 as may be desired may be provided near their outer edges, and out of the way of the hats, with wire boxes 6 carried by and virtually forming a part of the shelf. Also other
40 boxes 7 are provided near the top of the casing 1 and secured thereto, access being had to the boxes 7 by raising the lid 1^b. These boxes 6 and 7 may be used for containing gloves, veils, hat brushes and other articles.
45 To protect them from rust and to protect the hats and other articles from injury by rust, all the wire parts may be made from tinned wire. The lid 1^b is provided with a mirror
50 vious.

For the purpose of converting the article into a trunk or traveling case, as seen in Fig. 2, or into a piece of furniture resembling a
55 chiffonier or cabinet, as seen in Fig. 1, readily detachable, yet firmly attachable, legs 9 are provided. For receiving and retaining the legs, sockets 10 are attached, as by screws 10^a, to the end of the casing 1 which is in-

tended to be the bottom of the cabinet. Each socket 10 has an internal screw thread 60 10^b and a rounded annular shoulder 10^c which surrounds and flares outwardly from the screw thread for protecting the same from being battered while the legs are detached and the article is being used as a
65 trunk or traveling case, and also at the same time prevents the socket from scraping up foreign matter which would fill the screw threads and interfere with the attachment of the leg. The leg 9 has a threaded projection 70 9^a for screwing into the socket 10 and a flange or shoulder 9^b for abutting against the shoulder 10^c of the socket, the shoulder 9^b preferably being rounded as shown to fit the rounded inner portion of the annular shoulder 10^c.
75 The lower portion of the leg 9 is preferably made of wire as shown, the wire portion being fixed at its upper end to the head or flange 9^b which is formed integral with the screw portion 9^a. When the legs are not
80 in use they may be stowed away if desired in one of the boxes inside of the casing or body 1.

It is evident that my invention may be modified in many details of construction
85 shown herein without departing from the spirit and scope thereof as set forth in the annexed claims.

I claim:

1. In a hat case, a wire shelf comprising 90 wires crossing each other and secured together, one of the wires being bent outwardly in U-shape, and a piece of flat perforable material attached to the wire of the U within the U.
95

2. In a hat case, a wire shelf comprising wires crossing each other and secured together, one of the wires being bent outwardly in U-shape, and a flat piece of felt attached to the wire of the U within the U.
100

3. In a packing case, the combination of a body, a plurality of removable horizontal shelves therein constructed of crossed wires forming a reticulated structure adapted to support a hat brim while permitting the
105 trimming material of the hat to project through the shelf, and hat securing devices mounted on the shelves and formed to enter the crowns of the hats to secure them to the shelves.
110

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

ANNE I. COE.

Witnesses:

WM. A. KELLY,
BERNARD COWEN.