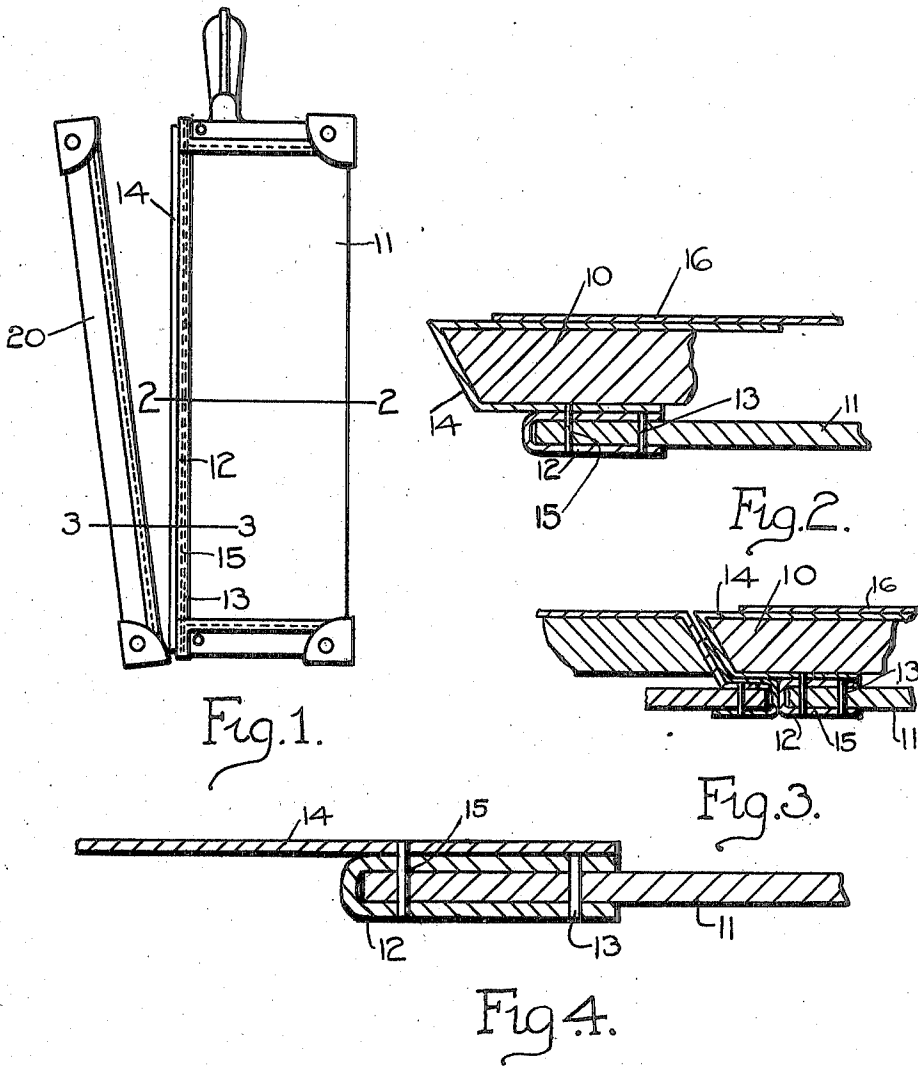


1,393,273.

Patented Oct. 11, 1921.



INVENTOR
BAMFORD ELLIOTT
BY *Southgate & Southgate*
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BAMFORD ELLIOTT, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

SUITCASE.

1,393,273.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 11, 1921.

Application filed January 21, 1921. Serial No. 438,887.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BAMFORD ELLIOTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Suitcase, of which the following is a specification.

The principal objects of this invention are to provide a construction of suitcase in which the covering will be united with the frame without the necessity of employing the usual row of rivets around the edge of the case, and to provide a method of assembling the same in accordance with said construction.

Heretofore, suitcases have been finished by placing the tipping back of the front edge of the covering and riveting to the frame all along the edge. This provides, it is true, a positive connection of the covering with the frame and also positively holds the tipping in position but it involves the necessity of providing a series of rivets all around the case near the edge. These furnish metallic projections which are a source of some trouble because they tend to cut the covering and are apt to mar furniture or anything with which the suitcase comes into contact. They involve additional expense also and detract from the appearance of the finished article.

This invention is designed chiefly to avoid the use of these rivets. Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an end view of a suitcase constructed in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the bottom of the same on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 on a greatly enlarged scale;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the case on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, but showing the cover closed, and

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the edge of the covering showing the tipping applied thereto according to this invention before these parts are applied to the frame.

The suitcase is constructed as usual with a frame 10, preferably of thin wood, constituting its four side and end walls. I have shown a frame of the same shape as has been in use heretofore. This ordinarily is covered with a covering 11 which may be of leather, cloth, woven fiber or any other suitable material. This is not changed by the present invention. The raw edge of this is

bound in the usual way by a binding 12 of cloth or leather preferably sewed to it by means of a line of stitches 13 all around it. This also is the same arrangement as has been used for many years.

From this point on, however, an important change is made. The tipping sheet 14, which may be of cloth, leather or any other desired flexible material, is sewed to the binding and covering by a row of stitches 15 parallel with the stitches 13 in the position shown in Fig. 4. This constitutes a double line of stitching all around the edge of the covering on the four sides of the article when completed.

The covering is then applied to the frame and its edges brought around into their usual position. Instead of riveting them to the frame, as has been the case ordinarily, the tipping sheet is folded over the slanting edge of the frame 10 as shown most clearly in Fig. 2 and glued or cemented down to the inside of the same directly. In cementing or gluing the tipping to the frame it is secured to the outer wall and top edge as well as to the inner wall, thus firmly uniting the covering all around its edge. The lining 16 of the case is then glued to the inside of the frame and over the edge of the tipping. This finishes the article.

It will be seen that the covering is firmly held against the outer wall of the frame by the construction that has been described. This constitutes the only means for securing the edge of the covering except at such points as are necessarily riveted as, for example, where the hinges and fastening devices are applied and in some constructions at the corners where the layers of the covering overlap each other.

It is to be observed that the covering is held firmly against the outer surface of the frame and cannot move directly away from it on account of the adhesion of the tipping to the frame itself. In this respect, it is practically the same as if the covering itself were glued to the outer surface of the frame. Furthermore, the covering cannot slide back away from the edge of the frame because the tipping anchors it from motion in that direction.

Although I have shown and described the invention as applied to a suitcase proper, or bottom of the case, it will be understood, especially from Fig. 3, that it can be applied with a slight modification to the cover also.

In this case, the tipping is secured under the binding in the same way and to the frame. It merely does not project beyond the binding but is folded back at a point
5 short of its edge.

I have found in practice that this method of construction saves materially in the amount of time required in manufacture and yet produces a product that is just as
10 strong and durable as the old construction and much neater in appearance and somewhat less expensive to manufacture. I find in practice that the edge of the cover even on the rear, where it has its longest span
15 between the hinge rivets, retains its position and shape indefinitely.

Although I have illustrated and described only a single form of the invention I am aware of the fact that modifications can
20 be made therein by any person skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as expressed in the claims.

Therefore, I do not wish to be limited to all of the details of construction herein
25 shown and described but what I claim is:—

1. As an article of manufacture, a suitcase having a frame and a covering, a binding sewed along and covering the edge of said
30 covering, and a tipping sewed to the binding and covering, projecting inwardly over the outer edge of the frame, and being secured to the inner surface of the frame all around to hold the covering and binding
tightly against the frame outside.

35 2. As an article of manufacture, a suitcase having a wooden frame and a flexible covering therefor, a binding sewed along the edge of said covering, and a tipping sheet of flexible material sewed to the binding
40 and covering by a line of stitches extending through all three all along the edge

of the case, projecting outwardly therefrom beyond the binding and inwardly over the outer edge of the frame, and being secured
45 to the inner surface of the frame all around to hold the binding and covering tightly against the frame outside.

3. The method of finishing a suitcase which consists in placing a binding on the edge of the covering and securing it thereto
50 all around the edge, then securing the edge of a tipping sheet to the rear side of said binding in position with the front of the tipping sheet against the rear of the binding, so that the tipping projects beyond the
55 same, applying the covering to the frame, and securing it thereto by passing the tipping over the edge of the frame and fixing it to the inner surface of the frame.

4. As an article of manufacture, a suitcase having a frame provided with a covering
60 on the outside thereof extending nearly to the edge of the frame, a binding sewed around the edge of the covering, and a tipping sheet extending between the binding
65 and frame and sewed to the binding and covering and projecting along the outside of the frame over the edge thereof and inwardly thereover.

5. As an article of manufacture, a suitcase having a bottom and a cover, said cover
70 being provided with a frame and a covering outside said frame projecting beyond the edge thereof, said covering having a binding over its edge, and a tipping sheet
75 secured to the inside of the frame and extending over its edge and outwardly therefrom under the inner surface of said binding and secured thereto and to the cover.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto
80 affixed my signature.

BAMFORD ELLIOTT.