No. 607,132. Patented July 12, 1898.

W. H. RICH.

CORNER SHIELD FOR TRUNKS.

(Application filed Mar. 1, 1898.)

(No Model.)

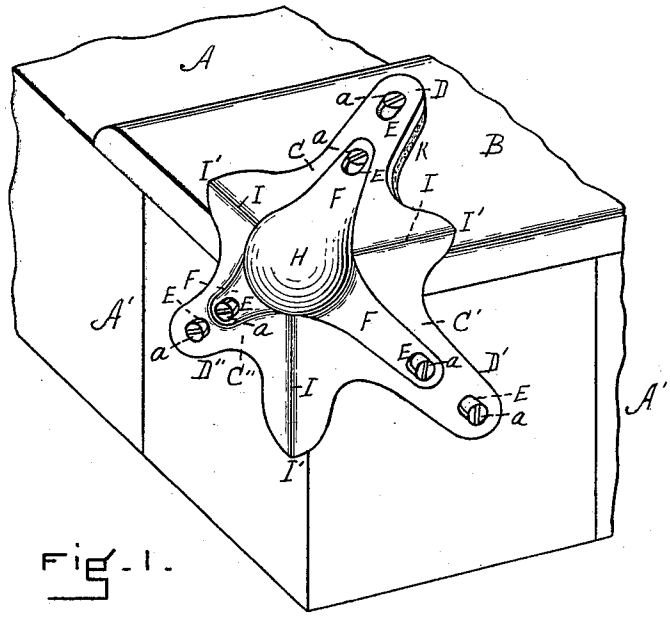


Fig. 1.

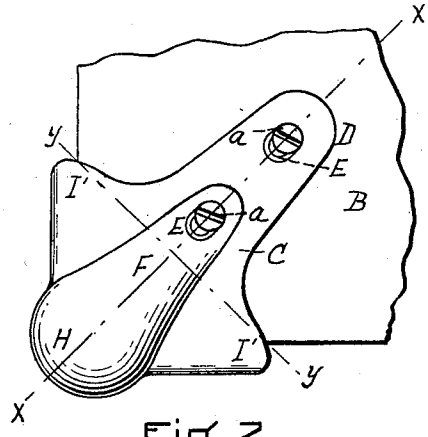


Fig. 2.

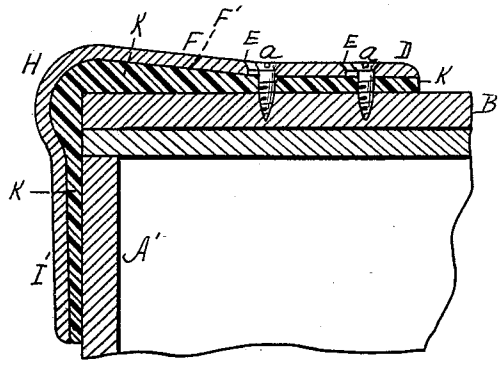


Fig. 3.

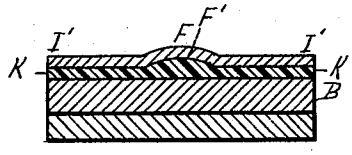


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

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CORNER-SHIELD FOR TRUNKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 607,132, dated July 12, 1898.

Application filed March 1, 1898. Serial No. 672,153. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER H. RICH, a citizen of the United States, residing in Melrose, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corner-Shields for Trunks, of which the following is a specification.

This is an improved corner shield or guard—sometimes termed in the trade a "corner-clamp"—for application to travelers' trunks; and it has for its principal objects to provide a corner-shield which will ease the blow upon the corner of the trunk, to enable the metallic portion of the guard which comes in direct contact with the floor or object upon which the trunk falls to yield slightly upon the rubber portion which is interposed between said metallic portion and the corner of the trunk, to provide a guard which consists of but two pieces—namely, the metallic guard or shield proper and the interposed or inner rubber portion corresponding in shape with said metallic portion—to strengthen and stiffen the metallic portion, and to thicken the rubber portion at the most desirable points.

The nature of the invention is fully described in detail below and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of a corner of the upper portion or lid of a trunk provided with my improved corner-shield. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on line X, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on line Y, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the top, and A′ the upright portions, of a part of the lid or cover of an ordinary trunk.

B represents one of the cleats.

My corner-shield comprises an integral metallic plate formed with the horizontal portion C, which is adapted to extend diagonally inward over the top, and the vertical portions C′ and C″, which are adapted to extend diagonally over the upright portions A′ of the trunk. Necessarily the portion C is at right angles to the portions C′ and C″, and the portions C′ and C″ are at right angles to each other. The portions C, C′, and C″ are one integral piece and are provided, respectively, with the extensions D, D′, and D″, each of which is formed with one or more slots E, each longer than it is wide and set in the diagonal line of direction of the extension in which it is located. The parts C, C′, and C″ are formed up centrally on the diagonal lines referred to into outwardly-projecting strengthening-ribs F, and the inner side of the shield is correspondingly recessed, as indicated at F′ in Figs. 3 and 4. Where these radiating ribs meet, the shield is formed into a substantially convex protuberance H, which is located exactly next to the corner of the trunk when the shield is in position. The bent portions I are preferably extended at I′, as shown.

The inner surface of this shield is provided with a rubber sheet or layer K, corresponding in shape and size to the metallic portion above described and coming into direct contact with the trunk. This interposed layer of rubber K completely fills the recesses F′ and the portion next to the protuberance H, so that the rubber is the thickest where its elasticity is most needed.

The shield is applied to the trunk by means of screws *a*, which extend through the slots E next to the outer ends thereof and through the interposed layer of rubber K. When the trunk falls upon a corner, the protruding portion H receives the blow and the rubber K, contracting, allows the metallic portion or plate to yield slightly, with the effect of driving its portions D, D′, and D″ along over the surfaces of the trunk. This movement is permitted by the elongated slots E, which move along under the head of the screws *a*. By this means the plate can yield safely without being broken or breaking the screws. Inasmuch as the rubber layer K corresponds in shape with the metallic portion of the shield wherever the shield may be struck by a blow the layer of rubber protects it and the trunk. Inasmuch as the corner needs the greatest protection the rubber is thickest at that point; but the blow is received or given (as the case may be) by the convex metallic portion H, which by its shape, as well as by means of the rubber beneath it, prevents injury being done to another trunk.

The shield may of course be applied to the corners at the bottom as well as at the top of the trunk.

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

The herein-described improved corner-shield for trunks, comprising an integral metallic plate formed into the portions C D, C′ D′, C″ D″, adapted to extend diagonally over the top or bottom, end, and side of a trunk next to the corner, said portions C D, C′ D′, C″ D″ being provided with elongated slots E set and extending in the diagonal line of direction of said portions; a layer of rubber corresponding substantially in shape to said plate and adapted to be interposed between the plate and the corner of the trunk; and fastening-screws extending through said slots next the outer ends thereof and through the rubber into the trunk, whereby the metallic plate is allowed to yield without injury thereto or to the screws, substantially as described.

WALTER H. RICH.

Witnesses:
HENRY W. WILLIAMS,
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