

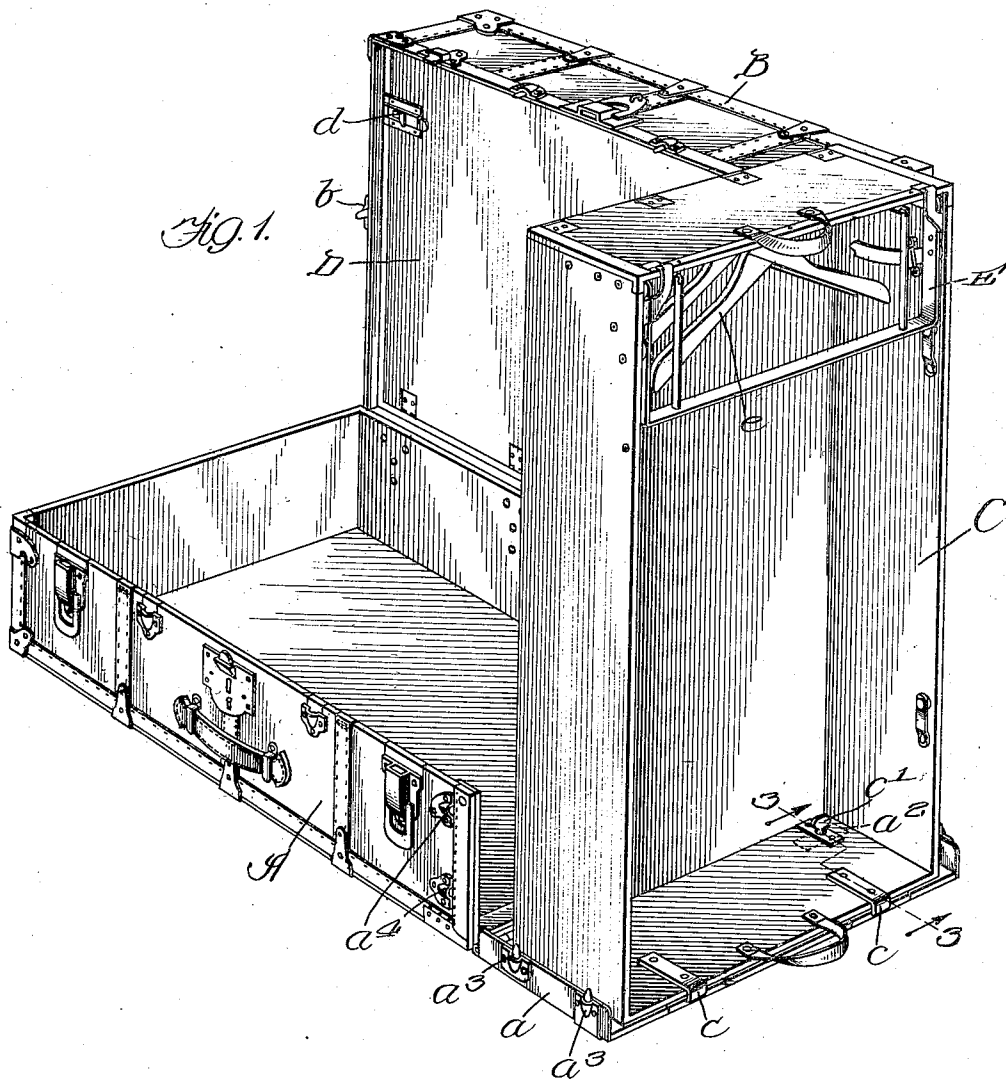
G. H. WHEARY.
TRUNK.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 11, 1911.

1,051,938.

Patented Feb. 4, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:
Geo. D. Perry
Jno. H. Nelson Jr.

Inventor:-
George H. Wheary
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Attorneys

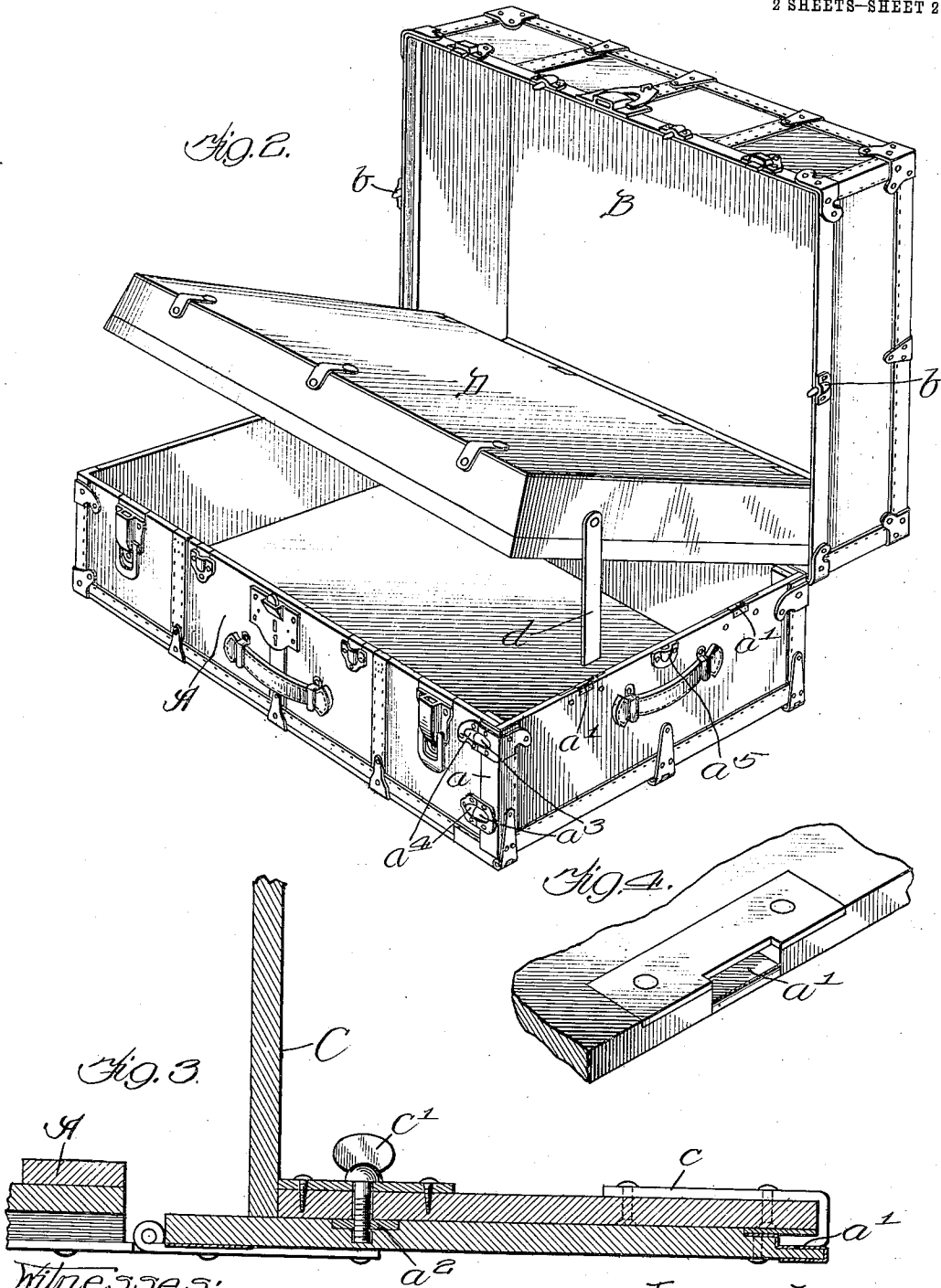
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Paul H. Nelson Jr.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. WHEARY, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

TRUNK.

1,051,938.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 4, 1913.

Application filed February 11, 1911. Serial No. 607,951.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. WHEARY, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Racine, Wisconsin, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trunks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to wardrobe trunks of that kind in which some portion of the trunk, such, for example, as a tray, is provided with means for supporting the clothing on hangers of the usual or any suitable form or character.

It relates more particularly to a trunk of this kind in which the tray having the wardrobe feature is mounted on a hinged end wall of the trunk, whereby the said tray can be brought into an upright position when the trunk is open. Previous to my invention trunks of this character were so constructed that the said tray could not be removed, as it was fastened permanently to the said swinging end wall of the trunk body. For this reason they could only be used as wardrobe trunks and not as ordinary steamer trunks.

The object of my invention is, therefore, to provide a wardrobe trunk of this kind in which the tray containing the wardrobe feature is removable from the swinging end wall of the trunk body, whereby the said trunk is adapted also for use as an ordinary steamer trunk, when the said tray is detached and removed therefrom, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

To these and other useful ends my invention consists in matters hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a perspective of a wardrobe trunk embodying the principles of my invention, showing the same open and the wardrobe tray raised to a vertical or upright position. Fig. 2 is a perspective of the same trunk with the said wardrobe tray removed, showing the said trunk open and adapted for use as an ordinary steamer trunk. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail section on line 3—3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of one of the sockets in the edge of the swinging end wall of the trunk body, whereby the end of the wardrobe tray is secured thereto.

As thus illustrated, the trunk has the shape and general characteristics of the ordinary steamer trunk, comprising a body A,

a swinging top or cover B, and a tray C, which latter has one end secured to the swinging end wall *a* of the said body. The top or cover B may hold a swinging tray or compartment D provided at one end with a pivoted leg *d* by which it is supported when swung down as shown in Fig. 2, or when in use in conjunction with the wardrobe tray shown in the preceding figure. The said tray C has its lower end—that is to say, the end which is down when the tray is raised, provided with hooks *c* that engage the sockets *a*¹ in the edge of the swinging end wall *a* of the body. This end of the said tray is also provided with thumb-screws *c*¹ which engage threaded sockets *a*² in the said end wall *a* of the trunk body. The upper end of the said wardrobe tray is equipped with a folding or any other suitable hanger rack E upon which are supported the hangers *e*, which latter may also be of any suitable form or character. Hanger arrangements of this kind are common, and as I do not limit myself to any particular construction of this wardrobe feature, no further detailed description thereof is necessary.

The swinging end wall *a* can be provided with catches or other fastening devices *a*³ that engage suitable socket-pieces *a*⁴ on the front and back walls of the trunk body. The top or cover B can also be provided with a similar catch or locking device *b* for engaging a suitable socket-piece *a*⁵ on the upper edge of the swinging end wall *a*, whereby the latter is held firmly in place when the trunk is closed. Bolts or other suitable devices *d*¹ on the bottom of the tray D can be employed for locking or holding the latter in place in the top or cover B when the latter is open.

Now, as shown in Fig. 1, the trunk is open and in condition for use as a wardrobe trunk. In this condition, the swinging end wall *a* is open and resting flatwise upon the floor, and the tray C is in an upright position with the wardrobe feature or hanger-rack arrangement at the upper end thereof. As the wall *a* rests on the floor, there is less danger of the trunk tipping over when the wardrobe section is raised to an upright position. The wardrobe section is adapted to rest at the bottom of the trunk, and the wall *a* is adapted to rest on the floor in the plane of said bottom. The trunk is closed by simply swinging the tray C downward into the trunk, and by then closing the top or cover

B, in the usual and well known manner. Suppose, however, that it is desired to dispense with the wardrobe feature, and to use the trunk as an ordinary steamer trunk. In such case, the thumb-screws c^1 are taken out, and the tray C is then detached or removed by disengaging the hooks c from the sockets a^1 , whereby the trunk is reduced to the condition shown in Fig. 2. In this condition clothing can be packed in the body A of the trunk, in the usual and well known manner, and the entire structure becomes suitable for use as an ordinary steamer trunk. The wardrobe tray C, it will be seen, is a complete receptacle in itself, and when detached remains intact with rigidly connected side and end walls and bottom. It is, however, as previously explained, provided with one end wall which is adapted to be secured flatwise upon the inner surface of the swinging end wall of the trunk body. In this way the said tray can be quickly removed or replaced, and the trunk changed from one condition to another, depending upon the requirements of the user. It is, therefore, a highly efficient wardrobe trunk which is readily convertible into an ordinary steamer trunk.

So far as the broader aspect of my invention is concerned, which involves the provision of means for readily converting a high-class wardrobe trunk into an ordinary steamer trunk, I do not limit myself to the exact construction shown and described.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A trunk comprising a body provided with an end wall, which end wall is mounted to swing outward and rest flatwise upon the floor, and a wardrobe section comprising a rectangular tray having closed and rigidly connected ends and sides and bottom, one end of the tray being provided with thumb-screws and projections, and the said swinging end wall being provided with sockets adapted to receive the said thumbscrews and projections, the said thumbscrews and pro-

jections being insertible in directions at right angles to each other, as set forth.

2. In a trunk, a flat body provided with an outwardly-swinging end wall, a flat wardrobe section lying at the bottom of said body, and means for detachably securing one end of said section to said end wall, said means permitting disengagement of the section by sliding movement of the latter on the inner surface of the end wall toward the free edge thereof, and said section being upright when the said end wall rests on the floor.

3. In a trunk, a body open at one end, an outer end wall hinged to the edge of the bottom of the body, adapted to close the said open end thereof, said wall having its outer edge provided with sockets, the inner surface of said wall having screw-threaded openings near the inner edge thereof, an inner end wall adapted to rest flatwise upon the inner surface of said outer end wall, said inner end wall having hooks for removably engaging said sockets, the said inner end wall being also provided with screws adapted to engage said threaded openings, said screws and hooks cooperating to removably connect the said inner end wall to the said outer end wall, to form a wall of double thickness, and a wardrobe section carried by said inner end wall.

4. In a trunk, a body provided with an outwardly and downwardly swinging end wall, and a rectangular tray having an end wall thereof removably secured upon the inner surface of said swinging end wall, and adapted to be supported in a vertical position by said end wall when said wall is swung downward.

Signed by me at Racine, Wis., this 7th day of Feby. 1911.

GEORGE H. WHEARY.

Witnesses:

MAX BLOCH,
CLINT. D. FRAZELL.