(No Model.)

N. G. FRENCH.

VALISE, &c.

No. 340,567. Patented Apr. 27, 1886.

Fig. 1.

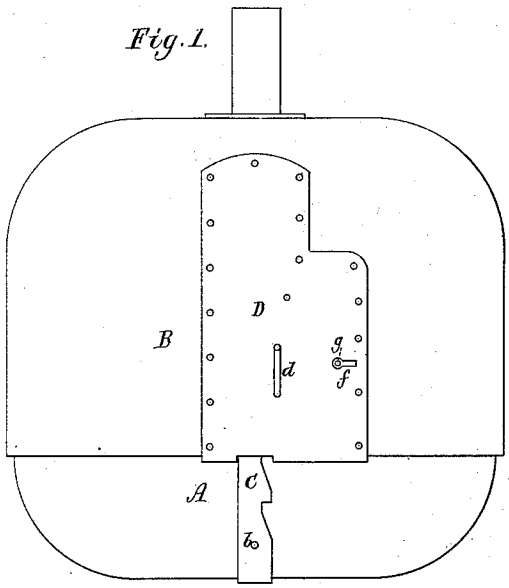


Fig. 3.

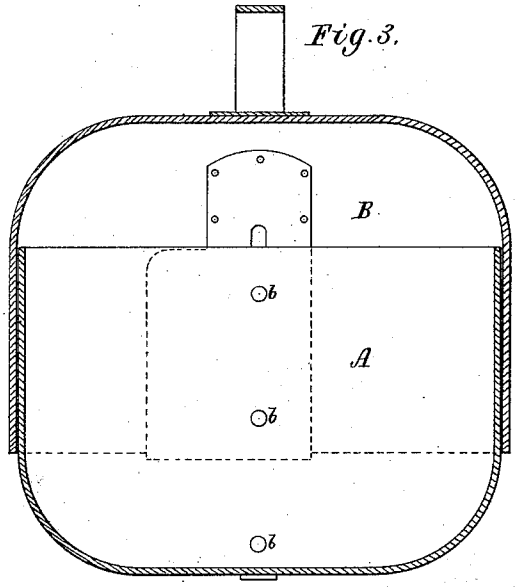


Fig. 2.

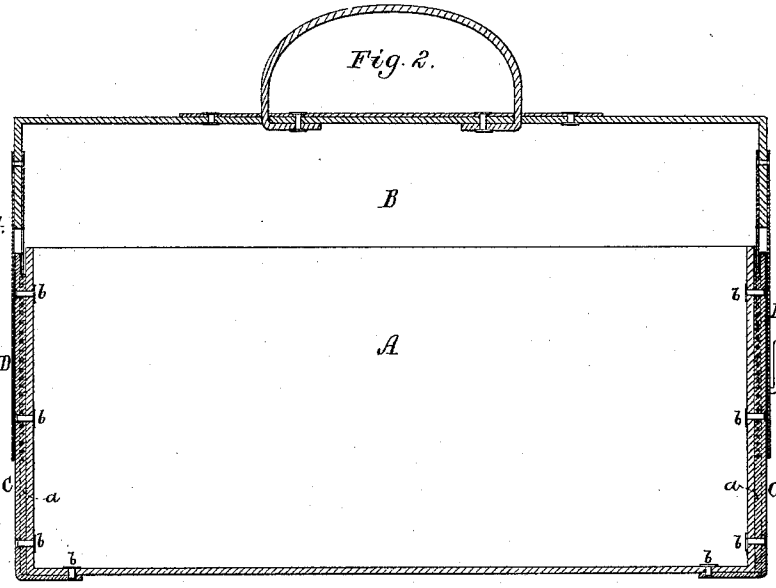


Fig. 6.

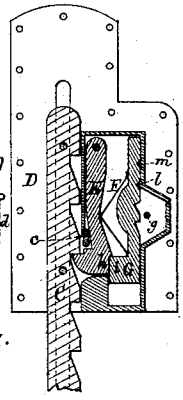


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 7.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHANIEL GRANT FRENCH, OF NORWAY, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO SAID NATHANIEL G. FRENCH AND NEWELL WASHBURN BRAINERD, OF WATERVILLE, MAINE.

VALISE, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 340,567, dated April 27, 1886.

Application filed January 25, 1886. Serial No. 189,554. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL GRANT FRENCH, of Norway, in the county of Oxford and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Extension Valises or Portmanteaus; and I do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is an end elevation, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal, median, and vertical section, and Fig. 3 is a transverse and median section, of a valise or portmanteau provided with my invention. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation, and Fig. 5 a transverse section, of one of the two racks affixed to the ends of the body of the valise. Fig. 6 is a vertical section of the lock and its case as applied to each end of the cover and to co-operate with one of the racks in fastening the cover to the body of the valise or portmanteau. Fig. 7 is a top view of the cam *c* and its operative handle *d*, hereinafter described.

My invention relates to the class of extension-valises that consist of a trough-shaped body and a like-shaped cover, the body extending up within the mouth of the cover, and being provided at its ends with racks to engage with latches or locking devices applied to the cover.

One such valise is shown in the drawings, A being its body, and B its cover.

In carrying out my invention there is connected to the outer side of each end of the body a toothed or notched rack, C, provided with a fillet or rib, *a*, extending lengthwise of it and projecting from its rear side, such fillet or rib being against the end of the body, so as to cause the rack to be parallel to it at a short distance from it. This filleted or ribbed rack is fastened to the end of the body by rivets *b* going through them. Each rack enters a suitable lock-case, D, clasping and fastened to the next adjacent end of the cover, the said lock-case being properly constructed to slide rectilinearly upon the rack when the cover is either being raised or lowered on the body.

Within each lock-case there is a vibratory hooked latch, E, that is pivoted within the case, and, when in engagement with the rack, extends into one of the notches thereof. This latch is forced back out of the said notch by means of a small cam, *c*, arranged as shown, which, pivoted in the case, is provided on the outer face thereof with a handle, *d*, for turning it, (the said cam.) In rear of the latch E is a bolt, G, to be operated or moved lengthwise by a key inserted in a key-hole, *f*, and upon a stationary stud, *g*, within the lock-case. An arched spring, F, arranged between the catch and bolt and bearing at its crown against the catch and at its ends upon the bolt, serves to move the bolt in one direction laterally of it and the latch in the opposite way.

When the latch is in engagement with the rack, if the bolt be thrown rearwardly, the projection or head *i* of such bolt will be caused to enter a notch, *k*, in the latch, and will not only stop the bolt from further backward motion, but will lock the latch in position. On retraction of the bolt a tooth, *l*, projecting from the lock-case, by entering a notch, *m*, in the bolt, will serve to hold the bolt from being accidentally shot forward. On the bolt being driven forward by the key the latch will be free to be operated or moved back by its cam.

The latches of the locks may be thrown out of engagement with the racks by properly turning the cams by means of their handles.

From the above it will be seen that on the cover being either drawn upward or forced downward upon the body of the valise to any desirable extent such cover may be held in position by the racks and latches alone, and when the bolts are forward such latches may be operated by their cams; but on the bolts being retracted the latches will be locked relatively to the racks.

I do not claim extension-valises provided with locking or latching devices, as shown in the United States Patents Nos. 281,268 and 287,473, there being material differences between such devices and those hereinbefore described, as I have to engage with such rack a hooked latch and to such a cam a spring and a slide-bolt arranged and to operate differently from any of the latching and locking devices of the racks of said patents.

I claim—

In an extension valise or portmanteau, as described, having serrated or toothed racks fixed to each of the opposite ends of its body A, the combination of the hooked latch E, its arched spring F, cam *c*, and its handle *d*, and sliding and notched bolt G, arranged with each other and in a case, D, applied to one end of the cover, and adapted to operate together and with the next adjacent rack, C, substantially as set forth.

NATHANIEL GRANT FRENCH.

Witnesses:

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