A. STAEGER.

HAND BAG.

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Patented Jan. 12, 1909.

909,248.

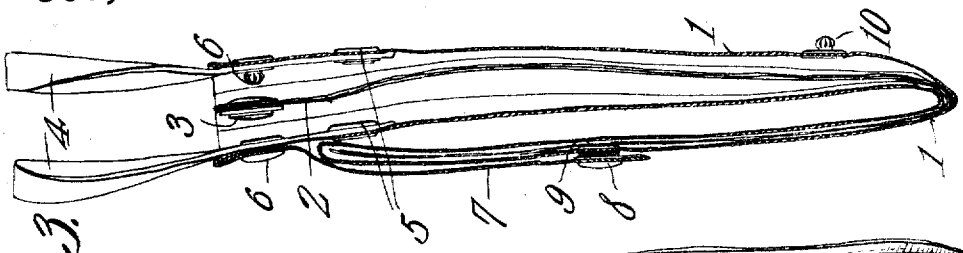


Fig. 3.

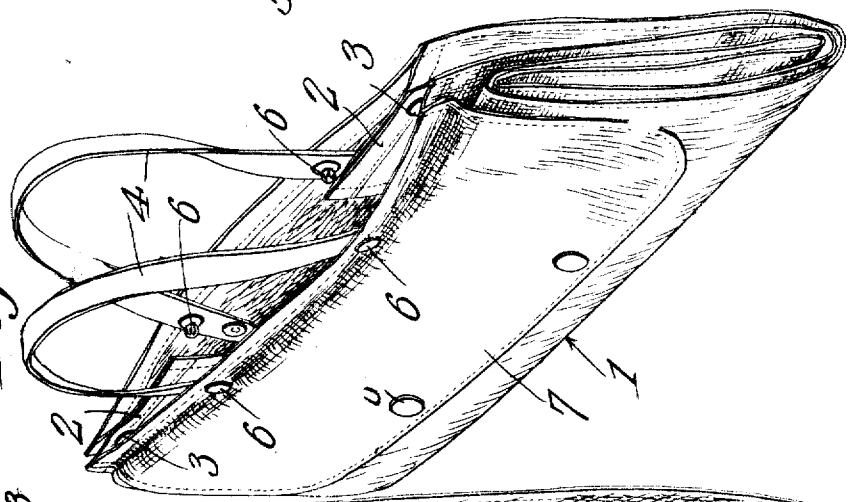


Fig. 2.

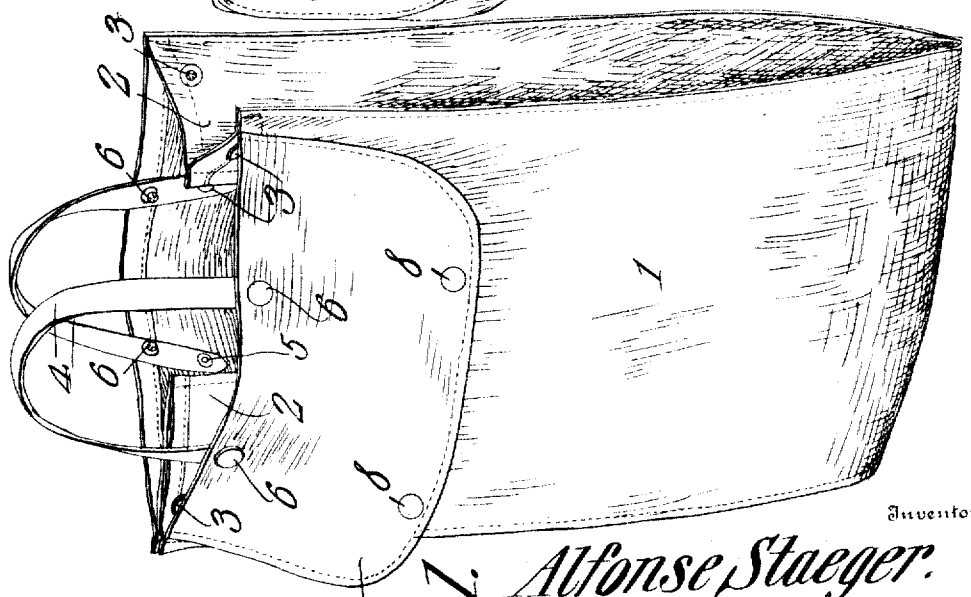


Fig. 1.

Inventor

Alfonse Staeger.

By C. A. Snow & Co.

Attorneys

Witnesses

E. F. Stewart

Herbert D. Lawson.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFONSE STAEGER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

HAND-BAG.

No. 909,248 Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 12, 1909.

Application filed July 8, 1908. Serial No. 442,559.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFONSE STAEGER, a citizen of Switzerland, residing at Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore City and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Hand-Bag, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to handbags and its object is to provide a device of this character capable of being folded or extended both in the direction of its width and in the direction of its length so as to either increase or diminish its capacity without however marring the appearance of the bag.

Another object is to provide a bag which is cheap to manufacture, light and durable, and which can be conveniently carried, access being readily had to the interior of the bag when adjusted to any size.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings is shown the preferred form of the invention.

In said drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bag extended to its full length and having one of its sides opened for the purpose of extending the bag laterally.. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the bag folded to its smallest size. Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the bag adjusted to an intermediate size.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates a bellows-shaped bag formed of suitable flexible material and the sides of which consist of longitudinal flexible strips 2 secured together along their inner edges and to the front and rear portions of the bag at their other edges, there being snap or "glove" fasteners upon these strips as indicated at 3 so as to hold them together if desired and when it is not necessary to extend the bag to its full capacity.

A handle strap 4 is secured to the front face of the bag and another similar strap is secured to the rear portion of the bag, the terminals of these straps being held to the bag by rivets 5 and also by snap or "glove" fasteners 6 which can be utilized for securing the bag in closed position.

Secured to the upper edge of the front of the bag or formed therewith is a flexible flap 7 having the socket members 8 of snap or "glove" fasteners secured thereto. Arranged upon the rear face of the bag at points approximately one-quarter the distance from the bottom to the top thereof are the ball members 9 of the fastener and similar ball members 10 are arranged upon the back face of the bag at points approximately midway between the ends of the bag.

When the bag is extended to its fullest capacity all of the fasteners are disconnected unless it is desired to close the bag, whereupon the fasteners 6 are placed in engagement with each other. To reduce the capacity of the bag one-half the same is folded transversely at its center and the flap 7 is drawn over the bottom end thereof so that the fasteners 8 can be placed in engagement with the ball members 9. This arrangement of the parts has been shown in Fig. 3. To reduce the capacity to about one-third the bag is folded transversely twice, as indicated in Fig. 2, so as to bring the ball members 10 into position to be engaged by the socket members 8. When the bag is folded in this manner it has practically the appearance of an ordinary large handbag.

A bag such as herein described is particularly useful for shopping purposes inasmuch as it can be conveniently enlarged only to the extent necessary to hold the articles to be carried and when not in use can be folded into a very compact bag which can be employed for the same purposes as an ordinary handbag.

It is of course to be understood that the bag can be suitably ornamented and the sizes and proportions of the parts can be varied to suit the taste of the user and without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages of the invention.

What is claimed is:

A device of the class described compris-

ing a bag having its sides arranged in longitudinal folds, said folds being integral with the bag and maintaining the same closed at the sides at all times, means within the folds for detachably holding them together, a flap upon the bag, said bag being foldable on lines extending from side to side thereof to position the bottom portion of the bag between said bag and the flap, and coöperating means upon the flap and bag for holding the bag in folded position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereunto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ALFONSE STAEGER.

Witnesses:
WM. J. STEIN,
P. J. HOFFMAN, Jr.