(No Model.)

J. B. VAUGHAN.

PHYSICIAN'S BUGGY CASE.

No. 303,958. Patented Aug. 19, 1884.

Fig 1.

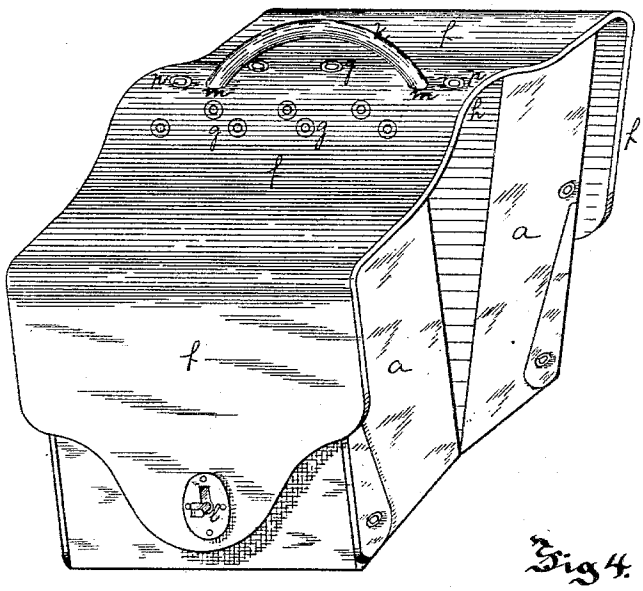


Fig 4.

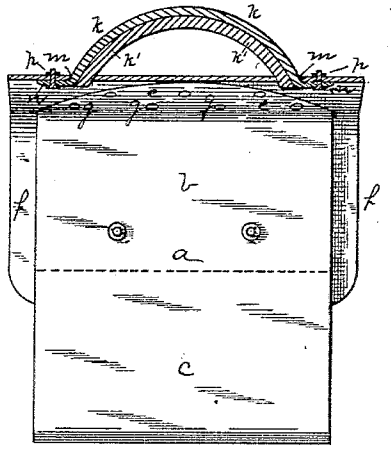


Fig 2.

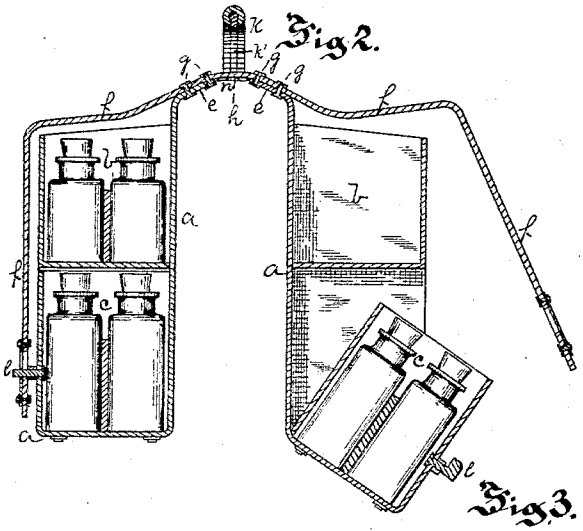
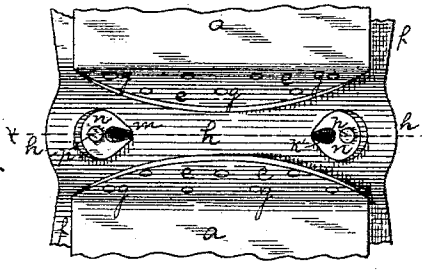


Fig 3.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES B. VAUGHAN, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO A. A. MELLIER, OF SAME PLACE.

PHYSICIAN'S BUGGY-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,958, dated August 19, 1884.

Application filed May 21, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES B. VAUGHAN, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Physicians' Buggy-Cases; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to cases or receptacles to be employed by physicians practicing in country districts, for carrying medicines in vials, surgical instruments, and other articles necessary in their practice, when traveling in buggies or other conveyances, its object being to provide a compact case having a broad base to support it in an upright position, and occupying but little space in the buggy or carriage, and arranged to be carried conveniently by one hand, and yet holding a large number of vials in readily-accessible positions.

It consists, essentially, in a case formed of two receptacles having pockets for holding the vials, and each connected at the top to a cover common to and extending over each receptacle, and having a handle secured to the small flexible portion of the cover between the connections of the receptacles, so as to form a means for carrying the case and yet allow of free access to all the pockets thereof.

It also consists in the means employed in securing the handle to the cover, to form a strong and durable connection.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe the same more fully, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved case. Fig. 2 is a central cross-section thereof. Fig. 3 is a bottom view illustrating the means of connecting the handle to the cover. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section on the line *x x*, Fig. 3.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in each.

The buggy-cases are made of leather or like flexible and durable material, and the receptacles *a* are lined with sheet metal to stiffen them and protect them from the action of any of the chemicals contained in the vials, and are preferably formed with two pockets, *b c*, the covers *f* being raised to give access to the upper pockets, *b*, and the lower pockets, *c*, being so arranged as to swing open below the upper pockets, to give access to their contents. Each pocket is arranged to hold from eight to twelve vials, according to the length of the case, so that when all the pockets are so filled from thirty-two to forty-eight vials can be carried in the case. The receptacles *a* are provided at their inner upper edges with the extensions *e*, and are secured to the cover *f* by a series of rivets, *g*, a small space being left between the extensions *e* of the receptacles to receive the handle *k*, as at *h*, and this portion *h* forming a flexible connection between the two receptacles, which allows of one being raised and lowered to obtain access to its pockets without disturbing the other receptacle. The cover *f*, common to both receptacles, extends over each receptacle, and forms the top of the upper pockets, *b*, and in the case shown the lower pockets, *c*, are hinged by the flexible leather joints at the inner lower edges, and swing out of the receptacles to give access to their contents, and the cover *f* is secured to these pockets by the buttons *l*, to close the case and support the pockets within the receptacles.

The handle *k* is made of leather, bent around a fillet, *k'*, and united in a suitable manner, and its ends extend through the body of the cover at *m*, in the portion *h* thereof, between the boxes *a* and the ends *n* of the handle, are spread out on the under surface of the cover and secured thereto by the rivets *p*, passing through handle and cover and forming a durable connection not subject to wear. By securing the handle in the portion of the cover between the two boxes or receptacles they balance each other in carrying the case, the two receptacles resting against each other, as shown in Fig. 1, and yet the handle allows of free access to each receptacle, permitting one box to be opened without disturbing the other, and also allows the boxes to be spread apart when placed in the buggy, to give a broad support for the case, as shown in Fig. 2. The flaps or extensions *e* are so firmly secured to the cover by the rivets as to make this part of the cover practically rigid, and as but a small portion,

h, is left between the flaps the two receptacles are so firmly secured together that they act to support each other in an upright position when deposited anywhere, even when the lower pockets, *c*, are open; but, on account of this flexible portion *h*, either receptacle can be raised to obtain access to its contents, the two advantages of a stiff and firmly-supported case and ready access to either receptacle being thus obtained. As the cover *f* is formed in one piece and extends over both receptacles, it forms a neat and durable cover for the case, and the handle being riveted thereto there is no liability of its wearing loose so long as the leather of the cover and handle lasts. The case can be supported on the knee of the physician and all its contents be within easy reach. Surgical instruments may be carried in one of the pockets, if desired.

Before my invention saddle-bags have been formed of two receptacles and a cover extending over each, and having a long connecting-piece adapted to extend over the saddle; but in these bags the two receptacles gave no support to each other, and generally lay flat on the floor or table, and they were exceedingly awkward to carry. Valises have also been made with carrying-handles; but none of these united the advantages of a stiff and firm connection at the top with both receptacles, and the free and separate access to and use of either, as above described.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a physician's buggy-case, the combination of the two receptacles *a*, the leather or like cover secured to and extending over both receptacles, and having a small flexible portion, *h*, to form a hinge between them, and the handle *k*, secured to said flexible portion *h*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In a physician's buggy-case, the combination of the two receptacles *a*, having extensions *e*, the leather or like cover, *f*, common to and extending over both, said cover being secured to said extensions, and having a small flexible portion, *h*, between said joints, and the handle *k*, secured to said cover at said portion *h*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a physician's buggy-case, the combination of two receptacles, *a*, the leather or like cover, *f*, common to and extending over both, and the handle *k*, having its ends *n* extending through the portion *h* of said cover and spread out on the under surface thereof and riveted thereto, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I, the said JAMES B. VAUGHAN, have hereunto set my hand.

JAMES B. VAUGHAN.

Witnesses:

JAMES J. KEOUGH,

C. W. GANSE.