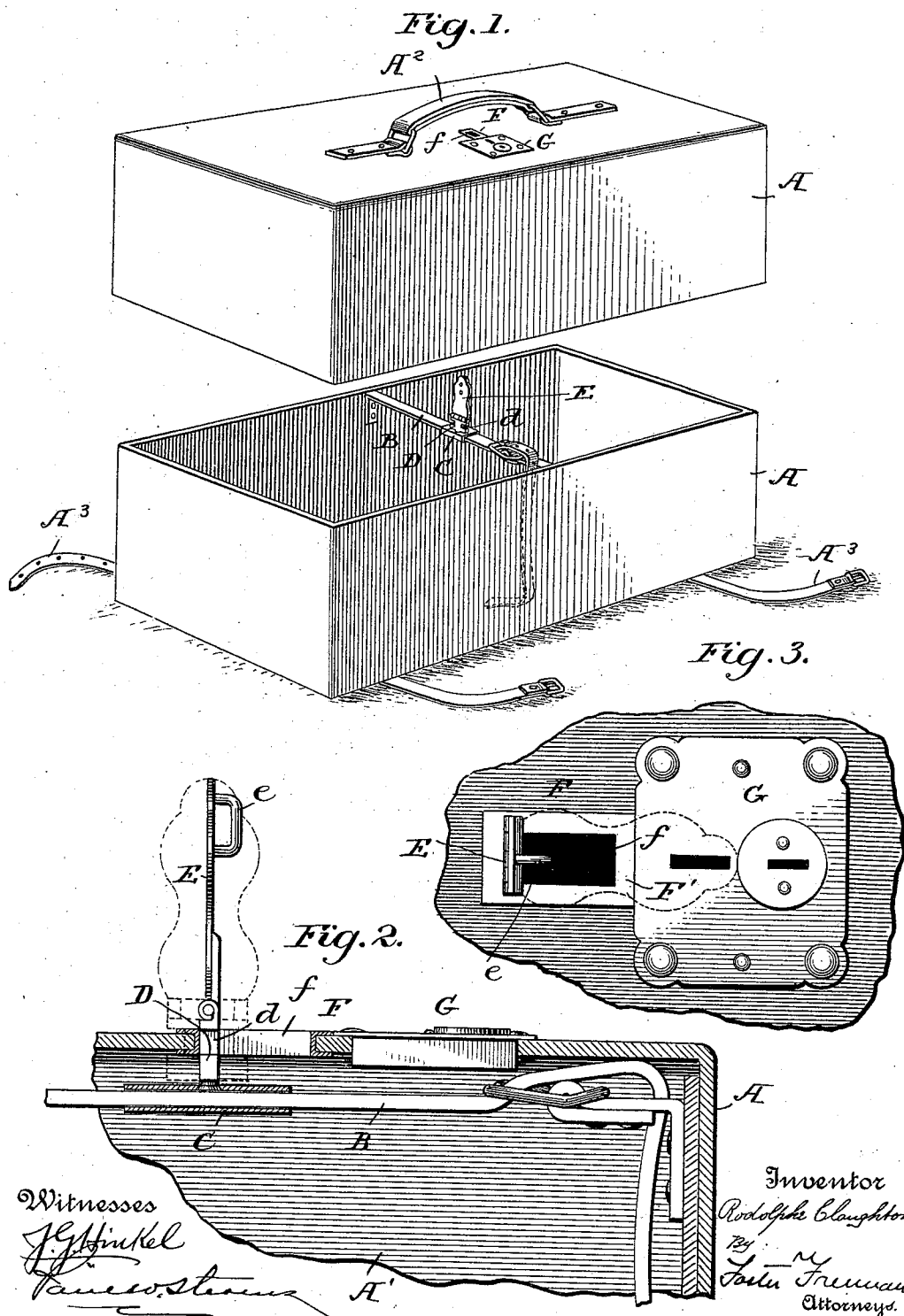


(No Model.)

R. CLAUGHTON.
TRUNK FASTENING OR LOCK.

No. 575,825.

Patented Jan. 26, 1897.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RODOLPHE CLAUGHTON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

TRUNK FASTENING OR LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 575,825, dated January 26, 1897.

Application filed September 5, 1896. Serial No. 604,964. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RODOLPHE CLAUGHTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trunk Fastenings or Locks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to fastenings or locks for trunks, valises, and the like, and more particularly is it adapted for use in connection with a so-called "telescoping" trunk or valise; and the object is to provide a simple, cheap, and effective means for securing or fastening such trunks or valises under all conditions; and to these ends it consists in the various features of construction and arrangement substantially as hereinafter more particularly set forth.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a two-part telescoping trunk or valise separated. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse partial section through the center of the lower case, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan of a portion of the top case.

While my improved fastening device or lock may be used in many and various connections and for many and various purposes, it being modified in details to suit the requirements of any particular case, as above intimated it is more especially intended for use in connection with the so-called "telescoping" trunks, bags, or valises, and I have therefore illustrated my invention as applied to such a trunk; and I will now proceed to describe in detail its construction and arrangement, so that those skilled in the art will understand the same and be enabled to make use of the invention.

It is well known that the ordinary telescoping trunk or bag is exceedingly light, cheap, and desirable for traveling purposes, but heretofore it has been open to the objection that there were no satisfactory means provided by which it could be securely fastened or locked so as to prevent unwarranted interference with the contents, and I have provided means whereby this can be readily accomplished, and which will permit of the trunk being utilized to the best advantage, that is, it may be partially or wholly filled,

so that the two parts fit closely together or are in their expanded position.

A A' represent the two portions of an ordinary telescoping trunk or valise, which will be styled "trunk" hereinafter for convenience, the upper portion A of which fits over and practically incloses the sides of the lower portion A'. This may be provided with an ordinary handle A² and, if desired, with the usual outside end straps A³, and, of course, it may be made of any suitable and desirable material.

Arranged to connect the upper part of the sides of the lower section A' is a strap B. This may be arranged in any desired position and attached in any well-known manner, and is of sufficient length to cover the articles in the box, whether they extend above the upper rim or edge thereof or not. This strap serves a number of functions in that it tends to hold the articles compactly in position in the trunk and also serves as a means of supporting one portion of the fastening device.

Mounted on the strap B is a sleeve C, arranged to slide on the strap, so as to be adjusted at any desired point. Connected to this sleeve is a pivoted catch D, which is free to rotate on the sleeve and is provided with one or more notches *d* in its sides. Pivotaly connected to this catch is a hasp E, provided with an eye *e* for the reception of the bolt of an ordinary lock, when used.

The upper portion A of the trunk is provided with a slotted opening F, preferably near its center and preferably being in the form of a metallic slotted plate F', having an opening or slot *f* of a size sufficient to permit the passage of the catch and hasp, when used, when turned in the proper direction, but of a width to form bearings for the catch when turned in the position shown in Fig. 3. That is, the recesses *d* of the catch D embrace the edges of the opening *f*, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

The upper portion A may be provided with any suitable locking device G for the reception of the hasp, so that the latter can be securely locked against unauthorized opening. With this construction the arrangement and operation of the device will readily be

understood. Supposing the portion A to be packed with the desired articles, the strap B is adjusted, and the sleeve C is moved upon the strap so that it will occupy a central position, or a position coinciding with the opening F in the top portion. It is then turned transversely to the length of the trunk, as shown in Fig. 1, and the portions A and A' are forced together, telescoping one within the other, and the hasp and catch will project through the opening F. When this is done, the catch D is turned a quarter of a revolution, causing the recesses *d* to engage the sides of the opening *f*, and the parts of the trunk are thereby secured together. The hasp E is then turned down, as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 3, and its eye *e* enters the opening in the lock G and is secured in the usual manner. In this way it will be seen that not only are the portions A and A' securely held together by the catch D, sleeve C, and strap B, engaging the opening F, but by locking the hasp unauthorized access to the trunk is prevented.

What I claim is—

1. The combination with the strap, sleeve and pivoted catch, of the slotted plate, and means for uniting the catch and plate, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the strap, sleeve and pivoted catch having recesses, of the slotted plate, the sides of which are adapted to enter the recesses in the catch, substantially as described.

3. The combination with the strap, the sliding sleeve, and catch pivoted thereto having recesses, of a hasp pivoted to the catch, a slotted plate to engage the catch, and a lock to secure the hasp, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RODOLPHE CLAUGHTON.

Witnesses:

F. L. FREEMAN,
W. C. DUVALL.