(No Model.)

F. KUKKUCK.

TRUNK TOP.

No. 380,291. Patented Mar. 27, 1888.

Fig. 1.

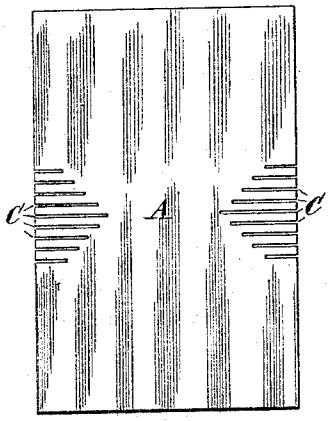


Fig. 2.

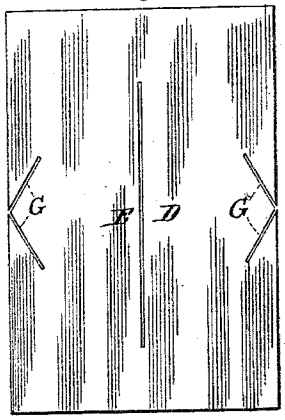


Fig. 3.

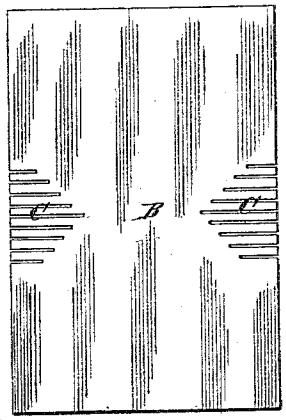


Fig. 4.

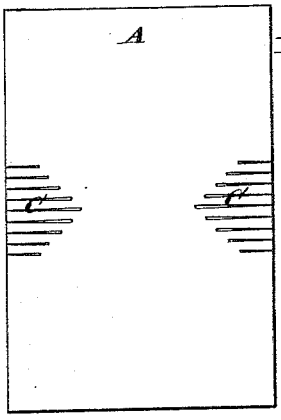


Fig. 5.

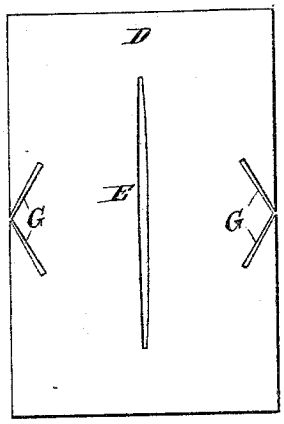


Fig. 6.

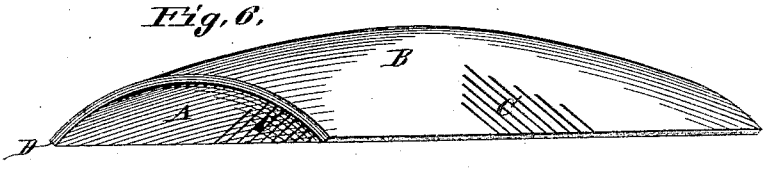


Fig. 7.

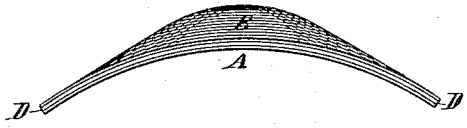
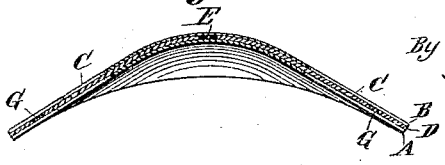


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK KUKKUCK, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

TRUNK-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 380,291, dated March 27, 1888.

Application filed February 2, 1888. Serial No. 262,807. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK KUKKUCK, of the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trunk-Tops, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the under layer, and Fig. 3 a like view of the upper layer, of my improved trunk-top. Fig. 2 is a view of the middle or interior layer, these layers being shown as they are first cut and before being formed into the shape of the tops. Fig. 4 represents one of the layers shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and illustrates the manner in which the openings are closed by pressing the top into shape. Fig. 5 is a similar view of the inner or middle layer, showing the manner in which the slits or cuts expand and contract to allow the layer to conform to the shape of the top without either straining or compressing the material. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of my improved top. Fig. 7 is an end view of the same, and Fig. 8 is a transverse section through the center of a top.

My invention relates to an improvement in trunk-tops made of layers of veneer, and relates to that class of veneer trunk-tops in which the greatest arch or swell of the top is in the center, and for a full description of this class of trunk-tops I refer to the following Letters Patent granted to myself and Henry Arnd, namely: No. 275,499, issued April 10, 1883; No. 262,956, issued August 22, 1882; No. 268,694, issued December 5, 1882; No. 275,500, issued April 10, 1883; No. 279,258, issued June 12, 1883, and No. 268,767, issued December 5, 1882.

My present invention consists in features of novelty hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the under layer, and B the upper layer, of the trunk-top, or vice versa. These layers are fac-similes, each being provided with slits or cuts C at the edges, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4, to allow them to contract as the top is pressed into shape, as described in the patents referred to.

It is often a matter of considerable importance to prevent the inner layer from buckling or being contracted in places as it is pressed between the upper and under layers; and it also often happens that this layer will become split in irregular lines while the top is being pressed. To avoid this splitting or buckling of the inner layer is the object of my present invention.

D represents the inner or intermediate layer, placed between the upper and under layers. In this layer I preferably form a longitudinal cut, E, at or near the center.

Extending from the outer edges of the sides of the layer in a diagonal plane are cuts G, reaching from the outer edges of the layer inward a suitable distance, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5. These slits or cuts are made by any suitable instrument, and are preferably made with an instrument that will remove a small amount of material, as shown in Fig. 2. The natural position of the cuts of this layer is shown in Fig. 2, and the form the cuts or slits in this layer assume when the trunk-top has been formed is shown in Fig. 5, and in this position the slits or cuts E are stretched out or enlarged, and the inner ends of the slits or cuts G are also slightly enlarged, while the outer ends of these slits or cuts G are forced together, entirely closing the joint made by the cuts, so that when the top is formed the outward appearance of the edges of the inner layer is that of one continuous piece, and, as far as the strength of the layer is concerned, it is one continuous piece, inasmuch as the slits are closed and the upper and under layers thus united together entirely around the top by being glued to the continuous inner layer. This expansion of the slits or cuts E and the inner ends of the cuts G allows the layer D to be pressed or formed into shape without in any manner buckling or splitting the layer, as will be plainly understood.

The form that the slits C in the layers A and B assume when the top is formed is illustrated in Fig. 4.

While I have shown and described the layer D with its slits as being the inner or intermediate layer, I do not wish to confine myself to placing this layer between the two outer ones. It may be used as an outer layer itself, and to

quite an extent the advantages derived from the slits will be utilized.

I claim as my invention—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a trunk-top composed of outer and inner layers of veneer, the inner layer being provided with a longitudinal slit or cut, and transverse or diagonal slits or cuts, substantially as shown and described, for the purpose set forth.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a trunk-top formed of outer and inner layers of veneer, the inner layer having diagonal slits or cuts G extending inward from the outer edges of the layer, substantially as shown and described, for the purpose set forth.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a trunk-top formed of outer and inner layers of veneer, the inner layer having a longitudinal cut or slit and diagonal cuts or slits extending inward from the respective edges of the layer, and the outer layers having transverse cuts C, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

FRED. KUKKUCK.

In presence of—

EDWD. S. KNIGHT,

JOS. WAHLE.