No. 759,305. PATENTED MAY 10, 1904.

R. J. NUNN.

TRUNK STRAP.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 11, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

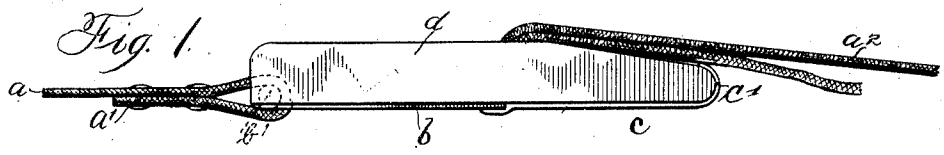


Fig. 2.

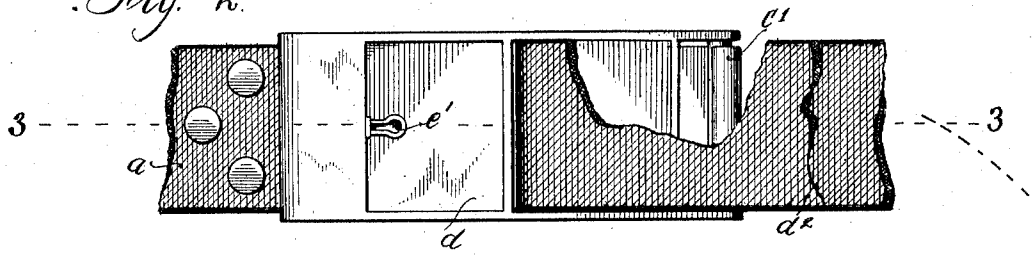


Fig. 3.

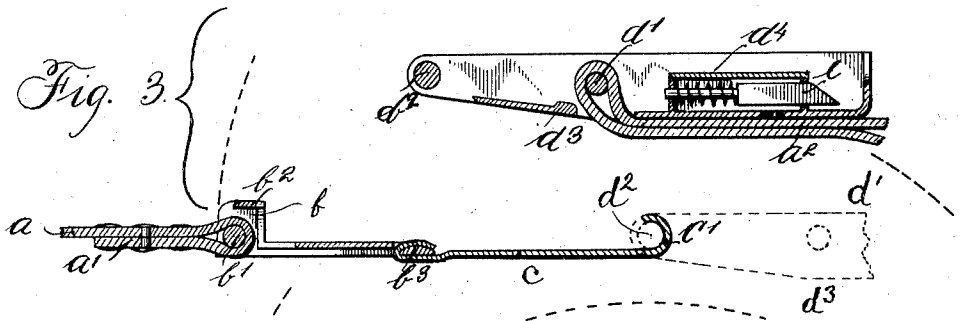


Fig. 4.

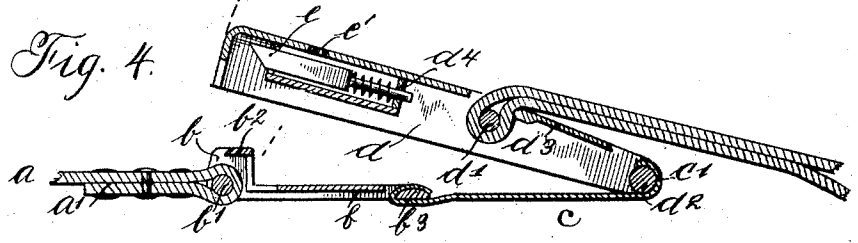


Fig. 5.

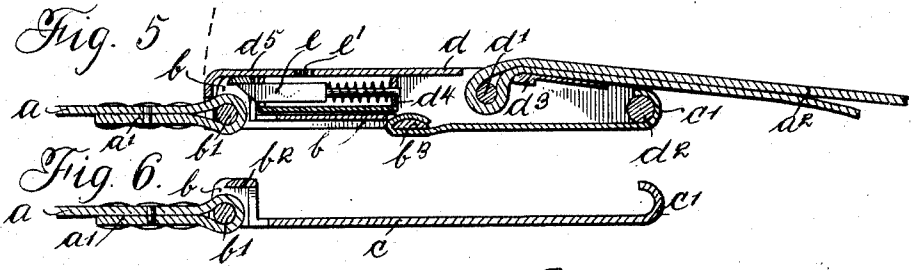


Fig. 6.

WITNESSES:

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No. 759,305. Patented May 10, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD J. NUNN, OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

TRUNK-STRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 759,305, dated May 10, 1904.

Application filed November 11, 1903. Serial No. 180,665. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD J. NUNN, a citizen of the United States, residing in Savannah, in the county of Chatham, in the State of Georgia, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trunk-Straps, of which the following is a specification.

The improvement relates to the provisions for fastening and liberating at will. It provides for tightening and releasing the strap to a fixed extent by a lever motion of one of two metal parts. One part is formed with an eye at one end which is engaged with one end of the strap and with a hook at the other end with which the other part can be engaged to serve as a pivot and be instantly released to allow the strap to be removed from the trunk and to be reapplied again without disturbing the adjustment. It results from my invention that the effective length of the strap may be increased or diminished by shifting the strap so as to change the position of the bight in its engagement with one part, and the adjustment can be retained without change for any period, the strap being removed and reapplied to the trunk as many times as required in the interval.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is an edge view, and Fig. 2 a top view, showing the device in use on a trunk. Fig. 3 and the succeeding figures are longitudinal sections on the line 3 3 in Fig. 2, showing the device in different conditions. The strong lines in Fig. 3 show the parts separated, and the dotted lines correspondingly lettered show the parts engaged together without being subjected to any strain. Fig. 4 shows the parts in the act of tightening the strap, and Fig. 5 shows the same with the action completed. Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section of a portion, showing a modification.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures where they appear.

The principal parts may be made of various materials; but I will assume that they are malleable cast-iron.

I will describe the fastener as equipped with a spring-lock, to the keyhole of which easy access is afforded when the fastener is in use.

The strap is marked a, certain portions being designated by supernumerals. One end a' is folded around a cross-bar b' in one end of one of the fastening parts, which I will term the "catch," and riveted. The other end a^2 of the strap is folded around a cross-bar d' in the mid-length of the other part, which I will term the "lever" of the fastener. When the device is out of use, the strap may be adjusted in its embrace of the bar d', so as to increase or reduce the length of the strap to adapt it to different-sized trunks.

The catch b, having the cross-bar b', which engages the strap, has also a flattened cross-bar b^3. An extension-piece c is secured on the flattened cross-bar b^3 and formed with a strong hook c'. It has also a cross-bar b^2 or offset, which serves in holding the lever in the closed condition, as will presently appear. The lever d constitutes the remainder of the fastener. It is equipped with a cross-bar d' at the mid-length, which receives the fold or bight at the strap. Another cross-bar d^2 at one end is adapted to catch in the hook c' and should be cylindrical, so as to turn easily in the hook. A cross-bar d^3 of angular cross-section serves to sharply deflect the strap and insure its being nipped and held by the strain when in the fastened condition. I have shown the lever as carrying a spring-lock, of which d^4 is the back plate. The works may be of any ordinary or suitable construction. The keyhole e' and the bolt e of this lock are shown. The bolt projects on the side of the lock farthest from the pivotal cross-bar b' and is arranged to engage and release the cross-bar b^2. The lever d may be extended any length required beyond the lock, according to the leverage required to give the necessary tension to the strap. I have shown it as extended only a little.

In the use of the invention the strap may have been previously lying on the floor extending across under the trunk with one end

permanently but flexibly engaged with the cross-bar d' and the other end forming a bight around the cross-bar b'. Its ends are picked up and the two fastening parts b and d are brought together on the top of the trunk, and the cross-bar d^2 is engaged in the hook c'. Then force is applied to the end d^5 of the lever d in the direction to turn it into the closed position, (shown in Fig. 5,) and on the lever d being so urged a little farther than is shown in Fig. 4 the bolt e snaps under the cross-bar b^2, and the whole will thereafter remain in the secured condition (shown in Fig. 5) for any period. When it is desired to open the trunk, the proper key operated in the keyhole e' withdraws the bolt e and sets the lever d at liberty. It will turn under the tension of the strap back again to the position shown in Fig. 4 or farther. Turning this part quite over into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3 so slackens the strap that the cross-bar d^2 is easily disengaged from the hook c', and the separation is complete.

It will be seen that one adjustment of the bight of the strap around the cross-bar d' will serve for an indefinite period, allowing the strap to be secured and removed at will. There is no necessity for shifting the strap in its engagement with the cross-bar d' after it has been once adjusted for the trunk on which it is used until stretching or other change in the strap or enlargement of the trunk shall require it.

Modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. The extension-piece c, carrying the hook c', may be made in one with the catch b. Fig. 6 shows such modification. Instead of the flat form of the cross-bar b^3 I can use a bar of circular section, and on embracing it with a corresponding circular loop of the part c the parts will be allowed to flex to any required extent on each other. Instead of rigid parts here I can use a chain or anything flexible, but not extensible. The connection of the strap a to the cross-bar d' may be made unchangeable by stitching or otherwise, and the length of the strap may be adjusted by a buckle or other suitable device at any point not shown. I prefer the whole as shown.

I claim as my invention—

1. The catch b c having a cross-bar or eye b', adapted to engage the strap at one end, and the engaging cross-bar b^2 near that end, and a hook c' at the opposite end, in combination with a corresponding lever part d having a pivotal cross-bar d^2, adapted to engage and release said hook, a cross-bar d' adapted to engage a bight of the strap and allow it to be shifted to adjust the effective length, and a locking-bolt e and suitable operating means, all arranged for joint operation substantially as herein specified.

2. A flexible strap a engaged with the adjacent end of the catch b c having a cross-bar or eye b' engaged with such strap at one end and the cross-bar b^2 near such end and a hook c' at the opposite end, in combination with a corresponding lever part d having a pivotal cross-bar d^2 adapted to engage and release said hook, a cross-bar d' adapted to engage a bight of the strap and allow it to be shifted to adjust the effective length and a locking-bolt e and suitable operating means, all arranged for joint operation substantially as herein specified.

In testimony that I claim the invention above set forth I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD J. NUNN.

Witnesses:

THOMAS DREW STETSON,

M. F. BOYLE.