No. 729,380. Patented May 26, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BUREAU OR DRESSER TRUNK.

Application filed March 12, 1903. Serial No. 147,492. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT W. MOEDE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Weyauwega, in the county of Waupaca and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bureau or Dresser Trunks; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a bureau or dresser trunk of the character provided with a series of sliding drawers and having at the front or one side swinging doors adapted when swung open to permit the drawers to be slid out.

The object of the invention is to provide a trunk of this type in which special provision is made to secure a strong construction of doors to prevent damage thereto in handling, transit, &c., to provide a construction which will admit of the trunk being conveniently packed and unpacked and of any article being readily found, and, further, to so construct the parts that the upper drawer may be employed as a secretary or support for writing.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the doors and drawers in open position. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the arrangement when the upper drawer is used as a desk, and Fig. 3 is a section through the closed trunk.

In the drawings, 1 represents the body of the trunk, which is provided with an open front adapted to be closed by the lids or doors 2 and 3, mounted to swing upwardly and downwardly, respectively, on the hinges 2' and 3'. The lower door 3 is provided with a locking-hasp 4 to engage a keeper 4' on the upper door 2, the said hasp and keeper being mounted upon the doors near their meeting edges, so that when engaged they will lock the doors in closed position. In addition catches 5 and 6, of ordinary form, are provided for securing the door-sections at their ends to the trunk-body. These catches of course may be used to hold the doors closed when the lock is not in use, and when the lock is in use they serve as auxiliary fastenings to hold the ends of the doors in tightly-closed position.

It is apparent that if the edges of the ends of the trunk were made straight throughout the front corners of the trunk would be extremely weak and the hinges 2' and 3' would be subject at times to such violent strain that they would become quickly loosened or torn off. If the trunk were subjected to rough treatment, this, it will be understood, would be due to the fact that the plane edges of the ends of the body would offer no resistance to a sliding movement of the doors toward the top or bottom of the trunk in case of the striking of the hinged edge of either door or either front corner edge against an object, as by the dropping of the trunk down upon a pavement or street surface. Owing to this fact, the strain of contact and weight of the trunk would fall first wholly on the hinges of one door, and as these hinges would yield under such strain the latter would be partially transmitted to the hinges of the other door, resulting in the quick tearing off or breakage of the hinges. In order to avoid this objection, I provide an interlocking connection between the ends of the doors and front edges of the ends of the trunk-body. This is effected by forming the ends of the body with V-shaped recesses 7 and providing the doors with triangular end pieces 8, adapted to fit within said recesses when the doors are closed. By this construction it will be seen that the inclined walls of the recesses form shoulders which will sustain the strain and effectually prevent the doors from sliding or yielding to any material extent, even when the entire weight of the trunk falls thereon.

On the interior of the end walls of the body are cleats 9, which support a series of sliding drawers 10, the uppermost one of which is provided with a hinged lid 11. These drawers are designed to receive the garments, &c., and when the doors are opened may be drawn out, thus giving ready access to any article, and by the use of the drawers each article may be orderly packed in its appropriate place and be as easily accessible as if it were
contained in the drawer of a bureau or dresser. In the present instance I have shown the use of four drawers, the upper two of which may be reached by simply opening the upper door and the lower two by opening the lower door. When both doors are open, all four drawers are of course accessible, and by providing the upper door with a mirror 12, as shown, which is exposed when the door is thrown open, a convenient construction of bureau or dresser trunk is furnished.

Fig. 2 of the drawings shows the upper door swung open and the uppermost drawer drawn out, from which it will be seen that with the lid 11 down the said drawer will afford a support which may be used in lieu of a desk in writing, &c.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A trunk adapted to contain a series of drawers, and one side of which is provided with upper and lower hinged doors, said doors having projections to interlock with recesses in the trunk-body and prevent shifting of the doors under shock or strain, substantially as described.

2. A trunk having one side open and formed with V-shaped recesses and provided with upper and lower hinged doors having triangular-shaped end pieces to enter said recesses, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALBERT W. MOEDE.

Witnesses:

THOMAS F. WILSON,
ROBT. E. ANGER.