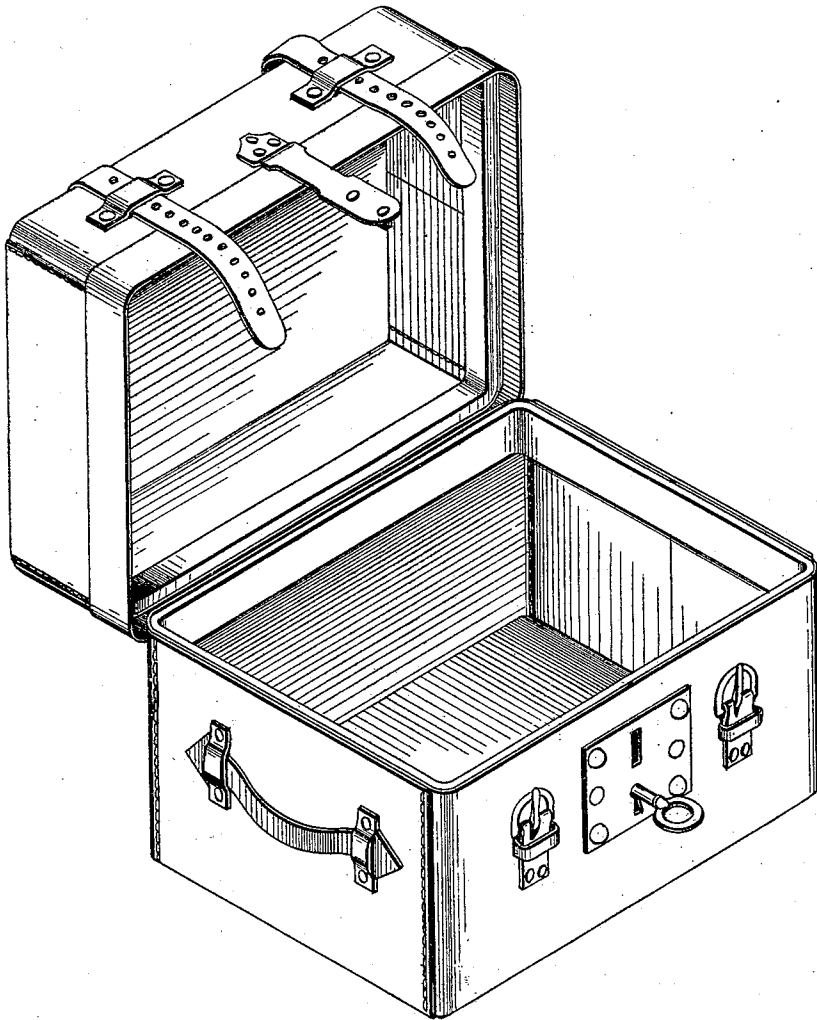


T. HANNA.
TRUNK AND VALISE.

No. 175,557.

Patented April 4, 1876.



WITNESSES

Wm A Skinkle
Baltis & Long

By *his* Attorney

INVENTOR

Thompson Hanna

Wm D. Baldwin

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

THOMPSON HANNA, OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRUNKS AND VALISES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **175,557**, dated April 4, 1876; application filed December 15, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMPSON HANNA, of Wilmington, in the county of New Castle and State of Delaware, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Trunks and Valises, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to make a strong, light, durable, and water-proof trunk or valise. This end I attain by constructing these articles of what is well known in the trade as "vulcanized fiber," the process of manufacture of which is described in United States Letters Patent No. 113,454, dated April 4, 1871, and No. 114,880, dated May 16, 1871, and need not be repeated here.

The articles may be molded by the application of pressure upon the material when in a moist state; but I prefer to make them in the following manner: I take a mold forming the counterpart of the bottom or top of the trunk, and cover it with a sheet of fiber cut at the corners to permit its being folded up. An envelope or outer mold, of a shape corresponding to the inner one, is then applied upon the material, which is compressed into the shape desired by suitable well-known means, one or both of the molds being first heated to cause the material readily to assume the shape desired. The corners are then sewed together, in the usual way of making leather trunks.

The material possesses stiff and unyielding qualities, which enable me to dispense with

any framing, or a comparatively slight frame will be found sufficient even for large trunks. The material is not injuriously affected by moisture or by heat, and admits of being handsomely embossed or ornamented in the process of manufacture, and of straps, locks, and hinges being attached, as with trunks made of other materials.

Owing to the hardness of the material employed it is not defaced by wear or rough usage; and, unlike leather, it is not stained by water, should the trunk be exposed to rain; neither is it discolored by age, nor is its appearance marred by the wrinkles or irregularities so common in trunks made of the usual materials.

The accompanying drawing shows a trunk constructed in accordance with my invention, which will readily be understood without further description.

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

A trunk or valise, made from vulcanized fiber, the same constituting a new article of manufacture.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

THOMPSON HANNA.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. DAVIS,
T. S. HANNA.