

July 9, 1929.

M. N. FRELING

1,720,073

LUGGAGE HOLDER

Filed April 25, 1928

Fig. 1.

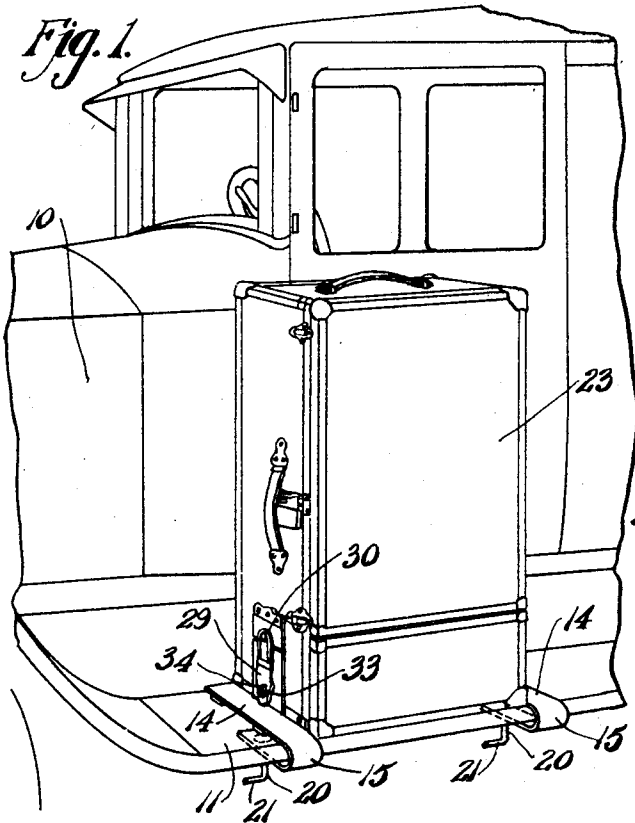


Fig. 2.

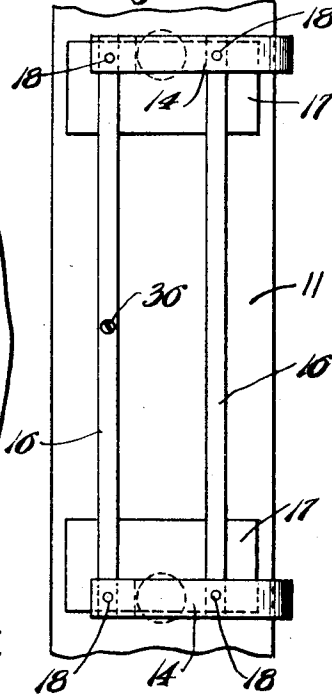


Fig. 3.

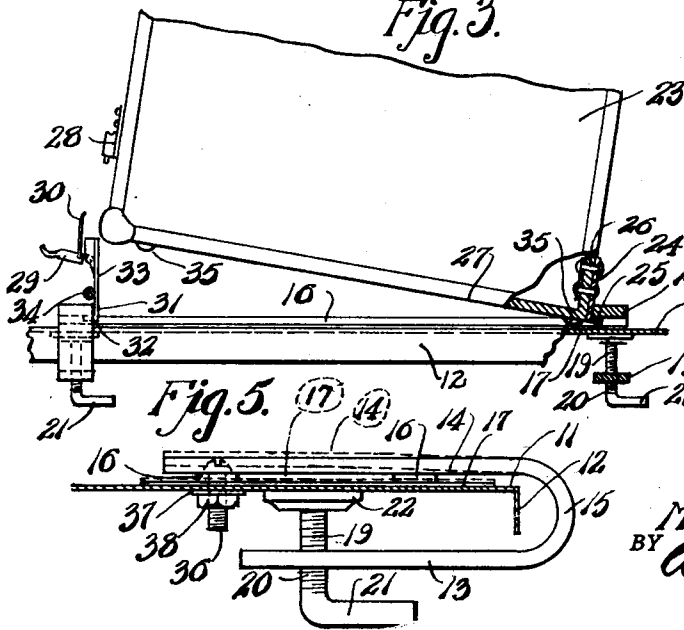


Fig. 4.

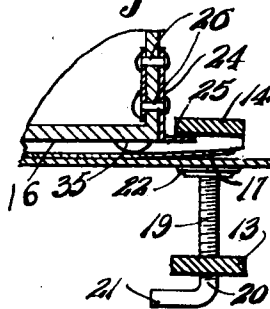
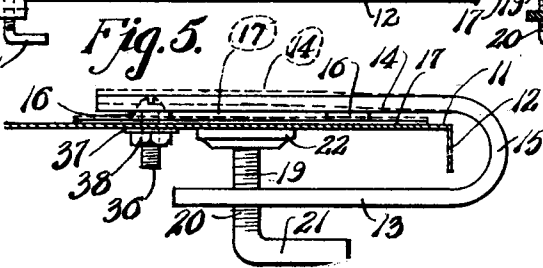


Fig. 5.



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## LUGGAGE HOLDER.

Application filed April 25, 1928. Serial No. 272,730.

My invention relates to luggage holders and more particularly to a device for securing a trunk or other receptacle to the running board of an automobile.

5 It is a purpose of my invention to provide a device for holding a trunk or other receptacle on the running board of an automobile in such a manner that the same will be held rigidly in position and will not rattle  
10 or vibrate on the running board while the vehicle is in motion.

It is a further purpose of my invention to provide a device for holding a trunk or other receptacle on a running board, that is easily  
15 attached to the running board without the use of any special tools and which comprises means for detachably connecting the trunk or other receptacle to the holding means. The major portion of the holding means may  
20 be left on the vehicle running board and the trunk or other receptacle may be readily removed therefrom and taken into a hotel or other stopping place without delay and without the necessity of using any tools for removing the same from the vehicle.

My improved holding means comprises means engaging the running board or other support, which comprises a resilient member, a member cooperating therewith and  
30 means on the receptacle engaging one of the members to tension the resilient member. Preferably a pair of resilient members and a pair of cooperating members are provided, these being secured together to maintain the proper spaced relation between the same.  
35 While in the preferred form a plate is shown cooperating with a resilient member with which the means on the receptacle engages, obviously other similar arrangements could be used as all that is necessary is that a member be provided that the trunk or other receptacle engages and another member be provided, that means on the receptacle engages to tension one of said members that is  
45 resilient.

In the preferred embodiment shown in the drawings, my improved holder for trunks or other receptacle comprises a pair of clamping members spaced lengthwise of the running  
50 board, said clamping members comprising resilient portions and bearing plates that are made of resilient material and which are mounted in spaced relation to the said resilient portions of the clamping means.  
55 The means on the receptacle engaging with the holding means on the running board pref-

erably comprises a pair of members having laterally extending flanges adapted to engage under the resilient portions that overlie the bearing plates. One of said flanged members  
60 is preferably secured permanently to the trunk or other receptacle while the other thereof is engaged with the trunk or other receptacle by a take-up device which may be of any desired character.

My invention further comprises, in the preferred form, clamping means for securing the luggage holder to the running board, said clamping means comprising brackets of spring metal, whereby said clamping means  
70 engage the running board with a spring tension and will not work loose.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will appear as the description of the drawing proceeds. I desire to have it understood, however, that I do not intend to limit myself to the details of structure shown or described but that I intend to include as part of my invention all such obvious changes and modifications of parts as would occur to a  
80 person skilled in this art and as would fall within the scope of the claims.

In the drawings

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of an automobile showing my improved luggage  
85 holder applied thereto and showing a trunk secured in position on the running board thereby.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary top plan view of a running board showing my improved luggage  
90 holder secured thereto, the receptacle being omitted.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary side elevation partly broken away, showing the position of the trunk or other receptacle when engaged with  
95 one of the fastening devices and prior to engagement with the other thereof.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken at right angles to Fig. 3, showing the resilient member in the position it assumes when the trunk is in its final position  
100 on the running board and

Fig. 5 is a transverse fragmentary section through the running board showing my improved luggage holder in end elevation.  
105

Referring in detail to the drawings my improved luggage holder is shown as being applied to an automobile 10 having a running board 11. While a metallic running board is shown that has the downwardly extending  
110 flange 12 thereon, obviously the running board may be of any material and of any cross section-

al shape. My improved luggage holder comprises a pair of U-shaped brackets, preferably made of spring metal, each having the lower substantially horizontally extending leg portion 13 and the upper substantially horizontally extending leg portion 14 connected by means of the curved portion 15. The lower leg portion 13 of each bracket member may be shorter than the upper leg portion 14 thereof, if desired. The upper leg portions 14 are preferably connected by means of the longitudinally extending spacing bars 16 and bearing plates 17 of spring metal are preferably provided on the opposite sides of the bars 16 from the legs 14 of the brackets, said brackets, bars and plates being secured together by any suitable means, as by means of the rivets 18.

It will be noted that the plates 17 are slightly overlapped by the legs 14 of the brackets and that said bracket portions 14 are spaced normally a predetermined distance, equal to the thickness of the bars 16, from the plates 17 between the securing means 18. The lower legs 13 of the brackets are provided with screw-threaded openings that receive the threaded portions 19 of the clamping screws 20 having the laterally extending handles or operating portions 21 thereon. Said clamping screws 20 are preferably provided with heads 22 swivelly mounted on said clamping screws and engaging with the under side of the running board when said clamping screws are tightened up to firmly clamp the device in position on the running board.

It will be noted that the device is readily applied to the running board by sliding the same onto the running board in a direction crosswise of the same. After the device has been moved into its desired position the clamping screw 20 is tightened up and will remain in an adjusted position due to the resiliency of the leg 13 of the bracket which will hold the clamping screw in adjusted position, in a similar manner to a nut lock. Due to the resiliency of the brackets the same will grip the running board with a spring tension, preventing the same from working loose.

The bracket members are spaced apart the proper distance so that the receptacle 23 that is to be mounted on the running board will fit between the legs 14 of said brackets. Means is provided on the receptacle 23, which is shown in the drawings as being a wardrobe trunk, for engagement with the legs 14 of the brackets to hold the receptacle 23 in position.

Said means on the receptacle comprises a plate 24 having a laterally extending flange 25 which is permanently secured in position on the receptacle 23 by means of rivets or other suitable fastening elements 26. The flange 25 extends substantially in alignment with the bottom face 27 of the receptacle.

Said receptacle is further provided with a keeper member 28, secured in fixed position on the opposite side face of the receptacle to that carrying the plate 24. A take-up device 29 having a link 30 adapted to engage with the keeper 28 is provided on a plate 31 which is similar to the plate 24 and is provided with a laterally extending flange 32. Said take-up device comprises a hasp-like member 33 which is adapted to receive the eye 34 provided on the plate 31 to hold the parts in clamping position. Obviously a padlock or other locking means may be passed through the eye 34.

The receptacle is provided with the usual knobs or projections 35 thereon which ordinarily serve the purpose of preventing damage to the walls of the trunk or receptacle 23 in handling. The height of the knobs or projections 35 is such, relative to the spacing of the legs 14 of the brackets from the plates 17, that it is necessary to tilt the receptacle 23, as shown in Fig. 3, to engage the flange 25 on the plate 24 under the leg 14 of the bracket. When this is done the weight of the trunk or other receptacle 23 will put the resilient member 14 under a slight tension or distortion and slightly flex the plate 17 adjacent the member 14. In order to move the receptacle 23 to a position such as that shown in Fig. 1, with the bottom 27 thereof substantially parallel to the running board 11, it is necessary to push downwardly on the receptacle 23 against the tension of leg portions 14. The plate 17 being in engagement with the running board 11 will be held rigid where the knobs 35 engage therewith. The knobs 35 adjacent the plate 24 will act as fulcrums about which the receptacle 23 will pivot and the flange 25 on the plate 24 will cause the leg 14 of the bracket to flex, distorting the same both crosswise and lengthwise, the transverse distortion being shown in Fig. 4 and the distortion lengthwise being shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, the plate 17 being flexed upwardly adjacent said legs 14 to permit distortion of said legs 14. The spring formed by the leg 14 will thus be placed under considerable tension even when the link 30 is engaged first with the keeper 28. Operation of the take-up device 29 will place a further tension thereon and will also tension the leg 14 of the other bracket that is engaged by the flange 32 on the plate 31 before the receptacle 23 is moved from the position shown in Fig. 3 to that shown in Fig. 1. The tension under which the legs 14 of the brackets are placed will firmly hold the receptacle against the plates 17 and thus on the running board 11, thus preventing all vibration of the trunk or other receptacle on the running board.

In order to prevent removal of the luggage holder from the running board when the receptacle 23 is in position thereon the bolt

36 may be inserted through the opening provided therefor in the one bar 16 prior to placing the trunk or other receptacle 23 in position, said bolt being provided with a washer 37 and a nut 38 for securing the same to the running board, a suitable hole being drilled in the running board for receiving said bolt. It will be seen that when the trunk or other receptacle 23 is in the position shown in Fig. 1, the bolt 36 cannot be removed even if the nut 38 is taken off the bolt. It will also be noted that with the bolt in position the brackets cannot be removed from the running board even if the clamping screws 20 are released from the running board. By engaging a suitable padlock with the eye 34 the receptacle can thus be locked against removal from the running board.

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

1. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, comprising a resilient member, a member cooperating therewith, means for securing said members together, said receptacle engaging one of said members and means on said receptacle engaging the other of said members to tension said resilient member.

2. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, comprising pairs of members, each pair comprising a resilient member and a cooperating member secured together, said receptacle engaging one member of each pair and means on said receptacle engaging the other member of each pair to distort said resilient members.

3. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, comprising pairs of members, each pair comprising a resilient member and a cooperating member secured together, said receptacle engaging one member of each pair and means on said receptacle engaging the other member of each pair to distort said resilient members, comprising a member of fixed length engaging one of said last mentioned members and a member including a take-up device engaging the other of said last members.

4. A device of the character described, comprising paired members and means for securing said paired members together at spaced points, one member of each pair being a resilient bearing plate and the other member of each pair having a portion spaced from said plate between the points at which said members are secured together.

5. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, com-

prising plate-like members engaged by said receptacle at spaced points, members secured to said plate-like members at spaced points and spaced from said plate-like members between the points of securement thereof and means on said receptacle extending into the space between said members and engaging said last mentioned members, said members comprising resilient means, one of said means on the receptacle including take-up means for holding said resilient means under tension.

6. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, comprising a resilient member, a member cooperating therewith, means for securing said members together, said receptacle having projections thereon engaging one of said members and laterally extending means on said receptacle engaging the other of said members to tension said resilient member.

7. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, comprising pairs of members, each pair comprising a resilient member and a cooperating member secured together, said receptacle having projections thereon engaging one of said members of each pair and laterally extending means on said receptacle engaging the other member of each pair to distort said resilient members.

8. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of means engaging said support for securing said receptacle on said support, said means comprising pairs of members, one member of each pair being resilient, each pair of members comprising a bearing member and a member having a portion thereof spaced therefrom, said receptacle having projections thereon engaging said bearing members and laterally extending means on said receptacle engaging the spaced portions of said other members, the spacing of said members being such relative to the height of said projections as to tension said resilient means when said laterally extending means engage the spaced portions of the members and said projections engage said bearing members.

9. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of combined bearing and holding means for said receptacle mounted on said support, said means comprising bearing portions and holding portions, one portion of each of said means being resilient, said bearing and holding portions being so related that said resilient portions are placed under tension as said receptacle is moved into a position of substantial parallelism to said support.

10. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of combined bearing and holding means for said receptacle mounted on said support, said means comprising bearing portions and holding portions, one portion of

each of said means being resilient, said bearing and holding portions being so related that said resilient portions are placed under tension as said receptacle is moved into a position of substantial parallelism to said support, and said receptacle being provided with holding members engaging said holding portions, one of said holding members being provided with a take-up device.

11. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of a receptacle holding member, comprising spaced clamping members, means connecting said members, bearing plates on said holding member, said clamping members having resilient portions overlying and spaced from said bearing plates, said receptacle engaging said bearing plates and flanged members on said receptacle engaging under the portions of said clamping members overlying and spaced from the bearing plates to distort said portions of said clamping members.

12. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of a receptacle holding member, comprising spaced clamping members, means connecting said members, bearing plates on said holding members, said clamping members comprising resilient brackets having portions overlying and spaced from said bearing plates, said receptacle engaging said bearing plates and members on said receptacle having laterally extending flanges engaging under the portions of said brackets spaced from said bearing plates to distort said portions of said brackets.

13. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of a receptacle holding member, comprising spaced clamping members, means connecting said members, bearing plates on said holding member, said clamping members

having portions overlying and spaced from said bearing plates, and including resilient means, said receptacle having projections engaging said bearing plates and flanged members on said receptacle engaging under the portions of said clamping members overlying and spaced from the bearing plates to tension said resilient means when said projections are engaged with said bearing plates.

14. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of a receptacle holding member, comprising spaced clamping members, means connecting said members, said clamping members comprising resilient brackets having portions overlying and spaced from said bearing plates, said receptacle engaging said bearing plates and members on said receptacle having laterally extending flanges engaging under the portions of said brackets, one of said last mentioned members being provided with a take-up device.

15. A device of the character described, comprising a pair of resilient bracket members, clamping screws carried thereby, bars connecting said members and bearing plates mounted on said bars, said bracket members having portions overlying but spaced from said bearing plates.

16. The combination with a receptacle and a support, of receptacle holding means, comprising resilient bearing plates, members secured to said plates and having portions spaced from said bearing plates, said receptacle engaging said bearing plates and members on said receptacle having portions engaging under the portions of said first members spaced from said plates to flex said plates.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 19th day of April, 1928.

MARION N. FRELING.