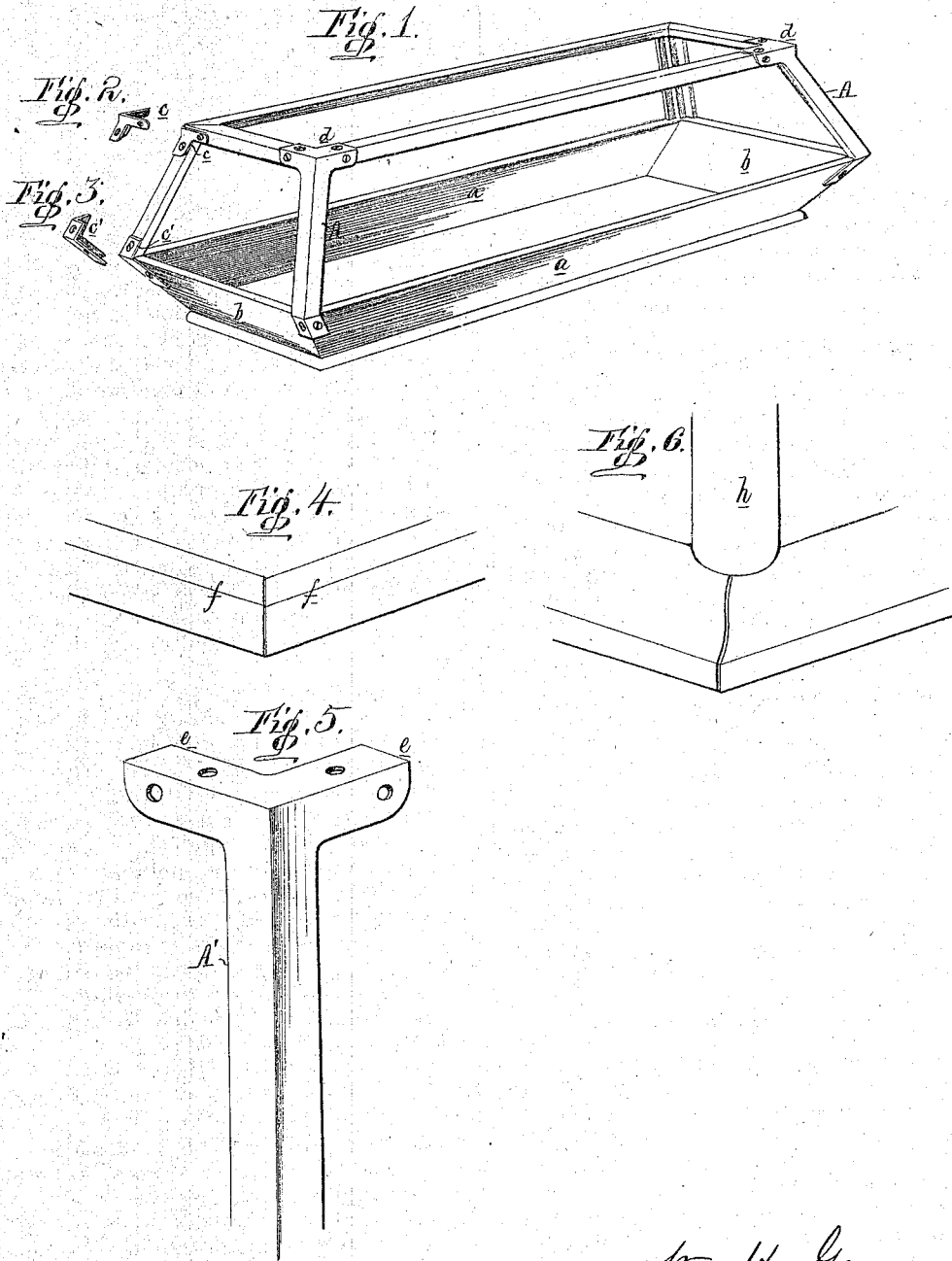


WILLIAM HENRY GROVE.
Improvement in Show-Cases.

No. 115,195.

Patented May 23, 1871.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY GROVE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOW-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 115,195, dated May 23, 1871.

I, WILLIAM HENRY GROVE, of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Show-Cases, of which the following is a specification:

Nature and Object of the Invention.

My invention consists of a show-case, constructed in a manner too fully described hereafter to need preliminary explanation, so that it can be readily taken apart and packed into a small compass, for convenience and safety of transportation, and as readily put together again when required for use, the improvement being, also, such as to add to the ornamentation of the case, and to enable the usual accurate and close fitting of the joints to be dispensed with.

Description of the Accompanying Drawing.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a show-case, constructed in accordance with my invention; Figs. 2 and 3, perspective views of two of the corner-pieces, detached from the case; Fig. 4, a view of one corner of a square or rectangular case; Fig. 5, a view of a metallic upright and angular connection, adapted to the portion of the case shown in Fig. 4; and Fig. 6, a perspective view of the lower portion of a show-case.

General Description.

Show-cases as usually constructed consist of a solid base, to which are secured moldings, of wood, or metal, to form a frame for the support and retention of the glass top and sides of the case. These moldings are generally perfectly plain, and, if made of metal, are highly polished, and are closely and accurately fitted together at the corners and to the base. Such cases cannot be taken apart without injury or disfigurement, and, if they have to be transported, must be packed in large boxes, which are inconvenient to handle, and in which the glass frequently becomes broken, especially if the cases have to

be carried a long distance or frequently transferred from one conveyance to another.

I have overcome this difficulty by constructing a show-case in the manner which I will now proceed to describe, so that it can be readily taken apart and packed into a small compass for convenience and safety of transportation, and as readily put together again when required for use.

The case illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawing has a flat top and bottom and double inclined sides, and resembles a casket in appearance. The inclined sides and ends *a* and *b* of the lower portion of the case are represented in the drawing as being made of wood; but in large show-cases they are to be made of glass, inclosed in and supported by narrow strips of molding, as in ordinary cases.

The main peculiarity of my invention is that the strips of molding which form the frame of the case, instead of being permanently secured to each other at the corners with permanent and accurately-fitting joints, as in ordinary cases, are joined by overlapping plates, adapted to the angles or corners of the case, and secured to the moldings by screws or otherwise, so as to be readily detached therefrom; or, instead of separate overlapping plates, some of the strips or moldings themselves, if made of metal, can be enlarged at one or both ends, so as to overlap the ends of the plain strips to which they are to be connected. Both of these plans are illustrated in the drawing. In Figs. 2 and 3, for instance, *c* and *c'* represent angular corner-pieces, by which the several strips of molding can be rigidly connected together in the manner shown in Fig. 1; and at the front of the latter figure are also represented two long metallic strips or uprights, *A A*, each of which is bent at the bottom to conform to the inward inclination of the lower portion of the case, and has an enlargement, *d*, at its upper end, which overlaps and is secured to the moldings forming the top of the case.

The application of my invention to an ordinary square or rectangular show-case is

represented in Figs. 4 and 5 of the drawing, A' in Fig. 5 being a vertical standard or corner-post, with flanges *e e* at its upper end for convenience of attachment to the frame or strips *f*, Fig. 4, at the top of the case.

Claim.

A show-case, consisting of strips or moldings for retaining the glass, and of detachable strips, plates, or corner-pieces for connect-

ing the moldings together, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

W. H. GROVE.

Witnesses:

WM. A. STEEL,
HARRY SMITH.