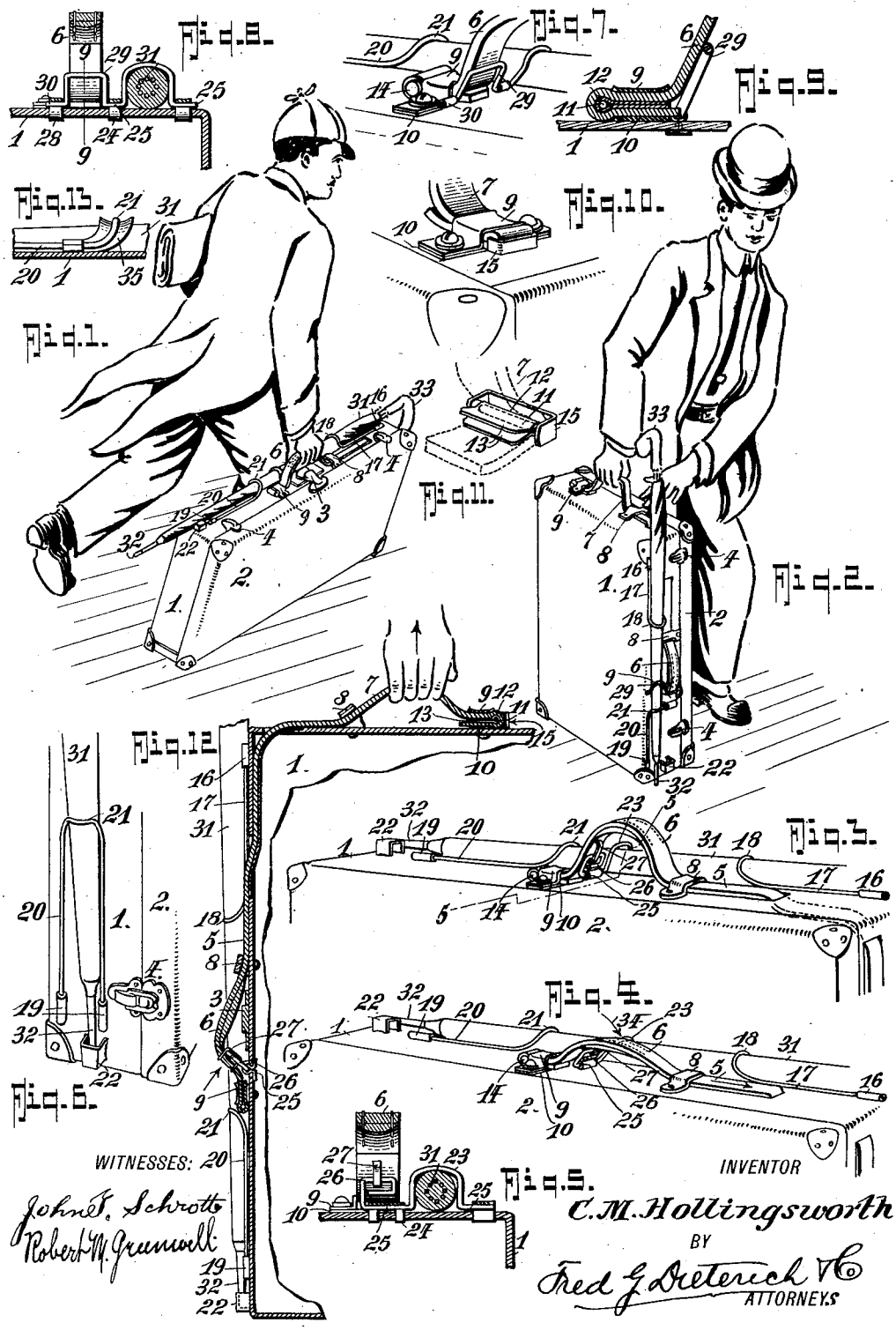
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TRAVELING CASE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 10, 1912.

1,094,207. Patented Apr. 21, 1914.



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TRAVELING-CASE.

1,094,207. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Apr. 21, 1914.**

Application filed September 10, 1912. Serial No. 719,558.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. HOLLINGSWORTH, residing at Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Traveling-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to suit cases and the like, and it primarily has for its object to provide certain attachments for suit cases in the nature of an improved handle device and umbrella holder, so arranged that the case may be carried in the ordinary way *i. e.*, with its greatest length horizontally directed, or it may be up-ended and carried in the vertical position, the means for holding the umbrella on the case being so designed as to retain the umbrella in position regardless of whether the case be up-ended or carried in its ordinary way. In addition, means may also be provided for positively gripping the umbrella when the case is up-ended to positively hold the umbrella from slipping downwardly under the influence of gravity and furthermore, a receiving cup for the umbrella tip may be employed to restrain the umbrella from downward movement when the case is carried vertically.

My invention also includes those novel details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts all of which will be first fully described, and then be specifically pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my invention in use with the suit case and umbrella carried in the ordinary way. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the invention in use with the case carried in its up-ended position. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail perspective view of the top side of the case with the invention applied and the umbrella gripper released (the lock and clasps of the suit case being omitted to more clearly show the parts behind). Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the position of the parts when the gripper is put in action. Fig. 5 is a cross section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view showing the umbrella tip in its cup. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of a modification of the gripper part of my invention. Fig. 8 is a cross section of the same. Fig. 9 is a detail vertical section on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8. Fig. 10 is a detail perspective view of one end of the handle member showing one of the adjustable fasteners employed. Fig. 11 is a detail perspective view of the adjustable fastener or resilient core device. Fig. 12 is a central vertical longitudinal section (parts being broken away) of the parts as shown in position illustrated in Fig. 2. Fig. 13 is a detail view showing a shield for the umbrella holder, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the drawings in which like numerals of reference designate like parts in all the figures, 1 is the case body, 2 the lid, 3 the lock, and 4 the usual clasps, all of which may be of the ordinary construction.

The handle forming member (which *per se* forms no part of the present invention, but forms the subject matter of my Patent #1,047,941, issued December 24, 1912), includes the top handle forming section 6, the end handle section 7 and the intermediate connecting part 5 which passes beneath the intermediate cross straps 8—8, while the ends of the handle forming sections 6 and 7 pass beneath the end cross members 9—9 in which they are held from relative movement preferably by an adjustable fastening device.

In order to enable slack (due to stretching in the handle forming member which is usually constructed of leather) to be taken up, the ends where they pass beneath the straps or plates 9 are doubled under (see Fig. 9), around a retaining device or fastener which consists of a core part 11, and a spring member 13 folded over the core part, the spring member tending to press the folded or doubled back portion of the handle end, up against the plate 9 and the under plate 10 when such is employed, to hold, by retaining friction, the handle end from movement under the plate 9 during normal use of the case. In order to prevent the withdrawal of the pin 11 through the fold 12 of the member 13, the pin ends may carry disks 14 (see Fig. 7), or they may be united by a U-shaped bridge piece 15 (see Fig. 11) which latter piece 15 also serves to retain the core member on the strap.

Secured to the top side of the case *i. e.* that part which is usually uppermost in carrying, and near one end of the case, is a pair of sockets 16 to receive and hold, preferably with retaining friction, a resilient clip 17 which consists of a piece of spring wire of U-shape, whose ends are inserted in the

sockets 16, and whose "bend" 18 is turned upwardly slightly to facilitate the entrance of the umbrella 31. A second set of sockets 19, and a second clip 20 with up-turned "bend" 21, may be mounted on the top side of the case near the other end to clip over the umbrella, the two "bend" ends 18 and 21 being opposed to one another with the handle member 26 located between the same, but to one side thereof. In practice the clips 17 and 20 are preferably located in alinement, and, at the end of the top side opposite the handle end, the suit case is provided with a cup 22 into which the tip 32 of the umbrella may rest when the case is carried any distance, in its up-ended position (see Fig. 6).

In order to insure the positive holding of the umbrella on the suit case, when it is up-ended, I provide a gripper that operates in conjunction with the handle member to effect a positive pressure or gripping action of the umbrella when the case is carried by the end handle section 7. The gripper includes a U portion 23 having fulcrum or shaft like members 25 that are mounted in bearing sockets 24, on the case 1. In the form shown in Figs. 1 to 5, the gripper also includes a lever loop 26 that is engaged by the underside of the handle section 6 to which it may be movably secured by an elongated eye or bridge member 27, while in the form shown in Figs. 7 and 8, the gripper includes a second U portion 29 to be engaged by the handle member 6, and it also includes a third bearing or fulcrum 30 and a bearing socket 28, thus giving greater strength with less liability of twist than in the preceding form. In the latter form, the member 29 (as also the member 26 of the preceding form) may or may not be secured to the handle section 26 by a device 27 or the like, such as is shown in Fig. 5.

In operation, the case is usually carried horizontally, as shown in Fig. 1, with the umbrella so located that the handle 33 will project beyond one end of the case a given distance, while the tip 32 will project an equal distance beyond the other end. While thus carried, the gripper does not exert any effect on the umbrella, which latter is then held in place solely by the tips 17 and 20. When, however, the case is up-ended and the operator grasps the end handle 7 (the umbrella being moved to bring its tip within the bounds of the case either by setting the case down on the ground as shown in Fig. 2 or by raising the umbrella by hand), the handle section 6 is flattened against the case, thereby exerting a pressure in the direction of the arrow 34, in Fig. 4, to rock the gripper toward the case and thereby grip the umbrella against the case, thus securely holding the same from slipping down.

If the user wishes to carry the case up-ended for a considerable distance and also in order to protect the tip 32, I provide a cup 22 on the case into which the tip 32 may be set, as indicated in Fig. 6 of the drawing.

By the use of my invention, the annoyances and inconvenience incidental to entering street cars, railroad cars, and in ascending and descending steps is largely eliminated since the user can carry the case up-ended and thus render its transportation much easier.

When the gripper is employed in connection with the clip 17, the clip 20 may be omitted if desired, as the U portion 23 of the gripper will prevent lateral movement of the umbrella when the case is carried as shown in Fig. 1, and the clip 17 will tend to hold the umbrella in contact with the case and prevent its longitudinal movement. However, I prefer employing both members 17 and 20 to insure the retention of the umbrella in position on the case when carried in its normal position, indicated in Fig. 1.

If desired a shield 36 may be provided on the umbrella engaging member (see Fig. 13 for example) so as to prevent ruffling the umbrella.

Many slight changes in the details of construction, design and arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A case having a top and an end portion, combined with a handle member mounted on the top and end to form a top handle and an end handle by which the case may be carried either horizontally or vertically, an umbrella holding clip mounted on the top, and a gripper for engaging the umbrella and coöperative with said handle member for retaining said umbrella when the case is carried vertically.

2. The combination of a traveling case with a handle member including a top handle section and an end handle section, of means coöperative with said handle member for retaining an umbrella on the case top when the case is up-ended and carried by the end handle member.

3. The combination of a traveling case with a handle member having a top handle section and an end handle section, and means connecting said handle sections together, in virtue of which when one handle section is in use the other handle section will be held flatwise against the case and vice versa,—an umbrella retaining device mounted on the case adjacent to one handle section, and including a member for gripping the umbrella, and connections between said member and the adjacent handle section for effecting the operation of said member.

4. In a traveling case, the combination of a top and an end handle forming member and a connection between said members, an umbrella guide mounted on the case adjacent to one of said handle members, and means coöperative with one of said handle members for gripping the umbrella to the case when the end handle member is grasped to hold the case in a position to bring said umbrella into a vertical position.

5. The combination of a traveling case with a top handle member and an end handle member and a connection between said members, an umbrella guide mounted on said case and adjacent to one handle member for holding an umbrella in position on said case, and means coöperative with one of said handle members for gripping the umbrella to the case when said case is held in a position to bring said umbrella into a vertical position.

6. In a traveling case, a handle forming strap having one end secured to the top of the case and the other end secured to one end of the case, guide straps secured on the case through which said handle strap passes to form a top handle section or on end handle section according as said strap is gripped on the top of the case or its end, and means coöperative with said strap for holding an umbrella on the case.

7. In a traveling case, a handle forming strap having one end secured to the top of the case, and the other end secured to one end of the case, guide straps secured on the case through which said handle strap passes to form a top handle section or an end handle section according as said strap is gripped on the top of the case or its end, and a gripping device mounted on the case adjacent to one of the handle portions of said strap, and including a member engaged by said handle strap to effect the gripping act.

8. In a traveling case, a handle member, and means by which said handle member may be drawn longitudinally toward the body of the case, combined with an umbrella retaining means coöperatively engaged by said handle member to grip the umbrella as said handle member is flattened against the case.

9. In a traveling case, a handle member mounted on the case, means by which said handle member may be flattened against the case, an umbrella retaining device mounted on the case, and including a member coöperatively projecting into the path of movement of said handle whereby when said handle is flattened against the case, said gripping device will be operated.

10. The combination of a traveling case with a handle member, including a top handle section and an end handle section, and a connection between said handle sections by means of which when one handle section is gripped by the operator the other handle section will be flattened against the case, of an umbrella retaining device mounted on said case, and a connection between said device and said handle member whereby when one of said handle member sections is flattened against the case said connection will be operated to cause said device to grip the umbrella.

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."