W. W. WHITTEN.

WARDROBE TRUNK OPENER AND CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 28, 1919.

1,352,234. **Patented Sept. 7, 1920.**

Fig. 1

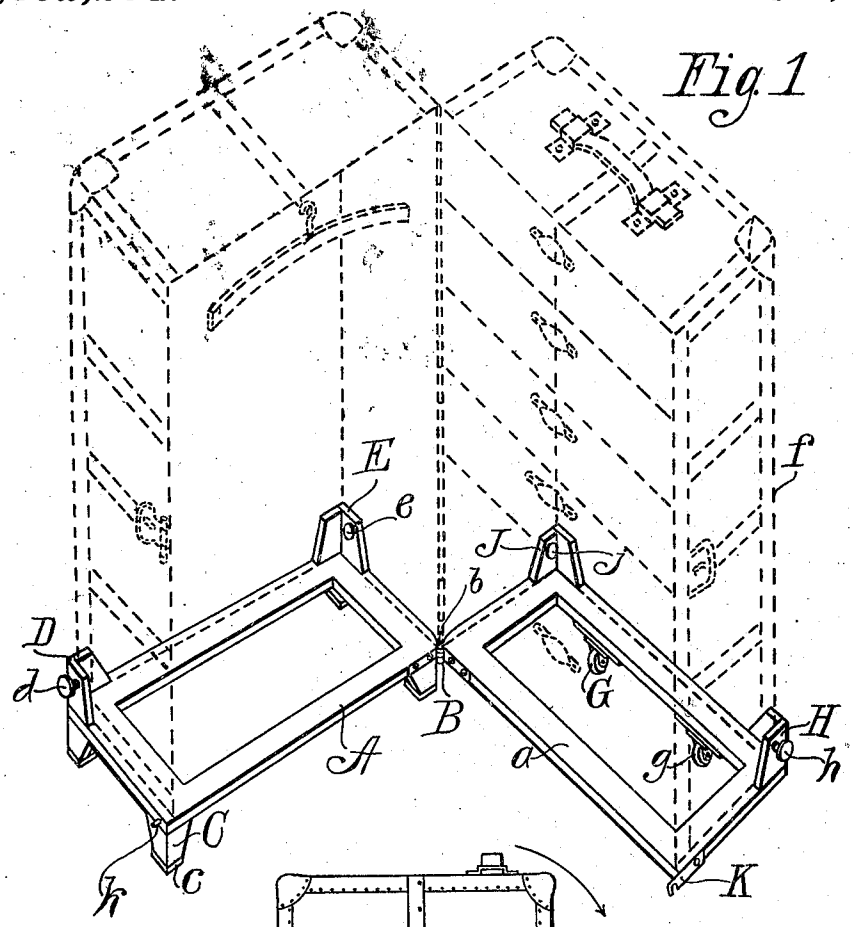


Fig. 2

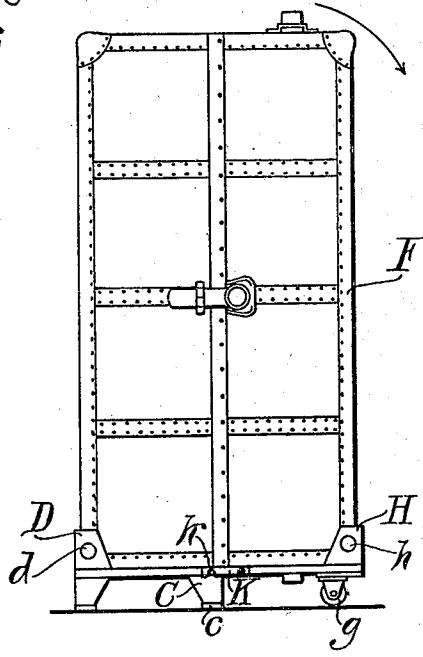
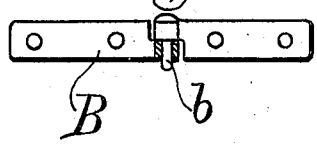


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILMOT W. WHITTEN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO EDWIN GUTHRIE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WARDROBE-TRUNK OPENER AND CARRIER.

1,352,234. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 7, 1920.

Application filed October 28, 1919. Serial No. 333,926.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILMOT W. WHITTEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wardrobe-Trunk Openers and Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wardrobe trunk openers and carriers, and has for its object the production of movable supporting frames or bases provided with casters, whereby a wardrobe trunk may be readily moved about, and upon which the trunk may be easily opened sidewise without disturbing the carpet or rug on which the carrier is placed. In trunks termed wardrobe trunks with which this applicant is acquainted, and particularly those of the larger size, the axes of their hinges being vertical, it is difficult to swing the portions of the trunk open when ordinarily full, and the opening operation is often injurious to the carpet or rug under the trunk. By the use of this invention the trunk is easily moved about and opened or closed without displacing the carpet or rug.

To illustrate the construction and arrangement of the various parts of this invention, the accompanying drawings are made a part of this application. Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the twin frames and shows the several devices borne by the frames. The frames are drawn in their open positions, and a wardrobe trunk is indicated by dotted lines upon them. Fig. 2 is a side view of the frames closed and latched, showing a wardrobe trunk upon them. Fig. 3 is a flatwise view of the hinge spread open and on a somewhat enlarged scale to show one form of separable pivotal connection for the frames.

Throughout the drawings and explanation the same letter is employed to refer to the same part.

Considering the drawings, there are set out the twin frames A and *a*, horizontally disposed side by side. At one end their meeting sides are connected by the hinge B having the hinge pin *b*. As illustrated in Fig. 3, in practice the hinge pin *b* is held in one side or leaf of the hinge and slips into the eye of the other leaf, and is removable from that eye, in order that the two portions of the hinge and, therefore, the two frames may be separated. This separation is desirable when this invention is to be packed for shipment, or placed in a trunk with other articles. The frames may be arranged when separated flatwise one upon the other in order that they may be more conveniently packed, and in less space. This invention is not limited to the special construction of separable hinge illustrated and described.

The frame A is provided with the feet C, and it is advantageous to shoe the feet with rubber pads *c*, in order that when one portion of the trunk is swung open, the portion resting on the frame having the feet will stand still, the rubber pads having a frictional contact with the carpet or floor. Thus, the trunk may stand against a wall, and the portion upon the movable frame may be swung open or closed without displacing the trunk as a whole.

The frame A has the raised guards D and E at the edges, for the purpose of preventing the trunk from slipping off the frame. The guards D and E, are provided with screw clamps *d* and *e*, which may be used to hold the portion of the trunk in position upon the frame.

In Fig. 2 the trunk is designated by the letter F, and the representation in broken lines in Fig. 1 is marked *f*.

The frame *a* has the guards H and J, similar to the guards D and E and for the same purpose, and the guards H and J carry the screw clamps *h* and *j*.

The front ends of the frames are releasably connected by a latch K which engages a pin *k*, as best shown in Fig. 2.

In the operation of this invention, the trunk is placed upon the frames in such manner that one portion of the trunk is carried by the frame A and the other portion by frame *a*. The trunk hinges are so arranged that they are approximately over the hinge B. When the trunk is on the frames, and they are closed as set out in Fig. 2, if the trunk is slightly tilted in the direction of the arrow, the weight upon the feet C is relieved and thrown upon the casters G and *g* with which the frame *a* is provided. Now, the trunk may be moved to any point in the room. If the latch K is released, that portion of the trunk upon the frame *a* may be swung away from the portion on the frame A, as illustrated in

Fig. 1, affording convenient access to the interior of the trunk, and the casters do not rumple the rug or carpet. Furthermore, the opening and closing movements are much easier to accomplish than is the condition when the trunk rests directly upon the carpet or floor.

Having now described this invention, and explained the mode of its operation, what I claim is:—

1. The combination with a wardrobe trunk, of detachable frames for supporting the trunk on end, one part of the trunk resting on one frame and the other part on the other frame, said frames having portions pivotally connected whereby the frames may be closed together or opened horizontally correspondingly moving the parts of the trunk.

2. The combination with a wardrobe trunk, of detachable frames for supporting the trunk on end, one part of the trunk resting on one frame and the other part on the other frame, said frames having portions pivotally connected whereby said frames may be closed together or opened horizontally correspondingly moving the parts of the trunk, and one of the said frames having anti-friction means enabling the trunk and frames to be moved about upon a floor.

3. The combination with a wardrobe trunk, of detachable frames for supporting the trunk on end, one part of the trunk resting on one frame and the other part on the other frame, said frames having portions pivotally connected whereby said frames may be closed together or opened horizontally correspondingly moving the parts of the trunk, one of the frames having casters, and one frame having feet adapted to engage the floor frictionally.

4. A trunk composed of sections adapted to detachably receive a wardrobe trunk, each of said sections formed so as to receive the corresponding part of said trunk, the said sections being pivotally connected at one end, whereby the sections may be closed together or opened horizontally to correspondingly move the parts of the trunk.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILMOT W. WHITTEN.