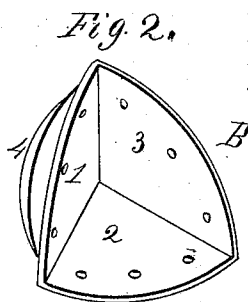
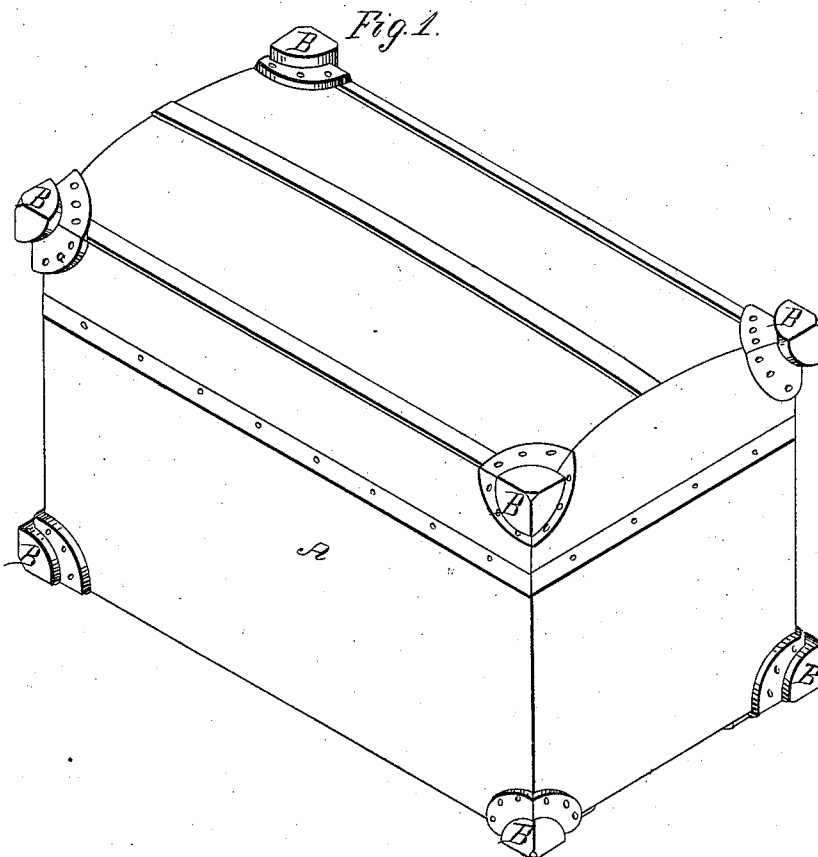


J. A. & H. A. House

Trunk Guard.

N^o 52414.

Patented Feb. 6, 1866.



Witnesses.

J. O. Peyton
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Inventor.

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By John A. Thompson
Baldwin

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. A. HOUSE AND H. A. HOUSE, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN ELASTIC SHIELDS FOR TRUNKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 52,414, dated February 6, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, J. A. HOUSE and H. A. HOUSE, of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Elastic Shields for Trunks or Packages; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view, in perspective, of a trunk to which our invention is applied, and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of our elastic shield in form to be applied to a rectangular package.

It is the object of our invention to render the transportation of valuable but fragile materials more safe, and to preserve trunks or packages from being damaged by the rough handling to which they are exposed in being removed from place to place; and to this end our invention consists in forming a shield or guard of elastic vulcanized rubber or gutta-percha for the corners of packages, and so applying them as that they shall be the most prominent parts of the package, to relieve it from jars or shocks when roughly handled.

In carrying our invention into practice we have found it particularly valuable when applied to valuable trunks or packages containing articles of price of a rectangular form, though we by no means desire our invention to be so limited, and we have therefore in the drawings shown it as so applied, Fig. 1 representing, in perspective, a trunk, A, with shields or guards B applied to each of its corners, so that in whatever way it may be thrown from the deck of a ship to the wharf,

or from one cart, in land transportation, to another, or from a railroad-car to the ground, it must always light on one of the protruding elastic guards B, and thus neutralize the violence of the jar, and save not only the trunk but its contents also from injury.

We construct the guard or shield B of vulcanized rubber cast in a mold of the form desired, for economy making the sides 1 2 3 of a corner guard, for example, as shown in Fig. 2, only thick enough to receive nails or screws to fasten it securely in place, while its more prominent or exposed corner, 4, is made as thick as may be required to give the requisite elasticity to effectively protect the package to which it is applied from injury, packages of varying sizes and weights requiring shields varying in dimensions.

It is obvious that for packages containing costly mirrors, rich porcelain vases, valuable photographic negatives, marble statuary, and many descriptions of precious goods, our invention will prove of the highest utility, and that it is capable of being applied effectively to packages of any form.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The vulcanized rubber or gutta-percha package-guard above described, constructed and operating substantially in the manner set forth.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

JAMES A. HOUSE,
HENRY A. HOUSE.

Witnesses:

GEORGE C. BISHOP,
SAMUEL BURR.