(No Model.)

W. H. GABBS.

TRUNK HARNESS.

No. 380,431. Patented Apr. 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

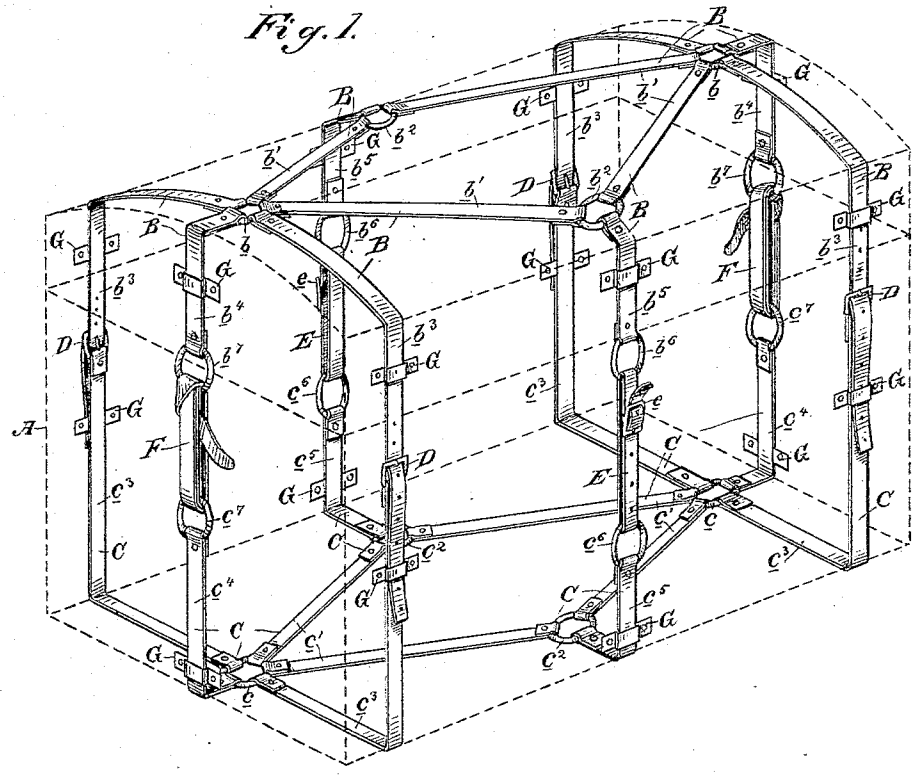
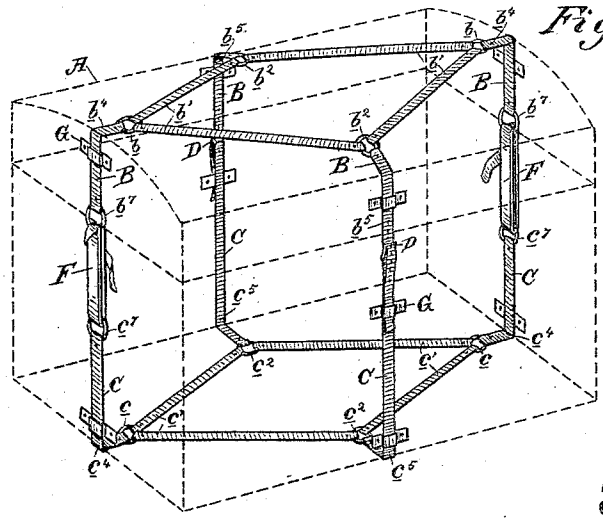


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. GABBS, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

TRUNK-HARNESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 380,431, dated April 3, 1888.

Application filed January 23, 1888. Serial No. 261,685. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. GABBS, of the city and county of San Francisco, and State of California, have invented an Improvement in Trunk-Harness; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to that class of devices for rapidly and effectively binding trunks, chests, boxes, &c., by means of encircling straps, and which may properly be called "trunk-harness."

My invention consists of a harness composed of two main portions—one for the top of the trunk and one for the bottom—each portion consisting of a center or centers, from which straps radiate so as to pass over the top, the bottom, the sides, and ends of the trunk or chest, and provided with suitable fastening devices—such as buckles, rings, and straps—for the purpose of securing them all together, all of which I shall hereinafter fully describe.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and effective trunk-harness which may be readily applied to the trunk or chest and as readily loosened, either completely or partially, for the purpose of opening the trunk or chest.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my trunk-harness. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a single harness.

A is a trunk, and B is one of the main parts of the harness and C is the other, the former being on the top of the trunk and the latter underneath.

The part B is composed of two similarly-located rings, b, one at each end of the top center of the trunk, and from these rings extend in divergent directions over the top of the trunk and toward its side centers the straps b', united by the rings b^2. From the ring-centers b extend also over the top and down the back of the trunk, and over the top and down the front of the trunk, the straps b^3, and from said ring-centers again extend the straps b^4, passing down over the ends of the trunk. The portion C of the harness is similarly composed of the ring-centers c, the divergent straps c', united by rings c^2, the straight side straps c^3, and the end straps c^4. To the rings b^2 of the upper portion are secured straps b^5, which pass down over the back and front centers of the trunk, and are provided with end rings, b^6. The bottom rings, c^2, have connected with them straps c^5, which pass upwardly over the back and front centers of the trunk and have rings c^6. The end straps b^4 of the upper portion have rings b^7, and the end straps c^4 of the bottom portion have rings c^7. The straight or transverse side straps, b^3 and c^3, of both portions are united in front and back by buckles D. The center straps, b^5 and c^5, of both portions are united by straps E passing through their rings b^6 and c^6, and provided with buckles e. The end straps, b^4 and c^4, of both portions are united by means of straps F, which pass through their rings back and forth in several turns, after the manner of what is known as a "cinch," used so commonly upon Mexican saddles, its purpose in this place being for the complete and powerful tightening of the entire harness after it has been buckled and fastened together in all its other portions. These straps, which I prefer to call "cinch-straps," it will be seen, have one end secured to one of the rings b^7 and c^7, and they thence pass down and run through the other ring, and thence up, running through the first ring, and so back and forth for any number of turns desirable. It is well known that this arrangement of cinch-straps is such as to provide for a great amount of force in tightening the whole harness.

Suitable guides, such as are here represented by G, may be provided at different parts of the trunk for the passage of the various straps.

In applying the harness the two main portions are placed in position—one on top and the other on the bottom of the trunk. The center straps, b^5 c^5, are joined by their straps E and buckled, and the side straps, b^3 c^3, are buckled together. Then the cinch-straps F at each end are tightened up and fastened, so that the entire harness is firmly secured on the trunk. In order to open the trunk, the side straps, b^3 c^3, and the center straps, b^5 c^5, on the front are unbuckled, and the cinch-straps F are loosened sufficiently to allow the cover to be thrown back.

If desired, the harness may be used as a single one by dispensing with the side straps, b^3 and c^3, as shown in Fig. 2.

I am aware that straps have been placed

around a trunk in various positions and that a harness composed of metal straps and leather straps has also been used, which tightens the trunk up, and I do not therefore claim, broadly, a trunk-harness; but

What I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A trunk-harness composed of two main portions—one for the top and the other for the bottom of the trunk—each portion having a center, from which radiate straps proceeding over the sides and ends of the trunk and united, the end straps having rings, and connected by straps running through both rings, whereby the harness may be tightened, substantially as described.

2. A trunk-harness composed of two main portions—one for the top of the trunk and the other for the bottom—each portion consisting of two ring-centers over the end centers of the top and bottom, straps radiating from these rings over the top and bottom, the center and the ends of the trunk, and over the sides of the trunk at each end, and buckles and straps for uniting the ends of the straps of each portion, substantially as described.

3. In a trunk-harness, straps passing in several directions over the trunk from the top and bottom and united by buckles or other suitable fastening devices, in combination with straps passing over the ends of the trunk and provided with rings, and cinch-straps united to one of said rings and passing back and forth through the rings for the purpose of tightening the entire harness, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

WILLIAM H. GABBS.

Witnesses:
S. H. NOURSE,
J. H. BLOOD.