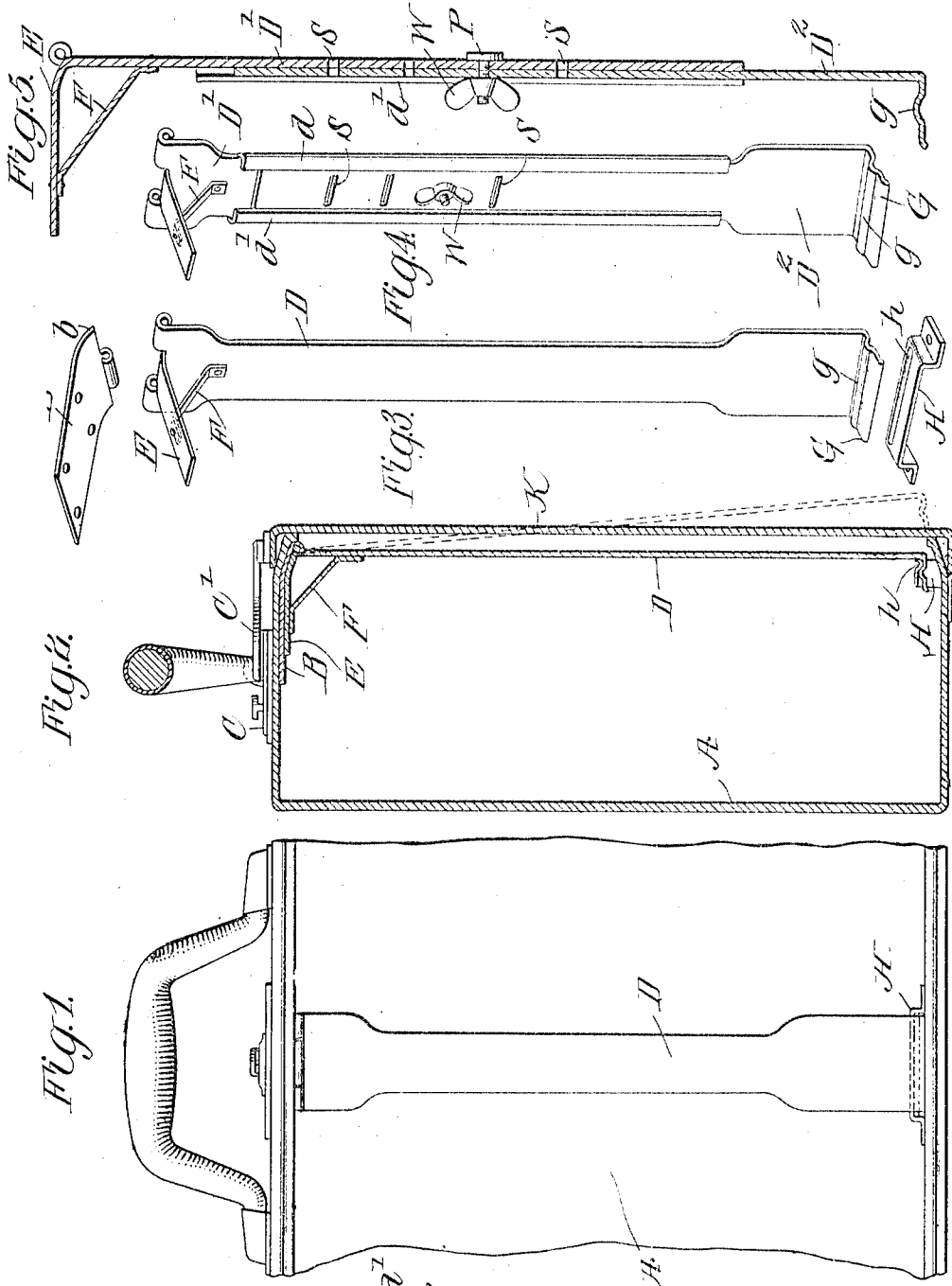


L. SPIRO.
 ATTACHMENT FOR SUIT CASES AND THE LIKE.
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 9, 1910.

1,001,563.

Patented Aug. 22, 1911.



WITNESSES:
Samuel C. Wade.
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Fig. 6.
 Fig. 7.
 Fig. 8.

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ATTACHMENT FOR SUIT-CASES AND THE LIKE.

1,001,563.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 22, 1911.

Application filed June 9, 1910. Serial No. 565,973.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS SPIRO, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison and State of West Virginia, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Suit-Cases and the Like, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for bracing suit cases and for preventing the spilling of their contents, and it consists in the constructions, combinations and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a device by means of which that portion of the suit case, upon which the lock is situated, may be effectually braced, so that when the lock is sprung together, it may have a resisting part which prevents the bending of the side of the case and, hence, the failure of the lock to work.

A further object of my invention is to provide a brace which, when in position, serves as a means of retaining the contents of the suit case, thereby obviating the necessity of the straps ordinarily used for this purpose.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of simple construction and small cost to manufacture, which can be applied to a suit case in the process of manufacture of the latter, and which, while adding to the value of the case, is of light weight, and takes up very little room.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the nature stated, which is adjustable, and which, therefore, may be used with cases of different sizes.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification and the novel features of the device will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, in which similar reference characters indicate like parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a portion of a suit case showing my improved bracing member in operation, Fig. 2 is a transverse section through the suit case and bracing member, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bracing member and the latch member, Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing a modified

form, Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section through the modified form shown in Fig. 4, Fig. 6 is a section showing the locking mechanism for the adjustable brace member, and Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing the bolt.

As is well known, most suit cases are provided with a spring lock on the outer portion of one side. The manner of using the lock is to press down the cover against the side until the portions of the lock engage each other and are latched. The pressure of the cover upon the side tends to break down the side, and after a few weeks of use, the side is either broken, or else it is bent so far out of shape that the lock will not work easily.

As stated above, it is the object of this invention to provide a bracing member which will obviate the defects noted above, and it will be understood that in the use of the term "sides," I intend to include any of the inclosing members such as the top or bottom and ends.

In carrying out my invention, I make use of an ordinary suit case, such as that shown at A. On the inside of the case, I place a metal plate B (see Fig. 3). This plate is curved toward its top at *b* to fit the contour of the suit case A. The plate B constitutes a backing for the lock C. The plate B is hinged at one end to the brace strip D (see Fig. 3). This brace strip has a laterally extending portion E, which is held in position by means of an inclined brace member F. The opposite end of the brace member has a laterally extending flange G, which is provided with a stamped ridge portion *g*.

On the inside of the suit case, immediately opposite the member B, I secure a latch member H. This is of a U-shaped form, as shown in Fig. 3, and is provided with a stamped portion *h*, which constitutes a locking lug, and is adapted to engage the ridge *g* of the brace member D.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood.

The member B is secured to the side of the case by means of rivets or any other suitable way. As will be seen from Fig. 2, when the end of the flange G is pushed downwardly the ridge *g* engages behind the lug *h*, so as to lock the brace in position. Now,

when the cover K is closed the latch member C' may be pushed downwardly upon the lock member C and the brace D will serve to form a resisting member which will keep the lock member C in position. When the cover is raised the member D will serve to keep the clothes or other articles in the suit case, in their proper place thereby dispensing with the straps usually necessary for holding these articles in place.

In Figs. 4 and 5, I have shown a modified form of the device. In these figures the brace member consists of two braces D' and D². The brace D' is provided with turned-over flanges d', and these flanges engage the brace member D² so as to form a run-way for the latter. Both of the brace members D' and D² are provided with registering slots S, through which a bolt P is adapted to extend. The bolt is provided with a wing nut W. The slots are approximately a half inch apart. It will be seen that the bolt P may be placed in any one of the slots and the wing nut W may be turned so as to clamp one of the brace members to the other. By removing the bolt and extending the members, a longer brace may be made, or by reversing the operation a shorter brace may be made as desired. The adjustable feature renders the brace available for suit cases of various sizes.

While, I have shown particular forms of the device, it will be apparent that other forms of the device based upon the same general idea might be made, but I consider as my own all such modifications as fairly

fall within the spirit and the scope of the invention.

I claim—

1. In a bracing device for the sides of suit cases, a plate, secured to one side of the suit case, a brace member hinged to said plate and provided with a flange and a latch member secured to the opposite side of said suit case and adapted to hold said brace member.

2. In a bracing device for the sides of suit cases having a spring lock, a plate secured to the inside of the suit case and registering with said lock, a brace member hinged to said plate and provided with a lateral flange and a latch member secured on the inner side of said suit case and adapted to engage said lateral flange for holding said bracing member in position.

3. In a bracing device for the sides of suit cases having a spring lock, a plate secured to the inside of the suit case and registering with said lock, a bracing member pivotally secured to said plate and provided with curved flanges, a movable bracing member adapted to slide on said first named bracing member between said curved flanges, means for adjustably securing said bracing members together and a latch member secured to the inner side of said suit case opposite said plate and adapted to engage said movable bracing member for holding the same.

LOUIS SPIRO.

Witnesses:

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 SOLON C. KEMON.