

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. WILLRINGHAUS.
TRAVELING BAG.

No. 517,181.

Patented Mar. 27, 1894.

Fig. 1.

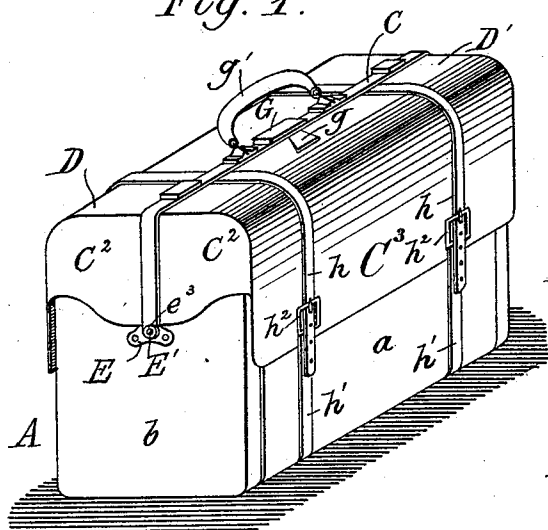


Fig. 2.

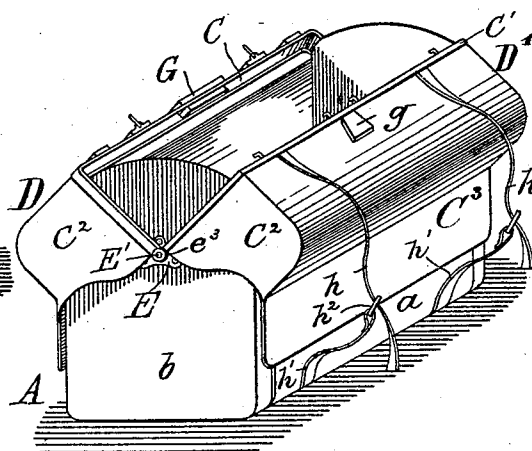


Fig. 3.

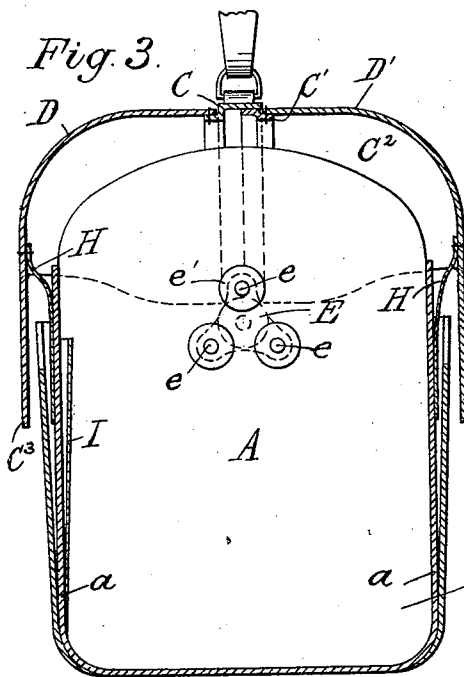
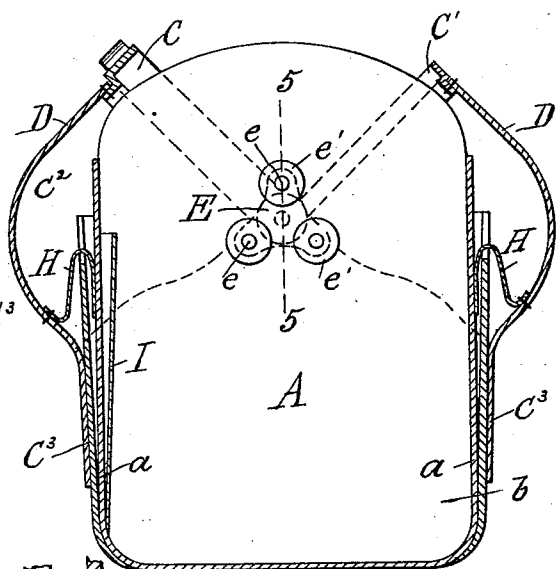


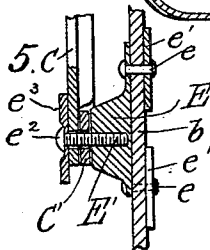
Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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Fig. 5.



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BY
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ATTORNEYS.

(No Model.)

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Fig: 6.

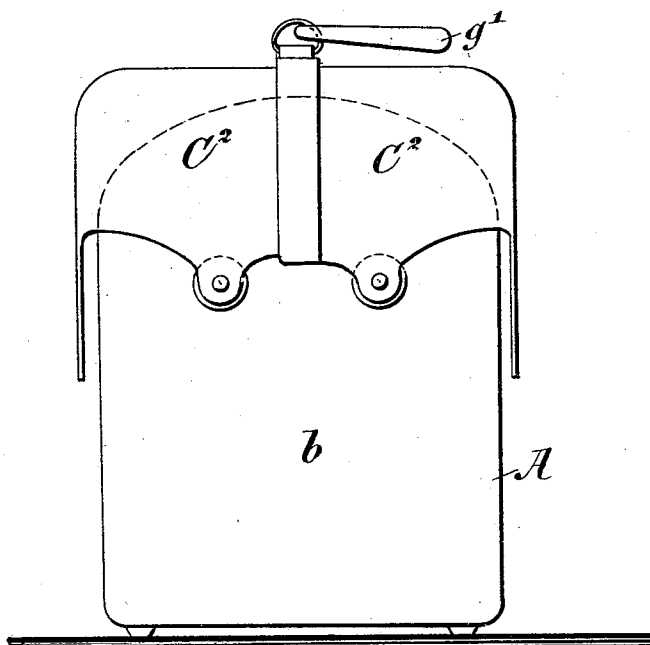
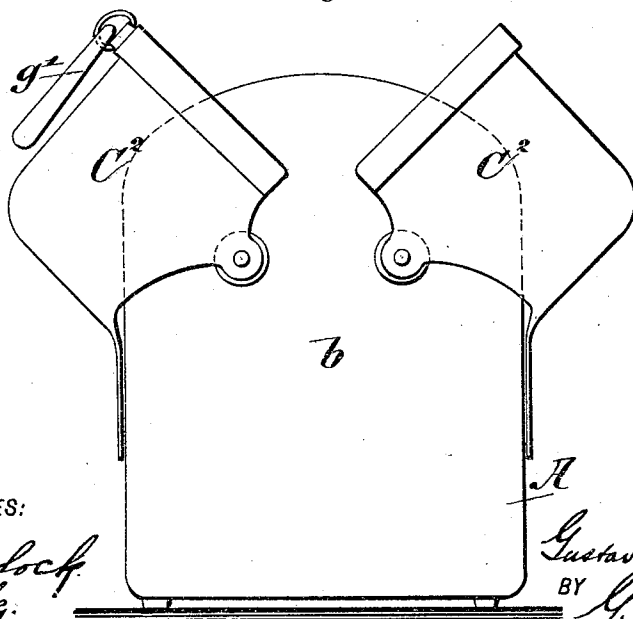


Fig: 7.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV WILLRINGHAUS, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO GUSTAV BERNHEIM, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TRAVELING-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 517,181, dated March 27, 1894.

Application filed December 19, 1893. Serial No. 494,125. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAV WILLRINGHAUS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Traveling-Bags, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved construction of traveling-bags of the type generally known to the trade as "cabinet-bags." Heretofore, however, such bags have been constructed with cover-jaws consisting of metallic frames having side-wings and which are pivoted in such a manner that they will swing upwardly and outwardly from the middle of the bag, these jaws being ordinarily hinged at the opposite ends of what are known as "distending-bars" located at the ends of the mouth or opening of the bag. When bags of that type are open there is a large amount of space occupied by the covers, and besides, when the jaws are being opened they are not always permitted a free movement, either by reason of the stiffness of the body material which is formed integral with the cover-sections, or because of the pressure of the contents of the bag upon its sides. Also, if the covers do not open freely, there is great danger of too much pressure being exerted thereon, so that eventually the strength of their connections becomes very much impaired. These "distending-bars," the metallic jaw-frames and their hinges, add greatly to the expense of the bag, but cannot well be done away with in "cabinet-bags" as heretofore constructed.

It is therefore the object of my invention to provide a bag in which the jaws and their attached covers will occupy a minimum of space when opened, and in which the contents of the bag cannot retard the free opening of the jaws, nor will there be a liability to the connections of the jaws becoming weakened.

Other objects are to cheapen the construction of the above-noted class of bags by entirely avoiding the necessity of the "distending-bars," to utilize the simple ordinarily-constructed jaws of a common hand-satchel, thus avoiding the necessarily expensive metallic frames and wings of said class of bags, and

generally to produce a neat, serviceable, and convenient form of bag.

To these ends my invention consists in a traveling-bag having a box-like body and two covers, the latter being so hinged or pivoted to the ends of the body between the sides thereof that they are adapted to swing outwardly, across the top of the box-like body, and downwardly as they are opened, and upwardly and inwardly as they are closed; and my invention consists in certain other features of construction to be hereinafter described and then particularized in the claims.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are perspective views of my improved traveling-bag, showing the same in closed and open position, respectively. Figs. 3 and 4 are vertical transverse sections, showing the bag in closed and open position, respectively, the straps being omitted. Fig. 5 is a broken detail section on line 5—5, Fig. 4. Figs. 6 and 7 are end views of a modified construction.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, the box-like body A is shown of oblong shape, comprising parallel sides *a*, and parallel ends *b*. The body is preferably made of leather, but it may be made of any other material, such as canvas. The best results are attained by making the body and especially the ends of stiff or reinforced material, although the sides of the body may be made of quite flexible material, if desired. The open top of the body is closed or covered over by a pair of covers D D' which meet at the middle when closed, each covering one half of the body. These covers are stiffened or strengthened in any suitable way, and are pivoted at their ends to the ends of the body A between the sides thereof. They may both be pivoted on the same axis as in Figs. 1 to 5, or in different axes as in Figs. 6 and 7. In opening the bag the covers swing outwardly, exposing between them the entire width of the bag body, or nearly so, as shown in Figs. 4 and 7.

According to the preferred construction

the covers are strengthened and finished at their meeting-edges, where they come together when closed, by means of jaws or frames C C', which may be of the same construction as the well-known satchel-frames. The ends of these jaws serve for effecting the hinge connections of the covers to the bag body and to a plate E, fastened to each end of the bag body, by means of pivot-pins or screws E'. The plates E are preferably fastened to the ends of the body by rivets *e* and washers *e'*. The pivot-pins or screws E' project outwardly from the plates, receive the perforated ends or hinge-eyes of the jaws, and retain the latter in place by means of the head *e*² and washer *e*³, as shown in Fig. 5. The jaws are thus firmly mounted without interfering with their ability to swing freely when required in the opening or closing movement of the covers. It is of course evident that other means of mounting the pivot-pins at the ends of the body can be resorted to, and I do not limit myself to the particular construction shown; and, in fact, it is evident that many other means of hinging the jaws to the ends may be resorted to by skilled mechanics, without departing from the scope of my invention.

Small pieces or gussets C² are utilized to form the ends of the covers D D', they being secured thereto by suitable stitching, not necessary to be shown. Side-flaps C³ depend from the covers below their end-gussets C², and when exterior side-pockets F are provided, they are adapted to constitute the closing flaps thereof. The covers D D' are made in separate pieces and not directly connected with the body of the bag, except by the hinge-connections at the ends. A suitable lock, such as G, secures the closing-jaws in closed position, and to facilitate opening them a finger-piece *g* attached to one jaw and a handle *g'* attached to the other jaw are provided. The form and construction of these parts may however, be varied at the pleasure of the manufacturer.

When the jaws C, C', are closed some means should be provided for steadying them and the covers and preventing their tipping to one side or wobbling. For this purpose I find the straps, such as *h*, secured to the top of the body are very serviceable, and in fact they are preferable, as they both steady said parts, when they are connected by buckles *h*², and hold the side-flaps C³ down against the side-pockets so as to securely close them. If desired, additional means for steadying the covers and preventing them from rocking too far to one side when the jaws are closed, and before said straps are connected, may be provided, as by connecting the inner sides of the covers with the body by flexible webs H. Generally speaking both the straps *h* and webs H may be termed "flexible stays." In opening the bag the straps are either loosened or disconnected and the lock unfastened, so that by pulling the finger-piece *g* and the handle *g'*

the jaws and the attached covers may be separated, whereby they are caused to move outwardly and downwardly over the mouth of the body, the side-flaps C³ being caused to slide or move downwardly upon the sides of the body.

It may sometimes be desirable to button the flaps C³ to the sides of the body instead of employing straps, or if no outside pockets are provided the straps of the body may be attached directly to the flaps, the upper straps being dispensed with. These slight changes are too obvious to require special illustration, but in either case it will be observed that the covers will be held against wobbling.

The body may be provided with an interior pocket I, and the tops of the ends thereof may be rounded as shown, but I do not limit myself to this construction, as the pockets may be dispensed with and the ends made square instead.

It is not essential to my invention in its broader respect that the covers shall be pivoted to the ends of the bag through the medium of their closing-jaws, as by employing suitably strong stiffening material in the end gussets C² C² of the covers the pivotal connections may be made directly with these end gussets instead of with the jaws or frames. Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate this modification, Fig. 6 showing the bag closed and Fig. 7 showing it open. The jaws or frames are here employed for the purpose of stiffening the meeting-edges of the covers but are not extended down to the pivots, and instead of pivoting the covers upon a single hinge-pin at each end in the middle, two hinge-pins are employed, slightly separated, the effect of which is to throw the covers when opened somewhat wider apart than in the construction first described. The construction shown in Figs. 1 to 5 is, however, considered preferable to this modification by reason of its greater strength, stiffness and simplicity.

It is evident that my improvements are also applicable to trunks and other like receptacles, and I therefore do not limit myself to traveling-bags.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with a box-like body, of two covers hinged at their ends to the ends and between the sides of the body and provided with depending side-flaps adapted to slide upon the sides of the body, as said covers are being opened or closed, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a box-like body having an exterior side-pocket, of two covers hinged to the ends of the body between the sides thereof, and a side-flap depending from one of said covers, and adapted to close said pocket, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with a box-like body having stiffened ends, of closing-jaws pivotally connected with the ends of the body, and

covers attached to said jaws and provided with end-pieces or gussets, located at the outer sides of the ends of the body, substantially as set forth.

5 4. The combination, with a box-like body, of two covers hinged at their ends and between the sides to the ends of the body, and flexible stays connecting the body and covers, substantially as set forth.

10 5. The combination, with a box-like body, of covers hinged at their ends to the ends of the body and provided with side-flaps which slide upon the sides of the body, when the covers are opened or closed, and stays consisting of straps attached to the body and cov-

ers and adapted to steady the covers when in closed position, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination with a box-like body, having stiffened ends, of plates attached to the latter below their top-edges and between 20 the sides of the body, closing-jaws hinged to said plates, and covers attached to said jaws, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses. 25

GUSTAV WILLRINGHAUS.

Witnesses:

GEO. L. WHEELLOCK,

K. R. BRENNAN.