R. Mc Murray,

Trunk Stay.

No. 63,167. Patented Mar. 26. 1867.

Fig 1

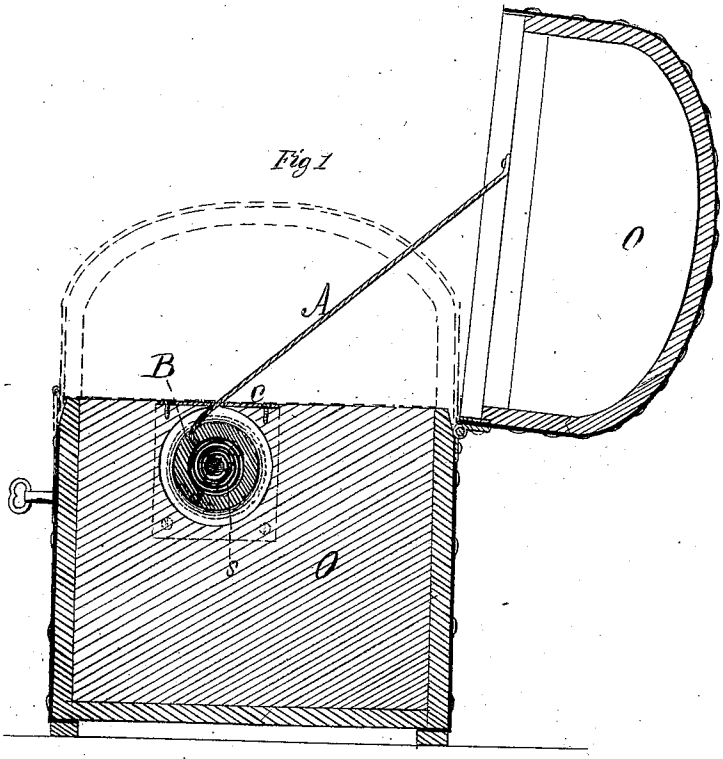


Fig 2

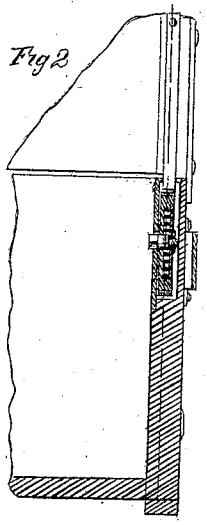
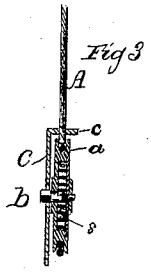


Fig 3



Witnesses: Geo. Magruder, Jno. C. Dieterich

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United States Patent Office.

ROBERT McMURRAY, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Patent No. 63,167, *dated March* 26, 1867.

IMPROVEMENTS IN TRUNKS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ROBERT McMURRAY, of Washington city, in the county of Washington, and in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful "Trunk Stay," for staying the lids of trunks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention consists in providing one end of the stays used for supporting the lid of a trunk with a coil-spring, or other similar device, so as to roll up the stay, so as to keep the lid from shutting down upon and cutting out the stay. In the drawing—

Figure 1 shows an end section of my invention, applied in a simple form to a trunk.

Figures 2 and 3 are cross-sections, showing the construction of the device used for coiling the stay.

O represents the trunk; A is the "stay," which may be made either of catgut, webbing, chain, or other material. One end of this stay is fastened to the lid of the trunk, and the other end is fastened to the device used for coiling the stay. B represents the "coiling device," which is similar to the well-known pocket-tape line, and consists of a cylinder, *a*, to which the end of the stay is fastened, and around which it is coiled. This cylinder revolves upon an axle, *b*, extending from the plate *c*. A coiled spring, *s*, is enclosed within the cylinder *a*, and has one end fast to the axle and the other end fast to the cylinder.

This device, thus constructed, is let into the end of the trunk, as shown. When the lid of the trunk is raised the stay is withdrawn, being unwound from its cylinder, and the spring is uncoiled. As the lid is closed the spring coils and winds up the stay within the chamber *e* in the trunk, so as to remove it from all liability to be caught between or be cut off by the lid and trunk.

The coiling device may be constructed in various modes and may be applied also to the lid of the trunk.

What I claim as my invention, is—

The stay A, in combination with a coiling device, B, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

Also I claim constructing and applying a trunk-stay so that one end shall be drawn into the trunk-frame substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above-described invention I have hereunto signed my name this 11th day of February, 1867.

R. McMURRAY.

Witnesses:

T. G. CLAYTON,

JOHN S. McLAIN.