No. 810,203. PATENTED JAN. 16, 1906.

T. J. HAMILTON.

WARDROBE TRUNK.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 17, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

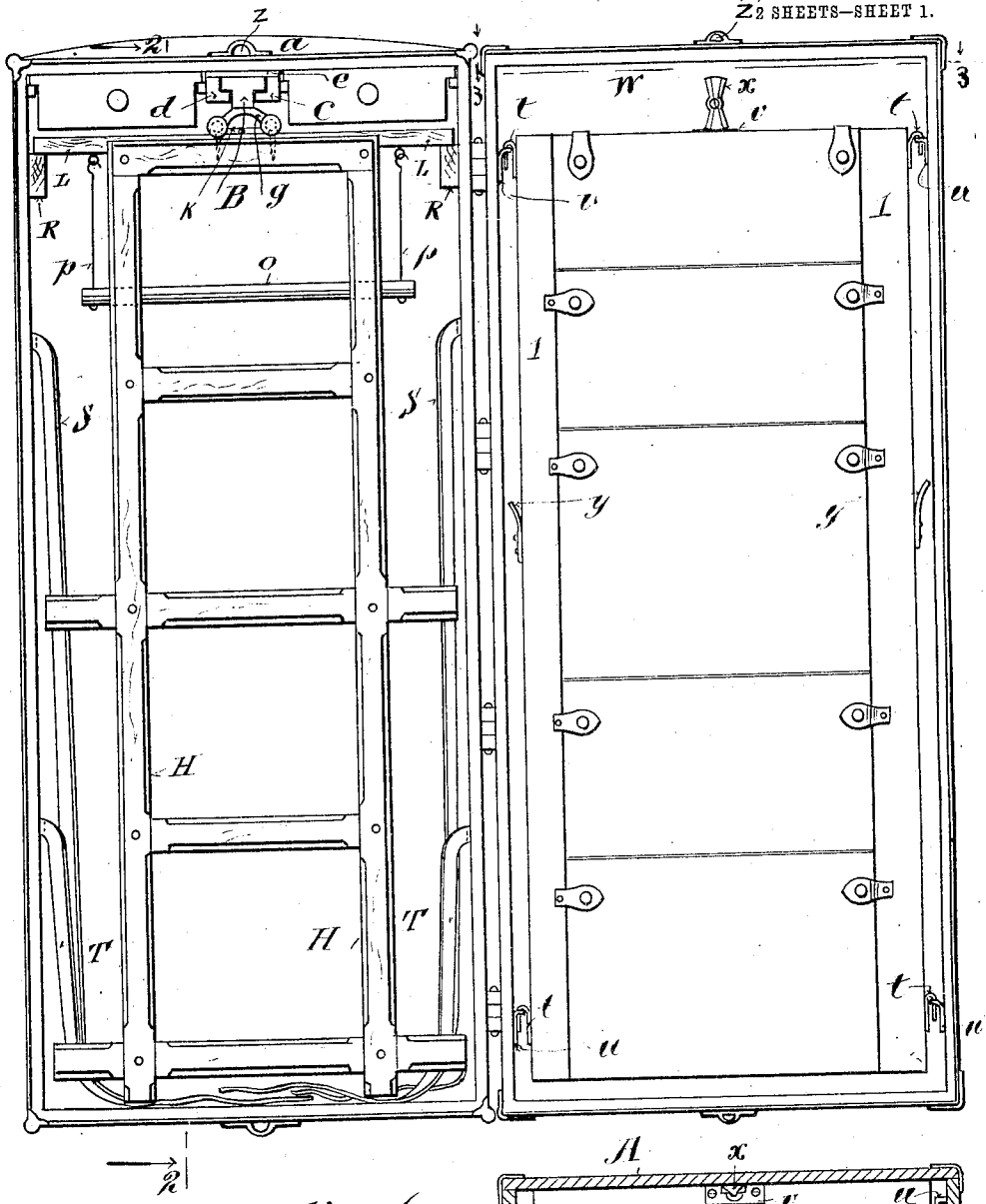


Fig. 1.

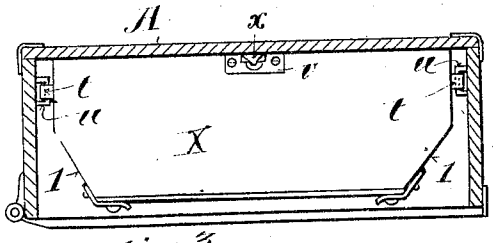


Fig. 3.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

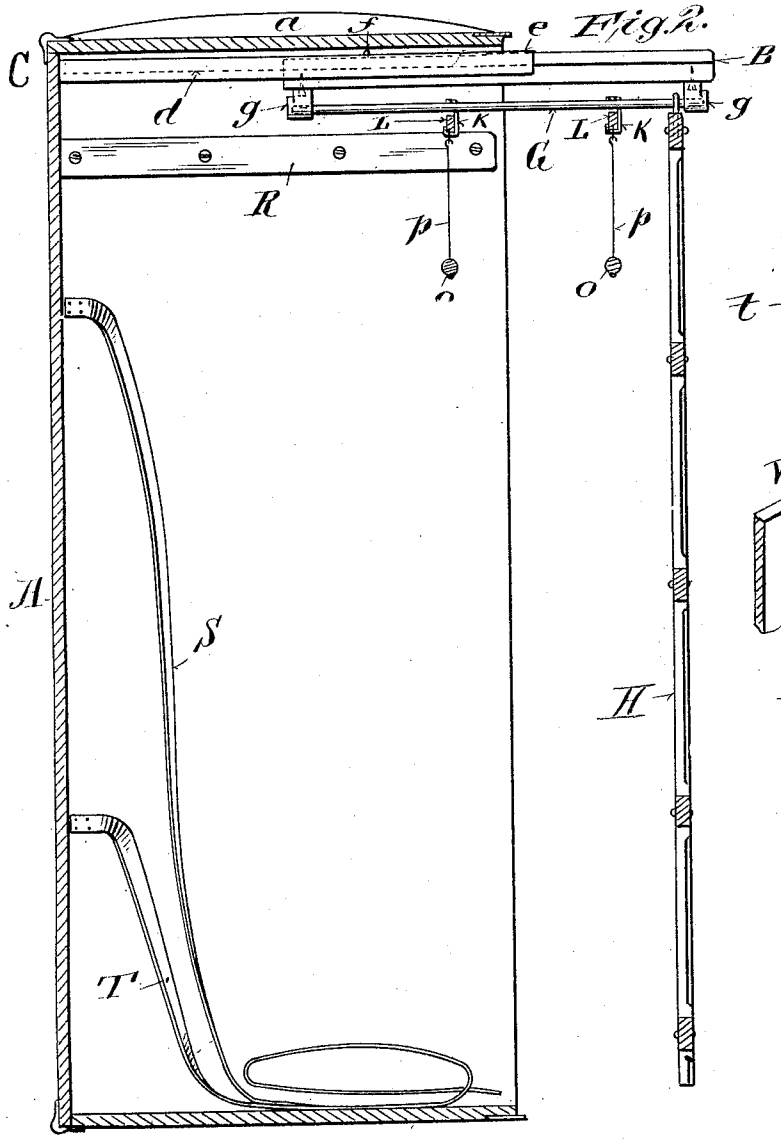
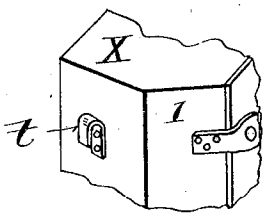


Fig. 6.



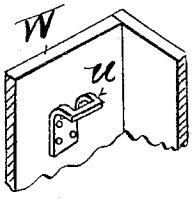


Fig. 7.

Fig. 1.

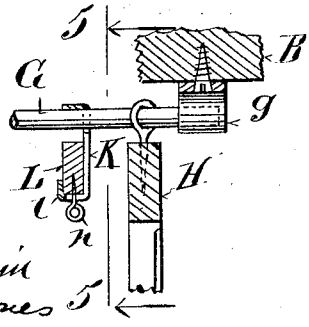
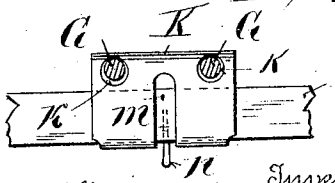


Fig 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. HAMILTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

WARDROBE-TRUNK.

No. 810,203. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 16, 1906.

Application filed June 17, 1905. Serial No. 265,635.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. HAMILTON, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the borough of Brooklyn, in the city of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wardrobe-Trunks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in wardrobe-trunks, and it has for its object to simplify and reduce the cost of such trunks, to provide means whereby the strain of the weight of the garments shall be taken off the top slide from which the garment-hangers are suspended, and so that said weight shall be supported by the walls of the trunk, and to provide in the lid of the trunk a tray and supporting devices, so that the tray may be readily lifted out of the lid and returned thereto.

My invention also relates to the several novel constructions and combinations of parts whereby the aforesaid objects are attained, as will more clearly appear from the description of the same hereinafter contained.

Referring to the drawings which accompany the specification to aid the description, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the trunk on end and with the lid open. Fig. 2 is a side elevation and section of the trunk on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1 with the lid omitted and showing the slide partly drawn out. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section of the lid and tray on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged broken detail of the slide, follower, and one hanger. Fig. 5 is a detail of a hanger-clip. Figs. 6 and 7 are respectively perspective details of the device on the tray and on the trunk-lid for removably supporting the tray in the lid.

A is the trunk-body, adapted to stand on end when desired and provide a wardrobe or closet wherein garments may hang at length without folding and preferably having a bulged top *a*. On the upper end of the trunk A as the same stands upright is arranged a sliding bar B, hereinafter termed the "slide." In cross-section said slide B is T-shaped, as shown in Fig. 1, and works with a nice true working fit in a T-shaped guide C, preferably composed of three pieces *c d e*, respectively, which are firmly glued or otherwise fastened together and then riveted to the top of the said trunk. In the preferred construction of the slide there are two top pieces *e*, one at each end of the guide, and a stop pin or screw *f* on said slide B plays in the open space between these pieces, thus limiting the extent to which said slide B can be drawn out and said stop *f* is so positioned that a sufficient length of said slide B is left in the guide when said slide B is fully drawn out to maintain said slide practically horizontal. To increase the play of said slide, the said guide C is extended out beyond the front (or top) edge of the trunk A, as shown in Fig. 2, and the projecting part of said guide C and the lid W are so mutually positioned and arranged that said projecting part of the guide is received into and protected by said lid when the said lid is closed. From said slide B are supported one or more rods G. When there are two such parallel rods, their ends are threaded into arched metal brackets *g g*, one of which is screwed or riveted to the under side of said slide B near each end thereof. From said rods G G are suspended by screw-eyes, which have easy fit on said rods, a follower or clothing clamp H, which is a rectangular frame, preferably of wood and with cross-bars, as shown, and of such length that its lower end is well clear of the bottom of the trunk, so that the said follower may be moved freely in and out of the trunk without friction between the follower and the bottom of the trunk. On said rods G G are also movably arranged any suitable number of metal holders or clips K, two being shown in Fig. 2. Said clips K are preferably stamped of sheet metal in the form clearly indicated in Figs. 4 and 5, so as to provide seats or holders for the hanger-bars L, *k k* being eyes having an easy fit on said rods G G, *l* being a turned-up edge to hold the bar L on its seat, and *m* a cut-out part of the clip, so that a hook or eye *n* may be secured to the middle of bar L for connecting with a coat-hanger or other fixture. Said bars L serve as supports for garment catches, hangers, &c., and are illustrated with a simple hanger O, comprising a cross-bar *o*, which may be equipped with any suitable fasteners for clothing and is provided with wires *p p*, by which it is suspended from eyes on said bars L.

To take the strain of the weight of the clothes off the slide B, horizontal cleats R R are secured to opposite walls of the trunk in position to support the ends of said bars L and extend the whole depth of the trunk, the

front ends of said cleat R being rounded off, as indicated in Fig. 2, to facilitate pushing the bars L back over the ends of said cleats.

The lid W, hinged to the trunk A in the usual manner and arranged to cover and protect the projecting end of the guide C when the lid is closed, is adapted to contain a removable tray X, which may have any number of compartments, as desired, and each said compartment having its lid with straps and fasteners to keep it closed in the usual manner. Said tray X is removably connected with the lid W in the following manner: Said tray X being somewhat shorter than said lid, so as not to interfere with the guide C and with beveled sides *l l*, as shown, is provided on opposite sides and near the rear part and top and bottom of said tray with metal hooks *t t*. Said hooks *t t* are positioned to engage into metal eyes *u u*, which are riveted to opposite sides of the lid W. At the sides of the tray X are leather handles or straps *y*. A button *x* on the lid W holds the tray X from being displaced during transportation, making a tight friction fit when in locking position with a piece of sheet metal V, fastened on the end of the tray X. By turning said button *x* a quarter-turn and taking hold of the handles *y* the user can lift the tray out of the lid W, set it down anywhere, and return it to the lid at pleasure, reëngaging the hooks *t* into the eyes *n*.

In packing the trunk, the slide B being drawn out, garments are hung on the hangers O, or, if coats, are placed on suitable coat-hangers, which are suspended from the eyes or hooks *n*, and when the desired number of garments are in place the slide B, bars *l l*, coat-hangers, and follower H are pushed back into the trunk, the ends of said bars L L engaging and resting on the cleats R, whereby all strain of the clothing is taken off the rods G and slide B. Finally, the follower H is pressed tightly up against the garments, and the tapes S T are tied around the said follower H, holding it securely against the garments, which are thus clamped against being tumbled about when the trunk is shipped. Finally, the lid W is closed and locked, *z* being a socket on the trunk-body and *z'* a bolt to engage therewith on the lid.

Now, having described my improvements, I claim as my invention—

1. In a wardrobe-trunk, the combination of a slide, bars adapted to support garments carried by said slide, and guides adapted to support said bars and relieve said slide of strain, substantially as described.

2. In a wardrobe-trunk, the combination of a slide, bars adapted to support garments carried by said slide and guides fixed to the trunk and adapted to support the ends of said bars and relieve said slide of strain, substantially as described.

3. In a wardrobe-trunk, the combination of a slide, bars adapted to support garment-hangers carried by said slide, and guides fixed to the trunk and adapted to support opposite ends of said bars and relieve said slide of strain, substantially as described.

4. In a wardrobe-trunk, the combination of a slide, clips movable thereon, bars supported by said clips and adapted to sustain garment-hangers, and parallel guides fixed to the trunk and adapted to support opposite ends of said bars and relieve said slide of strain, substantially as described.

5. In a wardrobe-trunk, the combination of a slide, clips movable thereon, transverse bars supported by said clips and adapted to support garment-hangers, a follower movable on said slide, means to hold said follower against the garments, and guides fixed to the trunk and adapted to support the ends of said transverse bars and relieve said slide from strain, substantially as described.

6. The combination in a trunk of a lid, a tray movable endwise therein, hooks and eyes for detachably connecting said tray with said lid, and a catch adapted to normally hold said tray against displacement, substantially as described.

7. The combination in a trunk, of a lid, a tray movable endwise therein, and devices for removably attaching said tray to said lid, substantially as described.

Signed at New York city this 13th day of June, 1905.

THOMAS J. HAMILTON.

Witnesses:
GEO. D. WEEKS,
W. E. BURNETT.