

(No Model.)

A. C. FAIRBANKS.

CASE FOR BANJOS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS.

No. 306,731.

Patented Oct. 21, 1884.

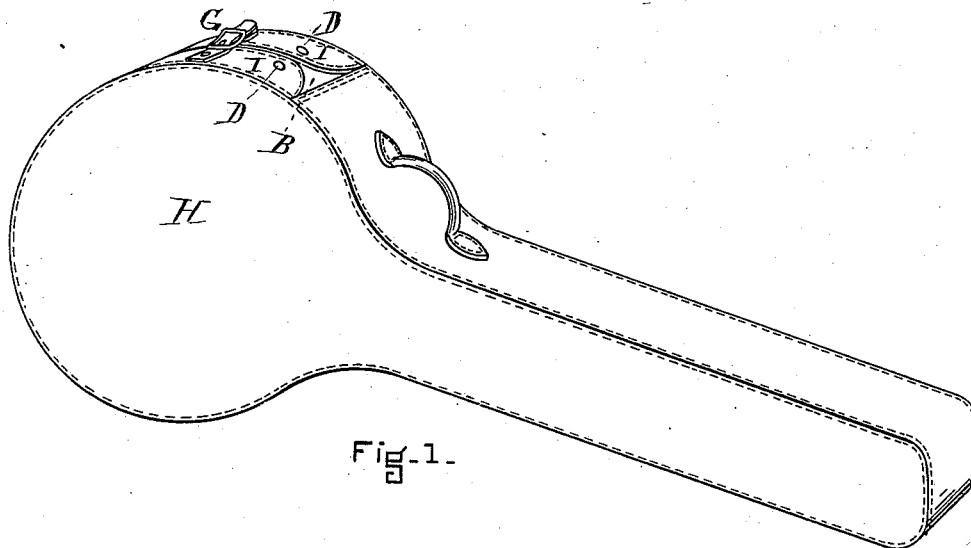


Fig. 1.

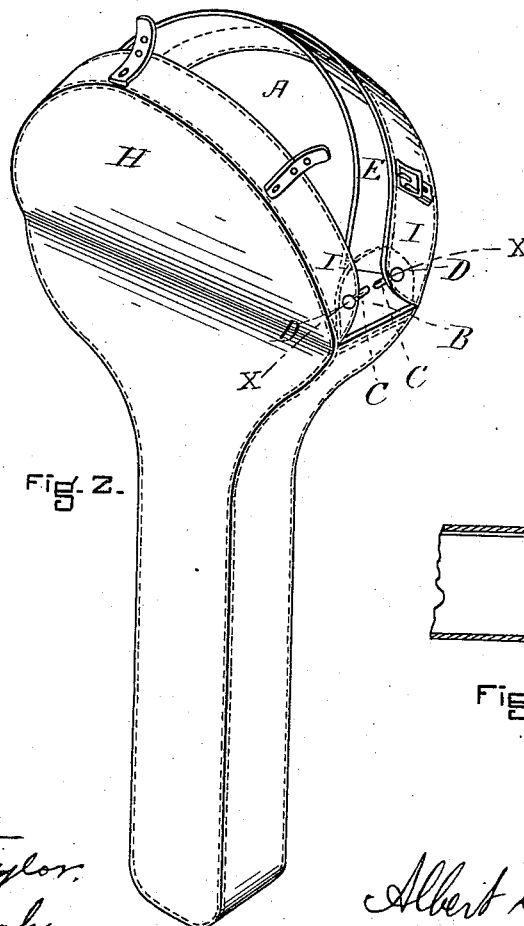


Fig. 2.

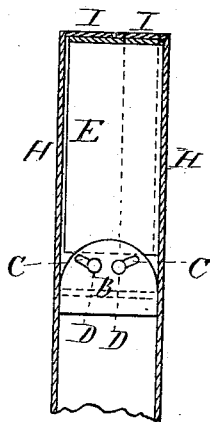


Fig. 3.

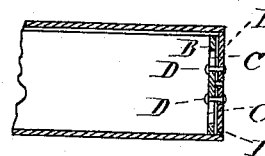


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

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ALBERT C. FAIRBANKS, OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

CASE FOR BANJOS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 306,731, dated October 21, 1884.

Application filed August 16, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT C. FAIRBANKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Somerville, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cases for Banjos and other Like Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

My invention, as hereinafter described, is intended for use in the transportation and protection of banjos and other articles of like shape when not in use; and it consists of a case made substantially in the shape of a banjo or other article to be contained in it.

My improvement as applied to a banjo-case is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a flexible-leather banjo-case embodying my invention closed. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the said banjo-case open. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the upper parts of the banjo-case when closed; and Fig. 4 is a detail section of the banjo-case on line *xx*, Fig. 2.

This case is provided around the middle of the edge, at the larger end, with an opening for the purpose of allowing the portions H of this part of the case which is to protect the banjo-head to be pulled apart sufficiently, owing to the flexibility of the material of which it is composed, to permit the banjo to be inserted, as shown at A, Fig. 2, the two parts I of the edge serving as lips, which close over the banjo-head when it is in the case, and are fastened together, as below described. On the narrow sides of the case I attach pieces B, which form an extension or prolongation of the narrow sides, and serve, with the strip E, below spoken of, to prevent the dust, &c., from getting into the case. It is obvious that the portions H need not be bent back farther than is necessary to allow the introduction into or the withdrawal of the instrument from the case. Furthermore, when the portions H are made of the same material as the rest of the case, which is the construction I prefer, to open them too far would be apt to cause them to break at their point of bending or otherwise injure themselves or the adjacent parts of the case. To prevent this, therefore, stops should be employed to limit the extent of their opening. For this purpose I prefer to use pins D, as shown, which may conveniently be arranged to slide in slots C, formed in the

pieces B, as shown, the ends of these slots limiting the outward or opening motion of the hinge-pieces H.

If preferred, the pieces B and narrow sides of the case may be made in one piece without being attached, as above described.

On the under side of one of the lips which hold and protect the banjo-head I attach a narrow strip, E, of leather or other suitable material, which runs along the inside of the said lip until it passes down and slightly beyond each of the side pieces, B, as shown at Fig. 2. This piece projects from the under side of one of the lips, forming a support over and upon which the other lip is drawn and rests when pulled over and fastened by buckles or other suitable means, as shown at G, Fig. 1. This projecting piece or support E also serves to break the joint where the narrow lips of the case unite, and, together with the side pieces, B, prevents dust or dirt from entering into the case, and also protects the head of the banjo or other instrument contained therein.

It is evident that a banjo or instrument case embodying my invention may be made of some material not flexible, in which case hinges must be used on the sides H, to allow them to open properly to receive the instrument.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A case for holding and protecting banjos and other like instruments, said case being provided with opening and closing flaps H, lips I, a supporting and dust-excluding strip, E, side extension-pieces, B, and a fastening device, G, all substantially as herein described and specified.

2. A case for holding and protecting banjos and other like instruments, said case being provided with opening and closing flaps H, lips I, a supporting and dust-excluding strip, E, stops D, side extension-pieces, B, provided with slots C, and a fastening device, G, all substantially as herein described and specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 14th day of August, A. D. 1884.

ALBERT C. FAIRBANKS.

Witnesses:

J. HENRY TAYLOR,
JAMES F. BLIGH,