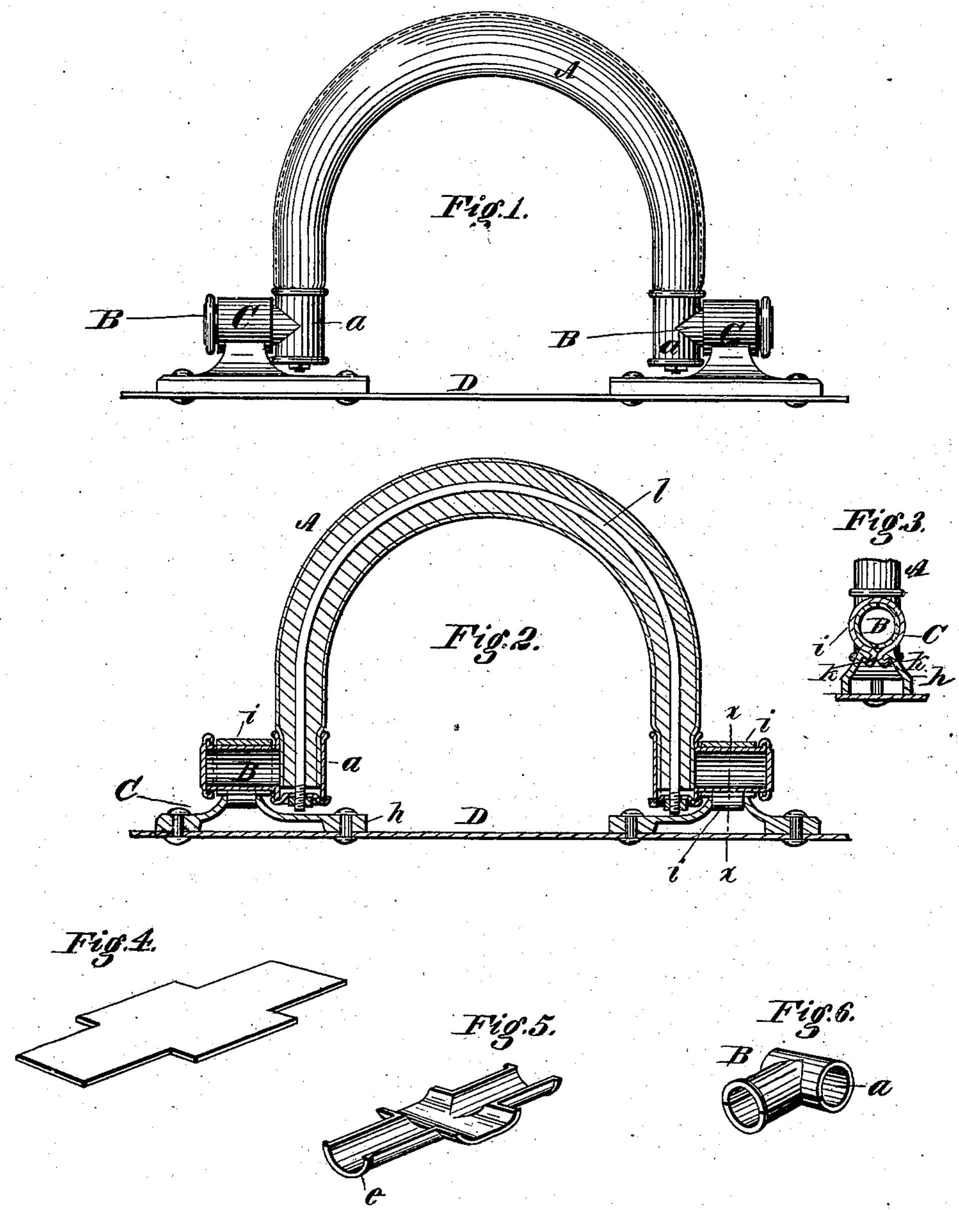
J. W. LIEB.

HANDLES FOR TRAVELING-BAGS, SATCHELS, &c.

No. 194,556. Patented Aug. 28, 1877.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. LIEB, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN HANDLES FOR TRAVELING BAGS, SATCHELS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **194,556**, dated August 28, 1877; application filed June 5, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. LIEB, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Devices for Attaching Handles to Bags and Satchels, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of joints or couplings for attaching leather and similar handles to bags and satchels, which consist of horizontal wrists or sleeves secured to the ends of the handle and seated in eyes or bearings on the frame of the bag.

The object of the invention is to overcome the usual unsightly and destructive bending of the ends of the handles where they enter the coupling; and to this end it consists mainly in providing the wrists or journals with sockets at right angles thereto, into which the ends of the handles may be inserted without being bent.

The invention also consists, however, in other minor details of construction, hereinafter fully explained.

Figure 1 represents a side view of a handle attached to a bag-frame by means of my improved couplings. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal central section through one end of the same. Fig. 3 represents a cross-section of the same on the line *x x*. Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are views illustrating the construction of the device in detail.

A represents the handle; B, the wrists or sleeves attached to the ends of the handle; C, the eyes or bearings, in which the wrists are mounted; and D, the frame of the bag, to which the eyes are riveted or otherwise firmly secured.

As shown in the drawing, the wrists or sleeves B have a horizontal bearing in the eyes, and are each provided at one end, at right angles to the bearing, with a socket, *a*, to receive one end of the handle, which is inserted directly therein without being bent from its natural form, and fastened in any suitable manner.

By thus constructing the couplings with the sockets *a* parallel with each other and at right angles to the axis of the sleeves or wrists, the application of the handles is facilitated, the objectionable bending of its ends avoided, and the strain applied directly downward on the ends of the handle in the direction of their length, so that it has no tendency to bend, wrinkle, or crack them.

The essential feature of my coupling is the sockets *a* applied to the sleeves or wrists at right angles, or approximately right angles, to their axes, in order to avoid the bending of the ends of the handle.

The manner of constructing the couplings and the form and shape of the socket may be modified without departing from the limits of my invention provided they admit of the ends of the handle being applied without bending them to the wrist. The construction of parts shown in the drawing is, however, preferred to all others on account of its cheapness and strength.

As represented in the drawing, each wrist or sleeve with its socket *a* is made from a single piece of sheet metal by first stamping out a blank in the form represented in Fig. 4, and subsequently pressing and folding the same successively into the forms shown in Figs. 5 and 6. In this way the wrist and sleeve are made very light and strong, and much cheaper than they could be were they formed separately and then united.

On the outer end of the wrist I form an annular flange, *e*, to retain it in place in the eye or bearing, and also to retain a cap or covering plate, which may be applied, as shown, to cover the outer end of the wrist, and give the same a finished appearance. On the lower end of the socket I also form a flange to retain a cap or cover thereon.

Instead, however, of making the socket with the open lower end, the blank may be modified in such manner as to produce a socket with a closed lower end.

The eye or bearing C shown in the drawings is of the ordinary and well-known form, and constitutes no part of my invention. It consists of a base-plate, *h*, provided with an opening to receive the ends of a band, *k*, which is clasped around the wrist and secured by bending its ends down under the base-plate, as shown in Figs. 3 and 6.

As before stated, the handle may be secured in the sockets in any suitable manner—as, for example, by rivets—but it is preferred to pass

a wire, *l*, lengthwise through the handle from end to end, and down through the caps on the lower ends of the sockets, and to secure its ends by nuts, as shown, or by riveting them down.

The wire thus applied holds the handle securely in place, and takes the greater part of the weight and strain; but as it is made the subject of a separate application it is only claimed in this patent in combination with the special coupling herein described.

While I have described the handle as mainly for bags, it is obvious that it may be used on trunks, satchels, valises, &c.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination of the eye or bearing C, the rotating wrist B mounted therein, and the transverse socket *a* rigidly connected to the end of the wrist, substantially as shown.

2. The combination of the eyes C, the wrists B mounted therein, and the handle A, having straight ends attached to the ends of the wrists transversely to their axes, substantially as shown.

3. The combination of the eye C, the wrist B, having the horizontal bearing and the transverse socket, and the handle A having the wire passed through it from end to end, and secured at the ends, as shown and described.

4. The combination of a bag-frame, D, two eyes, B, thereon, two wrists or sleeves rotating horizontally in said eyes, and a handle, A, having straight ends secured firmly to the wrists at substantially right angles to their axes.

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