

United States Patent Office.

E. A. G. ROULSTONE, OF ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 61,361, dated January 22, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRUNK LOCKS.

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, E. A. G. ROULSTONE, of Roxbury, in the county of Norfolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an improved Trunk Lock; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practise it.

The invention relates to the construction of spring locks for trunks, and has particular reference to such construction or arrangement of the mechanism thereof as shall do away with the common hasp, which swings outwardly from the trunk, by employing a hasp or bolt, swinging in the same plane with the locking mechanism, which bolt is locked by pressing it into position, and which unlocks by springing outward from such mechanism when the tumblers or levers which hold it in position are thrown back by the key. Also, to the construction of the bolt, by which any strain upon the same, when the trunk is fastened, is not received by the locking levers, but by the casing of the lock and the frame of the trunk.

The drawings represent a lock embodying my invention, A showing a front view, with the spring bolt thrown back from the tumblers or levers, and B an interior view of the lock, with the bolt fastened therein.

a denotes the lock-plate, and *b* the hasp or bolt-plate, each of which is applied to the front of the trunk; *c* and *d* the outer plates, between which and the plates *a* and *b* the locking mechanism is contained. The tumblers are seen at *e*, they being hung and swinging on a pin, *f*, and being held normally in position by springs, *g*, and a stop, *h*. Each tumbler has a hook or latch projection, *i*, with which a hook or latch, *k*, on the bolt *l* interlocks, as seen at B. This bolt swings on a pin, *m*, and is held normally in position, (with the bolt unlatched from the tumblers,) by a spring, *n*; and where the bolt enters the lock, the top plate or flange *r* of the plate *c* is cut away, as seen at B, and the bolt is cut away so as to form a projection, as seen at *o*, so that when locked this projection extends directly under the flange or top plate *r* of the lock, and where a pin, *p*, extends from the same through the trunk frame. When the bolt is unlocked, it stands in the position seen at A, held there by the spring *n*, in which position it can be raised vertically with the lid of the trunk.

To lock it, the finger is applied to a projection, *q*, and the bolt swung down into vertical position, in doing which the end of the bolt strikes the tumblers and depresses them until the latch on the bolt passes the latches or projections on the tumblers, when the tumblers spring up, and the bolt is locked in position, as seen at B. It will be observed that when thus locked, the tumblers merely hold the bolt from springing out, the upper strain of the bolt, produced by any strain upon the lid, being directly upon the flange and pin *p*. This construction renders the lock very strong, and not liable to get out of order, or to have any of the mechanism displaced. To unlock the bolt, the application and turning of the key, (in the usual manner,) force down the tumbler projections *i* until they drop below the latch on the bolt, when the spring on the bolt will cause it to fly out, without any application of the hand thereto.

I claim the combination of the spring bolt *l* and tumblers *e*, or locking mechanism, when constructed and arranged to lock and unlock, substantially as set forth.

Also, combining with the projection *o* of the bolt the flange *r*, with its pin *p*, for receiving the strain of the bolt, substantially as described.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,
F. GOULD.

E. A. G. ROULSTONE.