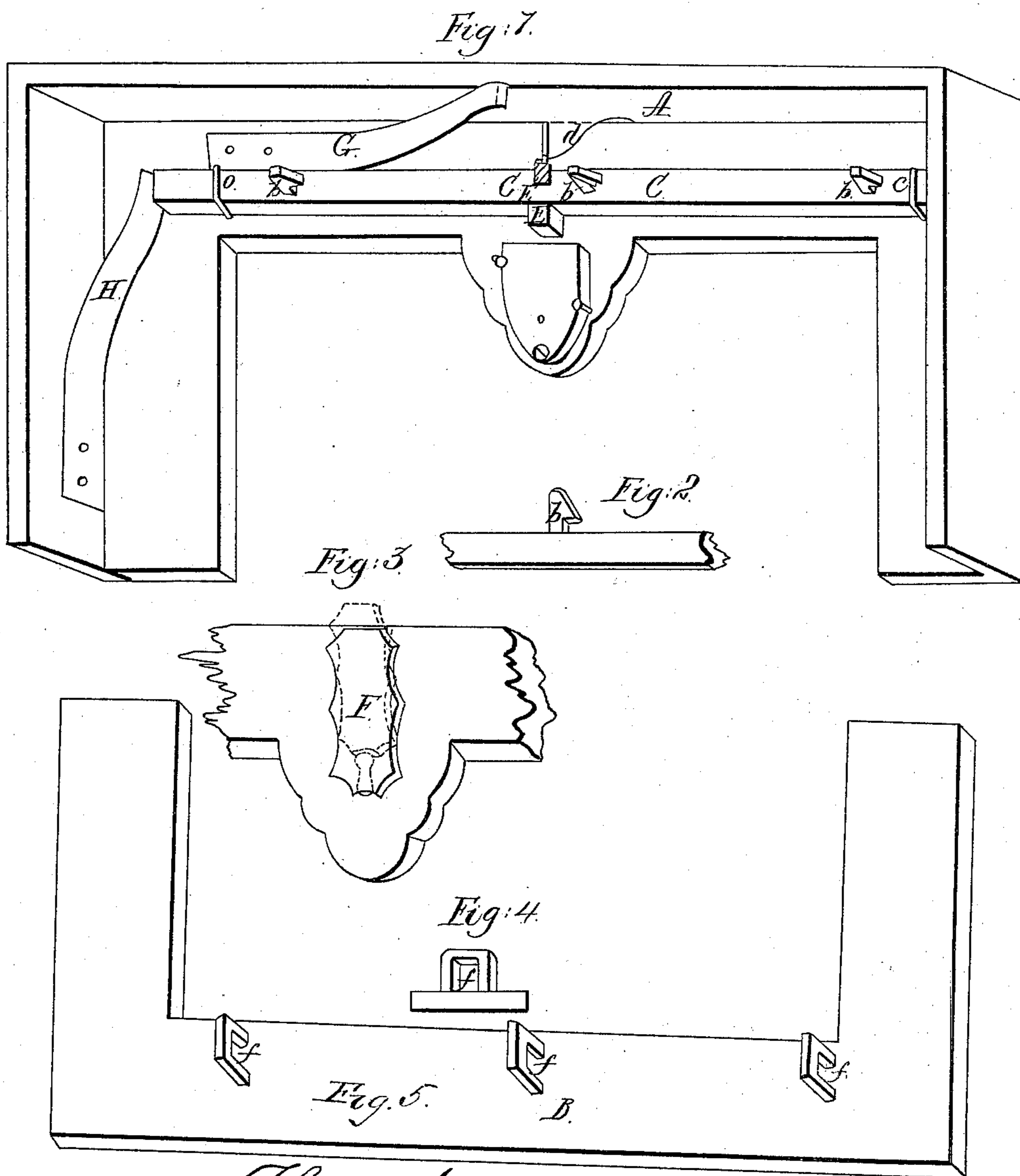


*T. James,
Bag Lock.*

N^o 66,497.

Patented July 9, 1867.



Witnesses:
Thos. D. James
Peter Van Antwerp

Inventor:
Thomas James.

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS JAMES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 66,497, dated July 9, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN LOCKS FOR VALISES, &c.

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

TO ALL TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, THOMAS JAMES, of the city of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Locking and Fastening Travelling-Bags and similar articles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, and which will enable others skilled in the art to construct and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, making part of this specification, letters being used to designate similar parts in the several figures.

My improvement consists, first, in locking and unlocking the jaws of a travelling, mail, or carpet-bag, or valise at two or more remote points, by merely turning a single key as in an ordinary lock; second, in so securing the bolt in position when locked that it cannot be forced back or displaced without manual application.

Figure 1 is a view of the interior of jaw A, showing the bolt, springs, catches, &c.

Figure 2 is a view of the hooked catch.

Figure 3 is a front view of the sliding-drop.

Figure 4 is a view of the staple.

Figure 5 is a view of the interior of jaw B, showing the staples in place.

A B are the jaws of the frame, constructed of metal or other suitable material in the ordinary manner. C is a movable bolt, running nearly the length of the jaw A, having near its centre, and when locked, at a point opposite the key-hole, a notch, *a*, and at its side where the jaw B is to connect, the hooked catches *b b b*. The bolt is secured to jaw A by staples *c c*, or other convenient means, so that it may slide back and forth with facility. E is a sliding-catch, arranged in suitable ways to permit it to slide up and down freely in jaw A, directly above the key-hole, and has a spring, *d*, pressing upon its upper end, to force and keep it down into the notch *a*. This catch is raised or otherwise firmly secured to a sliding-drop, F, in such position that when it is up out of the notch *a* the lower end of the drop will rest upon the top of the key. G is a spring secured to jaw A, and presses against jaw B, when the bag is closed, and throws it open when the bolt is forced back, in the operation of unlocking, far enough to release the hooked catches. H is a spring secured to end of jaw A, bearing against and acting upon the end of bolt C, and forces the bolt forward, locking the jaws together without the aid of a key. *e* is a shoulder on the bolt, for the bit of the key to act against in unlocking. *fff* are staples secured to jaw B, placed in such position that they will receive the hooked catches of the bolt when the two jaws are brought together and the bolt is thrown forward in locking the bag. The spring H may be dispensed with, by constructing the bolt so that its rear end, when thrown back far enough to fully release the hooked staples from the catches, will touch the end of the jaw, and providing the ordinary recess in the bolt for the bit of the key to ply into, so that the key will act both ways on it, as in the common locks. And the construction of the drop may be so varied, that instead of resting on the top of the key to keep the sliding catch up, as provided, it may be raised by the operator.

The operation of locking is performed by simply bringing the two jaws together, when the bolt is thrown back and impelled by the spring H, when the spring is employed, or by turning the key, when the spring is dispensed with, will move forward the catches *b b b* into the staples *fff*; then, by withdrawing the key, the sliding-catch E will drop or be forced down into notch *a*, holding the bolt firmly into its locked position. In unlocking, the catch E is released from the notch *a* in the bolt by placing the key under the drop F, (which may either partially or entirely cover the key-hole,) when down, and pressing upward until the key enters the key-hole. The drop resting upon the top of the key prevents the sliding-catch from dropping into the notch, and leaves the bolt to move as described.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The bolt C, provided with a notch, *a*, and two or more hooked catches, with corresponding staples in the opposite jaw, in combination with the sliding-catch E and drop F, the whole constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purposes specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 28th day of January, 1867.

THOMAS JAMES.

Witnesses:

THOS. D. JAMES,

PETER VAN ANTWERP.