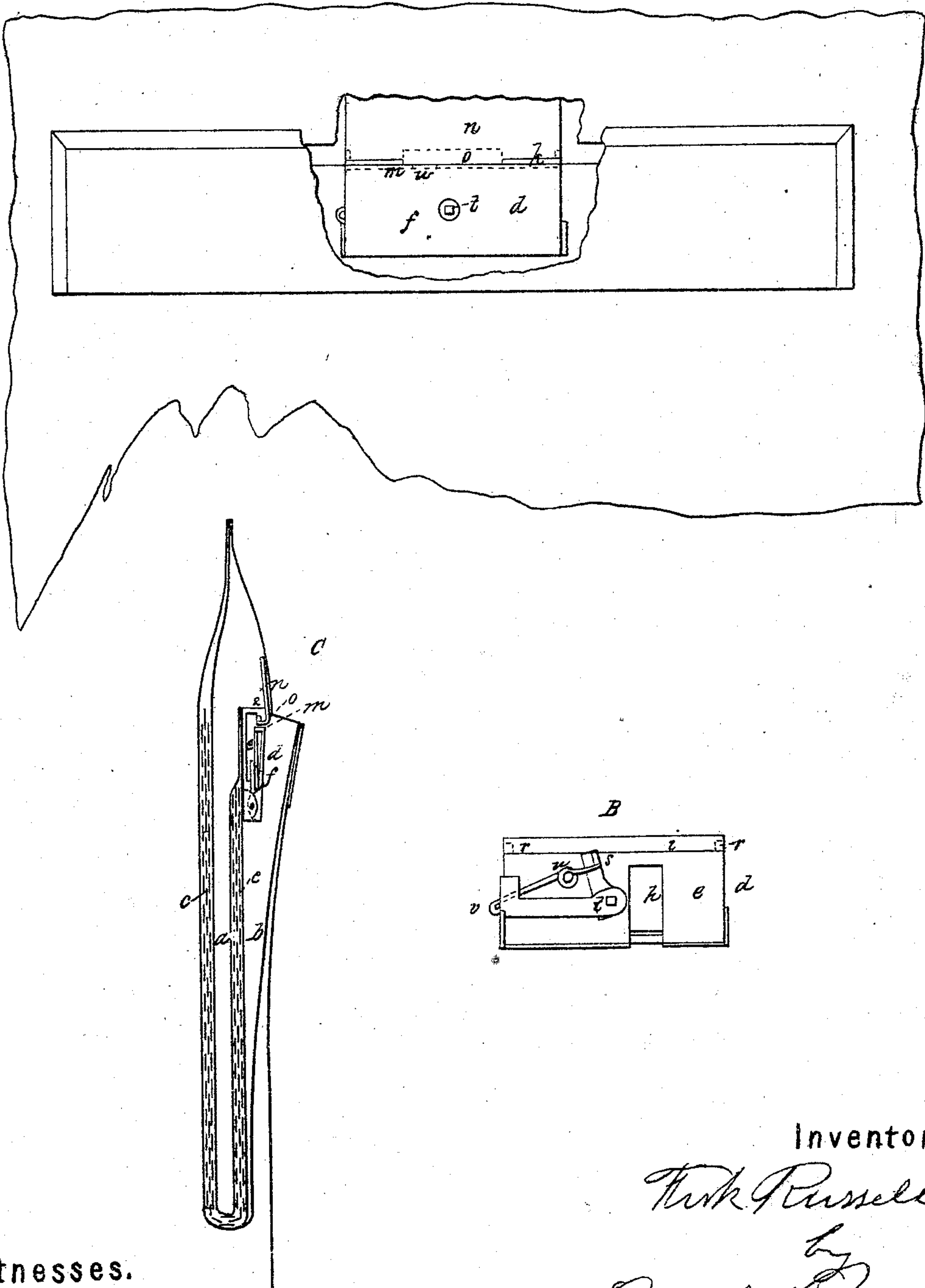


F Russell

Pocket

Nº 66638

Patented Jul 9. 1867.



Witnesses.

M. W. Frothingham.
J. B. Kilday.

Inventor.

F Russell
by
Crosby & Gould
Attys

United States Patent Office.

FISK RUSSELL, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 66,638, dated July 9, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN SAFETY-POCKETS.

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, FISK RUSSELL, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Safety-Pocket; 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 great facility with which expert pickpockets manage to abstract the contents of the pockets, even of that class of persons who are very careful and observant, either by inserting the hand directly into the mouth of the pocket, or by cutting through the cloth, has caused to be devised pockets having mouths closed by locks, and also metal-armored pockets.

My invention relates to the construction of such safety-pockets for wearing apparel, and the invention consists primarily in combining with the mouth of the pocket a peculiar lock, having a hasp capable of being pressed into the lock to secure them firmly together, and of sliding within the lock, to enable one part of the pocket to readily yield with reference to the other.

The drawing represents a pocket embodying the invention.

A shows a front view of the same, the outer part being somewhat torn away to show the lock. B is a view of the interior of the lock, the outer plate being removed. C, a cross-section, showing the lock in end view. The pocket is shown as made, in two parts, or with an inner locking and armored pocket *a*, and an outer ordinary pocket *b*, the inner one having chains *c* or strips or plates of metal, arranged between the thicknesses of cloth in the front and in the rear of it, or in the front alone, if desirable, the rear protection being sometimes unnecessary, especially in the pockets of pantaloons. At the mouth of the safety-pocket is applied the lock *d*.

This lock is constructed as follows: To a main plate, *e*, is hinged a front plate, *f*, by a long pin, *g*, and the plate *f* is pressed out from the plate *e* by a strong spring, *h*, suitable lips or stops limiting the extent of this outward movement. At the upper part of the plate *e* is a rigid flange, *i*, and the plate *f* is of such width as to leave a long narrow slit or opening *k* between the flange *i* and the upper edge of the front plate, this upper edge having a lip, *m*, turned in from it. The hasp-plate *n* has a flang or lip, *o*, turned in and up from it, as seen at C, this flange extending only partially along the hasp-plate, as seen at A. The lock and hasp-plate both have spurs or other suitable provision for securing them to the respective edges of the mouth of the pocket to be closed by the lock.

When the pocket is to be secured, the hasp lip *o* is pressed against the plate *f*, forcing it inwards against the spring *h*, until the inner part of the lip can be shot upwards, behind the flange *i*, which being done, the plate *f* is released, and is pressed out by its spring, bringing the outer surfaces flush, and confining the lip *o* within the slit *k*, along which it can slide freely, while it cannot descend far enough to free it from its confinement between the plate *f* and flange *i*. It is prevented, however, from sliding endwise out of the slit by suitable stops *r*. To open the pocket, the plate *f* is again pressed inwards sufficiently to allow the lip *o* to be slipped down on its outer surface, when the hasp-plate may readily be detached from the lock.

To more securely confine the hasp, however, I employ a spring-bolt, *s*, hung on a key-stem, *t*, and having a spring, *u*, projecting from or applied to it, this spring extending out to the end of the lock, and having a catch, *v*, hooking over the end of the plate *e*, when the bolt is thrown back. When so thrown back, the bolt lies within a recess, *w*, in the flange *m* of the front plate *f*, this recess allowing the plate *f* to move freely in and out (as above described) without obstruction from the bolt. If, however, after the hasp has been slipped into the lock, the catch *v* is released by the finger, the bolt flies in, and coming behind the lip *m* on one side of the slit, effectually prevents the plate *f* from being pressed in, and thereby also prevents the hasp from being withdrawn while the bolt is in such position. By applying a key, however, to the stem *t*, the bolt may be thrown back, and will be caught back by the spring-catch *v*, as will be readily understood.

Thus it will be seen that while the pocket may be well secured against being pulled open by merely springing the hasp into position, and may be readily opened by merely pressing in the plate *f* and drawing out the hasp, it may be locked against all entrance, excepting with the aid of a key, by simply tripping the bolt-catch, the key having only to be used to open the lock.

To provide for carrying such ordinary loose matters as may not require to be secured in the safety-pocket, an open pocket, *b*, is arranged outside of the safety-pocket, as seen at C.

With the two pockets so combined, money and other valuables may be secured in the inner pocket without liability of being cut out or abstracted, and the outer pocket will answer all the immediate purposes of the ordinary loose pocket.

I claim a safety or armored pocket, the mouth of which is secured by a hasp which is sprung into a lock, substantially as described.

Also, so arranging the hasp that it may slide in lateral directions in the lock, to enable the respective parts of the pocket to yield freely, substantially as set forth.

Also, in combination with the lock and hasp constructed to operate as described, a spring-bolt for locking the hasp in position, said bolt being thrown forward by tripping a catch, and thrown back by a key, substantially as set forth.

Also, the arrangement together of a safety-pocket, locking as described, and an ordinary pocket.

FISK RUSSELL.

Witnesses:

W. B. CROSBY,

FRANCIS GOULD.