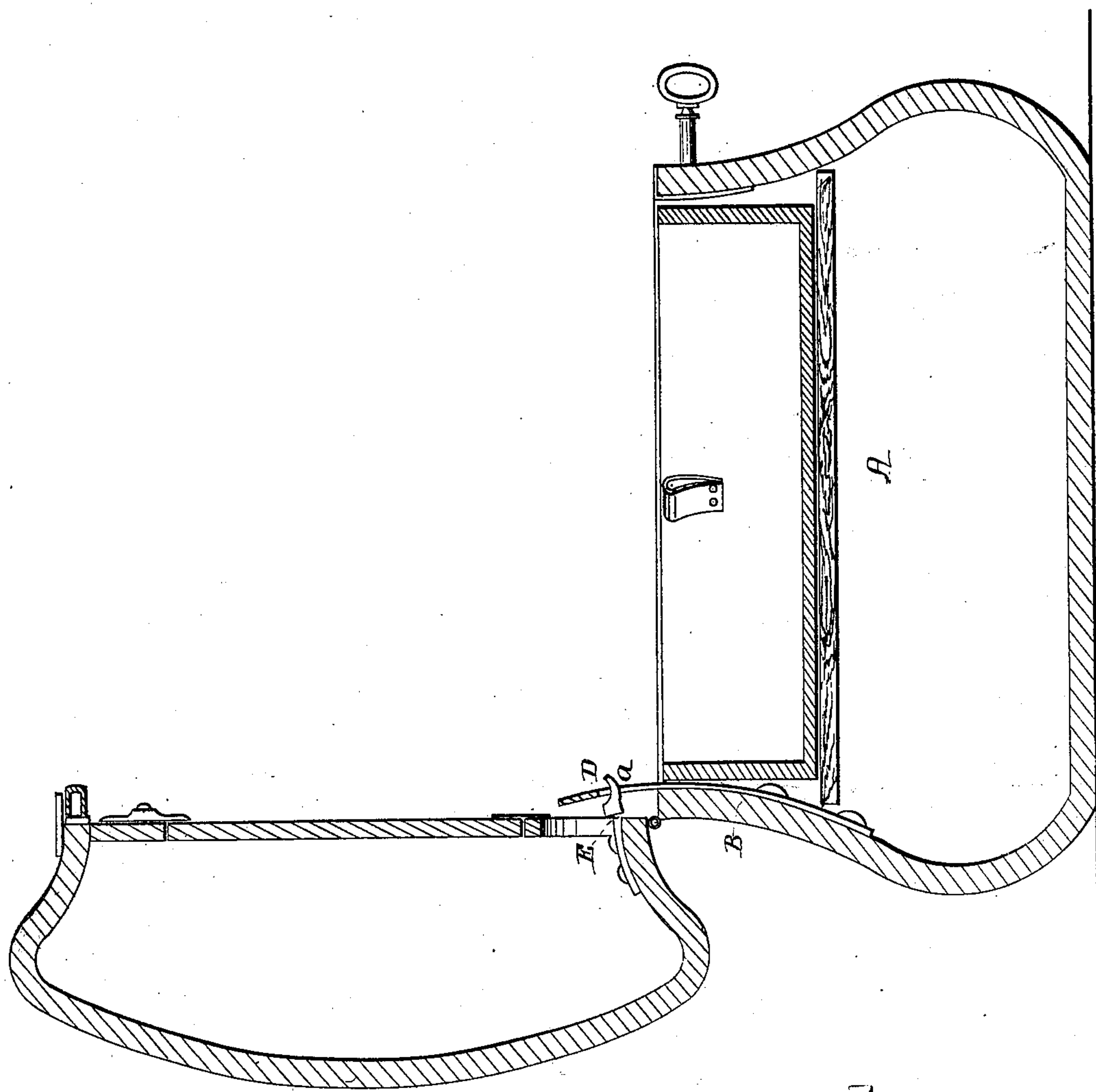


S. Wehrly,
Trunk,
No 77,787, Patented May 12, 1868.



Witnesses;
Geo. H. Strong
J. L. Boone

Inventor;
Saml Wehrly
By his Atty Dewey & Co

United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL WEHRLY, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Letters Patent No. 77,787, dated May 12, 1868.

IMPROVED TRUNK-LID SUPPORTER.

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, SAMUEL WEHRLY, of the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improved Supporter for Trunk and other Hinged Lids; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvements without further invention or experiment.

The object of my invention is to provide a supporter for trunk and other hinged lids, so constructed that it will not interfere with the general arrangement of the trunk or other box-shaped receptacle having lids upon which it may be placed, and which will serve to prevent the lid, when open, from falling, and thereby injuring any person who may happen to be engaged with the trunk.

To do this, I employ a spring, made of any thin piece of metal, long enough to reach from near the centre of the side of the trunk or box to an inch or so above its top. This spring is fastened to the back side of the trunk, near the centre, and has the end which extends above the trunk pierced with a hole sufficiently large to admit a catch. The catch is composed of a piece of metal, fastened to the back side of the lid just above the spring, having one end projecting towards the top of the spring, and entering the hole when the trunk is open. A slot in the end of the catch engages the spring, and prevents the lid from falling either forward or backwards.

To more fully explain my invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, which represent an end sectional view of the trunk, showing the supporter.

A is a trunk, or any receptacle of the box kind, having the spring B fastened to the centre of the back side. The spring is made of any thin elastic metal, and extends above the top of the trunk. A hole, *a*, is made in this spring, near its top, for the purpose of receiving the point D of the catch E. The catch E is fastened to the side of the lid of the trunk, directly in a line with the spring, and has a slot at the point D, for the purpose of engaging the spring after entering the hole *a*, thereby securing the lid from falling forward or too far backwards.

By this device, a trunk-lid may be secured when open, so that no danger may be felt of its falling or shutting up prematurely, thereby preventing many accidents, especially to small children, as the sheet iron which serves as a flange around the lid is liable to cut off some of the fingers or hand if it should fall upon them, which is frequently the case where the tapes or cords are used to sustain the lid, a slight stroke being sufficient to suddenly drop the lid, whereas, by my device, all that is necessary to close the lid is to push steadily down upon it, when the catch will force the spring outwards, and follow down between it and the back of the trunk, until the trunk is closed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The spring B, having a hole, *a*, near its upper end, for the purpose of receiving the point D, substantially as described.
2. The catch E, having a point, D, formed by making a slot on its top, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

SAMUEL WEHRLY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

C. W. M. SMITH,
JNO. L. BOONE.