J. SCHMADEL, J. FELDMANN & J. EBERHARDT.

TRUNK FASTENER.

No. 175,841. Patented April 11, 1876.

Fig. 1

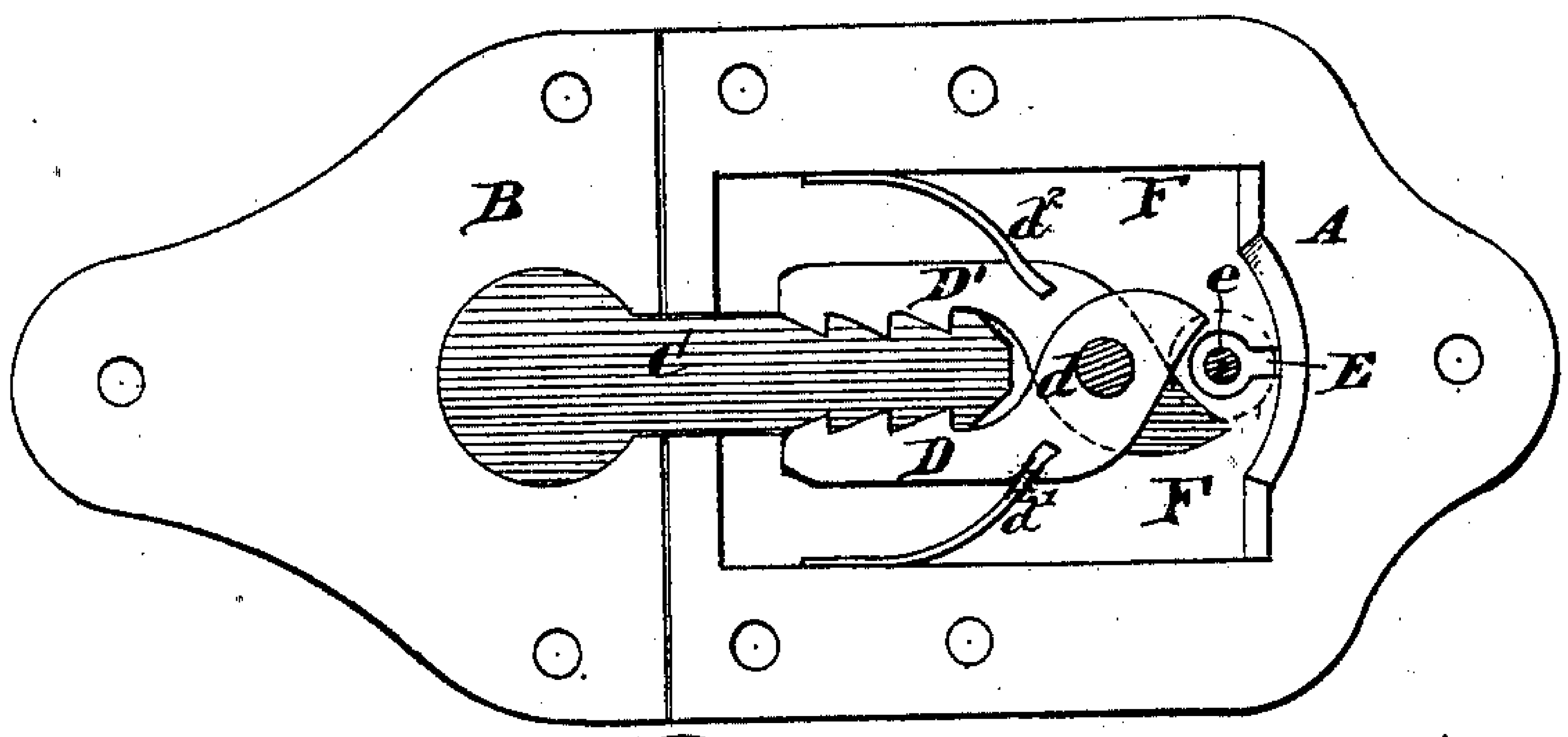
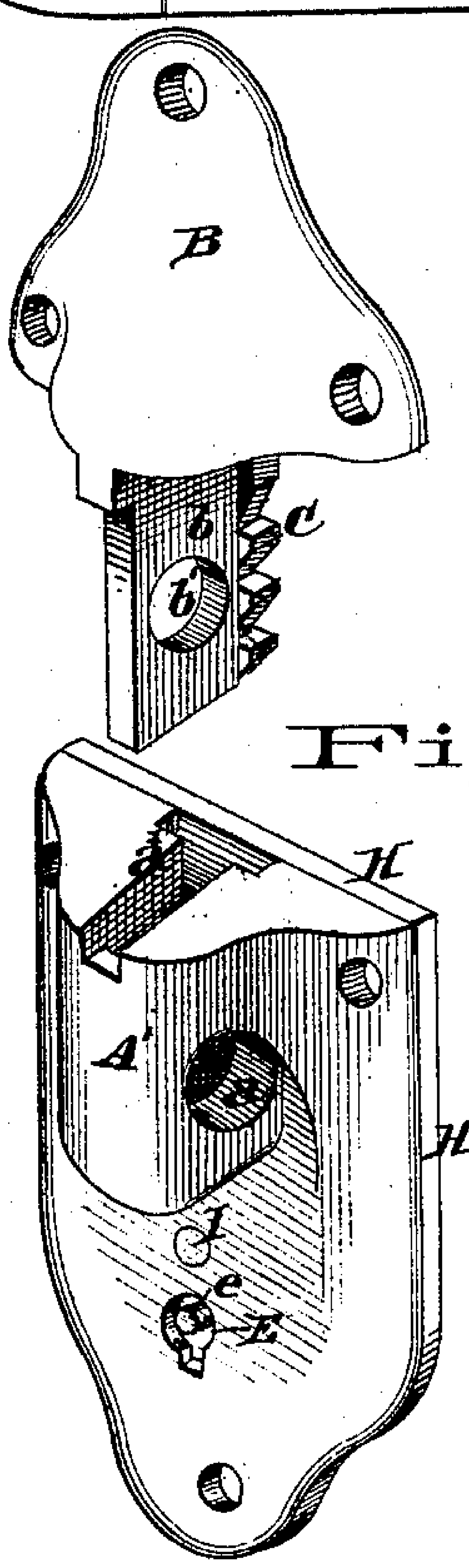


Fig. 2



Attest

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN SCHMADEL, JOHN FELDMANN, AND JACOB EBERHARDT, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRUNK-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **175,841**, dated April 11, 1876; application filed February 16, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN SCHMADEL, JOHN FELDMANN, and JACOB EBERHARDT, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trunk-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification:

The invention is specially designed for sample trunks, where great strength is required; but it may be applied to any ordinary trunk. The fastener is so constructed that it may be used as a spring-lock, or, in cases where greater security is desired, as a spring and padlock combined.

The works of the spring-lock are inserted in a chamber in a plate attached to the trunk, which plate is provided with a socket for receiving the tongue attached to the lid of the trunk, and having a hole through each for the bail of a padlock. The rack-jaws of the lock are arranged to engage with one or more of a series of notches provided on the tongue by means of springs, in the usual manner. The outer parts of the faces of the tongue are smooth, and fit snugly in the sockets, so as to receive lateral thrusts on the trunk, thus relieving the springs and rack-jaws therefrom, all of which will be readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawing and description thereof.

One of the objects of this invention is to furnish a strong and durable combined lock as a double security to the trunk in traveling, &c., and a single lock for daily use. A second object is to provide easy means for closing a full packed trunk, which is partly locked and held in position by the engagement of the first set of notches in rack-jaws with the tongue, so that all additional pressure will be secured in further closing the trunk, saving lost motion.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the lock, having the base-plate removed; and Fig. 2, a perspective view of the invention.

A represents the outer plate of the lock, of the configuration shown in Fig. 2, *a'* being a socket formed within the projection A'. F represents a socket made within the body of the front plate A. This plate must be of sufficient thickness to allow the chamber or socket F to be made of sufficient depth to contain the jaws and operative parts of the trunk-lock. H H represent a base-plate, made of a suitable piece of flat metal, acting as a base for supporting the jaws of the lock.

The plates A and H may be fastened together by means of screws or other devices. D D' represent two jaws, which are attached to plate H by a pivot, *d*. These jaws D may be pivoted to plate H by the pivot *d* being inserted in plate A at the hole *i*, if preferred. d^1 d^2 are springs inserted into a slit in jaws D D', and curved up and inclined against the edges of socket F.

As jaws D D' are opened apart, the springs d^1 d^2 are bent; when released, the recoil of the spring throws the jaws D D' together. B represents a plate, preferably made of metal, with the tongue C *b* projecting therefrom, as shown in Fig. 2.

Tongue C has a series of notches, corresponding and engaging with those in rack-jaws D D', in the manner shown in Fig. 1, which represents the tongue C fully locked by jaws D D'.

Plate B is ordinarily secured to the trunk-lid, and the lock A attached to the outside of the body of the trunk in any appropriate manner. Through the protuberance A' is pierced a hole, *a*, of sufficient size and shape to admit the bail of a padlock. A corresponding hole, *b'*, is made in the shank of the bar *b*, so that whenever the trunk is fully locked, as shown in Fig. 1, a padlock may be applied in the usual way.

E represents a key-hole, and *e* a post for the key to turn on. An ordinary shank-key, engaging with the short end of the jaws D D', as shown in Fig. 1, may be employed, or any other convenient form of working the jaws may be substituted.

It is obvious that the socket and works of the lock might be made in the plate B, having the tongue project up from base A, or that the lock-works might be made in B, with the rack-bars springing outward to engage rigid catches in A; but the plan shown is preferred.

The series of notches may be dispensed

with and only one set employed without affecting other parts of the invention, except as specified in the third claim.

We are aware that John Schmadel and John Feldmann have an application before the United States Patent Office for an improvement in trunk-fastenings, which was filed on the 26th of July, 1875, in which is shown a plate to be attached to the lid, which has a perforated projection thereon, for entering a socket formed in a plate attached to the body of the trunk, said plate being perforated to correspond with the projection upon the one attached to the lid, said perforations being for the reception of the bail of a padlock. We do not, therefore, claim broadly such devices in this application; but

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

1. The plate B, having upon it a tongue, *b c*, constructed substantially as described, for the purpose of causing it to engage with dogs, which hold it in its locked position, and provided with an aperture for the reception of the bail of a padlock, as set forth.

2. A spring-lock with the tongue C and jaws D D′, provided with a series of notches, arranged to operate substantially as herein set forth.

3. The combination of the compound tongue, made up of the parts *b c*, as described, the perforated socket A′, and spring-hook chamber F, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 31st day of January, 1876.

JOHN SCHMADEL.
JOHN FELDMANN.
JACOB EBERHARDT.

Witnesses:
EDWARD BOYD,
JOHN O'GARA.