

J. W. LIEB.
Fastening Device for Traveling-Bags.
No. 204,743. Patented June 11, 1878.

Fig. 1.

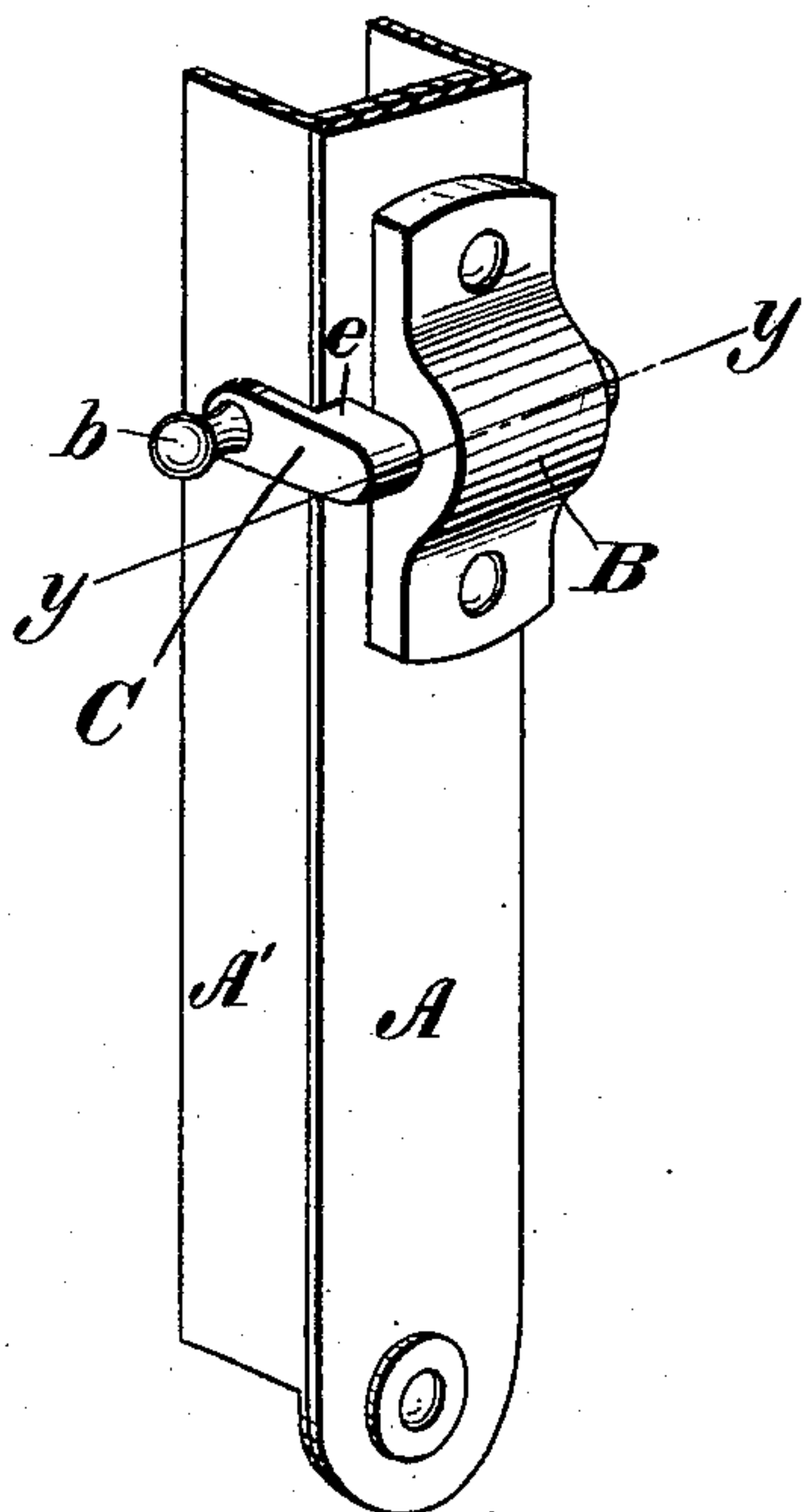


Fig. 2.

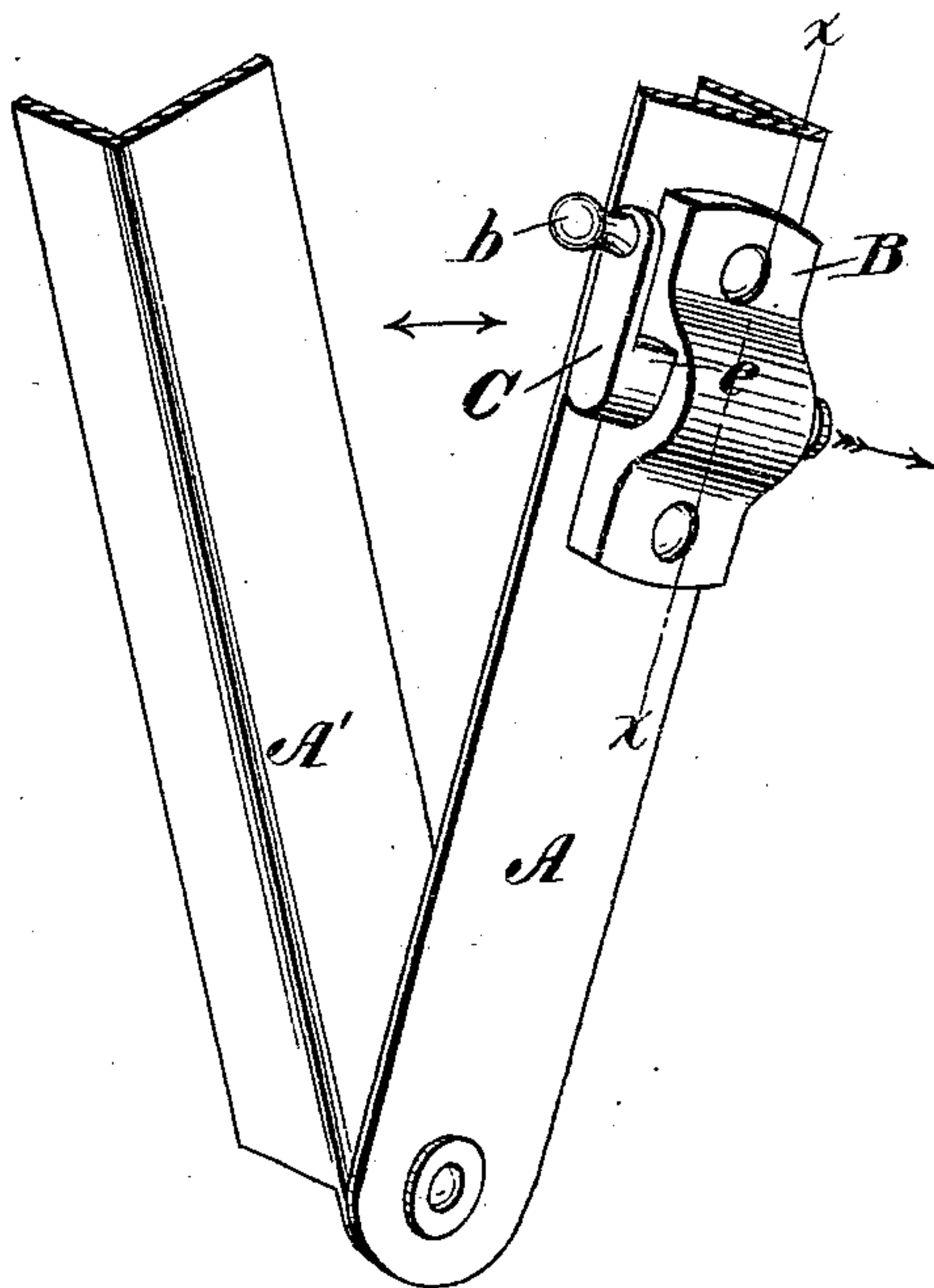


Fig. 3.

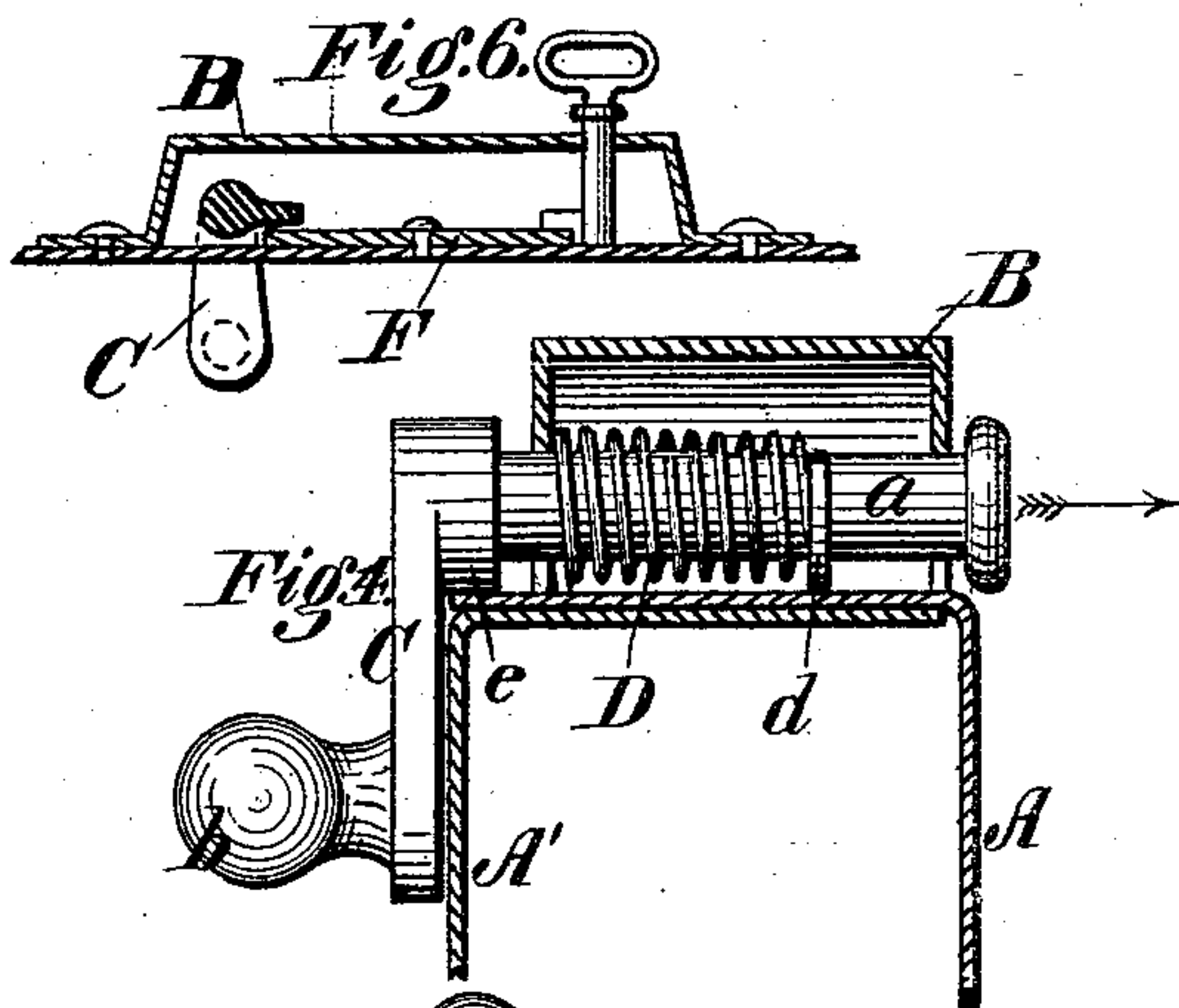
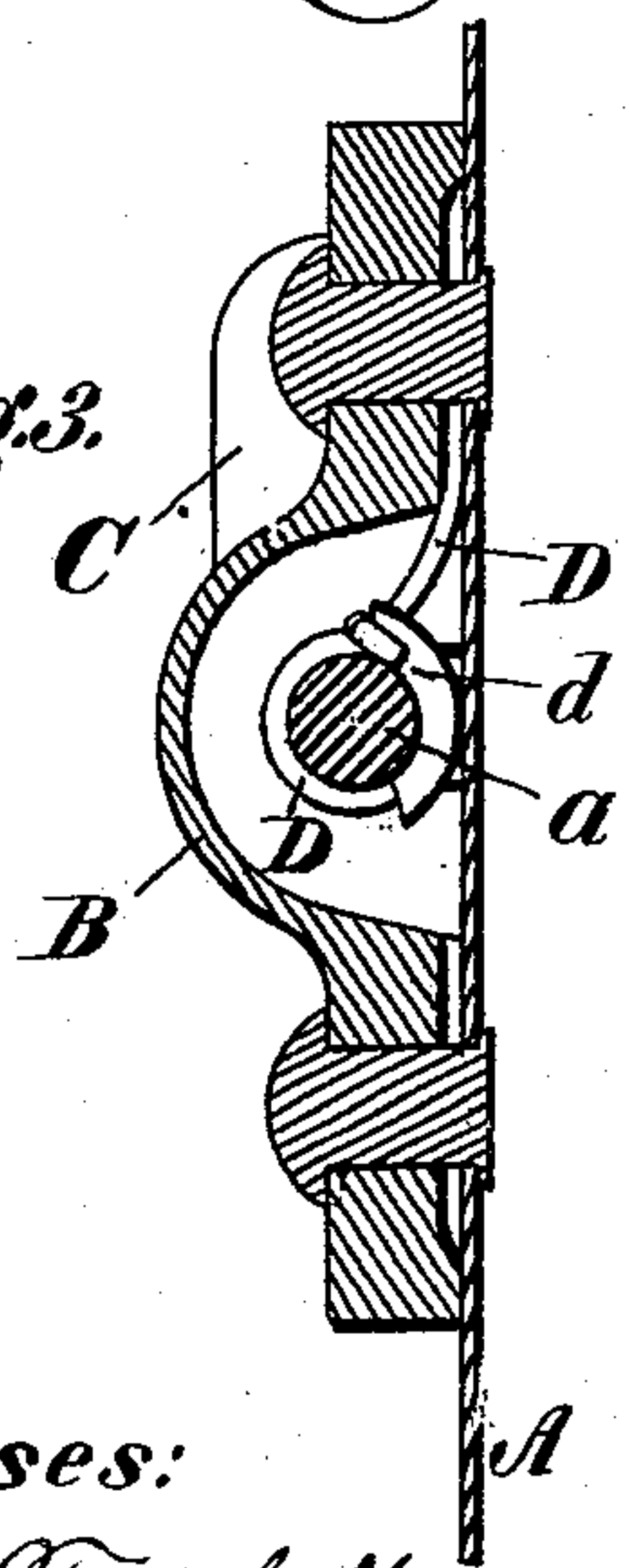
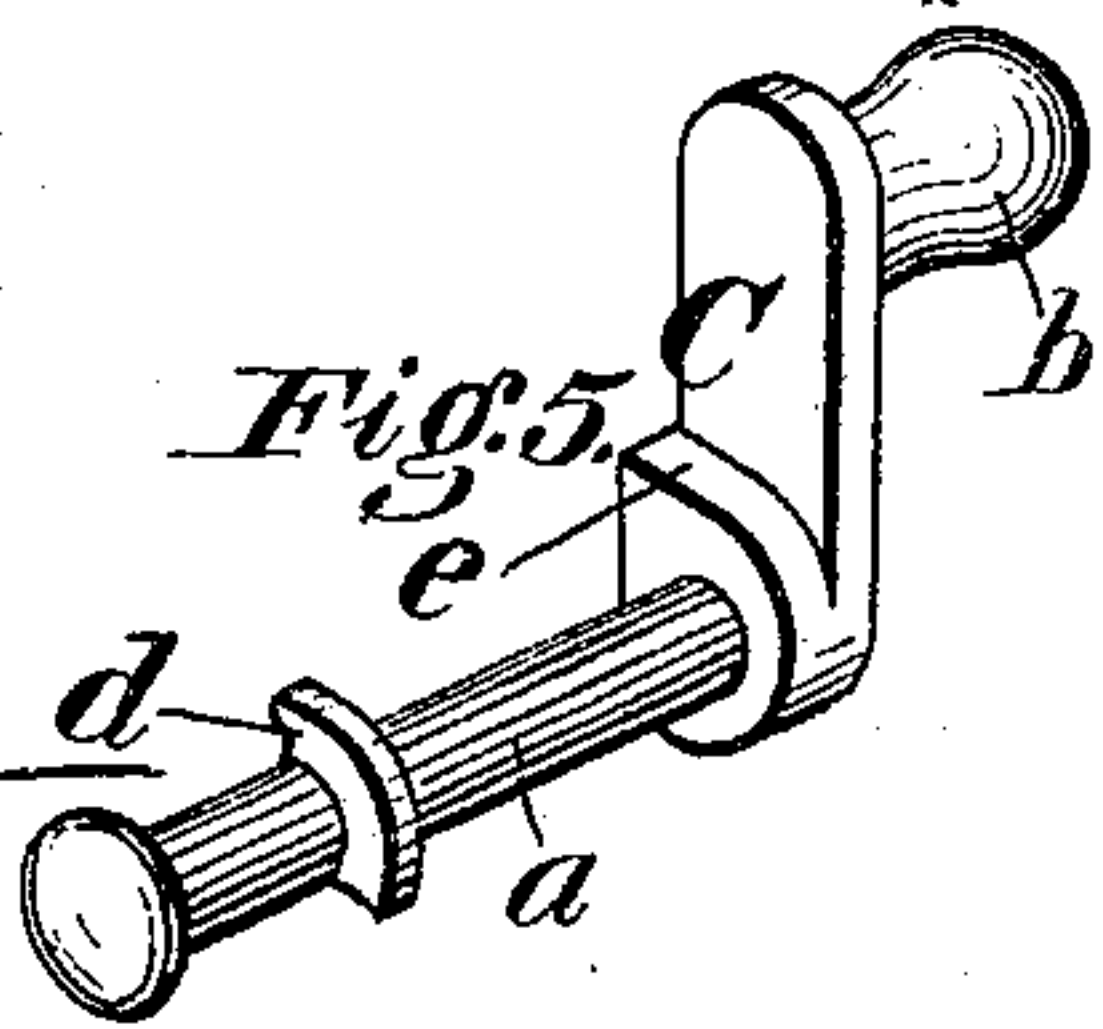


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. LIEB, OF EAST NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENING DEVICES FOR TRAVELING-BAGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 204,743, dated June 11, 1878; application filed March 22, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. LIEB, of East Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Fastening Devices for Traveling-Bags, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to an improved button or fastening to hold traveling-bags or satchels closed at the sides or ends.

The invention consists in a rotary spring-button so constructed that when turned backward in an unlocked position it will so remain, and that when pressed by the finger it will lock automatically.

Various devices have hitherto been devised for the purpose of locking bag-frames; but their construction was such that there was great difficulty in locking and unlocking and in retaining them in their unlocked position while opening and closing the bag.

Referring to the drawing, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my device applied to a bag-frame in its locked position; Fig. 2, a like view of the same in an unlocked position. Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views on the lines *xx* and *yy*, respectively; and Fig. 5, a perspective view of the button or locking device proper; Fig. 6, a sectional view illustrating a modification of the device, whereby it is made to serve the purpose of a key-lock.

In the drawings, A A' represent the frame of the bag; B, a plate or stirrup secured to the outer side or top of the frame; C, the locking device proper, secured by the plate B to one jaw of the frame, and arranged to engage over the other jaw of the same in order to hold the bag shut.

As shown in the drawings, the button or locking device C consists, essentially, of the shaft *a*, provided at one end with a crank-arm, *b*. The shaft extends transversely through, and is held in place by the plate B, while the crank-arm projecting at one end is in position to be turned down over the side of the frame. The shaft is arranged to have a slight endwise movement in its bearing, and is surrounded within the plate B by a spiral spring, D, one end of which bears against the frame or plate, while the other end bears against a shouldered collar, *d*, formed upon the shaft of the button, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The spring serves

the twofold purpose of urging the shaft around in such direction as to cause the locking of the crank-arm over the side of the frame and of urging the shaft backward endwise in the direction indicated by the arrow.

As shown in the drawings, the plate B is made somewhat less in width than the frame, so that a narrow space is left upon the front edge of the frame at the side of the plate. Upon turning the crank-arm upward from over the frame to unlock the latter, the spring, urging the shaft backward, draws the crank-arm over until it rests upon the outside of the frame, as shown in Fig. 2, so that it is held from turning down and again locking. In this way it will be seen that the device is retained in its unlocked position, while the bag is being opened and closed. The rear end of the shaft extends outward, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4, beyond the plate B, and is provided with a head or button.

When the device is to be locked a slight pressure upon the head or button is sufficient to force the shaft forward until the crank-arm is carried past the front edge of the arm, whereupon the spring instantly rotates the shaft, and causes the crank-arm to lock down over the side face of the frame, as shown in Fig. 1. For the purpose of limiting the rotation of the locking device the crank-arm is provided, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 5, with a shoulder, *e*, which bears upon the frame when the button is in its locked position.

The form of the parts and arrangement of the details may be modified without departing from the limits of my invention, which consists in combining with a rotary button or catch adapted to lock a bag-frame a spring in such manner that it will cause the button to remain in an unlocked position until released, and then cause it to lock automatically.

Among other modifications which may be made are those of applying a flat instead of a spiral spring, of having the spring merely effect the holding of the device in the unlocked position alone, and of having a shoulder on the plate to hold the button when unlocked, in place of having the bearing on the frame. If desired, the shaft may have two crank-arms at opposite ends to embrace opposite sides of the frame.

In case it is desired to make the fastening device serve the purpose of a key-lock, the construction represented in Fig. 6 may be adopted, the plate or holder B being enlarged to form the case, within which there is pivoted a tumbler or lever, F, arranged to engage at one end with a shoulder or stud on the locking-dog, while its other end is adapted to be acted upon by an ordinary key, as represented in the drawings, the case or body being provided with a key-hole and pintle of ordinary form.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In combination with a bag-frame, a transverse cranked shaft or arm, C, having a limited end motion and a spring, D, arranged to act thereon, substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination with a bag-frame, a plate, B, rotary button C, and spiral spring D, substantially as shown and described.

3. In combination with the bag-frame and the spiral spring, the button or crank shaft, provided with the collar *d* and shoulder.

4. In combination with a bag-frame and a cranked arm or shaft, C, thereon, a dog or tumbler, F, mounted in an inclosing-case, and adapted to be actuated by a key, for the purpose of locking the shaft, as shown.

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Witnesses:

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