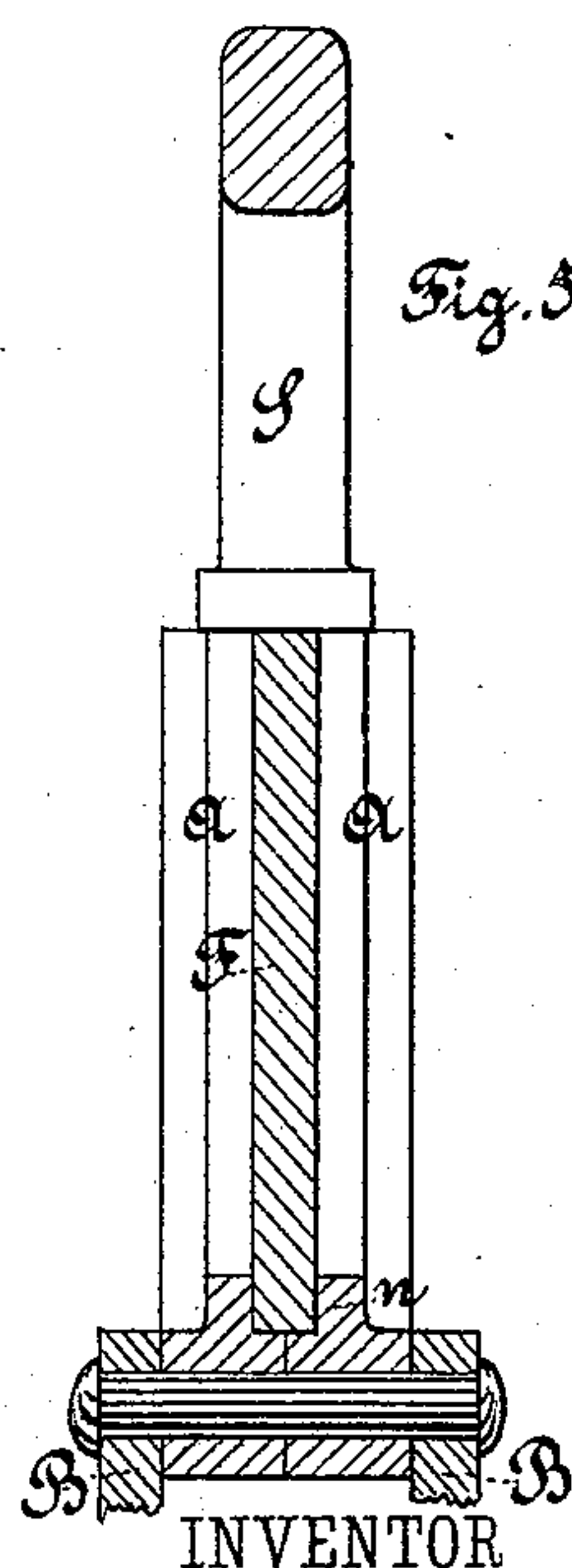


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INVENTOR

Charles M. Phinney
BY Philip H. Perkins
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES M. PLUMB, OF MADISON, WISCONSIN.

SEAL-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 297,445, dated April 22, 1884.

Application filed February 20, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. PLUMB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Madison, in the county of Dane and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Seal-Locks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention provides means for locking, sealing, and labeling boxes, bags, mail-bags, produce and express packages, the doors of cars and other vehicles, and other analogous applications, the doors and windows of buildings and apartments such as can be secured by means of a hasp and staple arrangement in the manner that hasps and staples are commonly applied and used, and is designed especially to prevent the surreptitious interference with the article in their charge by employes and others who may be entrusted with the care of the same.

The construction and arrangement of the parts of my invention are such that when once applied to its proper use and locked it cannot then be unlocked without evidence of the same being recorded on one of the parts of the invention, as will be more fully described hereinafter. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a general view of my invention, as seen in vertical projection. Fig. 2 is the same with the front half of the lock-casting removed. Fig. 3 is a view of the vertical transverse cross-section, looking in the direction *a a*, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is the same section as shown in Fig. 2, wherein the staple *S* is represented in a position at right angles to the vertical plane. Fig. 5 is a view of the vertical transverse section made by passing a plane through *x x*, Fig. 1.

S is the staple, of which part both *s* and *s'* are extensions.

A is the lock-case or frame-work of the casting, which, for convenience in manufacturing, may be cast in two parts, fastened together at the holes *h h*, &c.

B is a small staple, by which the seal-lock may be permanently fastened to whatever vehicle or receptacle it is intended to secure.

C C' are sockets, in which the extensions *s*

s' of the staple *S* play freely when unlocked. The extension of *s* below the collar *E*, with corresponding socket, acts as a guide or keeper to secure steadiness when raising, lowering, or turning the staple *S* in the necessary manipulations of my seal-lock.

D is a double or two-ply spring, fastened at *e*, while the other end plays freely in the slot *f*.

E is a collar located about midway on the staple-extensions *s*. This collar serves a double purpose. It holds the staple *S* firmly after being pressed down into position over the spring-catch *c*, as shown in Fig. 2. It also prevents the staple from slipping or falling out of its socket *C*, and thus being lost or stolen, when the lock is unsealed. The position of the collar *E*, when acting as a stop, is shown at *E*, Fig. 4.

E is a shoulder, which, when the machine is locked, fits in its socket *g*.

F is the seal-plate, which is held firmly in position, when locked, in channels *n n n* on three sides, and on the top or fourth side by the shoulders *L L*. It may be wood, metal, earthenware, glass, paper, or any material or combination of materials that may be safely, quickly, and conveniently broken, when required, and yet strong enough to serve its purpose, taking into account the influences of the weather, rain, sleet, changes of temperature, &c. This part may also be used as a label, upon which could be indicated—if a car, for example—such particulars as where from, where to, number of the car, contents, instructions, stamp, or signature of agent, depending on the nature of the business.

Having now described my invention, I will proceed to explain how it works.

We will suppose the seal-lock to be open, as shown in Fig. 4. A seal-plate of the proper dimensions is placed in the channels *n n* and pushed downward. Passing the back of the double spring *D* and pushing the seal-plate home, as shown in Fig. 2, it forces the whole spring forward until the catch *c* is in the position shown in Fig. 2. The staple *S* is then turned until the limb or extension *s'* is in position to enter the socket *C*, and is then pressed home to the position shown in Fig. 2. The collar *E*, passing down over the spring-catch *c*,

locks the staple in position. The seal-panel is held securely by the channels *n* and the shoulders *L L*. The staple *S* cannot be moved until the spring-catch *c* is released, and this can
5 only be released by breaking or cutting away the seal-panel, so that if a part or the whole of this were thus broken or cut away, in order to release the spring-catch, the evidence of the same could not possibly be concealed.

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

The combination of the staple *S*, having the extensions *s* and *s'*, and the collar *E*, working in the sockets *C C*, with the seal-plate *F*, the
15 double spring *D*, and catch *c*, all arranged to operate as described, and for the purposes set forth.

CHARLES M. PLUMB.

Witnesses:

C. E. BUELL,
STORM BULL.