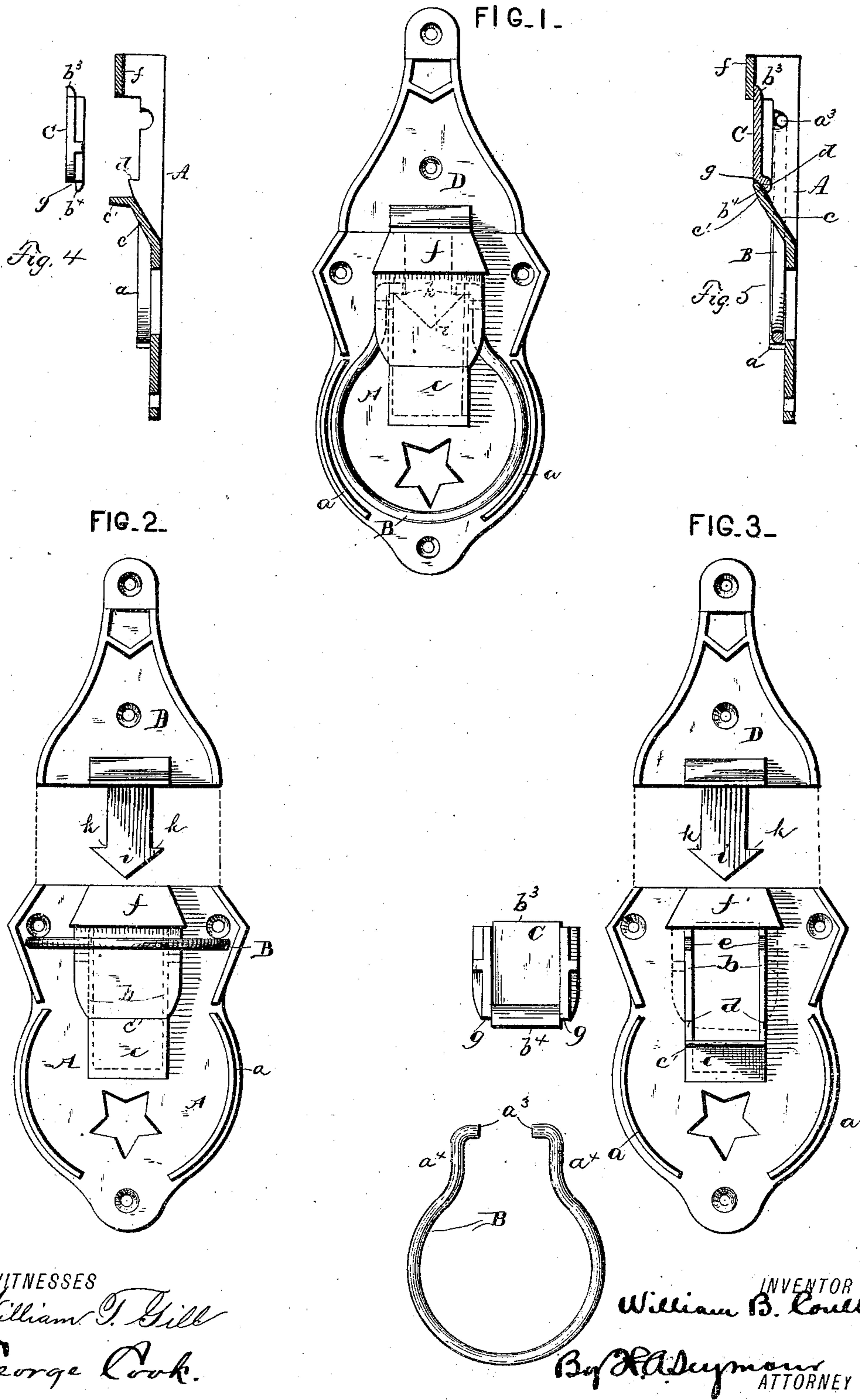


(No Model.)

W. B. COULTER.
TRUNK FASTENER.

No. 311,232.

Patented Jan. 27, 1885.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. COULTER, OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT.

TRUNK-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 311,232, dated January 27, 1885.

Application filed August 16, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. COULTER, of Bristol, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and
5 useful Improvements in Trunk-Locks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

10 My invention relates to an improvement in trunk and box fasteners, the object being to provide a lock or catch which shall be composed of few parts, simple and economical in their construction, thereby lessening the liability to get out of order, and one which shall
15 be durable and efficient in use; and with these ends in view my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of my improvement in its locked adjustment. Fig. 2 is a view of the same in its
25 unlocked adjustment, showing the spring in its raised position. Fig. 3 is a detached view of the several parts. Fig. 4 is a view in longitudinal section of the plate A with the plate C removed, and Fig. 5 is a similar view with the plate C in position.

30 A represents a plate, preferably made of malleable cast metal, and provided on opposite sides of its longitudinal center with the outwardly-projecting ribs or side walls, *b*, which latter form the sides of the bolt-housing. These ribs are connected at the top by the
35 bridge or loop *f*, formed integral with the ribs, and at the bottom by the inclined rib or wall *c c'*, formed integral with the plate and ribs. The portion *c* of the wall preferably extends outwardly in an upwardly-inclined position, while the portion *c'*, which commences at the
40 outer edge of the ribs *b*, rests at right angles to the plate A, as shown in Fig. 4, and is adapted to be bent down over one end of the cap, as shown in Fig. 5, and assist in securing the cap
45 in position. The ribs *b* are each provided with shoulders *d*, against which one end of the cap C abuts, and with the recesses *e*, in which the bent ends of the spring-catch B are jour-
50 naled. This catch B is preferably made of spring-wire, bent as shown, and when the

parts are in their normal position the bent end *a*³ thereof projects sufficiently into the housing to prevent the bolt *i* from being withdrawn. The spring-catch B is held in position within
55 the recesses *e* by the cap C, which latter is provided at its upper end with a short tongue, *b*³, adapted to take under the bridge *f*, while the lower end thereof is also provided with a tongue, *b*⁴, over which the portion *c'* of the
60 lower wall of the bolt-housing laps. The upper portion of the cap is sufficiently wide to project beyond the ribs *b* and rest over the portions *a*⁴ of the spring-catch B, while the lower end thereof is considerably decreased in
65 width for the purpose of permitting the spring-catch B to be turned up to a horizontal position. As the spring-catch is turned upwardly the portions *a*⁴ thereof come in contact with the inclined side edges of the cap, and by con-
70 tinuing this upward movement the free or bent ends *a*³ thereof are forced away from each other, leaving the passage within the housing clear for the free movement of the bolt. The plate A is also provided with the ribs *a*, within
75 or between which the curved portion of the spring-catch B rests when the latter is in its lowered or locked position.

To the trunk-lid is secured the hasp D, made in any desirable shape, and having at its lower
80 end a bolt, *i*, in the form of an arrow-head. When the trunk-lid is lowered, the bolt *i* enters the housing, and having its end beveled forces the inwardly-bent ends of the spring B outwardly until the shoulders pass said ends,
85 whereupon the latter will spring toward each other and prevent the hasp from being withdrawn. By simply raising the spring B the ends thereof will be forced apart, as before described, and allow the hasp to be withdrawn
90 and the trunk-lid opened.

My invention is exceedingly simple in construction, is of few parts, and can be applied to any trunk, box, or other receptacle at a small initial cost.

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

1. The combination, with a plate having a raised housing, the side edges of the cap of
100 which are inclined, and a hasp adapted to enter the housing, of a spring having bent ends,

which latter rest within the housing and engage the hasp, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a plate having ribs or walls integral therewith, forming the side walls and end wall of the hasp-housing, and a cap forming the cover of said housing, having inclined side edges and secured in place as shown, of a spring having bent ends, which latter rest within said housing, and a hasp, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with a plate having ribs *b*, of a spring having its ends bent inwardly and resting within recesses formed in said ribs, a cap having its side edges inclined and secured on said ribs, and a hasp, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with a plate having ribs

b and wall *c c'*, a bridge, *f*, and a cap resting on said ribs and held in place by the portion *c'* of the wall and the bridge, as described, of the spring, the ends of which pass through the ribs, and a hasp, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination, with the plate A, formed with the ribs *b b* and wall *c c'*, said ribs having the recesses *e e*, of the spring B, plate C, and hasp D, all of the above parts adapted to operate substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM B. COULTER.

Witnesses:

NOBLE E. PIERCE,
JOHN J. JENNINGS.