(No Model.)

C. A. TAYLOR.

TRUNK FASTENER.

No. 397,878. Patented Feb. 12, 1889.

Fig. 1.

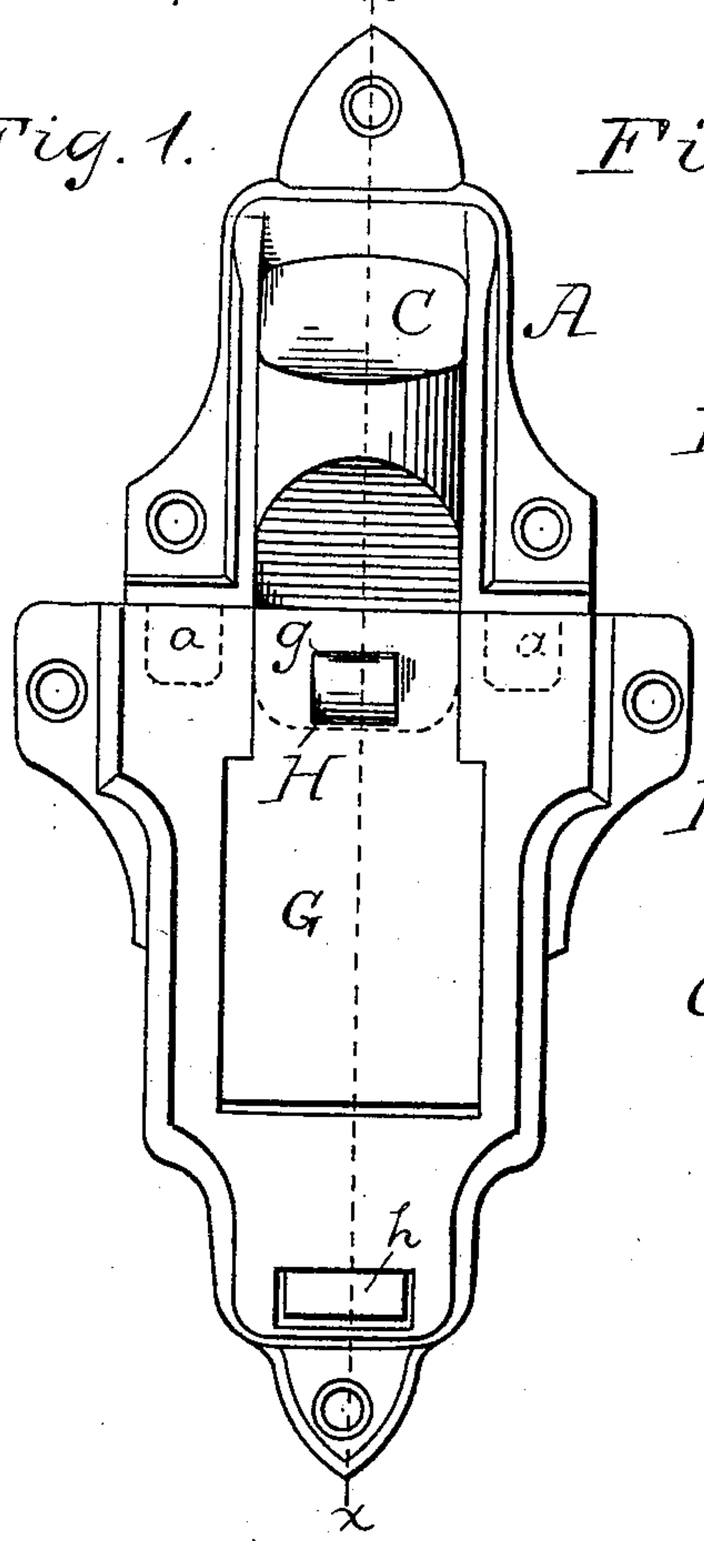


Fig. 2.

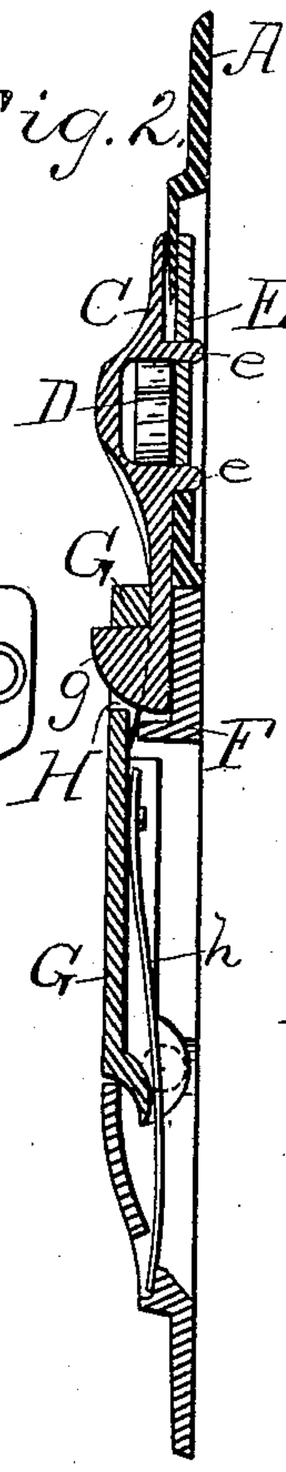


Fig. 3.

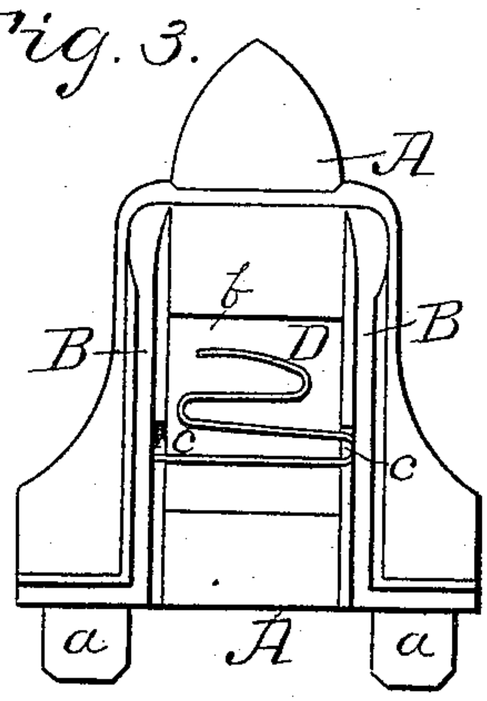


Fig. 4.

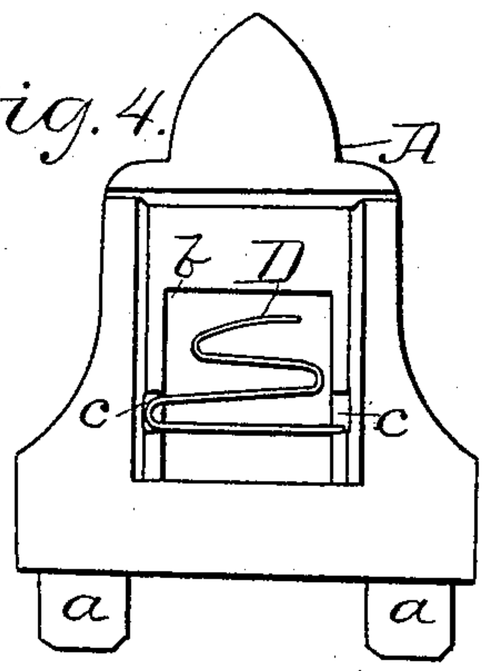


Fig. 6.

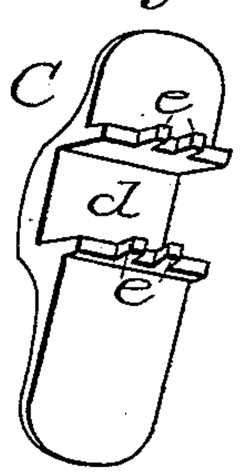
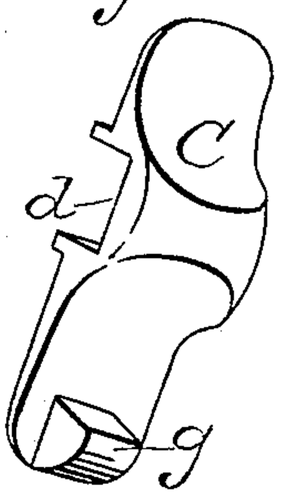


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
John S. McClure
Louis S. Thomason

Inventor
Charles A. Taylor
By his Attorney
Frank D. Thomason

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO JOHN H. SESSIONS, OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT.

TRUNK-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,878, dated February 12, 1889.

Application filed September 15, 1888. Serial No. 285,551. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. TAYLOR, of Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trunk-Fasteners, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention relates to trunk-fixtures which are intended to temporarily secure the lid to the body of the trunk, and which are usually located one on each side of the trunk-lock.

Heretofore the lid of the trunk had to be left open, or great care had to be exercised in order to keep the said fixtures from automatically locking every time the lid was dropped over the body.

The object of my invention is to prevent this automatic locking every time the lid is by accident or design closed, thus avoiding the necessity of unlocking or disengaging said fixtures every time it is desired to get into the trunk.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of my improved fixture. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section taken on line *x x*, Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are front and rear views of the upper plate with the bolt removed; and Figs. 5 and 6 are perspective views of the front and rear, respectively, of said bolt.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the upper plate, which is secured to the front of the lid of the trunk, so that its lower edge is flush and parallel with the edge of the lid, and which has two tenons, *a a*, projecting down from said lower edge on either side of the center, which extend past the edge of the lid a suitable distance.

B B represent parallel walls, which project outward from the front of the said plate an equal distance on either side of a vertical line intersecting the center of width of said plate, and which extend vertically from the lower edge of said plate to near the upper edge thereof, forming, as it were, a vertical way, within which the bolt C is placed and moves longitudinally in. I make in the floor of said way a rectangular opening, *b*, and make pockets *c c* in the inner surfaces of the walls B directly opposite each other, in which I place the base of the zigzag spring D, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings.

Bolt C is of a length extending from the upper limits of walls B to the end of lugs *a*, and bulges outward about its center of length and is provided with a transverse recess, *d*, in its under surface beneath said bulge, within which the spring D comes when said bolt is in position between walls B. Projecting outward from the transverse edges of said recess *d* are lugs *e e*, which pass through suitable openings in a clamping-plate, E, and are swayed to prevent said plate from loosening therefrom. Plate E is rectangular in shape and wider and longer than opening *b*, which it covers. The under surface of plate A is depressed or sunken an area equal in width but longer than said plate E, in which the latter rests, and moves in when the bolt C, to which it is connected, moves. The upper end of the bolt is shaped so as to form a shoulder against which the finger can be pressed to push it longitudinally downward, and from the lower end of said bolt there projects outward a lug, *g*, which is not so wide as the bolt, the upper surface of which is at right angles to the same, and the back of which is curved, as shown.

The spring D keeps the bolt at the upper limit of its throw, so that when the pressure is removed that holds it down it automatically returns to such position.

F represents the lower plate, which is fastened to the front of the body of the trunk immediately under and in register with plate A, so that its upper edge is flush and parallel with the upper edge of the body, and so that the tenons *a a* of plate A can enter sockets made in its upper edge with reference to them.

Hinged in the lower part of said lower plate, F, is the hasp G, as shown, which by means of a spring, *h*, is kept closed against said plate. Its upper end, which rests between the raised structure, in which sockets are made, and extends to the upper edge of said plate F, has a rectangular opening, H, therein. The office of this opening is, when the lid is closed and the bolt C bears upon the upper end of the hasp—and in some cases oscillating it outward and getting under it slightly—by

pushing said bolts downward the hasp snaps over said lug *g*, which projects through said opening, thus locking the two plates and the lid and body of the trunk together.

When it is desired to unlock the fixture, the hasp is pulled outward slightly, whereupon the bolt, being free, returns, by reason of the action of spring D, to its normal position. Concerning the unlocking of the fixture, it will be observed that it is not necessary to raise the lid of the trunk. When the hasp is pulled outward, the automatic returning of the bolt to its original position prevents the said hasp snapping back over lug *g* again.

It is an easy matter, and one involving little, if any, change, for a coil-spring or a leaf-spring to be substituted for the zigzag spring D. I wish to be understood as considering them as equivalents.

Plate E may also be dispensed with, if desired, and lugs *e* simply pass through an elongated slot in the floor of the guideway and be enlarged at their outer ends, so as to prevent their withdrawal.

What I claim as new is—

1. In a trunk-fixture, the combination, with plate A, reciprocating bolt C, having a lug, *g*, projecting from its lower end, and a spring, D, of plate F and oscillating hasp G, having an opening, H, in the free end thereof.

2. In a trunk-fixture, the combination, with plate A, reciprocating bolt C, having a lug, *g*, projecting from its lower end and having a recess in its inner surface, and spring D, secured to plate A and located within said recess, so operating on said bolt as to push it toward the limit of its upward movement, of plate F and spring-actuated hasp G, hinged in the lower part thereof and having an opening in the upper end thereof, as set forth.

3. In a trunk-fixture, the combination, with plate A, having opening *b* therein, bolt C, having lug *g* projecting therefrom and having a recess in its under surface, spring D, secured to plate A and located within said recess, and plate E, connected to bolt C, as set forth, of plate F, hasp G, fulcrumed in the lower part thereof and having an opening, H, in its upper end, and spring *h*, as set forth.

4. The combination, with plate A, provided with walls B B and a rectangular opening between them, bolt C, having lug *g* projecting from its lower end, and a recess, *d*, in the under surface thereof, spring D, secured to plate A, located within recess *d* and pressing said bolt upward, and plate E, connected to said bolt, of plate F and hasp G, fulcrumed in said plate and having an opening, H, in its upper end, and spring *h*, as set forth.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

Witnesses:
FRANK D. THOMASON,
JOHN S. MCCLURE.