

(No Model.)

D. W. KEELER.
BOX COVER FASTENER.

No. 556,932.

Patented Mar. 24, 1896.

Fig. 1.

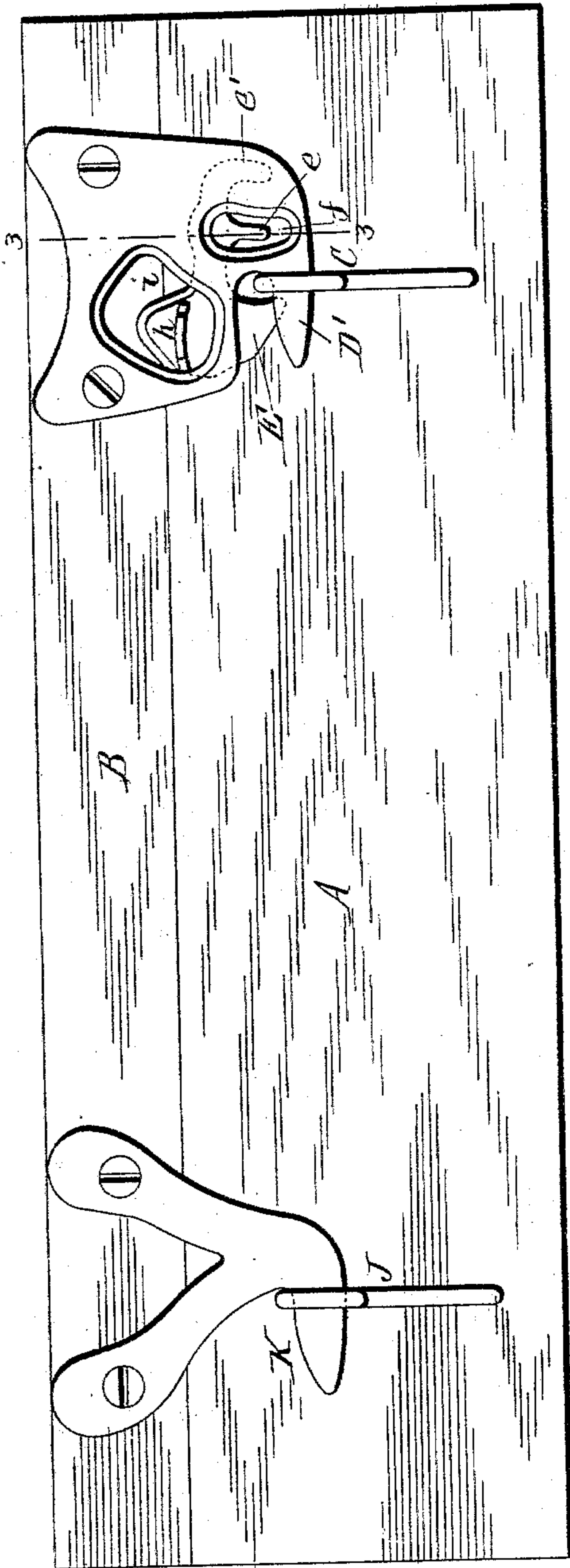


Fig. 2.

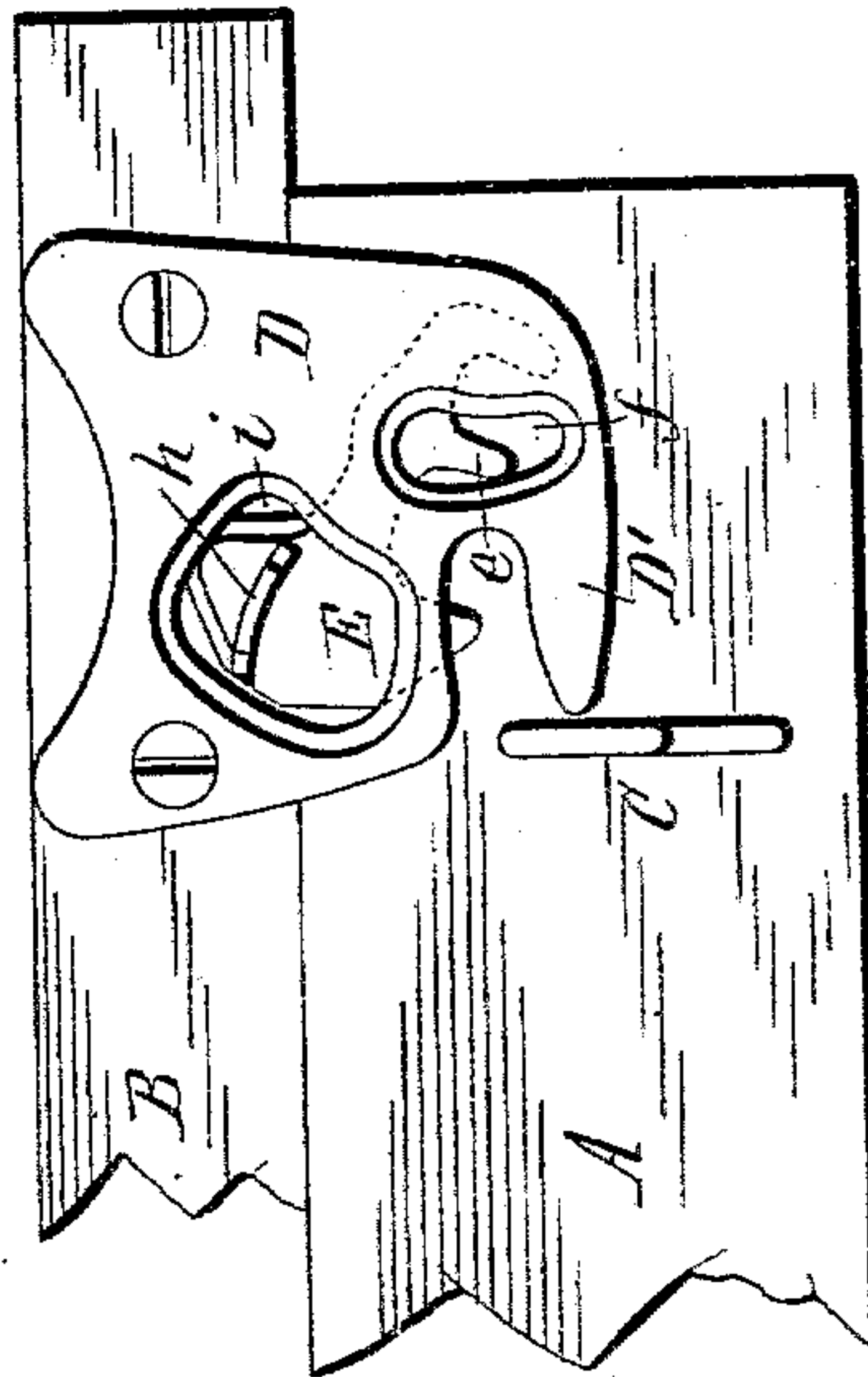


Fig. 3.

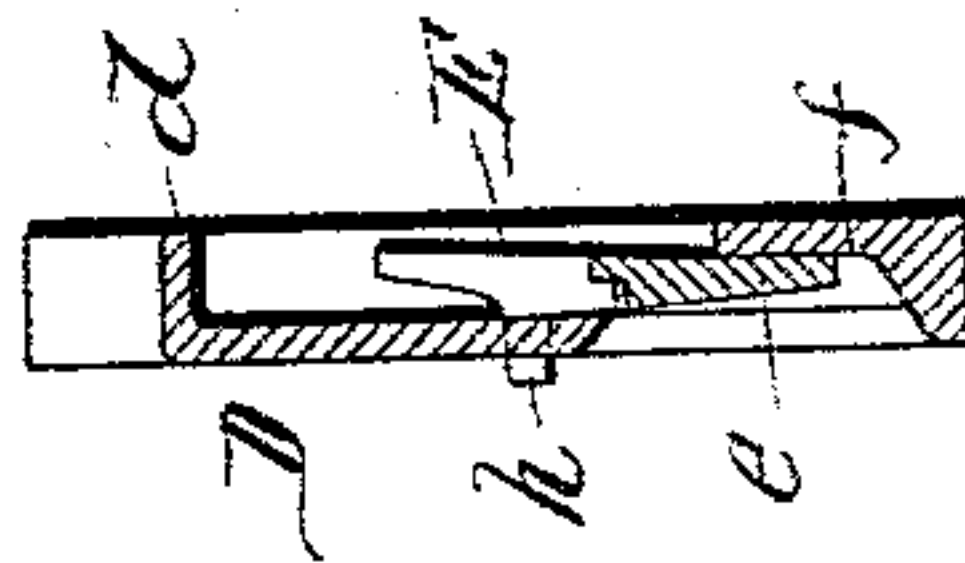


Fig. 4.

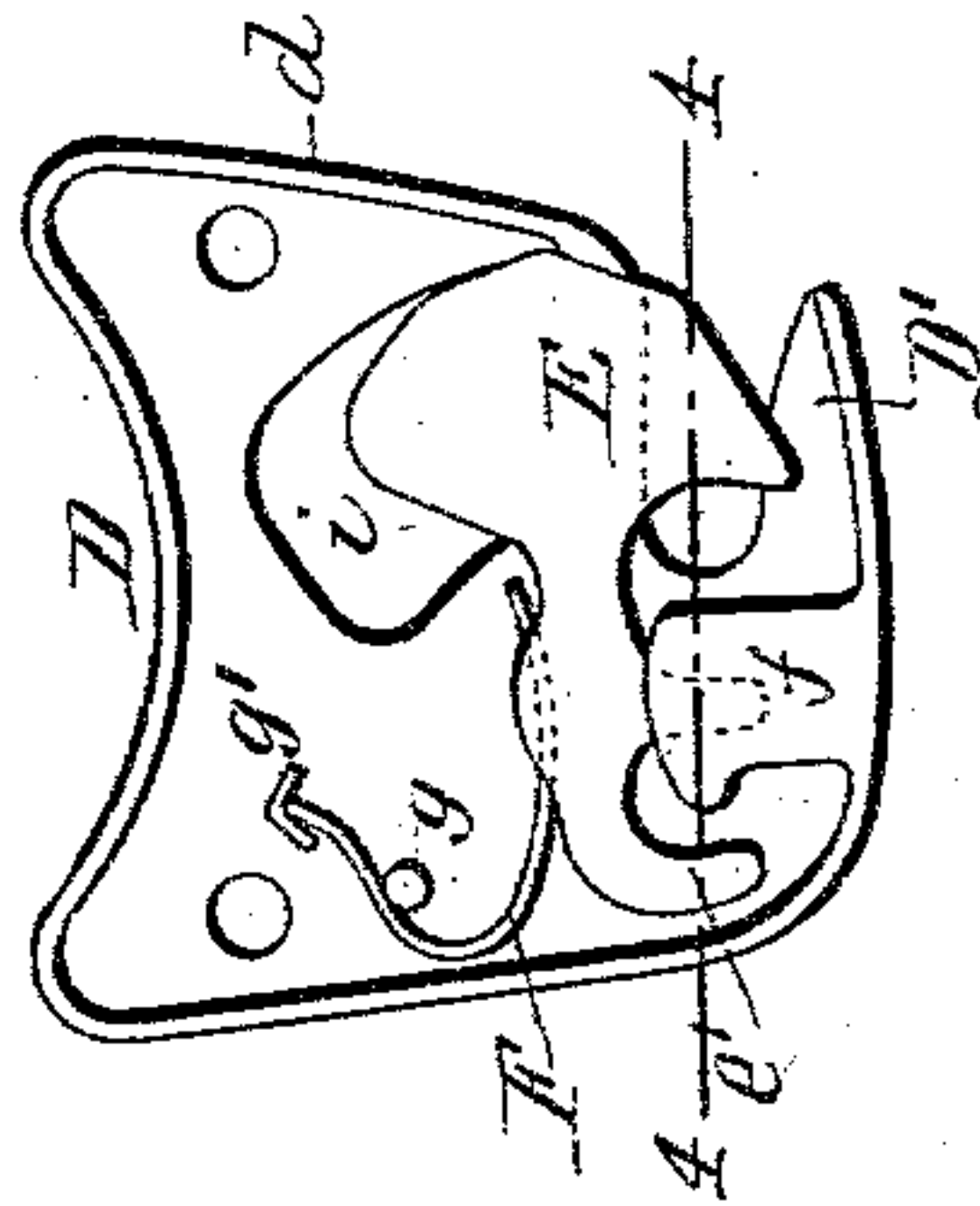
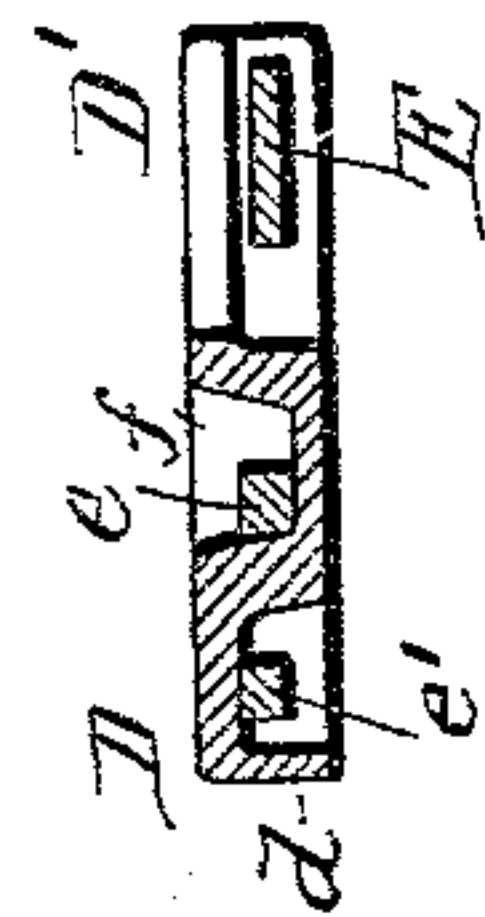


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BOX-COVER FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 556,932, dated March 24, 1896.

Application filed September 4, 1895. Serial No. 561,403. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DEVILLO W. KEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cattaraugus, in the county of Cattaraugus and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Box-Cover Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the fasteners which are employed for removably securing the lids or covers of boxes.

My invention has for its object to produce a simple fastener of this class which enables the cover to be quickly secured in place.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a box provided with my improved fastener, showing the cover secured thereto. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary side elevation of the box, showing the spring-catch raised for releasing the cover. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the fastener in line 3 3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detached inside view of the fastener corresponding to Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section in line 4 4, Fig. 4.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents the body of an ordinary box and B its lid or cover.

C is an eye, staple or projection secured vertically to the outer side of the box at a short distance below its upper edge, and D is a depending lug or casing secured to the same side of the cover and provided at its lower end with a laterally-extending hook D', adapted to engage in said eye or staple, as shown in Fig. 1, so as to hold the cover down upon the box. The casing D overlaps the side of the box when the cover is in place, and consists of a vertical plate having an inwardly-extending marginal flange *d*, forming the top, bottom and sides of the casing.

E is a locking catch or hook pivoted to the lower portion of the attaching-plate D and adapted to engage over the upper bar or leg of the staple, on the front side thereof, or, in other words, on the side opposite that against which the bight of the hook D' bears, whereby the latter is held against withdrawal from the staple by the locking-catch. This catch is preferably arranged within the casing and is pivoted thereto by a lug or tongue *e* extending downwardly from the shank of the catch and arranged loosely in a socket *f*

formed on the inner side of the front plate of the casing in rear of the hook D', as shown most clearly in Figs. 3 and 5. The catch is provided on the rear side of this socket with a similar lug *e'*, which bears against the adjacent inner side of the casing and aids in retaining the pivot-lug *e* of the catch in its socket by preventing the same from tipping inwardly or toward the side of the box. The socket *f* is cast integrally with the casing. By this construction the catch is pivoted to the plate without the use of a rivet or other separate pivot, and the cost of the fastener is correspondingly reduced.

F is a spring which tends to depress the catch into the locked position. (Shown in Figs. 1 and 4.) This spring is bent around a pin *g* projecting inwardly from the front wall of the casing and bears with one end against an abutment *g'* arranged on said wall above the pin *g* and with its opposite end upon the shank of the catch on the front side of its pivot, as shown in Fig. 4.

h is a thumb-piece or projection arranged on the head of the catch, whereby the latter is swung upward for disengaging it from the staple of the box. This thumb-piece extends outwardly into or through a slot *i* formed in the front plate of the casing.

One of my improved fasteners is arranged on each side of the box, and if the box is of such a length that a pair of the fasteners is insufficient to hold both ends of the cover in place the locking-fasteners are arranged near one end of the box and a pair of ordinary non-locking fasteners, such as the staple J and hook or lug K, may be arranged near the opposite end thereof, as shown in Fig. 1, the staple being secured to the body of the box and the hook to the cover, like the corresponding parts of the locking-fastener.

When the cover is removed from the box, the noses of the locking-catches of the fasteners extend across the mouths of the hooks, as shown in Fig. 4.

In applying the cover to the box the same is so placed that the hooks D' and K stand in rear of the staples, and the cover is then slid lengthwise on the box to cause the hooks to enter the staples, the latter being so arranged that when the bights of the hooks bear against the staples the ends of the cover

are flush with the ends of the box. As the locking-catches extend across the mouth of the hooks, they are deflected upward by the inclined rear face of their noses riding over the upper bars or legs of the staples in engaging the hooks with the latter, and as soon as the heads of the catches pass beyond said upper legs the catches are depressed by their springs, causing the same to engage automatically in the staples, thereby reliably locking the hooks in the staples. As the hooks D' and K overlap the side walls of the box, they serve to align the cover upon the box in placing it thereon, and after applying the cover the same is automatically fastened by simply sliding it into position on the box. The cover is readily released by raising the locking-catches out of engagement with the staples, as shown in Fig. 2, when the cover can be slid lengthwise in the proper direction to withdraw the hooks from the staples.

My improved fastener is especially desirable for securing the covers of boxes designed to receive coffins and commonly termed "rough boxes," but the same is equally useful for other purposes—such, for instance, as a seat lock or fastener. When used as a seat-lock the staple C is arranged on the side of the wagon-body and the casing with the hook and spring-catch on the seat in an obvious manner.

The portion of the fastener carried by the cover comprises, in addition to the spring,

but two parts, which are readily cast, and the fastener can therefore be manufactured at small cost.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a box-cover fastener, the combination with a casing adapted to be secured to the edge of a box-cover and provided at its lower end with a hook adapted to engage with a staple or projection on the body of the box and on its inner side with an upright socket, and a swinging spring-catch arranged in said casing, adapted to interlock with said staple or projection and provided with a pivot-lug seated in said socket, substantially as set forth.

2. In a box-cover fastener, the combination with a casing adapted to be secured to the edge of a box-cover and provided at its lower end with a hook adapted to engage with a staple or projection on the body of the box, and on its inner side with an upright socket, and a swinging spring-catch arranged in said casing and provided with a depending pivot-lug seated in said socket and a depending stop-lug arranged in rear of said pivot-lug and bearing against the front wall of said casing, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 29th day of August, 1895.

DEVILLO W. KEELER.

Witnesses:

FRANK S. OAKES,
FRED L. KEITH.