(No Model.)

E. J. BROOKS.

CORDING SEAL.

No. 591,368. Patented Oct. 5, 1897.

Fig. 1.

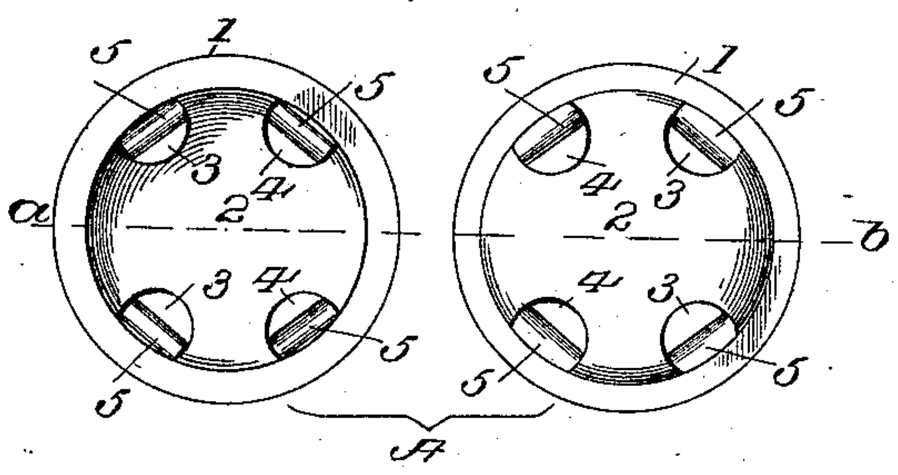


Fig. 4.

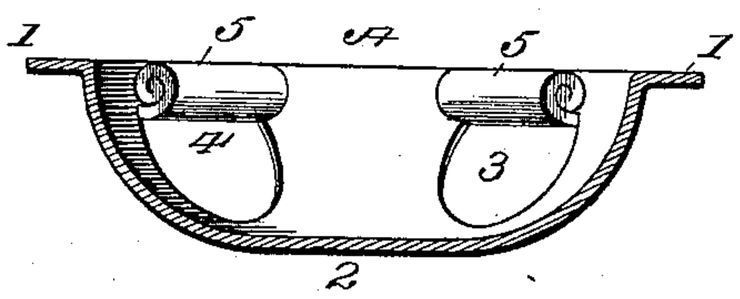


Fig. 5.

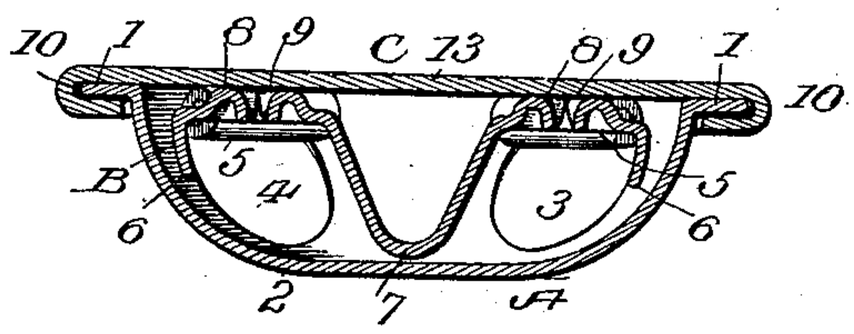


Fig. 2.

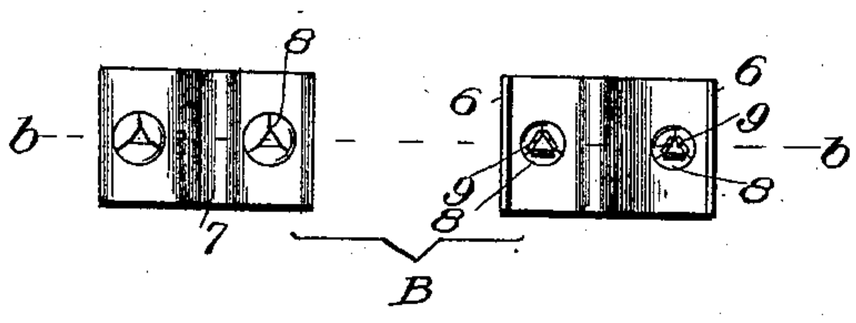


Fig. 6.

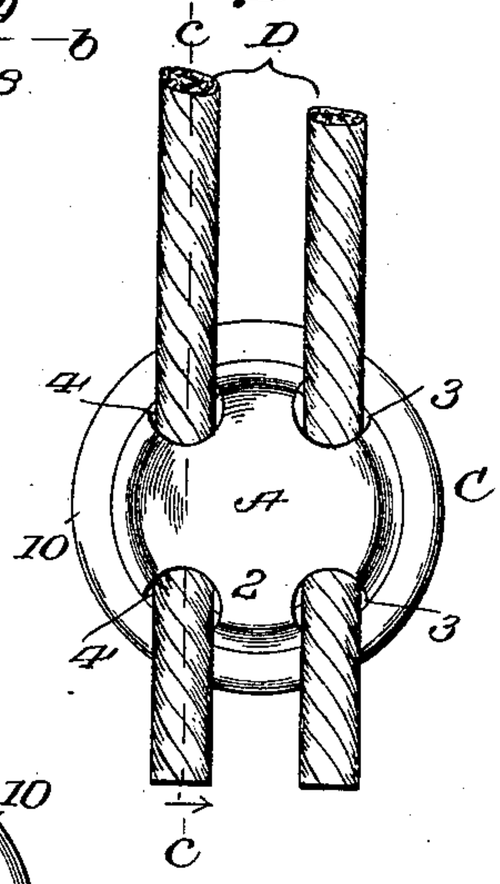


Fig. 7.

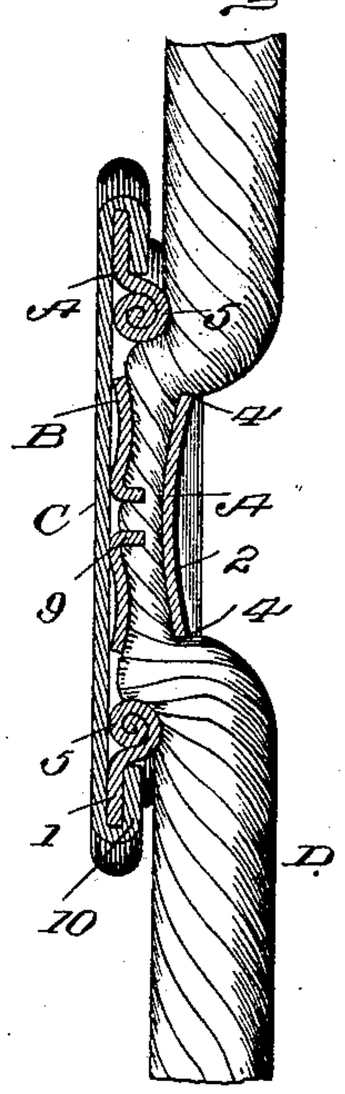
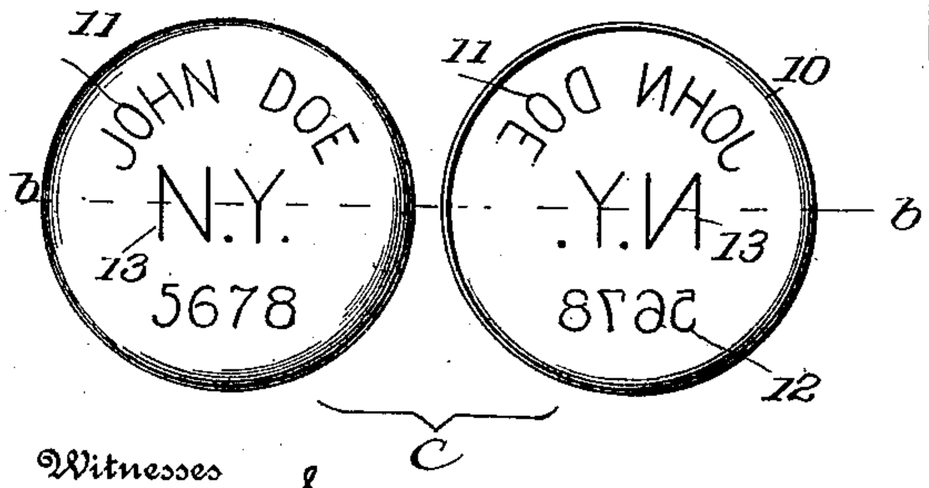


Fig. 3.



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CORDING-SEAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 591,368, dated October 5, 1897.

Application filed July 3, 1897. Serial No. 643,451. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. BROOKS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of East Orange, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cording-Seals, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is additional to my improvement patented December 22, 1896, by United States Letters Patent No. 573,758, relating therewith to means for sealing commercial packing-cases, baggage, &c., in which twine or cord constitutes the shackle of the seal.

The objects of the present improvement are to facilitate applying the seal-disk to the shackle ends preliminary to fastening it in place at the sealing operation and to provide additional locking devices for preventing the separation of the seal-disk from the shackle ends after it is so fastened. The manufacture of the seal-disk wholly from "scrap-tin" is at the same time facilitated. The improved seal is preferably and conveniently fastened by a seal-press of known or improved construction provided with a die having a smooth spherical or spheroidal face to indent the back of the seal-disk.

The invention consists in a compressible sheet-metal seal-disk and in the novel combination of parts formed by the improved cording-seal, as hereinafter described and claimed.

A sheet of drawings accompanies this specification as part thereof.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents front and back views of the back plate of the seal; Fig. 2, like views of the locking-plate; Fig. 3, like views of the front plate; Fig. 4, a magnified cross-section on the line *a b*, Fig. 1; Fig. 5, a magnified cross-section through the united parts of the seal-disk on said line *a b*, Fig. 1, and lines *b b*, Figs. 2 and 3; Fig. 6, a back view of the press-fastened cording-seal; and Fig. 7, a magnified section on the line *c c*, Fig. 6.

Like letters and numbers refer to like parts in all the figures.

The improved seal-disk is composed of a back plate A, Fig. 1, an inner locking-plate B, Fig. 2, and a front part C, Fig. 3, all of which may be and are preferably stamped from scrap-tin. They may be formed in like manner from any suitable sheet metal.

The respective parts as individually produced are constructed as follows:

The back plate A is circular in shape with a flat marginal rim 1, a concavo-convex main portion 2, two pairs of semioval threading-holes 3 and 4 symmetrically distributed in said main portion, as shown in Fig. 1, and transverse bolsters 5 at the outer sides of the several holes, said bolsters being formed by the metal cut from the portion 2 in providing it with said holes 3 and 4, such metal being severed along the curved edges of the holes and curling itself beneath the punch toward the outer edge, where it remains attached. (See Fig. 4.)

The new locking-plate B is rectangular in shape, and is constructed with rearwardly-projecting lateral edges 6, a deep hollow rib 7 midway between said edges and parallel therewith to form a central guide, a pair of forwardly-projecting cups 8 in the base portions between said edges 6 and rib 7, and rearwardly-projecting ragged eyelets 9 within said cups.

The face-plate C is a circular flat disk having a rearwardly-projecting marginal rim 10 to interlock with said flat rim 1 of the back plate A for permanently uniting the parts A, B, and C with each other, its front being stamped with general lettering 11, a serial number 12, and the name or symbol 13 of the place of sealing or equivalent permanent marks to distinguish genuine seals and to facilitate locating any tampering therewith.

In the seal-disk, Fig. 5, as completed for the market the guide-rib 7 of the locking-plate B is located between the respective pairs of threading-holes 3 and 4 and serves to prevent accidentally crossing the ends of the shackle-cord D, Figs. 6 and 7, and thus to facilitate readily and quickly threading the seal, which is effected by passing each end of the cord D through one pair of said threading-holes. During this operation the sharp prongs of the ragged eyelets 9 are marked within the cups 8, which are located between the holes 3 and the holes 4, respectively. The

lateral edges 6 of the locking-plate serve also as guides for the cord ends and, by their contact with the interior of said portion 2 of the back plate, assist in holding the locking-plate in position in the unpressed seal, Fig. 5.

When the seal is press-fastened, as in Figs. 6 and 7, the ragged eyelets 9 project sufficiently to interlock their prongs with the fibers of the cord D, which is furthermore securely held between the bolsters 5 on one side and the opposing inner edges of the holes 3 and 4 on the other side, so as to adapt the seal-disk to withstand any pulls to which it may be subjected, whether accidentally or with fraudulent intent, while any tampering with the hard stiff sheet metal in attempts to release either end of the cord is certain to result in such defacement as to insure detection.

The face and back plates A and C, and therewith the seal-disk, may be oval or of other outline instead of round, if preferred. The seal-disks may be made of various sizes, from one-half an inch in diameter or less up, and other like modifications will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art.

Having thus described the said improvement, I claim as my invention and desire to patent under this specification—

1. An improved compressible seal-disk for cording-seals composed of a back plate having a concavo-convex main portion provided with threading-holes, an internal locking-plate having lateral edges and a central guide-rib which project into the concavity of said back plate, and ragged eyelets masked within cups between said edges and rib, and a face plate interlocked at its perimeter with said back plate, substantially as hereinbefore specified.

2. The combination with the ends of a shackle-cord of a seal-disk of sheet metal comprising a back plate having threading-holes through which the cord extends and bolsters at the outer edges of said holes composed of the partially severed and curled metal cut from said holes, and a face plate interlocked with said back plate at its perimeter, substantially as hereinbefore specified.

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