

No. 655,151.

Patented July 31, 1900.

G. GOERK.  
BAG LOCK AND CATCH.  
(Application filed July 14, 1899.)

(No Model.)

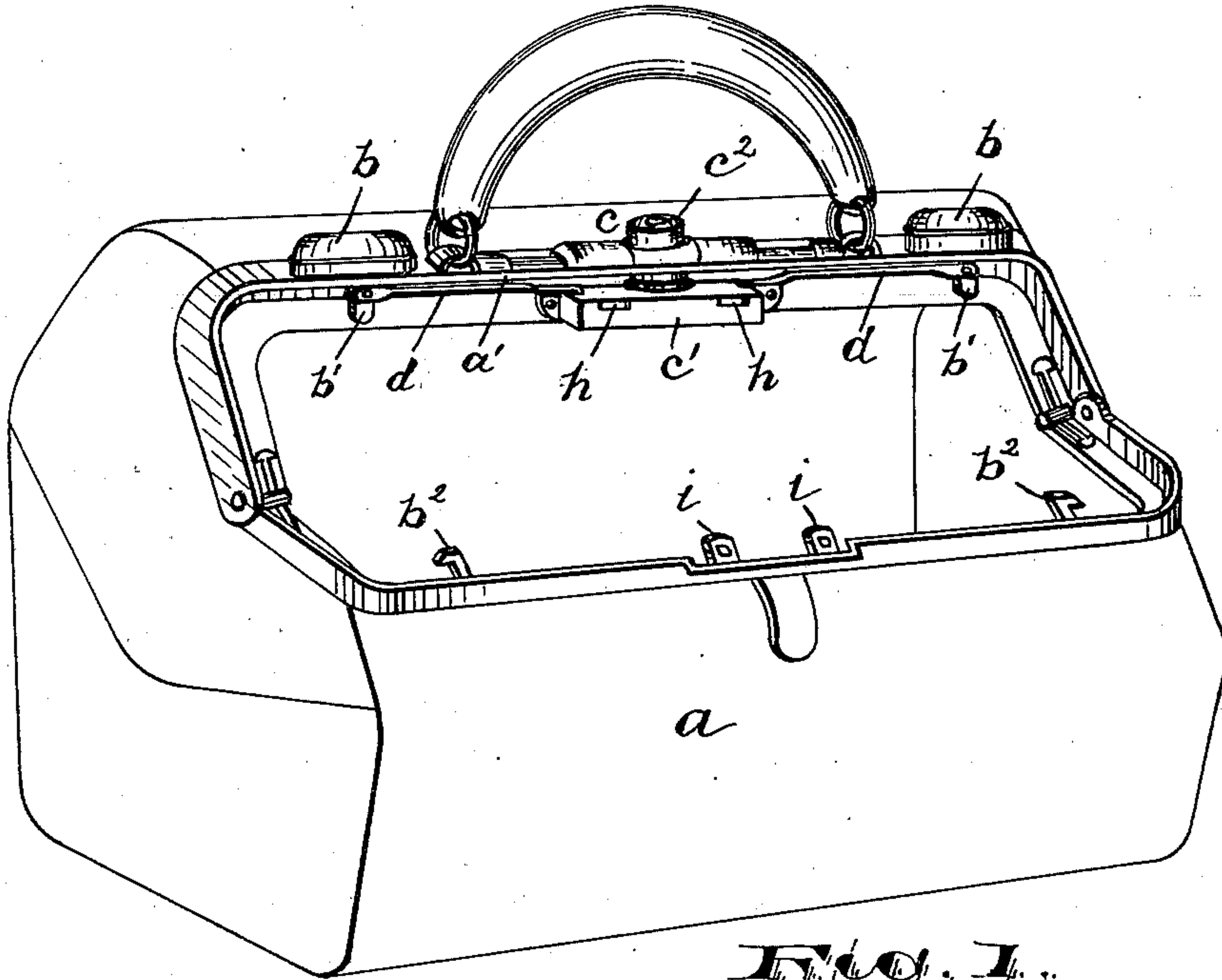


Fig. 1.

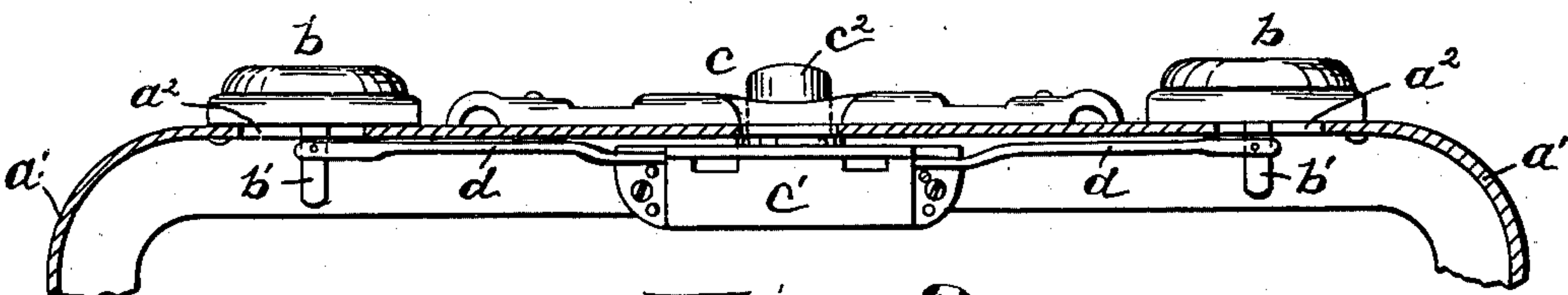


Fig. 2.

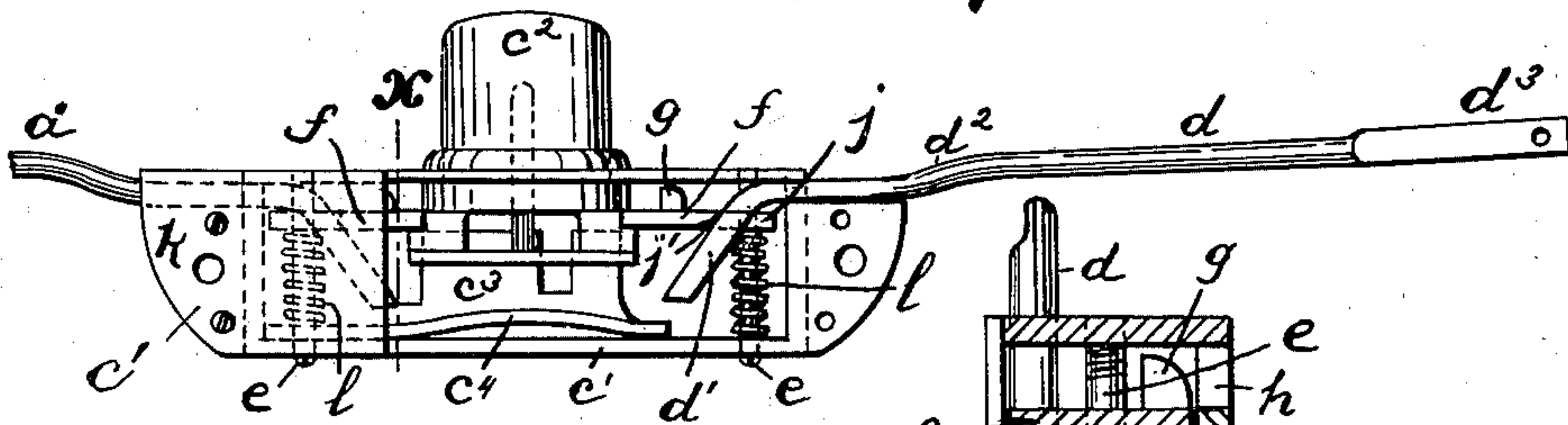


Fig. 3.

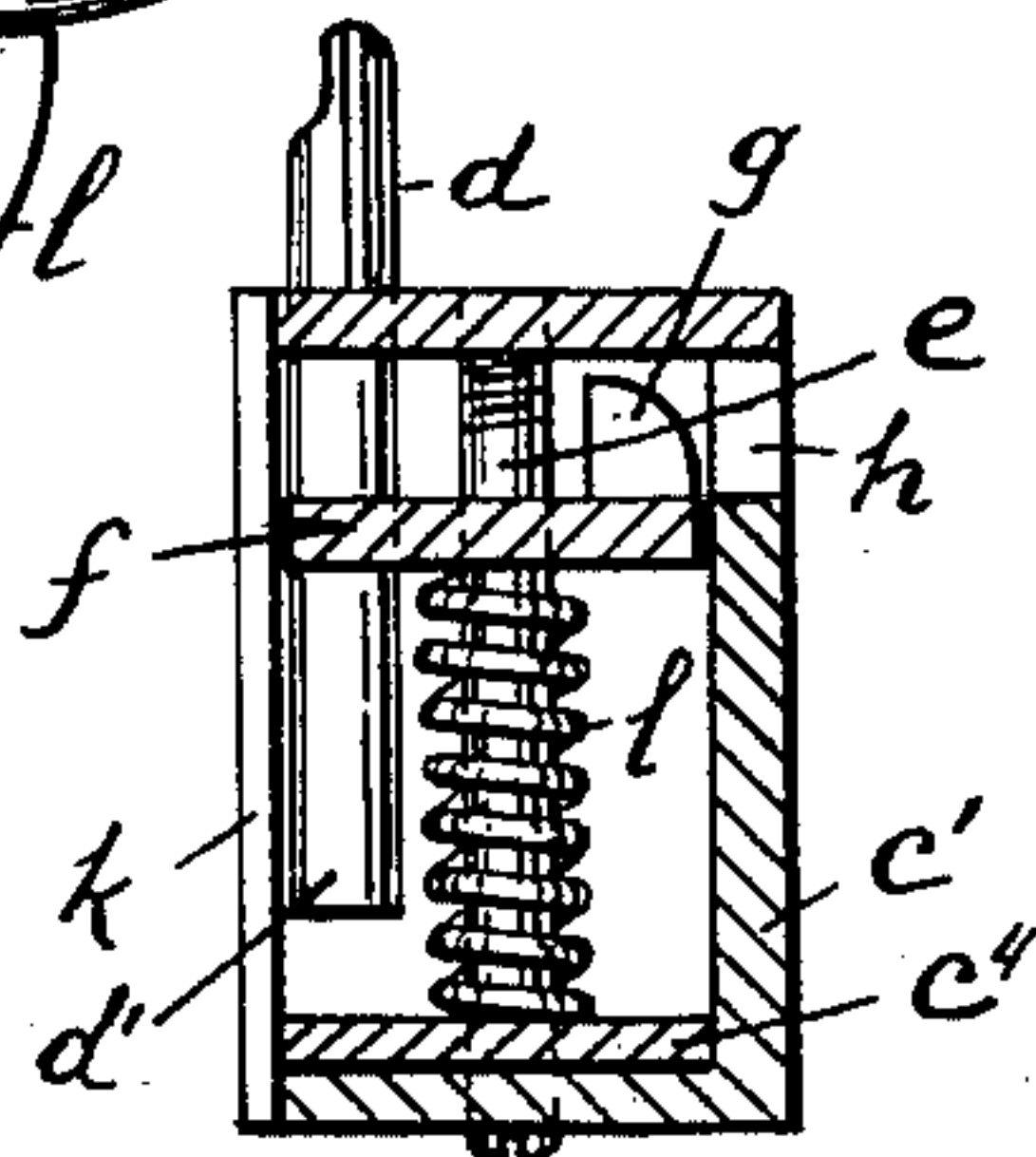


Fig. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BAG LOCK AND CATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 655,151, dated July 31, 1900.

Application filed July 14, 1899. Serial No. 723,799. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GUSTAV GOERK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bag Locks and Catches; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The objects of this invention are to simplify the operation of opening satchels and to render the operation more thoroughly automatic, whereby a saving of time is effected and a greater convenience obtained; to secure such results at a reduced cost of construction; to enable the parts to be applied to a bag or satchel frame by the bag-maker with greater ease and facility, and to secure other advantages and results, some of which may be hereinafter referred to in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved combined lock and catches for bags and satchels and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth, and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bag or satchel to which my improvements have been applied. Fig. 2 is a detail view of a portion of a bag-frame section and showing in side elevation my combined lock and catches. Fig. 3 is a view of the lock detached looking toward the side which comes flatwise against the bag-frame when the lock is applied, the wall of the case at that side being partially removed to show the interior arrangement of parts. Fig. 4 is a transverse section taken at line *x*, Fig. 3.

In said drawings, *a* indicates a bag or satchel of any ordinary construction, having cooperating jaw-sections of angle-iron to which the catches *b b* and lock *c* are applied, as usual.

Said catches *b b* are preferably of the usual construction, having an outer sliding finger-piece provided with a vertically-depending arm *b'*, adapted to move longitudinally of the bag in a slot *a'*, cut in the jaw-section, and engage a cooperating hooked member *b''* on the other section. In some cases, however, the arm *b'* may serve simply as a means for operating an outside catch of any other construction common in the art and adapted to the purpose of this invention.

The lock *c* comprises a case *c'*, fastened by means of rivets or other suitable means beneath the top flange *a'* of the angular jaw-section of the bag-frame, and having a vertically-movable finger-piece *c''*, projecting upward through an opening in the jaw-section into a position to be conveniently pressed by the hand, as is common. A keyhole is provided in the finger-piece, whereby a key may be inserted and a locking device *c'''*, within the lock, operated, also in any usual manner to lock said finger-piece against movement. *c'''* is the spring giving steadiness to the movement of said locking device and holding the same in whatever position it is left by the key. At the lower end of the finger-piece and within the case are opposite arms *f f*, which project laterally into the opposite ends of the case and near their extremities are perforated to receive vertical guide-rods *e*. A spiral spring *l* is arranged on each of said posts or rods *e*, below the arm *f*, which springs serve to normally force the finger-piece and arms outward or upward. Said arms *f f* also have on their upper surface projections *g*, and opposite these projections are openings *h* in the side wall of the case, through which tongues *i* on the opposite jaw-section are adapted to enter. Said tongues are perforated near the end and adapted to receive the projections *g* to lock the jaws of the bag, said projections being beveled at the outer side to permit of the jaws being automatically snapped together. To release the jaws, then, the finger-piece must be depressed to cause the projections to disengage the perforated tongues. Said parts thus briefly described are common in the art of bag-making, and while they represent the construction to which I prefer to attach my improvements it is evi-



dent that other well-known constructions in whole or part might be used, if desired.

Heretofore it has been common to operate the lock *c* and catches *b b* independently of one another, and my present invention lies more particularly in providing means for operating said lock and catches simultaneously and by a single pressure, as will now be described.

At the end of each arm I form a recess *j*, extending in from said end toward the finger-piece *c*<sup>2</sup> and preferably beveled inwardly downward at the inner end, as at *j'*. In this recess lies the inner end of a connecting wire or rod *d*, which extends from the lock *c* to a catch *b*. Said rod enters the lock-case through an aperture or recess cut in the end wall of the case, said recess when the side plate *k* is put on the lock providing a slideway in which the connecting-rod can slide longitudinally a limited distance, but from which it cannot escape. The inner end *d'* of the said connecting-rod is bent downward through an angle something less than a right angle, and thus presents an inclined surface to the inner end wall of the recess *j*. When the finger-piece *c*<sup>2</sup> is depressed, and the arms *f f* with it, therefore it is evident that the inner end wall of the recess *j* will engage the inclined portion of the connecting-rod and will force said rod longitudinally outward.

The connecting-rod *d* is at its extreme outer end *d*<sup>3</sup> connected to the tongue *b'* of a catch, the said rod being curved, as at *d*<sup>2</sup>, if necessary, to enable a connection to be made with the tongue at a higher point than the slideway. When, therefore, the finger-piece is depressed and the connecting-rod moved longitudinally, it is evident that the catch will be operated to release the hooked member *b*<sup>2</sup>, and thus the bag will be entirely opened by a single operation. As soon as the finger-piece is released the springs *l* throw said finger-piece into its outer position, and at the same time the catch-springs move the tongues *b'* back to locking position and force the connecting-rod *d* into normal position for its end to be again engaged by the arms *f*.

It will be seen that by making the inclined inner end of the connecting-rod work in a perforation instead of a recess open at the

end, as shown, springs in the end catches could be dispensed with; but I prefer the construction shown; or, again, the springs in the end catches by forcing the connecting-rods back to normal position might serve to return the finger-piece to its outer position without the aid of springs. I prefer, however, the more positive action of said springs.

The construction described renders possible a very quick and convenient opening of the bag and conduces greatly to economy of time, as well as enabling the bag to be opened with one hand as readily as with two.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A bag or satchel fastening, comprising opposite end catches having downwardly-extending sliding tongues, a central lock having a finger-piece working vertically and carrying within the lock-case a horizontal plate, connecting-wires secured at one end to said tongues of the end catches and at the other end being passed through perforations or bearings in the end of the lock-case and at their extremities bent obliquely downward through openings in the said horizontal plate, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination in a bag or satchel, of opposite end catches having sliding locking-tongues which project downward within the bag, a central lock comprising a case, having end flanges and slideways formed thereon in line with perforations in the end of the case, a longitudinally-disposed horizontal plate sliding vertically in said case and a finger-piece therefor, and connecting-wires pivoted at one end to said tongues of the end catches and having the other ends working upon the slideways of the end flanges of the lock-case and entering said case through the perforations, the inner extremities of said wires being inclined inwardly downward through end openings in the said horizontal plate, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of July, 1899.

GUSTAV GOERK.

Witnesses:

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