

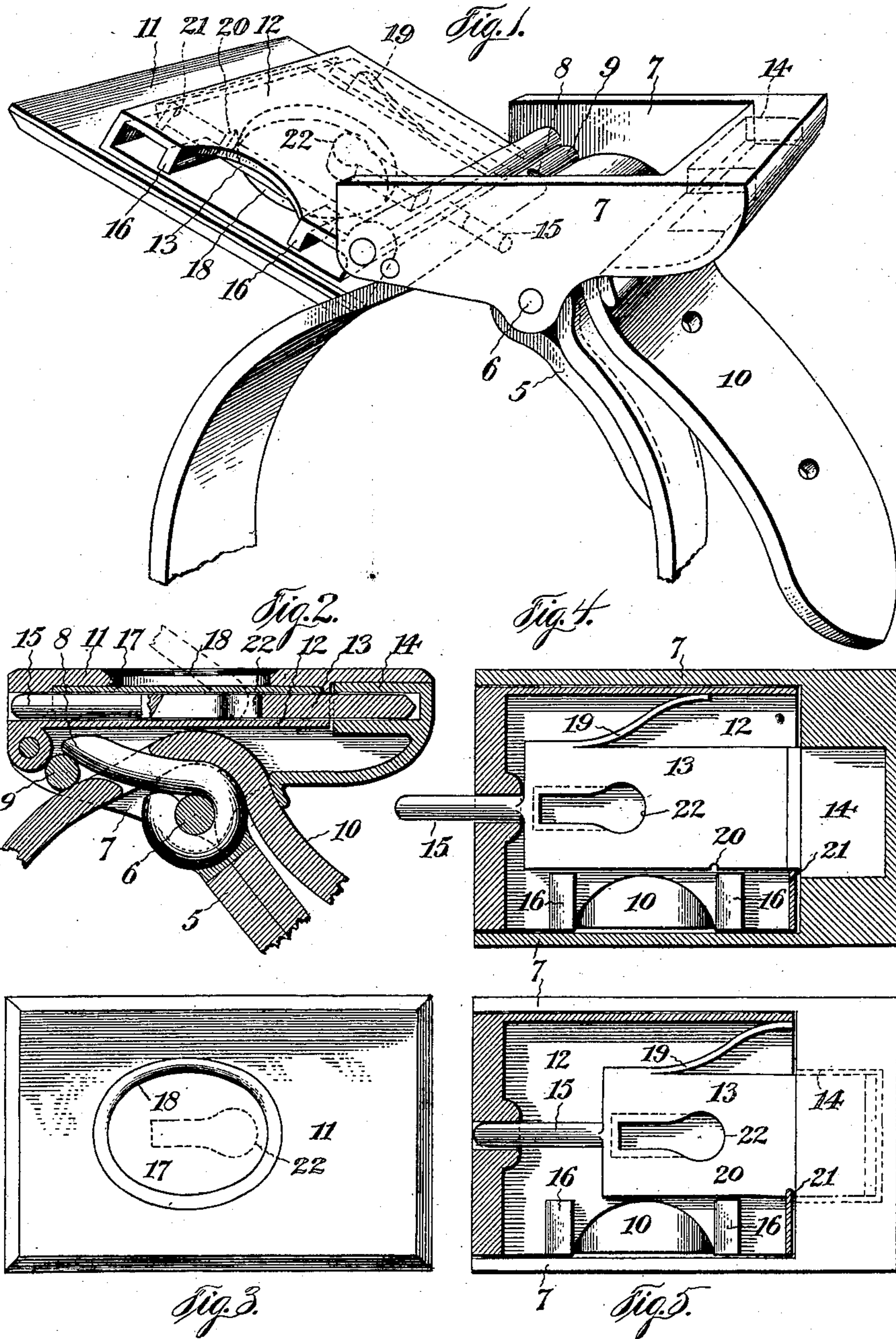
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PATENTED AUG. 11, 1903.

J. J. RUSSELL.  
SEAL LOCK.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:  
C. O. Ober  
C. H. Sommers

Inventor:  
John Joseph Russell  
by Henry Ortho Son  
Atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN JOS. RUSSELL, OF MILTON, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA, ASSIGNOR  
TO JAMES CHANNON, OF PAKENHAM, HORNSBY, NEAR SYDNEY, NEW  
SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.

## SEAL-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 736,024, dated August 11, 1903.

Application filed April 27, 1903. Serial No. 154,580. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN JOS. RUSSELL, assistant postmaster, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Milton, in the State of New South Wales and Commonwealth of Australia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Seal-Locks Specially Applicable for Strap-Buckles, as of Mail-Bags, (Case C,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a seal-lock especially devised for use on mail-bag strap-buckles, though useful to prevent unauthorized access to any fastening or other thing, and it has been devised in order to produce a cheap, light, and easily-manipulated lock for such purpose; but in order that this invention may be clearly understood reference will now be made to the drawings herewith, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a seal-lock constructed according to this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central sectional elevation of same. Fig. 3 is a plan; Fig. 4, a horizontal sectional plan in unlocked position, and Fig. 5 a similar plan in locked position.

The strap has one end 5 sewed or otherwise fastened to the chape 6 of the buckle. This chape 6 joins the sides 7 and acts as a pivot for the tongue 8, adapted to take upon the rest-bar 9. The tightening end 10 of the strap is threaded under this rest-bar 9 and has holes through one of which said tongue passes.

At the back end of the buckle a leaf or cover 11 is hinged and has on its under face a casing 12, in which is a sliding bolt 13, whose forward end is adapted to take into a socket 14 in the lock box or casing. This sliding bolt 13 is guided at its forward end by passing through an aperture in the casing 12 and at its rear by a tail or stem 15, movably fitting an aperture through the back of the cover 11. These guides hold the bolt 13 just sufficiently away from the top of said cover 11 to allow the insertion between said bolt 13 and said cover of a ticket 17, of paper or other easily-destroyable material. The casing 12 at one side fits tightly up to the cover 11, while at the other side it is open and slightly cut away, but has distance pieces or prints

16 to guide the insertion of the tickets. In the top of the cover 11 is an orifice 18, through which may be inserted a hook-bar or the like (which by reason of such insertion will destroy the ticket 17) for the purpose of operating the sliding bolt 13. This bolt 13 is held against all but very positive motion by a side spring 19, preferably consisting of a strip of its own body, which forces a nick or recess 20 in the opposite side of the bolt against a ward or stop-piece 21 on the casing on the bolt reaching its locking portion. For manipulation of the bolt 13 by means of a hook-bar an orifice 22 is provided, into which the hook of the bar will take, so that the bolt may be withdrawn from the socket 14. This orifice may be a thumb-nick or the like or be circular; but to minimize risk of tampering by means of a fine needle or the like, whose perforation of the ticket 17 would not be easily noticed, it is made somewhat keyhole shape, as shown, and the periphery thereof, backwardly, is chamfered or has a feather-edge. With the similar object of making fine perforation in front of the bolt 13 of no utility the forward end of said bolt also has preferably a feather-edge.

In operation the bolt 13 is pushed backwardly by means of a hook-bar, a ticket 17 is inserted between the prints 16 and the cover 11, and said cover closed on the lock-box. By pushing the tail 15 the bolt enters the recess, and the spring 19 holds it fast with the nick or recess 20 hard on the ward or stop 21. When it is desired to release the lock, the ticket or seal 17 is destroyed, the hook-bar inserted in aperture 22, and the bolt 13 withdrawn from the socket 14.

If desired, the bolt might be guided by pins in slots and the tail 15 be dispensed with; in which case a fine push-bar through a small tail-aperture would be used to move the bolt into locked position, or, further, the bolt might have a propelling-spring to make the locking automatic.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is—

1. In a seal-buckle having a chape, a tongue hinged thereto, a rest-bar to limit the move-



ment of the tongue, a hinged cover having an under face to take over the tongue, a sliding bolt in the cover to lock it in closed position; in combination with a destructible sealing means seated between the bolt and cover, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a buckle having depending sides and a bolt-recess, a chape and a rest-bar secured in said sides, a tongue pivoted on the chape; of a cover hinged to the buckle, a reciprocable bolt having a notch and a tail capable of being projected through the cover, and a paper-sealing strip adapted to be slid between the bolt and cover, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a buckle having depending sides and a bolt-recess, a chape

and a rest-bar secured in said sides, a tongue pivoted on the chape; of a cover hinged to the buckle near the rest-bar and having an opening in its face, a casing secured to the cover, a bolt reciprocable in the casing and having a tail slidable through the opening in the cover, and a destructible sealing-strip, inserted between the bolt and cover to cover the opening therein, substantially as described.

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

JOHN JOS. RUSSELL.

Witnesses:

FRED WALSH,

PERCY NEWELL.