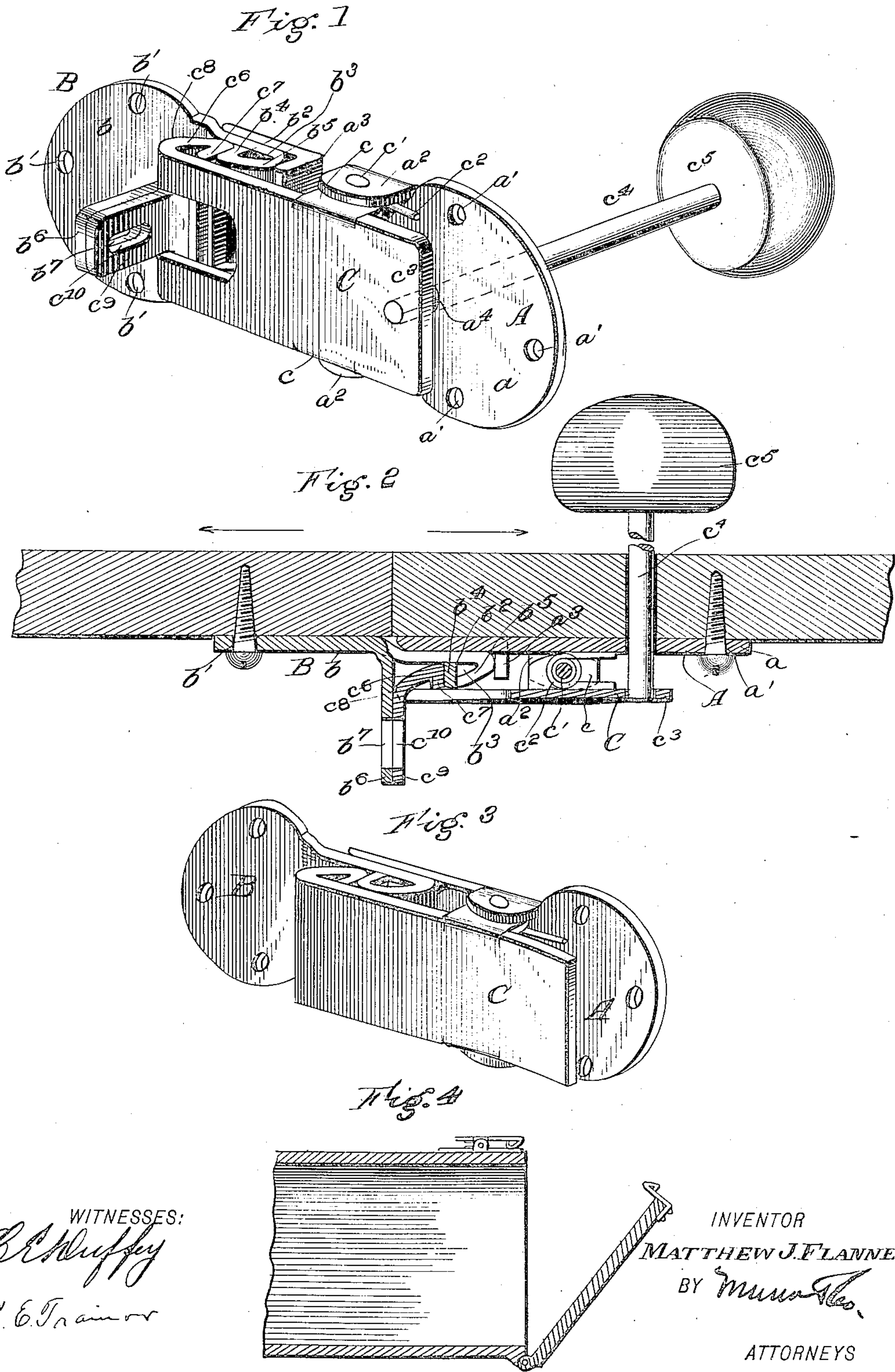


No. 875,572.

PATENTED DEC. 31, 1907.

M. J. FLANNERY.
DOOR FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 31, 1905.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHEW J. FLANNERY, OF BOZEMAN, MONTANA.

DOOR-FASTENER.

No. 875,572.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATTHEW J. FLANNERY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Bozeman, in the county of Gallatin and State of Montana, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Door-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in automatic door fasteners and consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fasteners. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form, and Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of a mail box provided with the form shown in Fig. 3.

In the present embodiment of my invention, a plate A having a segmental portion a , provided with perforations a' whereby it may be attached to a door, is provided with lugs a^2 , at the side thereof, between which are received lugs c , upon a catch C, a pivot pin c' , traversing aligned openings in the lugs being provided for securing the catch and the plate together.

A spring c^2 , encircles the pivot pin, one of the ends of the spring engaging the catch and the other the plate, for maintaining the catch in its operative position. The tail c^3 of the catch is provided with a pin c^4 , traversing a central opening a^4 , in the segmental portion of the plate and a registering opening in the door, the free end of the pin being provided with a knob c^5 , on the opposite side of the door for convenience in manipulating the catch.

The opposite end of the catch is bent downwardly and backwardly to form an abutment c^6 , having a square inner face c^7 and an inclined outer face c^8 . A portion of the substance of the catch is struck upwardly to form a lug c^9 , provided with an elongated opening c^{10} , the lug being at the extreme end of the catch.

A second plate B, having a segmental portion b , provided with perforations b' whereby it may be attached to the casing or to the opposite door, is provided with an offset portion b^2 , for entering between the catch and the first plate, and the free end of the second plate is bent upwardly and backwardly to form an abutment b^3 , having a

square inner face b^4 , for coöperating with the square face of the abutment c^6 , and an inclined outer face b^5 for coöperating with the inclined face of the abutment on the catch.

A lug b^6 , is struck upwardly from the substance of the offset portion, the lug being arranged in such position that it will contact with the lug c^9 when the plate is in position beneath the catch, and being provided with an elongated opening b^7 , registering in such position with the elongated opening on the lug c^9 . Stops a^3 , are provided upon the plate A, for engaging the abutment on the plate B, to limit the inward motion thereof, with respect to the plate A.

In the use of my improved fastener, the plate provided with the catch is secured to the door or to one of the doors, while the plate B is secured to the casing or to the other door. When the doors are moved towards each other, the inclined face of the abutment on the second plate engages the inclined face of the abutment on the catch, lifting the same and allowing the plate to pass inward to a position where the square faces of the abutments will engage each other, to prevent withdrawal of the plate. In this position an ordinary pad lock may be inserted in the elongated openings of the lugs, to secure the parts of the fastener together. When it is desired to release the portions of the fastener, the tail of the catch is depressed, thus releasing the plate B, from between the catch and the plate A.

In Fig. 3, I have shown a construction similar in all respects to that shown in the remaining figures, except that the lugs for the attachment of the pad lock, the stops a^3 and the pin and knob for manipulating the catch are omitted.

While I have described my invention as being applied to a sliding door, it is obvious that it might be used on hinged doors, as for instance, the doors of rural free delivery mail boxes, and I have shown this application in Fig. 4. It will be evident from the description that my improved fastener is very simply constructed, it is not liable to easily get out of order, and is adapted to a variety of uses. When used upon car doors, a seal may be passed through the lugs instead of a pad lock.

The important advantage of my improved fastener, lies in the fact that it provides for considerable variation in the relative lateral

position of the plates with respect to each other. This permits settling or warping of the doors or other parts, without preventing the engagement of the abutments.

5 Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A fastener for sliding doors, comprising a plate having a segmental portion provided
10 with perforations whereby to secure it to a door, a spring actuated catch pivoted to the plate, one end of the catch being bent downward to form an abutment having a square inner face and an inclined outer face, said
15 catch having an upwardly extending lug adjacent to the abutment and formed from the catch and provided with an opening, a pin secured to the opposite end of the catch and traversing an opening in the plate and the
20 door, said pin being provided with a knob for manipulating the catch, a second plate having a segmental portion provided with perforations whereby to attach it to the casing, and a portion offset from the segmental
25 portion for entering between the first plate and the catch, the free end of the second plate being bent upwardly to form an abutment having a square inner face and an inclined outer face for cooperating with the
30 first abutment, said second plate being provided with a lug having an opening registering with the opening in the first lug, and said first plate having stops for engaging the abutment on the second plate whereby to

limit the inward movement of the plates 35 with respect to each other.

2. A fastener for sliding doors comprising a plate having a spring actuated catch pivoted to the upper face thereof, a second plate having a portion for entering between the
40 catch and the first plate, the first plate having stops for limiting the inward movement of the second plate, said catch and second plate being provided with lugs having registering openings, and with abutments having
45 square inner faces and inclined outer faces, said abutments being on the engaging faces of said catch and second plate, means whereby to attach the plates to the door and the casing, and means for manipulating the
50 catch.

3. A fastener comprising a plate having a spring actuated catch connected thereto, a second plate having a portion for entering
55 between the first plate and the catch, said first plate having means beneath the catch for engaging the second plate to limit the inward movement thereof, said second plate and catch being provided with means
60 whereby to allow the second plate to enter beneath the catch and to prevent the removal therefrom, and means for releasing said last named means.

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Witnesses:

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JOHN W. LEA.