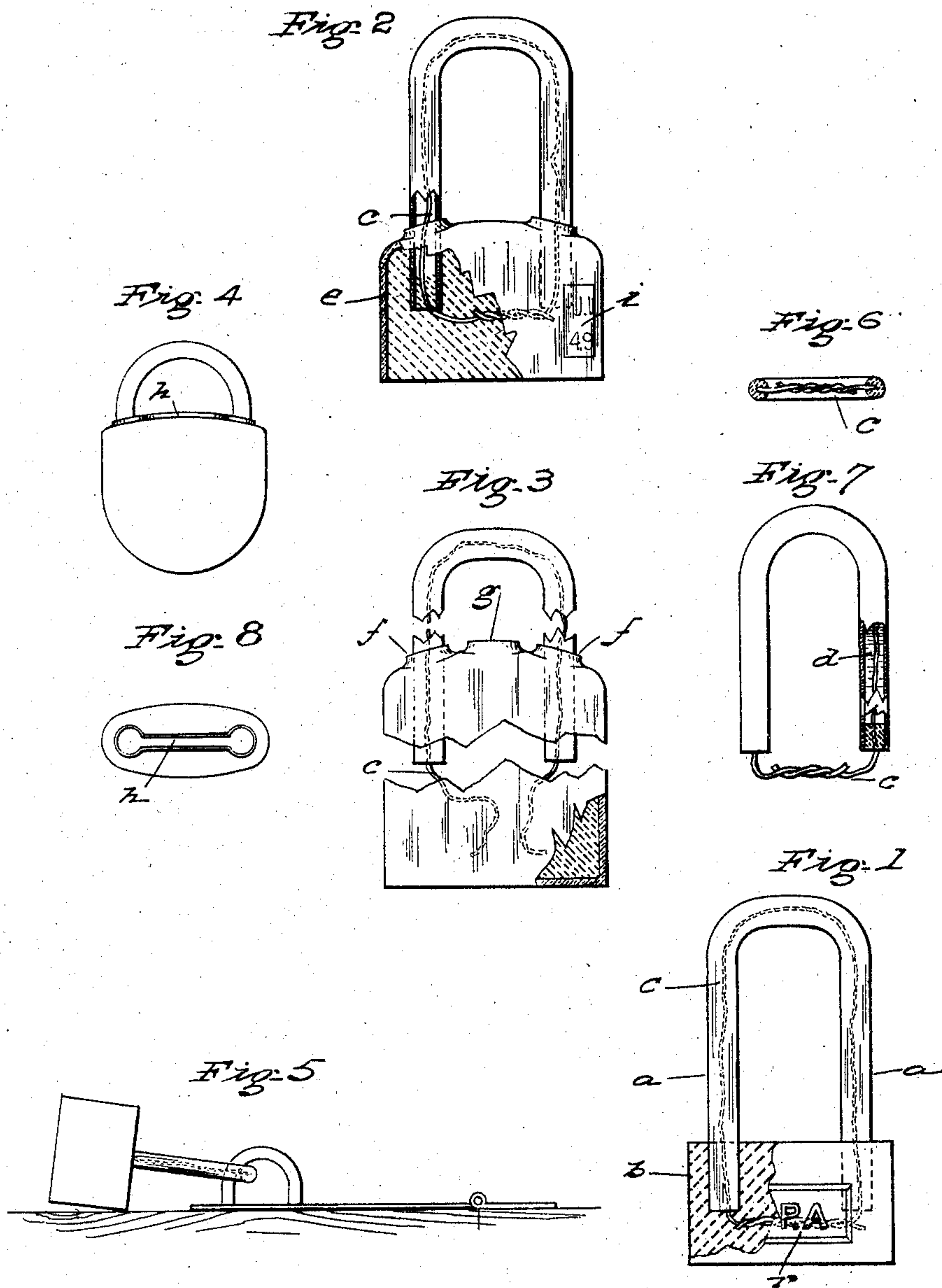


No. 883,501.

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J. G. SWALLOW.
SEAL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 5, 1907.



WITNESSES:

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SEAL.

No. 883,501.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 31, 1908.

Application filed October 5, 1907. Serial No. 396,016.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH G. SWALLOW, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, city of New York, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Seals, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to seals and consists essentially in the features hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings in which my invention is illustrated, Figure 1 is a side elevation partly broken away of my improved seal in one form; Figs. 2, 3 and 4 are similar views of the same in modified forms; Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the seal applied to a staple; Fig. 6 is a cross section of the shackle in modified form; Fig. 7 is a cross section of the shackle with another modification, and Fig. 8 is a plan of the mold shown in Fig. 4.

In its broadest aspect my improved seal comprises a frangible shackle the ends of which are rigidly incased in cement. In the term "cement" I intend to include any suitable substance from wax to lead. In the term "frangible" I include glass, porcelain and substances of similar character. A seal having this simple construction is illustrated in Fig. 1 showing the ends of the shackle *a* buried in the cement block *b* which is molded around the same after the shackle has been inserted in the staple or other device to be secured, as shown in Fig. 5. Supplementing the frangible shackle, I prefer to thread through the same a filament *c* of suitable character, for example wire, so that if the shackle is broken the wire still serves in its place and must be cut in order to free the staple. To accommodate the wire, the shackle may be either hollow or solid, the filament being incorporated in the latter case at the time the shackle is formed (see Fig. 6). If the shackle be made hollow it may be filled with a colored liquid *d* and plugged as shown in Fig. 7. The presence of a liquid of unknown character within the tube may act as a further deterrent to tampering with the seal. This feature may be introduced as a supplement to or independently of the filament. In addition to the frangible structure of the shackle, it is also desirable to use a frangible mold for the cement. This mold may take any suitable form. Thus in Fig. 2 it is shown as an in-

verted cup *e* through the top of which the ends of the shackle are inserted, while the cement is filled in through the open bottom.

In Fig. 3 is shown a preferred form in which the mold is a substantially closed chamber, with openings *f* in the top for the insertion of the ends of the shackle and a fill aperture *g* by means of which the cement may be introduced.

In Figs. 4 and 8 a single aperture in the form of a slit *h* in the top of the mold is shown. This has the additional advantage that the ends of the wire may be interlocked before the shackle is introduced into the mold, whereas in the form shown in Fig. 3, the wire ends are merely curled by striking the bottom of the mold. It is apparent that the shackle cannot be loosed from the mold in these constructions without first breaking the glass. A colored cement may be used in this connection to advantage.

A convenient record *r* of the date and person affixing the seal may be readily kept either by impressing the same into the cement when no mold is used, (Fig. 1) or by placing the same upon a slip of paper *i* and pasting the latter on the inner face of the mold, (Fig. 2).

It will be understood that the drawings are merely illustrative and that the construction may be varied to meet the peculiar fancy or needs of the party using the seal.

I claim as my invention:

1. A seal having a U-shaped frangible shackle and means for rigidly uniting the ends thereof.

2. A seal having a U-shaped frangible shackle and a cement block rigidly uniting the ends thereof.

3. A seal having a frangible shackle, a filament within the same and means for rigidly uniting the opposite ends of both said shackle and filament.

4. A seal having a transparent hollow frangible shackle containing a liquid within the same.

5. A seal having a frangible shackle, a cement block rigidly uniting the ends thereof and a frangible containing-mold for said cement block.

6. A seal having a shackle and a cement block uniting the ends of said shackle in combination with a closed frangible containing mold for said cement having means for the introduction of the ends of the shackle into said mold.

7. A seal having a shackle and a cement
block uniting the ends of said shackle in com-
bination with a closed frangible containing
mold for said cement having an aperture for
5 the introduction of the shackle and cement
into said mold.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification, in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH G. SWALLOW.

Witnesses:

F. H. ABEEL,

J. A. CAMPBELL.