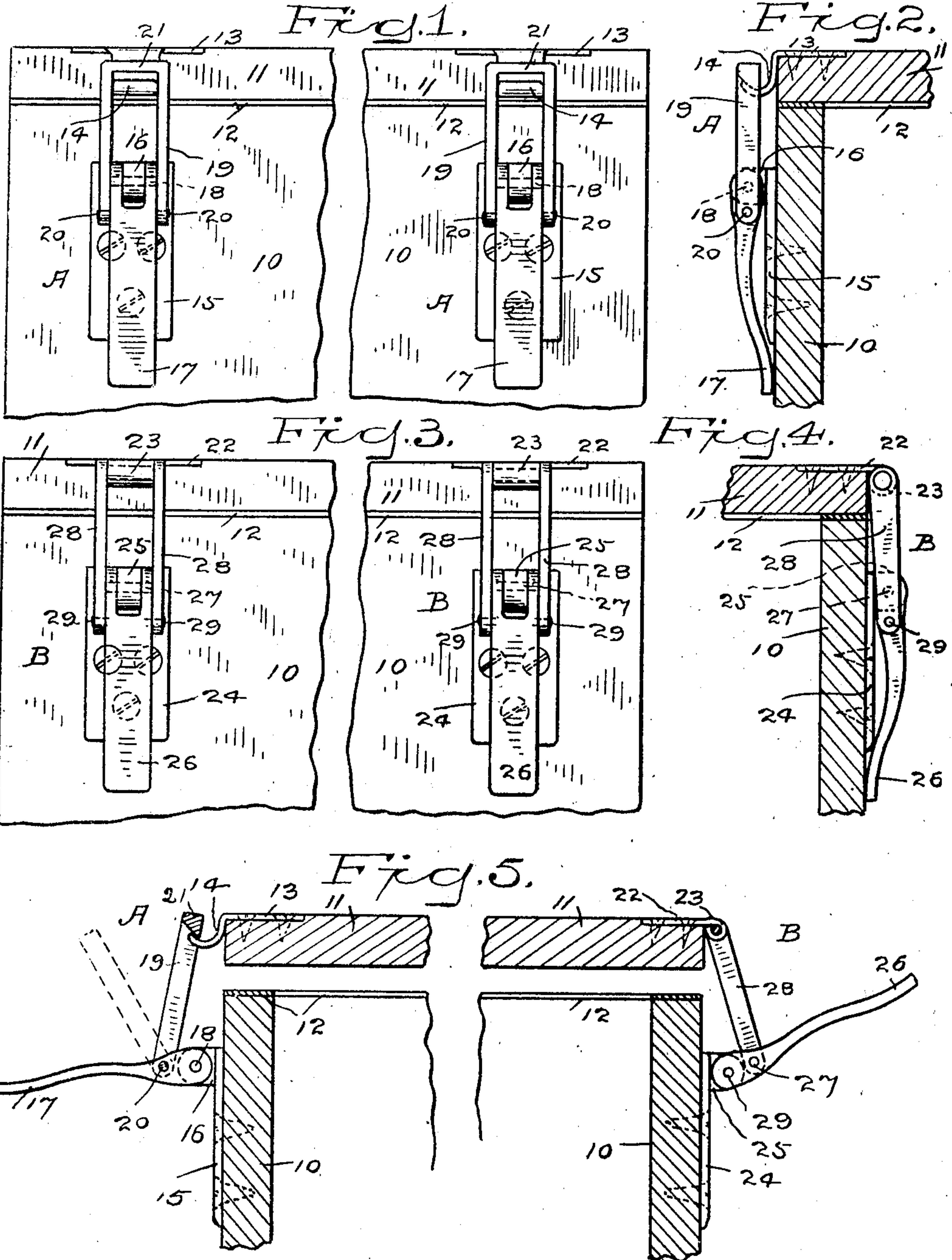


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BOX FASTENER.

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BOX-FASTENER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE S. TOBEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Norwalk, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Box-Fastener, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a box or crate fastener adapted for general use in shipping food products and other articles of commerce and especially adapted for use upon oyster carriers where it is required that the carriers be strongly and securely locked against danger of coming open in transportation but at the same time that they be capable of being opened easily and quickly and without the use of tools when it is required to ice the contents of the carrier and as easily and quickly closed again.

With these and other objects in view I have devised the novel two member fastener which I will now describe, referring to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and using reference characters to indicate the several parts:

Figure 1 is a partial elevation of one side of a box illustrating the application of my novel fastener thereto, the fastener members being in the locking position; Fig. 2 a sectional view of the box and cover illustrating the same fastener member in side elevation; Fig. 3 a view corresponding with Fig. 1, showing the other side of the box with the other fastener member applied thereto and in the locking position; Fig. 4 a sectional view showing the fastener member of Fig. 3 in side elevation; and Fig. 5 is a section of a box and cover at right angles to the section lines of Figs. 2 and 4, both fastener members being shown in the unlocking position.

10 denotes a box, crate or carrier and 11 the lid therefor. Either the box or the lid may be provided around the edge with a strip of felt or rubber indicated by 12 in order to make a carrier air-tight.

My novel fastener comprises two members indicated respectively by A and B. Either one or two complete fasteners may be used on a box, crate or carrier; that is, a fastener member A and a fastener member B on opposite sides of the box near each end. Any number may of course be used but two will ordinarily be found quite sufficient. Member A comprises a plate 13 which may be secured to the lid by screws or in any suitable

manner and is provided with a hook-shaped catch 14 which lies on the edge of the lid. 15 denotes a plate secured to the side of the box, plate or carrier, by screws or in any suitable manner, in vertical alinement with catch 14 and provided with a lug 16 to which a lever 17 is pivoted, or fulcrumed as at 18, the forward end of the lever being preferably bifurcated and straddling the lug. 19 denotes a double link the arms or side pieces of which are pivoted on opposite sides of the lever as at 20 outside the pivotal point or fulcrum of the lever, that is, toward the free end thereof. At the upper end of the link is a downwardly and inwardly inclined cross-piece 21 which is adapted to engage catch 14 and make a locking connection therewith. The operation of this member of the fastener will be obvious from Figs. 1, 2 and 5. When the lever is swung upward away from the side of the box as in Fig. 5, the link may be readily disengaged from the catch. To lock the box, the cross piece is placed in engagement with the catch as in Fig. 5 and the lever swung downward to the locking position as in Fig. 2, the loop being in practice made wide enough to receive the catch between the arms or side pieces thereof.

In order that the cover may be drawn down tightly upon the box, crate or carrier on both sides thereof so as to provide an airtight joint as is desirable in oyster carriers and boxes and crates generally for food products and also to permit the lid to be swung backward entirely out of the way as would not be possible with hinges, I provide member B which differs from member A in that the link, indicated by 28, is pivoted to the lid instead of being detachable therefrom. 22 denotes a plate which is rigidly secured to the lid by screws or in any suitable manner and is provided with an eye 23 which extends over the edge of the lid in which the cross piece of the link oscillates freely. It will of course be obvious however that the special mode of pivoting the upper end of the link to the plate on the lid is not of the essence of the invention. 24 denotes a plate rigidly secured to the side of the box by screws or in any suitable manner in vertical alinement with the plate on the lid. This plate is provided with a lug 25 to which a lever 26 is pivoted or fulcrumed as at 27, substantially as in the other member. The link 28 is a double link as in the

other member and the arms or side pieces are pivoted on opposite sides of the lever as at 29 outside the pivotal point or fulcrum of the lever as in the other form.

5 The operation of member B will be obvious from Figs. 3, 4 and 5. To loosen the cover or lid and lift it forcibly from the packing 12, the lever is swung upward as in Fig. 5 and to tighten the cover the lever 10 is swung downward to the locking position as in Figs. 3 and 4.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

15 1. The combination with a box and its cover, of means for clamping opposite sides of the cover in place, the clamping means at one side comprising a lever pivoted to the side of the box, and a link having a permanent pivotal connection to the lever and to 20 the cover whereby the latter may be forcibly raised by the lever through the medium of the link.

2. A fastener of the character described consisting of members each comprising a plate adapted for attachment to a box and 25 having a lug, a lever pivoted to the lug and a link pivoted to the lever outside the pivotal point to the lug, and plates adapted for attachment to a lid, one of said plates having a permanent hinge connection with the link 30 of one of the members.

3. A fastener member comprising a plate adapted for attachment to a box, a lever pivoted to the plate, a link pivoted to the lever outside the pivotal point to the plate and a 35 plate adapted for attachment to a lid to which the other end of the link is permanently pivoted.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

THEO. S. TOBEY.

Witnesses:

E. T. TOBEY,
EDWARD WILLIAMS.