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Fig. 3.

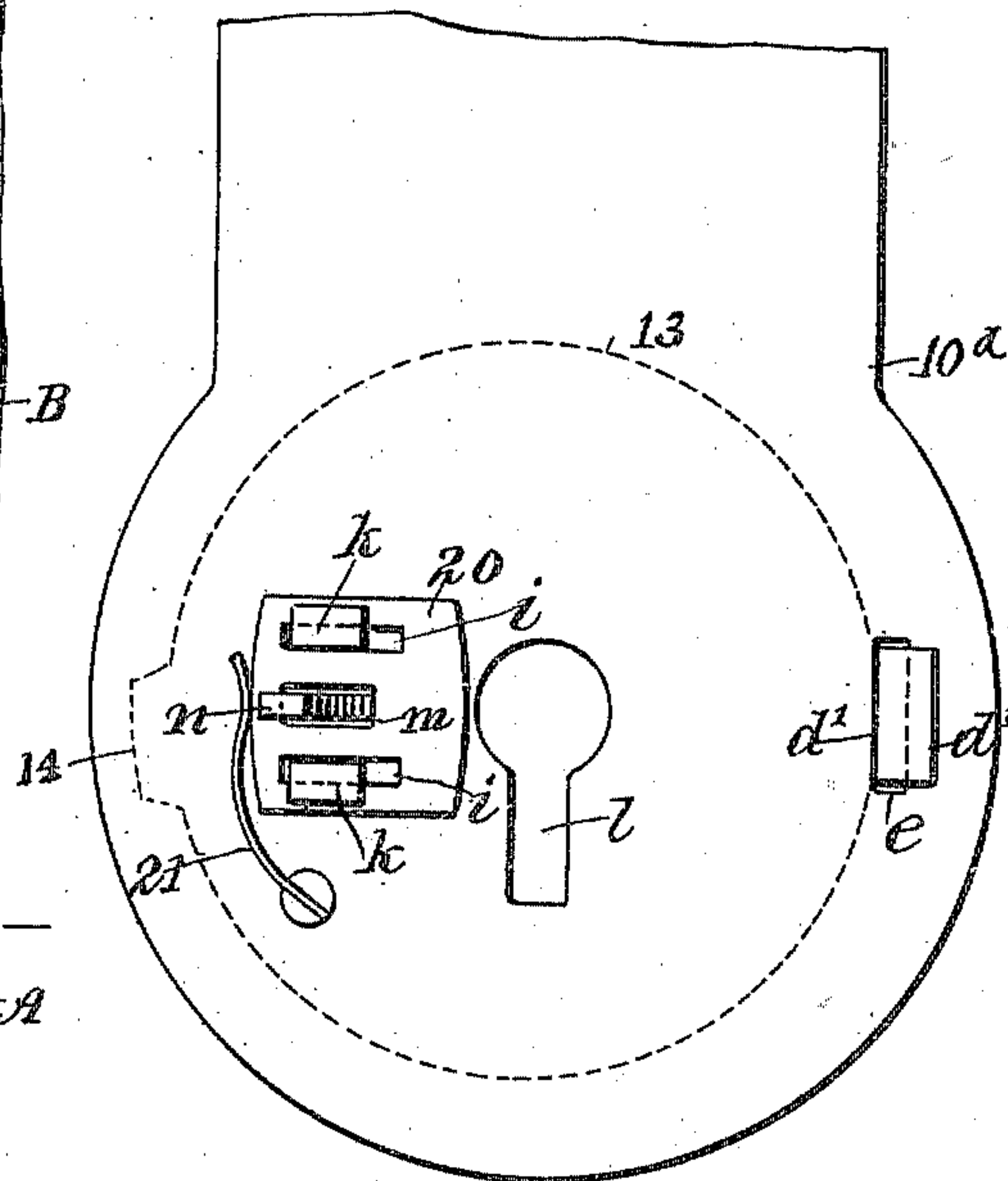


Fig. 4.

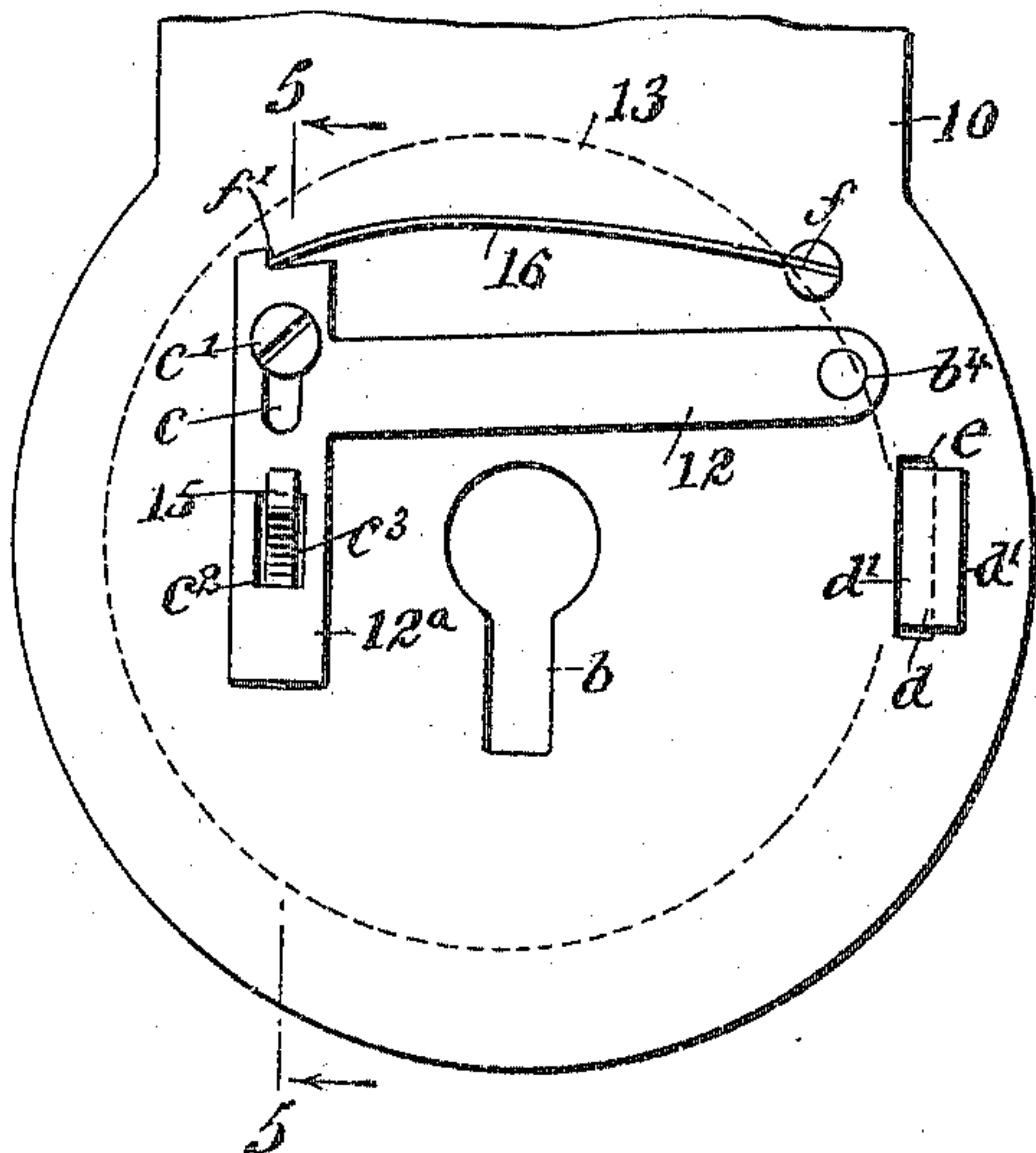
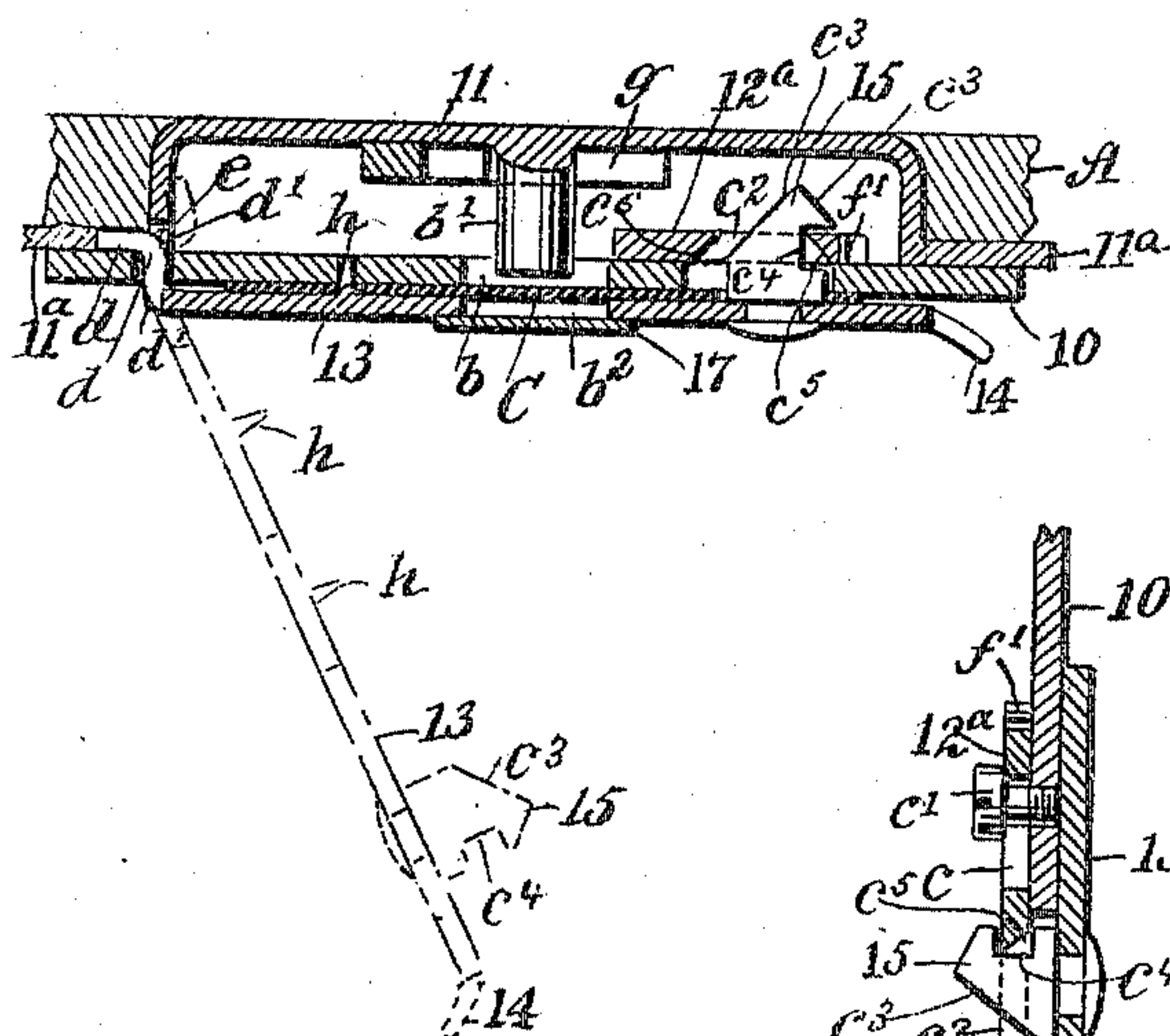


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 5.

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SEAL-HOLDING MECHANISM FOR LOCKS.

951,613.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES HENRY JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Petaluma, in the county of Sonoma and State of California, have invented a new and Improved Seal-Holding Mechanism for Locks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a class of locks provided for securing the lid or cover for a box or other similar receptacle, closed upon the body thereof.

The purpose of my invention is to provide a hasp lock of a class such as is indicated, with novel details, that enable the retention of a paper seal within the lock over the keyhole therein, which, if perforated, or removed after the lid has been closed and secured by the lock, will expose the fraudulent opening of the lock, and receptacle upon which it is mounted.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described, and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a front view in part of a box and its lid, and the improved hasp lock thereon in locked condition. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse sectional view of the improved seal lock mechanism, taken substantially on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged rear side view of a hasp plate in part, and of the locking mechanism thereon for retaining a seal, showing one form for the said mechanism. Fig. 4 is an enlarged rear view of the hasp plate, and seal retaining mechanism thereon, showing a slightly changed construction therefor; and Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view, taken substantially on the line 5—5 in Fig. 4.

Before proceeding with the description of the improvement, it should be explained that the mechanism of the lock proper, which secures the lid closed and the hasp plate locked, may be of any preferred construction, and, as it is not essential for an understanding of the improvement, it is omitted from the drawings, with the exception of a key post that receives a key, which opens the lock proper, and also releases a seal cover that is a detail of the invention.

In the drawings that represent the improved seal retaining device for a hasp lock, and its application, A indicates the body of a box or the like, showing a portion of the front wall near the longitudinal center, and B, a corresponding portion of a lid for the receptacle.

A hasp whereon a portion of the improvement is mounted, comprises a leaf plate 10, that is hinged at its normally upper end upon a fixed portion 10^a, which, as usual, is secured upon the lid B, at its center of length, by screws or rivets *a*, as indicated in Fig. 1.

Upon the front surface of the trunk or box body A, the flanged front wall 11^a of a lock case 11, is screwed by suitable means, said case occupying a cavity in said front wall, as is usual in this class of locks and their application.

Upon the inner surface of the front wall 11^a, of the lock case 11, a seal securing means is mounted, this device being shown in two slightly different forms in Figs. 3 and 4, the device shown in Fig. 4, that may be preferred on account of its greater simplicity, comprising the following details: Centrally in the pendent hasp plate 10, a keyhole *b* is formed, and opposite the keyhole a key post *b'* projects from the lock case 11. Above the keyhole *b*, a latch bar 12 is located, said bar consisting of a flat strip of metal of proper length and width, having a latching member 12^a on one end, that is disposed at right angles therewith. The bar 12 is pivoted at its end *b'* that is opposite from the latching member 12^a, upon the rear side of the pendent hasp plate 10, thus adapting the bar and its member 12^a, to receive rocking movement toward and from the keyhole *b*. In the upright member 12^a, a longitudinal slot *c* is formed, that receives the body of a keeper screw *c'*, the threaded end of which is screwed into a tapped perforation in the pendent hasp plate 10, the head of said screw overlapping upon the member 12^a, and thus loosely securing said member slidable upon the hasp plate.

A locking plate 13, is a detail of the invention, consisting of a flat plate preferably having a mainly circular contour, from the edge of which projects a hinge leaf which is offset at two points *d'*, thus giving said hinge leaf a substantially L shape in cross section, and producing a hook member *d* on its free end, said member being parallel with

and spaced from the body of the locking plate 13, due to the spaced offsets d' , as appears in Fig. 2. In the front wall 11^a, at a suitable point, a slot e is formed, of a proper size for the reception of the bent hook-like member d , and as said slot is formed in the angular corner between the front wall 11^a, and side wall 11, it will be seen that the hook member d may be inserted there-through, and provide a hinge-jointed connection between the locking plate 13 and the hasp plate 10.

In the member 12^a, below and spaced from the slot e , a rectangular slot c^2 is formed, said slot having opposite beveled edges c^5 , c^6 , as appears in Fig. 2. Upon the edge of the locking plate 13, opposite from the hook member d , a finger hold lip 14, is formed, that is curved so as to have clearance from the front wall of the casing 11, and adjacent to said flange or lip 14, a latch hook 15, is positioned that projects rearward from the locking plate 13. The slot c^2 and latch hook 15, are so relatively disposed, that the latch hook will be adapted for a latched engagement with the upper transverse edge of the rectangular slot c^2 , when said hook is passed through the slot, that is effected by folding the locking plate 13, toward and upon the pendent hasp plate 10.

It will be noted in Fig. 4, that a bowed plate spring 16, is secured by one end f , on the pendent hasp plate 10, above the latch bar 12, and that said spring at the opposite end f' thereof has engagement with the upper end of the member 12^a of the latch bar, the tension of said spring normally depressing the latch bar at a distance limited by contact of the upper end wall of the slot e , with the body of the stud or screw e' .

To more specifically describe the construction of the latching device, it will be noted in Figs. 2 and 5, that a rectangular notch c^4 is formed in the side edge of the latch hook 15, which notch receives a corresponding edge of the slot c^2 , when the locking plate 13, is pressed toward the latch bar 12. On the nose of the latch hook 15, two oppositely inclined edges c^3 are formed, which form an angle that adapts the nose of the latch hook to freely enter the slot c^2 . When the locking plate 13, is pressed toward the latch bar 12^a, and thus puts the hinge leaf d under tension, one inclined edge c^3 of the latch hook 15, will ride upon the beveled edge c^6 , at an end of the slot c^2 , and press upon said edge, so as to effect an entrance of the latch hook freely within the slot c^2 against the tension of the spring 16. Furthermore, as shown in Fig. 2, the opposite or upper end of the slot c^2 is beveled at c^5 , this bevel c^5 serving to afford clearance for the latch hook 15, when it is inserted in the slot c^2 , and subsequently permitting the shoulder in the notch c^4 to have latched engagement with the beveled

edge c^5 . The locking plate 13 is formed of resilient metal, so that the hook member d thereon is resilient, and by its engagement within the slot e , in the wall 10, is put under tension when the locking plate is folded toward and latched fast to the latch bar member 12^a. It will be seen, therefore, that when the latch bar 12 is raised by means of a proper key, that passes through the hole b into engagement with the key post b' , the tension of the spring hinge member d will cause the locking plate to automatically swing open into the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2.

As before mentioned, in the center of the casing 11, and opposite the center of the keyhole b , a key post b' is erected from the rear wall of said casing. Complementary to the keyhole b , a keyhole b^2 is formed in the center of the locking plate 13, and thus disposed opposite the post b' when said locking plate is closed and locked fast upon the latch hook 15, against the tension of the resilient hook member d . Any number and character of wards g may be provided, those of a very simple form being indicated in Fig. 2, and a key b^3 is fitted into the keyholes that surround said post, that, upon rotation, is adapted to raise the locked latch bar 12 and permit the resilient hook member d , that is virtually a hinge leaf, to throw the locking plate 13 outward, and thus release the pendent hasp plate 10.

Small keeper pins h may be formed on the edge of the locking plate 13, which will enter mating perforations in the front wall 11^a of the casing 11, said pins serving to penetrate and retain a paper seal C of any preferred character, in a shallow recess formed to receive it, and thus dispose the seal over the keyhole, so that the seal must be broken when the lock is opened, and thus expose the fact that the box or other receptacle having protection of the improved sealing device, has been opened.

In Fig. 3, the difference in construction shown from that hereinbefore described, consists in modifying the form of the latching means. In this device, a slide plate 20 is slidably retained in engagement with the rear side of a pendent hasp plate 10^a by slots i, i , formed therein, spaced apart and parallel with each other, said slots being loosely engaged by keeper flanges h that pass through said slots and have hook members on their free ends, which bear loosely on the slide plate. The slide plate is arranged at one side of a keyhole l that is centrally formed in the hasp plate 10^a, and is normally pressed toward said keyhole by a plate spring 21 that engages the edge of said slide plate which is opposite from the edge that is adjacent to the keyhole l . Between the parallel slots i, i , a rectangular slot m is formed in the slide plate, which slot receives

a latch hook *n* that projects from a locking plate similar to the plate 13, which has a like hinged connection with the pendent hasp plate 10^a. It will be understood that the hasp plate 10^a when folded upon the front plate of the lock, will be adapted for secured retention by the lock mechanism, not shown, and that then the seal is to be placed over the keyhole and key post, after which the locking plate is closed, so as to insert the latch hook *n* through the slot *m*, which will secure the locking plate folded upon the locked hasp plate, and thus protect the seal.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, a keyhole cover plate 17 is pivoted upon the locking plate 13, in proper position for its service as a cover for the keyhole in said locking plate.

The improved seal lock is adapted for service not only on trunks, boxes or the like, but is also available for use as a seal lock for the doors on freight cars, warehouses or other buildings, where it is essential that a lock of the indicated character be used for protection of doors therein.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:—

1. A hasp lock, embodying a pendent hasp plate, a spring pressed latching means mounted upon the hasp plate, a locking plate hinged on the hasp plate and adapted to detachably engage the latching means, and means for releasing said latching means.

2. A hasp lock embodying a hasp plate having a fixed member and a hinged member pendent on the fixed member, a spring pressed latch bar pivoted by one end on one side of the pendent member, a locking plate hinged on said pendent member, a latch hook on the locking plate adapted for engaging the latch bar, and means for releasing the latch bar from the latch hook.

3. A hasp lock embodying a hasp plate having a fixed member, and a hinged member pendent on the fixed member, a lock case having a front wall wherein a keyhole is formed, a key post on the rear wall of the case opposite said key hole, a spring pressed latch bar pivoted by one end on the inner side of the pendent member of the hasp plate, said latch bar having an upright member that is slotted, a locking plate having a spring hinged attachment to the hinged member of the hasp plate, a latch hook on said locking plate adapted for interlocking with the latch bar in its slot, and a key that may engage the key post for releasing the latch bar from the latch hook.

4. In a hasp lock of the character described, the combination with a receptacle and a lid thereon, of a hasp plate pendently hinged on the lid, a locking plate spring hinged on the pendent hasp plate, a latch hook on said locking plate, and a latch bar pivoted by one end on a side of the pendent hasp plate, said bar having a slot through which the latch hook may pass and interlock with a defining edge thereof.

5. In a hasp lock of the character described, the combination with a receptacle, and a lid therefor, of a hasp plate hinged upon and pendent from the lid, a latching device on the inner side of the pendent hasp plate, a locking plate having an offset hinge leaf on its edge adapted for hinged engagement with the hasp plate and connected therewith, and a latch hook on the locking plate adapted for detachably engaging with the latching device.

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

CHARLES HENRY JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

EDWARD N. POOLE,

DENNIS G. JOHNSON.