

B. F. Cowan.
Pocket Book.
N^o 50,909. Patented Nov. 14, 1865.

Fig. 1.

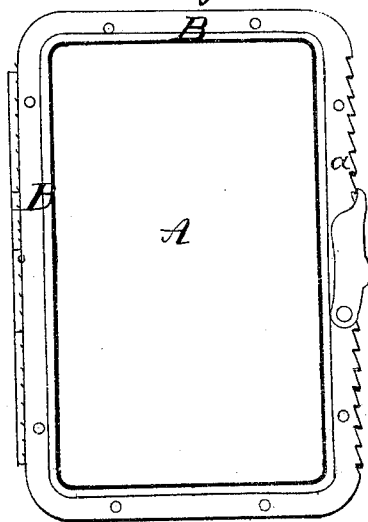


Fig. 3.

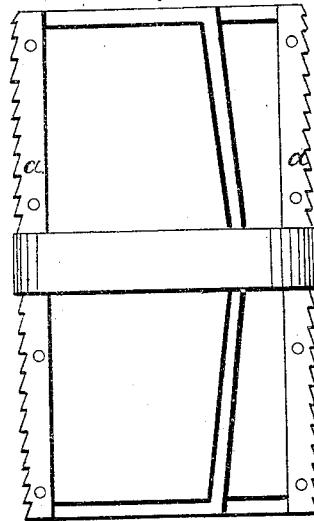


Fig. 2.

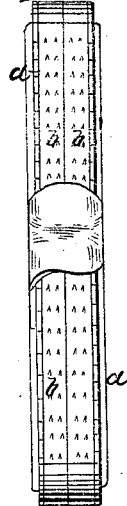
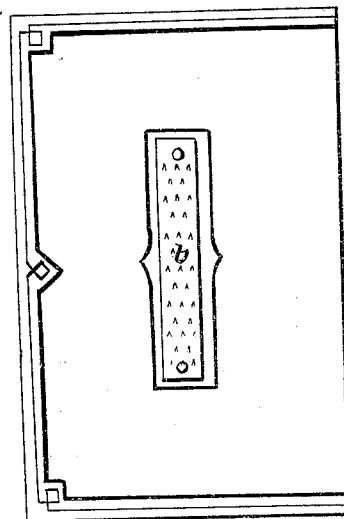


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

B. F. COWAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN POCKET-BOOKS, PORTE-MONNAIES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **50,909**, dated November 14, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, B. F. COWAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Porte-Monnaie Pocket-Books; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to make a porte-monnaie, pocket-book, &c., in such manner that it cannot be abstracted from the pocket of the owner without his knowledge; and my invention consists in attaching to porte-monnaies, pocket-books, memorandum-books, &c., in a suitable manner, a serrated or roughened metallic strip, or in roughening or nicking the frame of a porte-monnaie or other like article, the effect being to cause the serrated or roughened surfaces to catch into the side of the pocket, so that an attempt to abstract it will attract the notice of the owner, but which at the same time will permit the article to be withdrawn by the owner without any difficulty.

To enable others to understand my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a porte-monnaie with my invention applied to it. Fig. 2 is a view of the top of the same. Fig. 3 shows my invention applied to an ordinary pocket-book, and Fig. 4 to a memorandum-book.

A, Fig. 1, represents the sides or body of a porte-monnaie, and B the frame thereof. To the upper side of each jaw of the frame B, I attach a strip of metal, *a*, which strips have their outer edges serrated, or made like saw-teeth, the points being all in the same direction; and, as a further security, I roughen or nick the surface of the frame B along the front and back, as shown at *b*.

It will be seen that when a porte-monnaie is inserted in the pocket with the teeth pointing upward it cannot be abstracted therefrom without the knowledge of the owner, for the reason that the teeth will catch into the sides of his pocket; but should the party owning the porte-monnaie desire to take it from his pocket, it will be merely necessary to turn it around in his pocket, so that the teeth will point downward, when it can be drawn out without any difficulty, or he can so grasp it in his hand as to draw it out without allowing the teeth to come in contact with his pocket.

My invention can be applied to all kinds of pocket and memorandum books, as will be seen by reference to Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings. In Fig. 3 two serrated strips, *a*, are secured across the pocket-book, on each side, in such manner that the teeth will project out beyond the body of the pocket-book far enough to catch into the sides of the pocket should a felonious attempt be made to abstract it therefrom. In Fig. 4 a roughened or nicked strip or plate, *b*, is secured to the side of a memorandum-book, and the same result is obtained thereby.

I do not confine myself to any particular manner of applying the roughened or serrated strips or plates, as it is obvious that they can be applied in many ways and insure the same result.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

Attaching to porte-monnaies, pocket-books, memorandum-books, &c., a serrated or roughened metallic strip or plate, or roughening the frame of porte-monnaies, &c., substantially as and for the purpose herein shown and described.

B. F. COWAN.

Witnesses:

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W. WURZBACH.