

(Model.)

C. P. GOULD.

TRUNK CATCH.

No. 266,285.

Patented Oct. 24, 1882.

Fig: 1

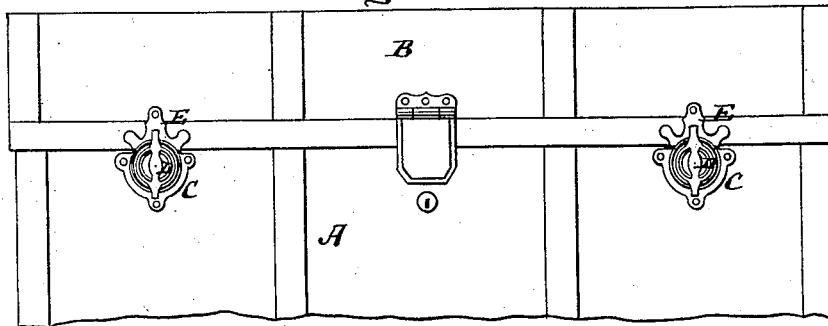


Fig: 2

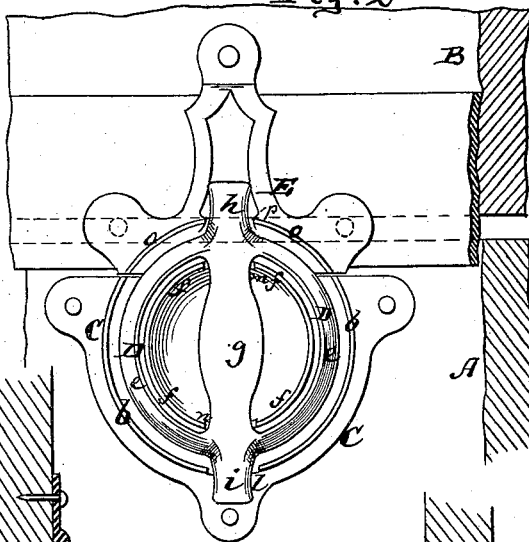


Fig: 3

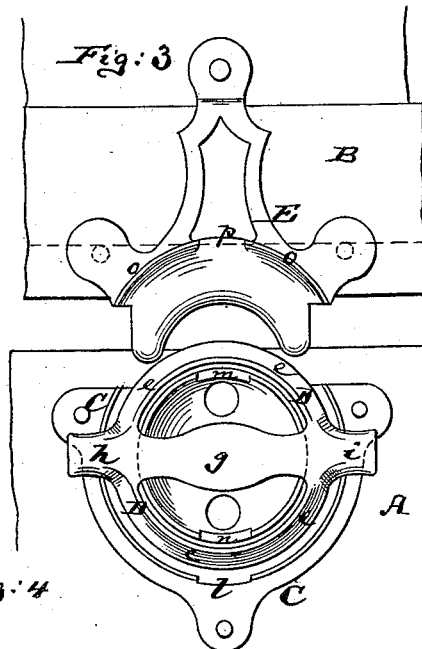
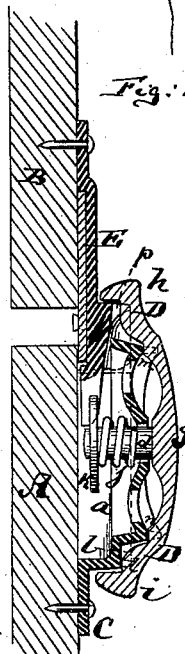


Fig: 4



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE P. GOULD, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

TRUNK-CATCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,285, dated October 24, 1882.

Application filed March 16, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE P. GOULD, of Newark, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improved Trunk Catch, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a front view of portion of a trunk, showing my improved catches applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged face view of the catch, showing it closed; Fig. 3, a similar view thereof, showing it open. Fig. 4 is a vertical central section through the catch when closed, and Fig. 5 a similar section thereof when open.

The object of this invention is to produce a catch for use at the sides of the lock of a trunk for holding the lid or cover of the trunk down near its ends, which catch is so arranged as to engage automatically with either of two lugs upon a projection on the cover, and so that it can be readily and completely revolved and turned aside to allow the lid or cover of the trunk to be opened.

The invention consists in combining a rotary catch-plate having two projecting lugs with a spring that draws it toward the face of its support, and with a notched projection on the cover, and with a notched supporting-plate, all as hereinafter described.

It also consists in further details of construction, hereinafter more fully specified.

In the drawings, the letter A represents part of the body of a trunk, and B part of the lid or cover of the same. To the body A is fastened the supporting bracket or plate C of my improved catch, which plate is riveted or screwed onto the trunk, and so shaped as to leave a cavity, *a*, between its body and the body A of the trunk, and an outwardly-projecting circular rib, *f*, and another outwardly-projecting partially-circular rib, *b*, on its outer side. The rib *b* is part of a true circle, the center of which is located within the plate or bracket C; but the upper part of this plate C and of its partly-annular rib *b* is cut away to be nearly flush, or at least parallel, with the upper edge of the body A of the trunk. To this plate C is pivoted the rotating catch-plate D, which catch-plate has a central pin, *d*, that passes through the plate C, as clearly shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The catch-plate D is of annular form,

so far as its rim *e* is concerned, said rim *e* fitting into the groove or depression which is formed between the ribs *b* and *f*, that project from the face of the plate C, and the catch-plate D is capable of rotating completely on the plate C around the axis of the pin *d*, which is concentric with the circles described by the ribs *f* and *b* and rim *e*. The rim *e* of the plate D is traversed by a cross-bar, *g*, to which the pin *d* is rigidly attached, and the rim *e* is also provided with two outwardly-projecting prongs or hook-shaped extensions, *h* and *i*. The pin *d* is on the inner side of the plate C embraced by a coiled or other spring, *j*, that bears against the inner face of the plate C, and against a shoulder or button, *k*, that is fastened to the pin *d*, so that said spring has the tendency to draw the plate D against the plate C, allowing, however, the plate D to be pulled to a limited extent off the face of the plate C.

The aperture in the plate C through which the pin *d* passes is slightly larger than the diameter of said pin, so as to allow the plate C not only a rotary motion upon the axis of the plate D, but also a slightly vibratory motion. The rim *b* is cut away vertically below the pin *d* to form a notch, *l*, into which one of the lugs or extensions *h* or *i* can enter. In like manner the rim or projection *f* is cut away to form two notches, *m* and *n*, into which the ends of the handle brace or bar *g* will be drawn by the spring *j* when the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 2.

To the lid or cover B of the trunk is fastened a hasp, E, which has a curved rib, *o*, that comes in line with and completes the circle of the rib *b* whenever the trunk-cover is shut down, as is clearly shown in Fig. 2. Vertically above the pin *d* this rib *o* has a notch, *p*, into which the hook-shaped projection *h* or *i* of the catch-plate D can fit or enter. The part *q* of the plate E, which is behind this notch *p*, is slightly tapering downward, as shown in Fig. 5. When the catch-plate D is in the position shown in Fig. 2 with reference to the plate C—namely, when the catch *i* is in the notch *l*—the lid will be automatically caught by the plate D, for in bringing the lid down the lower tapering portion of the plate E will enter behind the catch *h*, and will push

the same slightly outward until it has passed said hook-shaped projections *h*, which will then, under the influence of the spring *j*, catch over the top of said projection and above the notched portion *p*, as shown in Fig. 4, and at this time the catch-plate D is locked in the four notches *l*, *n*, *m*, and *p*, as shown in Fig. 2.

In order to open the trunk, it is only necessary, so far as these catches are concerned, to take hold of the handle-bar *g*, pulling it, and with it the entire plate D, slightly outward, so as to contract the spring *j*, pull the parts of the catch-plate D out of said several notches, and then turn said catch-plate into the position shown in Fig. 3, whereupon all connection with the top hasp, E, will be interrupted and the trunk-lid readily opened.

I regard it as an essential feature of this invention that in the hasp E is a continuation of the circle on which the catch-plate can revolve, and that the catch-plate, when the trunk is closed, will be locked in a series of notches, so as to thereby be insured against instantaneous disengagement from the hasp. It is immaterial whether the catch or hook-shaped projection *h* or *i* is on top. They are both alike, as shown in Fig. 5, and either will perform the functions of locking the plates C and E together.

When the trunk-lid is to be left uncaught, when closed, it is only necessary to leave the plate D in the position shown in Fig. 3.

The plate D can be completely turned, and it is therefore immaterial in which direction it is moved to bring the locking-catch *h* or *i* to the top.

I claim—

1. In a trunk-catch, the annular catch-plate D, having diametrical handle-brace *g*, and combined with the spring *j*, plate C, and hasp E,

said plate D being adapted to be completely revolved, and to be pulled by said handle-brace, substantially as described.

2. In a trunk-catch, the catch-plate D, arranged to revolve completely around a raised ring, *f*, and combined with a spring, and with a hasp, E, having notch *p* cut away vertically above the center of said ring, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the plate C, having circular ribs *b* and *f*, with the swiveled plate D, having projection *h*, and with the spring *j* and hasp E, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. The rotary catch-plate having two projecting catches, *h* and *i*, on diametrically opposite sides, and having the handle-brace *g*, rim *e*, and pin *d*, in combination with the plate C, having the rib *f*, with notches *m*, *m*, rib *b*, with notch *l*, and with the hasp E, having rib *o*, with notch *p*, all arranged for operation substantially as specified.

5. The hasp E, having rib *o*, combined with the plate C, having rib *b*, said ribs forming, when the trunk is closed, a complete circle having notches *p* and *l*, in combination with the rotating catch-plate D, having projections *h* and *i* and spring *j*, substantially as described.

6. The catch-plate D, combined with bracket C and hasp E, and adapted to lock at the same time into said bracket and said hasp by the projections *h* *i*, and to be unlocked by being pulled horizontally off the bracket C, substantially as described.

This specification of my invention signed by me this 10th day of March, 1882.

CLARENCE P. GOULD.

Witnesses:

WILLY G. E. SCHULTZ,
JAMES NUT.