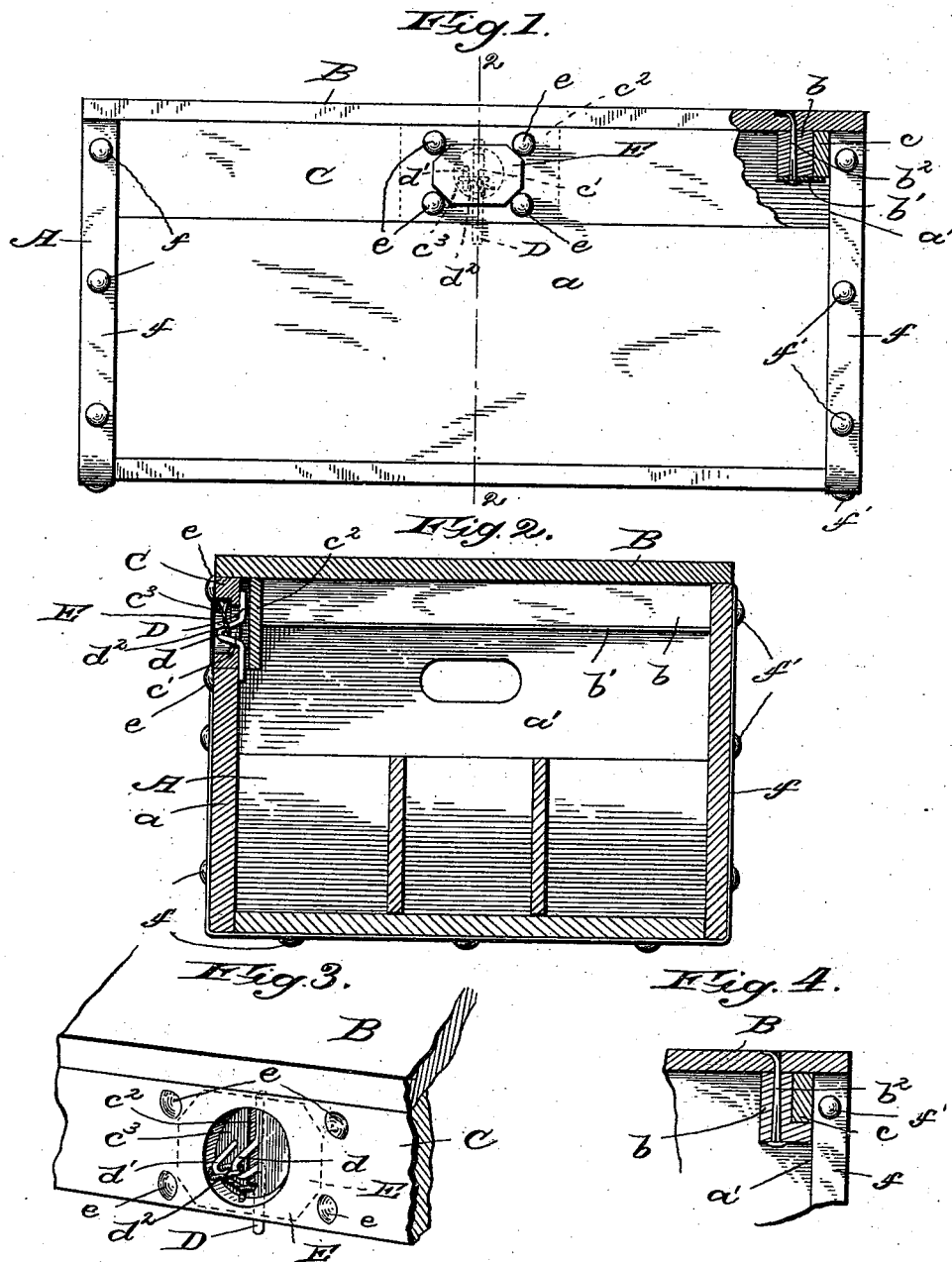


(No Model.)

L. LEBER.  
BOX FASTENER.

No. 523,434.

Patented July 24, 1894.



Witnesses  
J. H. Chapman  
C. M. Sweeney

Louis Lebrun, Inventor:  
by Maclean, Caher & Randall,  
his Attorneys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS LEBER, OF BURLINGTON, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO F. G. KLEIN & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

## BOX-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 523,434, dated July 24, 1894.

Application filed January 9, 1893. Renewed April 25, 1894. Serial No. 509,030. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS LEBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Burlington, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fastenings for Packing-Cases, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to fastenings for packing cases or boxes, particularly that class thereof known as "compartment boxes" intended for use in the transportation of bottles and similar articles, and my invention comprises certain novel features by which a sealed box may be securely fastened.

Referring to the drawings Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved case a portion of the same being broken away to show the connection between the sliding cover and the box. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section on line 2-2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the locking bolt and fastening. Fig. 4 is a detail view illustrating a modified form of cleat for the sliding cover.

In the drawings A denotes the box which may be of any desired shape or size and B is the sliding cover. The front *a* of the box A is less in height than the ends and back thereof and the cover B has a downwardly extending flange or lip C which rests upon the top of said front *a* when the cover B is in its closed position, as will be readily seen by reference to Fig. 2. The cover B has upon its under face, and at suitable distances from its ends, two cleats *b*, and upon the under side of said cleats are metal strips *b'* which project horizontally toward the ends of the box, thus forming (see Fig. 1) L-cleats, the said strips *b'* and cleats *b* being fastened to the cover B by nails *b<sup>2</sup>* passing through them and clinched or headed on the upper surface of the cover, or by any other suitable means. The L-cleats thus formed are arranged to embrace strips *c* fastened to the two ends *a'* of the box A flush with the upper edges thereof, which, as will be readily seen, form a simple and effective sliding connection between the said box and cover. If preferred, however, the said L-cleats B may be made entirely of wood as shown in Fig. 4.

In the front of the downwardly extending flange or lip C of the cover B and midway of its length I form a recess *c*<sup>3</sup> which I have shown circular, and in the center of said circular recess I cut a vertical slot *c'*. Upon the back of the flange C is arranged a block *c<sup>2</sup>* in which is mounted a locking bolt D free to slide vertically therein and having a projection or loop *d* formed about midway of its length, which loop projects through the slot *c'* into the recess *c*. It will be seen that when the cover B is in its closed position the bolt D will drop, (or may be forced) to the position shown in full lines in Fig. 2 and its lower end will engage the upper edge of the front *a* of the box A and prevent the cover from being slid forward to open the box until the bolt D has been raised by means of the loop *d* which extends into the recess *c*. Within the recess *c* and adjacent to the slot *c'* I place a staple *d'* so positioned that when the bolt D is in its locking position the loop *d* will lie by the side of the staple *d'*. When the cover B is closed and the bolt D has dropped or been slid downward to its locking position I fasten the loop *d* to said staple *d'* by means of a wire or cord *d<sup>2</sup>* (see Fig. 3) thus holding said bolt D positively in its locking position. I then cover the recess *c* with a seal E of paper or other suitable material, thus entirely concealing the bolt and its fastening. It will be seen, therefore, that I provide a locking device which is adapted to assume its locking position by gravity when the box is closed, and which can be positively fastened in such position so that it cannot be moved to unlock the box by a tilting or sudden jarring of the box or by the insertion of a sharp instrument through the seal, it being necessary to break the seal in order to unloosen the cord or wire *d<sup>2</sup>* before the bolt D can be raised to unlock the box.

In order that the seal E may not be accidentally broken or defaced while the box is in transportation, I provide around the same raised projections *e* adjacent to said seal, such projections being shown in the present case as consisting of rounded-headed nails four in number and situated at each corner of the seal. It will be seen that when the boxes are packed together these projections will prevent the seal E from being brought in contact

with other cases and so becoming accidentally punctured or worn.

I preferably bind the ends of the case A with metallic strips *f* to strengthen the same  
5 and in order that said strips *f* may be protected from the wear incidental to sliding the boxes about I attach said strips by means of rounded or convex headed nails *f'* which prevent the metal strip *f* from coming in contact  
10 with the floor and the sides of adjoining boxes, and consequently being worn or broken.

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

15 The combination with the box A, of the cover D having at its front the flange C pro-

vided with a recess *c*<sup>3</sup>, the vertical sliding bolt D a part of which extends into said recess, the staple *d'* arranged adjacent to the part of said bolt extending into said recess, a fasten- 20 ing cord or wire in said recess for positively securing said bolt to said staple, whereby when said recess is covered by a seal and the box is locked and the locking bolt is fastened by said wire or cord it will be necessary to 25 break said seal to unlock the said box.

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

LOUIS LEBER.

Witnesses:

A. F. RANSOM,  
F. KLEIN.