E. J. BROOKS.

Metallic Seals.

No. 161,475. Patented March 30, 1875.

FIG. 1.

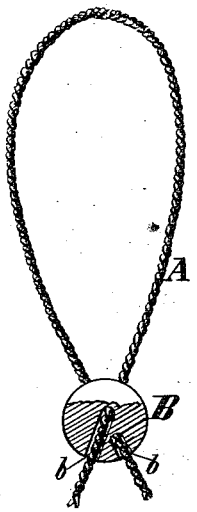

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

WITNESSES

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IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC SEALS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **161,475**, dated March 30, 1875; application filed March 13, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. BROOKS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Metallic Seals, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of metallic seals which consists essentially of a wire bow, adapted to be passed through the object to be secured, and a disk or ball of soft metal, intended to unite the ends of the wire, and to receive, in the act of its compression upon the wire, any distinguishing mark.

My improvement consists in so constructing the ball or disk of soft metal and arranging the apertures therein that when a wire bow of common form with straight ends is inserted its ends will cross in such proximity that they will afford a mutual bearing and anchorage to each other.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of a metallic seal illustrating my invention, showing the wire bow inserted in lead before the compression of the latter. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation, showing the parts interlocked as when the seal is applied. Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation of the applied seal, the plane of section being at right angles to that represented in Fig. 3.

A represents a bow, preferably of twisted wire. B is a ball or disk of lead or other soft metal, pierced with apertures *b b*, crossing each other in such positions as to admit of the ready insertion of the ends of the bowed wire A. From the illustration shown in Fig. 1 it will appear that this position of the apertures is more favorable to facilitate the insertion of the ends of the bow than if the said apertures were parallel.

The operation is as follows: The bow having been passed through or over any object to be secured, in customary manner, and its ends inserted in the lead, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, the lead ball or disk B is stamped or pressed in the usual way, the effect of which is to not only compress the soft metal securely around all parts of the coiled wire which is contained within the soft metal, but also to press the ends of the wire over each other, deflecting both, and giving them a firm hold one on the other, so as to prevent the possibility of the wire being loosened in the least, either accidentally or by design, without the complete destruction of the seal. The mutual hold of the wire ends upon each other is aided by the twist of the wire.

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

A metallic seal consisting of a wire bow, A, and a ball or disk, B, of soft metal, with apertures crossing each other, so as to cause the ends of the wire to afford a mutual anchorage and bearing to each other when the seal is compressed, as hereinbefore described.

EDWARD J. BROOKS.

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