F. F. WEISS.

POCKET-BOOK LOCK.

No. 186,510. Patented Jan. 23, 1877.

Fig: 1.

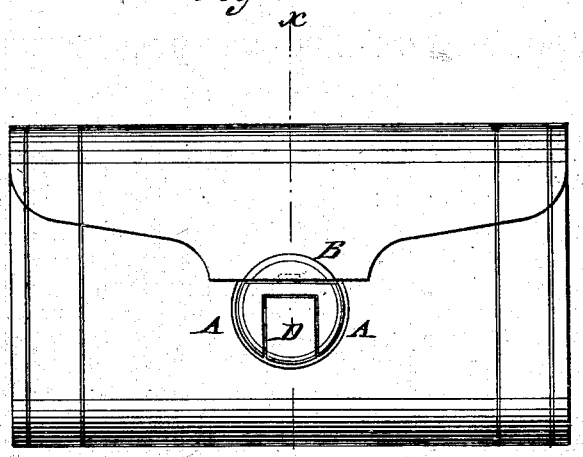


Fig: 2.

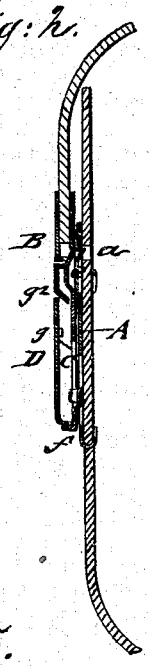


Fig: 3.

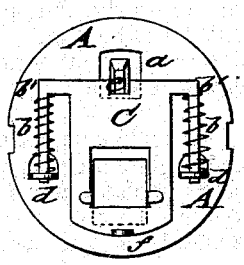


Fig: 4.

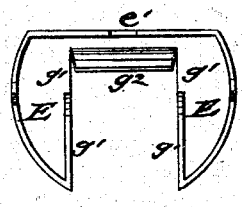
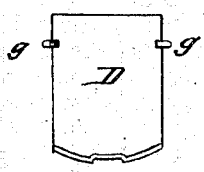


Fig: 5.



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FRANZ F. WEISS, OF JERSEY CITY HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN POCKET-BOOK LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **186,510**, dated January 23, 1877; application filed October 7, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANZ F. WEISS, of Jersey City Heights, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Pocket-Book Lock, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a front view of a pocket-book with my improved pocket-book lock; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section of the same on line *x x*, Fig. 1; and Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are, respectively, detail front and bottom views of the base-plate, top plate, and side plate of the lock.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention relates to an improved pocket-book lock that may be readily opened and closed by simple pressure on the lock with one hand only, so as to be conveniently used by ladies; and the invention consists of a slide-plate that moves along inclined guides of a top plate, and withdraws a spring-plate with projecting bolt or catch from the socket-fastening of the flap, which socket is retained in a recess of the base-plate by the catch of the spring-plate.

In the drawing, A represents the base-plate of a pocket-book lock, which is attached by prongs to the body of the pocket-book. The base-plate A is provided with a recess, *a*, at the upper part, into which the hollow socket-fastening B of the flap enters when pressed down for closing the lock. A spring-plate, C, is guided on the base-plate, and pressed in forward direction by small spiral springs *b* placed around the side arms *b'* of the plate C, and against perforated guides *d* of the base-plate A. The forward end of the spring-plate C is provided with a bolt or catch, *e*, that projects over the recess *a* of the base-plate, and is carried backward when the flap-socket is pressed down, being thrown forward again by the springs *b* when the socket has entered the recess, so as to be locked thereby in closed position by the catch. At the rear part of the spring-plate C is a bent-up catch or lug, *f*, which engages the slide-plate D, that is guided, by side projections *g* along the recessed sides g^1, along the center part of a top or covering plate, E, secured by fastening-prongs to the base-plate and pocket-book, so as to inclose entirely the operating mechanism.

The top plate E has a small recess, *e'*, for the projecting catch *e*, and back of the same a downwardly-inclined flange, g^2, along which the front part of slide-plate D slides when depressed, so as to guide the same, in conjunction with the side pins *g* and recesses g^1 of the top plate, and carry the spring-plate back when pressing with the finger on the slide-plate.

The backward motion of the spring-plate releases the socket of the flap, and opens thereby the pocket-book by simple pressure on the slide-plate.

For closing the pocket-book the flap is pressed down until the socket forces the catch back, and is then locked by the forward shooting of the same, by the action of the springs.

Thus, an easily-operated and neat lock for pocket-books is furnished, that may be opened or closed by pressing on the slide-plate or on the socket-fastening of the flap.

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

1. A pocket-book lock, composed of base-plate, sliding spring plate and catch, guiding top plate, central slide-plate, and socket-fastening of flap, constructed and operated substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the socket-shaped flap attachment with the sliding spring-catch and recess of the base-plate, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the sliding spring-plate C, having rear lug *f*, with the slide-plate D, to withdraw catch from socket of flap, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of top plate E, having recessed sides g^1 and inclined flange g^2, with the central slide-plate D, having side projections *g*, to carry slide backward by pressure thereon, substantially as specified.

5. The combination of guided spring-plate C, having side arms *b'*, with spiral springs *b* and perforated guide-lugs *d* of base-plate A, to secure steady motion of spring-plate, substantially as described.

FRANZ F. WEISS.

Witnesses:

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