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MEANS FOR SECURING AND SEALING PACKING CASES AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 2, 1919.

1,374,652. **Patented Apr. 12, 1921.**

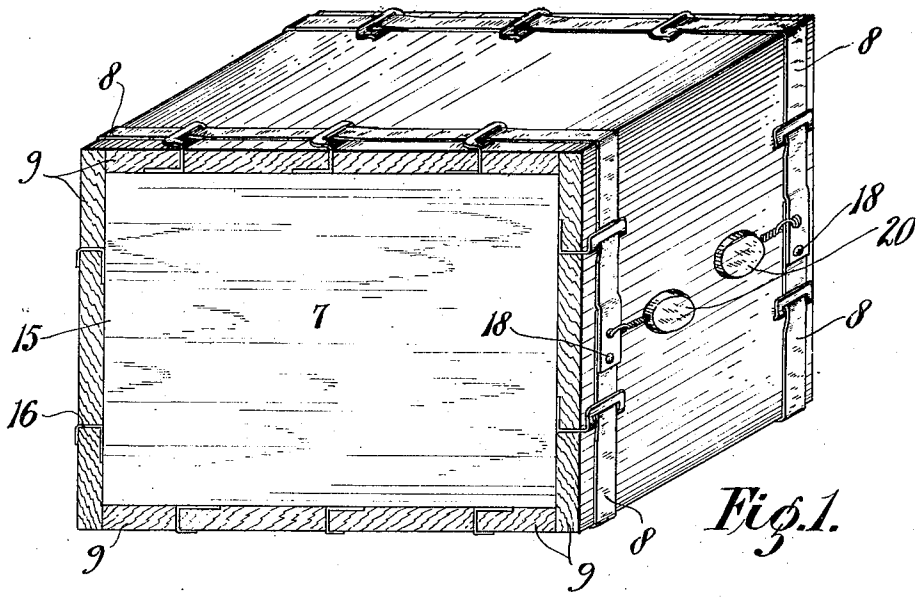


Fig. 1.

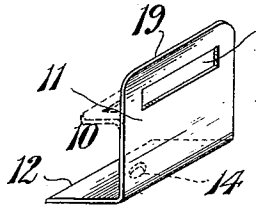


Fig. 2.

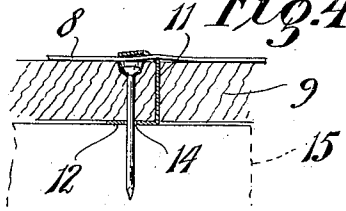


Fig. 4.

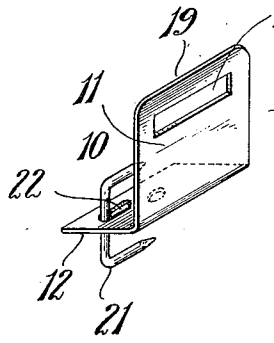


Fig. 3.

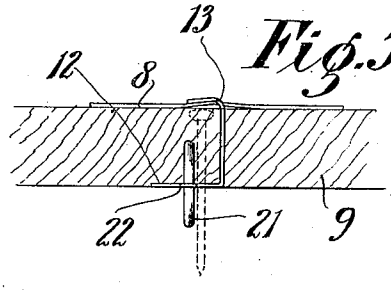


Fig. 5.

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MEANS FOR SECURING AND SEALING PACKING-CASES AND THE LIKE.

1,374,652. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 12, 1921.

Application filed December 2, 1919. Serial No. 342,000.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS HENRY HANSEN, residing at South Yarra, near Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, Commonwealth of Australia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Securing and Sealing Packing-Cases and the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to means for safeguarding the contents of packing cases and like containers, and it has been devised particularly in order to provide means for securing and sealing a packing case or container in such manner that unauthorized abstractions of the contents of such container are rendered very difficult and whereby such case or container may not be broached or otherwise interfered with without leaving definite external evidence thereof.

Pilfering of goods, which are in transit, in store, or exposed in public places, is a constantly recurring source of loss and worry to the consignors and consignees of such goods, and the skill with which the pilfering operations are carried out renders it difficult to detect persons in the act. Furthermore, the cases from which a portion of the goods have been stolen are frequently received in good external order and condition, sometimes containing comparatively valueless articles or ballast.

It is an object of the present invention to provide simple and easily applied means for securely fastening and sealing cases and like containers ordinarily employed for the conveyance and storage of merchandise.

It is also an object of the invention to provide means whereby unauthorized interference with the fastening of the case shall leave unmistakable evidence of such interference, thereby enabling a consignee to apprehend the possibility of theft and demand an inspection. The invention also provides means whereby a consignee has visible external evidence that the goods contained in the package or case received by him are the goods inserted in such package or case by the consignor, thereby affording protection to both parties.

Means are also provided whereby such fastening means may be applied rapidly and with a minimum of expense.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood, reference will now be had to the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a case safeguarded in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a protective unit constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the unit shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating the application to a case of the protective unit shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating the application to a case of the protective unit shown in Fig. 3.

In the drawings the numeral 7 designates a wooden case such as is commonly employed for the conveyance of merchandise, said case being bound by straps 8 of hoop-iron. Driven into the end grain of the four sides 9 of the case at intervals are protective units 10, said units being preferably made of steel and L-shaped before driving in as is shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The arm 11 of each unit 10 is longer than its base 12 and is also furnished with a slot 13. If required, a hole 14 can be formed in said base 12, for the purposes hereinafter explained.

In use, the units are driven edgewise into the wood of the case in such manner that the bases 12 lie between the sides 9 and end 15 of said case, and the outer edges 16 are approximately flush with the outer surface of said ends 15. Nails are then driven through the sides 9 and the bases 12 and into the ends 15 of the case. The straps 8 are then threaded through the slots 13 in the arms 11 of said units 10, and are tightened, the ends 17 being secured together as by rivets 18. The upper portions 19 of said arms 11 are then hammered or forced over and down onto the surface of the straps 8 and one or more seals 20 are applied to the straps 8.

These seals can be of any well-known type, such as, for example, that wherein a disk of lead is pressed around a twisted wire.

In the modified form of unit shown in Fig. 3 there is employed for the purpose of greater security a staple 21. To accommodate this staple, a slot 22 is formed in the base 12 of the unit. The method of apply-

ing this modified form of unit is shown in Fig. 5, wherein the staple 21 is driven into the woodwork of a case, and the unit proper is operated upon as has been described with reference to Figs. 1 and 2.

It will be apparent that a case protected by the means herein described would place great difficulties in the way of any person attempting to pilfer its contents, while evidence of interference with such case would be plainly visible externally.

What I do claim is:—

1. A merchandise case protective unit comprising an L-shaped metallic member the arms of which are flat, one of said arms being adapted to be driven edgewise into a case, the other arm having an opening for the reception of a securing device such as a nail or the like and also having a slot for the reception of a case encompassing band.

2. Means for the protection of a merchandise case comprising a plurality of protective units driven edgewise into said case, extending portions on said units, apertures in said extending portions, nails securing said units in position in said case and a band inclosing said case and passing through said apertures, substantially as described.

3. Means for the protection of a merchandise case comprising a plurality of protective units driven edgewise into said case, each of said units having a base and an arm, an aperture in each of said units, a band inclosing said case and passed through said apertures, and a portion of each of the arms of said units being adapted to be forced over onto said band, substantially as described.

4. Means for the protection of a merchandise case comprising a plurality of protective units driven edgewise into said case, each of said units having a base and an arm, a slot in each of said units, nails passed through the case material and said units, a band inclosing said case and passed through said unit slots, a portion of each of the arms of said units being adapted to be forced over onto said band, and a seal attached to and connecting the ends of said bands, substantially as described.

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

THOMAS H. HANSEN

Witnesses:
JAMES H. ANDERSON,
JUNE B. WILGAT SYMES.