G. H. FAYMAN.

Mail-Bag Fastener.

No. 206,169. Patented July 23, 1878.

Fig. 1.

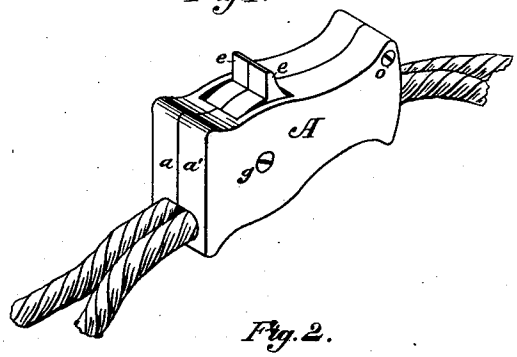


Fig. 2.

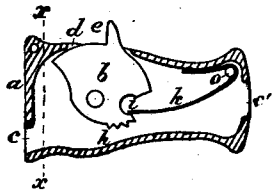


Fig. 3.



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GEORGE H. FAYMAN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN MAIL-BAG FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **206,169**, dated July 23, 1878; application filed December 19, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. FAYMAN, of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Bag Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to that class of devices usually called "mail-bag fasteners," the object being to provide a speedy and efficient means of securing the mouths of that class of bags or sacks employed in the transportation of newspapers, books, and similar matters through the mails. It may also be so modified as to be applied to letter-pouches, if desired.

The invention consists in the peculiar construction of a spring-lock, which is applied upon the cord or strap by which the mouth of the bag is closed and secured, as will be hereinafter fully described, and then specifically pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the fastening applied to a cord which is adapted to encircle the mouth of a bag. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the fastening, showing one-half of it complete. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line x x of Fig. 2, showing the oscillating pawls side by side within the case.

In constructing this device a metallic case, A, composed of the two parts a a', is employed for the purpose of covering and retaining in position the two serrated pawls b b. The parts of this case A are united to each other by rivets or screws, as shown in the drawing, and are of the oblong form shown, or of any other which is found suitable to furnish a proper support to the pawls and other operating parts of the device.

The case is formed with openings c c' at opposite ends, through which the cord or strap used in securing the mail-bag passes, and an additional rectangular orifice, d, through which the thumb-pieces e of the pawls project. These pawls oscillate upon a rivet or screw, g, which passes through them and through both sides of the case, and may be made to assist in retaining the parts a and a' in their position with relation to each other. The inner edges of the pawls are serrated, as shown at h, so as to give them a firm hold upon the cord or strap used in securing the bag. A spring, k, is placed in the rear of each pawl, one end of which rests in the circular recess i in the pawl, and the other, after passing around the screw or rivet o, bears upon the side of the case. The action of these springs upon the pawls causes the serrated projections h to bear firmly upon the cord or strap, pressing and holding it firmly against the side of the case when not restrained by the thumb-pieces. The advantage gained by the use of double pawls and springs consists in the fact that either cord may be retained in position or released, as desired.

The operation of the device is as follows: The two ends or a bight of the cord having been passed through the fastening from c to c', the pressure of the springs upon the pawls will cause their serrated portions to bight the cord and prevent its retraction, although they in no way stop it from passing still farther through in the direction from c to c'.

It will, therefore, be apparent that when it is desired to secure the mouth of a bag provided with my invention, it is only necessary to slide the fastener as far as it will go upon the cord, and the work is done.

When the bag is to be opened, pressure upon the thumb-pieces e will partially rotate the pawls, causing their serrated portion to release the cords, so that the fastener may be drawn back and the bag opened.

When the fastener is to be applied to letter-pouches the thumb-pieces may be left off, and their function performed by a suitable key passed through an orifice in the side of the case, thus causing the device to form an efficient lock.

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

A device for fastening mail-bags consisting of the case A, made in two parts, having end openings for the cords and side opening for the pawl-levers, in combination with the serrated pawls and the springs, substantially as and for the purpose herein shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEO. H. FAYMAN.

Witnesses:
J. H. PARISH,
J. M. DUFOUR.