(No Model.)

C. F. WHALEY & J. M. FOREST.

SELF FASTENING SEAL.

No. 367,877. Patented Aug. 9, 1887.

Fig. 1

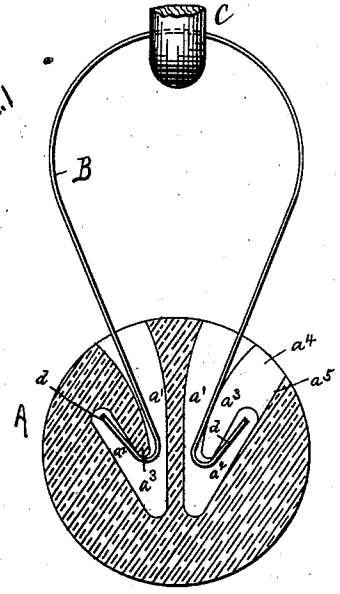


Fig. 2

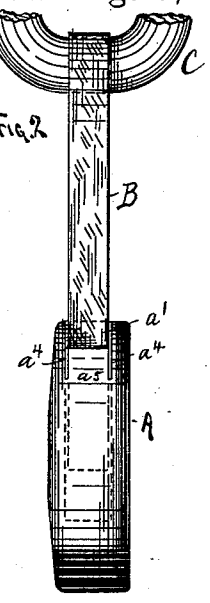


Fig. 3

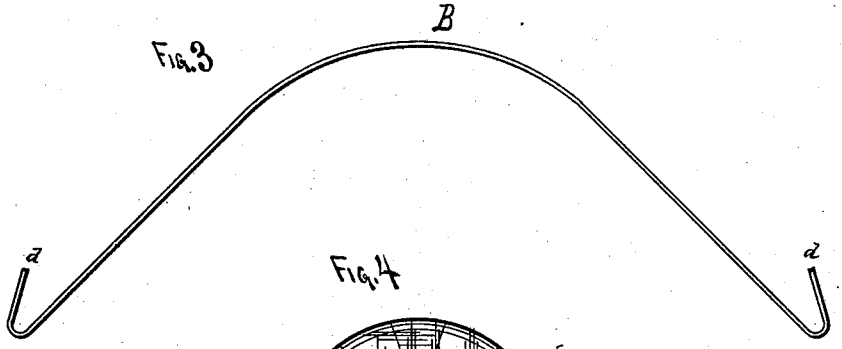


Fig. 4

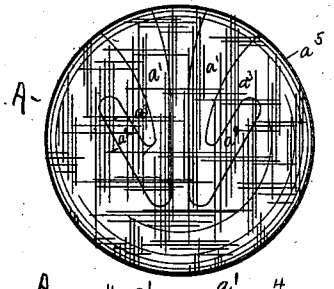
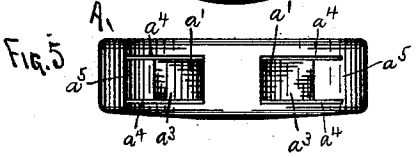


Fig. 5



Witnesses.
Fred. G. L. Hunt.
H. S. Webster.

Charles Frances Whaley,
John Mortimer Forest.
Inventors By.
Charles N. Woodward.
Attij.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES FRANCIS WHALEY AND JOHN MORTIMER FOREST, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

SELF-FASTENING SEAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 367,877, dated August 9, 1887.

Application filed April 5, 1887. Serial No. 233,793. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES FRANCIS WHALEY and JOHN MORTIMER FOREST, both citizens of the United States, both residing at St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have jointly invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Fastening Seals, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of self-fastening seals employed by railway, express, freight, and other similar companies or corporations to secure cars, chests, trunks, and other receptacles for goods and freight, which are secured by a "seal" that must be broken to release the car or other receptacles; and it consists of a glass disk having an irregular-shaped internal cavity into which the barbed ends of a shackle-wire may be readily inserted, but from which said shackle-wire cannot be withdrawn or removed without breaking the glass disk, the retaining portions of the glass disk being weakened in their construction so as to be easily frangible, as hereinafter set forth and described, and specifically pointed out in the claim.

The glass disk may be made of any form or size and of any required thickness, but I have shown in the drawings an approved form.

Figure 1 represents a sectional front view, and Fig. 2 a side view, of the disk with the shackle-wire inserted therein. Fig. 3 is a view of the shackle-wire detached, and Fig. 4 is a front view of one of the disks without the shackle-wire. Fig. 5 is a plan view of Fig. 4.

A represents the disk, which, as before stated, may be of any size or form, but which in the illustration is circular, that being the form which will generally be employed. Two irregular-shaped cavities will be formed in the disk, consisting of parallel parts a' and outwardly and upwardly branching parts a^2, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4.

B represents the steel shackle-wire, which will be thin enough to readily bend, and is formed with backwardly bent or barbed ends d, the latter adapted to be inserted into the cavities in the disk, and by spreading outward into the parts a^2 will effectually prevent the shackle-wire from being withdrawn from the disk after it has been once inserted without destroying the disk.

C represents a portion of the staple or other fastening of the car or other receptacle for the goods or freight, through which the shackle-wire B is inserted before being inserted into the disk, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

That part of the disk which forms the tongues a^3 in the cavities is weakened by having slits a^4 formed at their sides, so that the tongues a^3 are detached from the main part of the disk, except at the rear part, a^5. The tongue a^3 is thus greatly weakened and rendered more easily breakable, so that any attempt to tamper with the lock in the effort to remove the shackle-wire without breaking the seal will result in the certain breakage of the disk.

Under some circumstances it may be found advantageous to employ two of the disks A, one on each end of the shackle-wire B, in which case each disk will need but one of the cavities a' a^2; but generally one disk will be used with two of the cavities, as in the drawings.

The use of two disks instead of one would be the equivalent of our invention, and would accomplish the same results in substantially the same manner.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new is—

A seal for cars and other receptacles, or the fastenings thereof, consisting of a disk or plate of glass or other breakable substance, provided with irregular-shaped cavities a' a^2, having weakening slits a^4, in combination with shackle-wire B, having barbed ends d, adapted to be inserted into said cavities, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES FRANCIS WHALEY.
JOHN MORTIMER FOREST.

Witnesses:
F. C. STEWARD,
GEO. W. KEELER.