(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

O. B. YOUNG.

COMBINED MAIL POUCH LOCK AND CORD CASE.

No. 314,985. Patented Mar. 31, 1885.

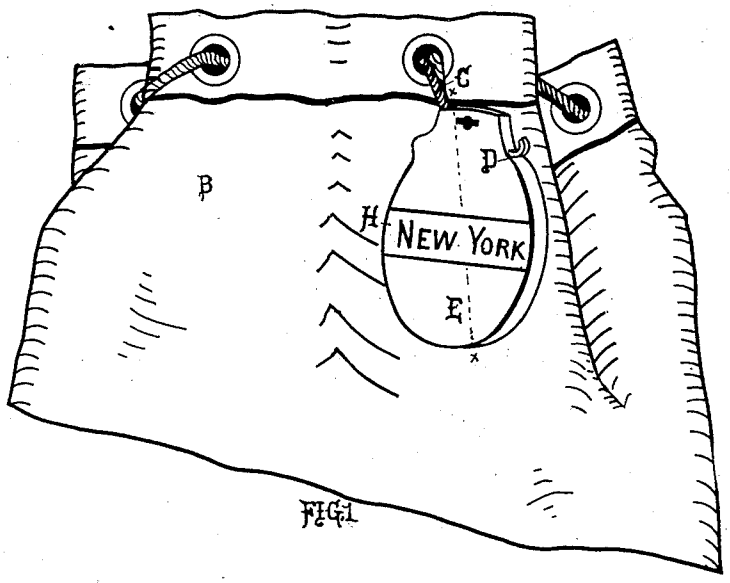


FIG. 1

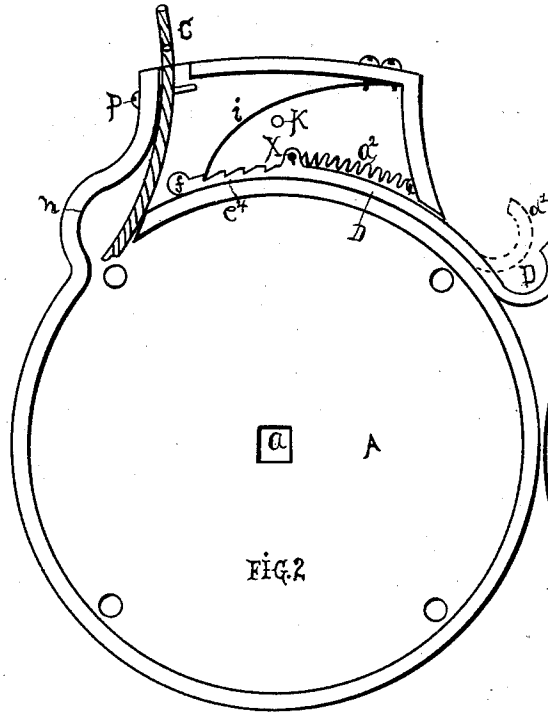


FIG. 2

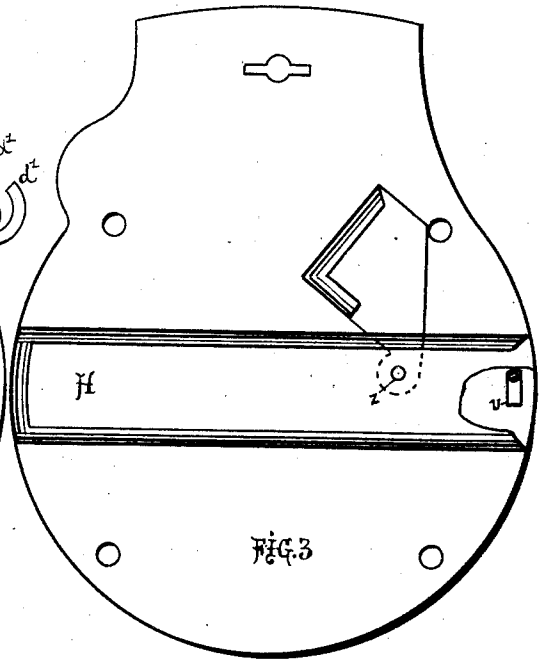


FIG. 3

ATTEST
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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

O. B. YOUNG.

COMBINED MAIL POUCH LOCK AND CORD CASE.

No. 314,985. Patented Mar. 31, 1885.

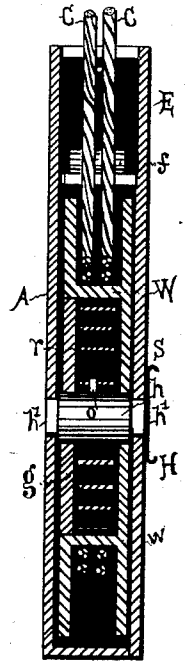


FIG. 4

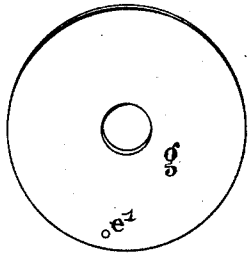


FIG. 5

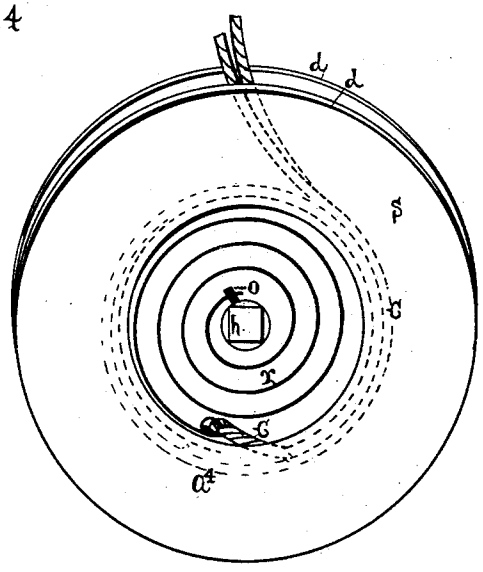


FIG. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLIVER B. YOUNG, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM T. BLENNMAN, OF SAME PLACE.

COMBINED MAIL-POUCH LOCK AND CORD-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No 314,985, dated March 31, 1885.

Application filed July 31, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OLIVER B. YOUNG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Mail-Pouch Lock and Cord-Case; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as 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 the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my present invention is to construct a cheap and durable device for locking the mouth of mail-bags—such as are closed by means of a gathering-cord—and in also providing means for taking up the slack cord that accumulates as in closing up the mouth of the bag; and my invention consists in the general construction of parts as hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective of my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the back portion of the cord-case and locking mechanism. Fig. 3 is a face view of the front plate of the case, showing the card-case H. Fig. 4 is a section through the parts on dotted line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a face view of the central plate of the cord-spool S. Fig. 6 is a view of the spool, showing the central plate, *g*, removed, disclosing the position and manner of attaching the spring *r* and cords C, all of which will be hereinafter set forth.

The invention consists of a metal case, circular in form, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and within the outside case, A, (see Fig. 2,) I place the metal spool S. (See Figs. 6 and 4.) The spool is hollow at the center, having a removable plate, *g*. (See Fig. 5.) Passing through the center of the spool is a shaft, *h*, having square end portions, *h'*, which, when inserted in the case, as shown in Fig. 4, is held stationary by filling the square holes *a a* of the case.

Passing through the shaft is a pin, O, which is attached to the coiled spring *r* at its inner end. Said spring lies within the hollow center of the spool, as shown in Fig. 6. Around the spring is a circular wall or partition, *w*, upon which the cords C lie when wound within the spool. (See Fig. 4.) At the outer end of the spring *r*, I cut a hole through the wall *w*, and attach to the outer end of the spring at a^4 the mail-bag cords C. The spring *r* being free, the cords are wound over the wall *w* of the spool between the flanges *d d* of said spool. The plate *g* being placed into the spool over the spring *r*, the spool is then turned over and inserted in the case A, (see Fig. 2,) with the cords C passing out through the top of the case, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4. The plate F is then secured by means of screws to the shell or case A, thus inclosing the spool S and cords C. Said cords pass from the mouth of the case through the lacing-holes of the mail-bag as a single strand around the bag, the cords passing in and out at the same hole, as shown in Fig. 1, thus forming a gathering-cord to the mouth of the bag, the cords C being wound upon the spool S, as set forth, and the mouth of the bag closed, as in Fig. 1. Grasping the case A in one hand and pulling outward from the bag causes the spool to unwind, paying out the cords C sufficiently to fully open the mouth of the bag to fill or empty, as desired.

It will be observed from the construction given as the cords are unwound from the spool the spring *r* is wound up as the spool is revolved around the shaft *h*, so that, releasing the grasp upon the case the spring *r* causes the spool S to revolve in an opposite direction, thus rewinding the cords C within the case until the case reaches the mouth of the bag, as shown in Fig. 1. By this arrangement I have no slack cords exposed to weather or in the way or liable to get tangled up, as is now common with all closed bags of this class; and as a means for locking the mouth of the bag I provide one side of the case near the mouth, where the cords pass out, with an offset or pocket, *n*. (See Figs. 1 and 2.) In the upper portion of the case I locate a sliding bar, D, passing out at the back edge of the case having a curved end, *d'*. The inner end is provided with a curved or rounded head, *f*. The inner upper surface of the bar D is provided with a series of notches, e^4. (See Fig. 2.) Fitting within said notches is a spring, *i*, hav-

ing its upper end secured to the walls of the case, as shown in Fig. 2. At the center of the bar is a pin, *x*. Attached to said pin is a spring, a^2, which is also attached to the case, and *k* represents the pin, over which the key is fitted to unlock the parts, as hereinafter set forth. The bag being closed, as shown in Fig. 1, and the cords C reeled up within the case, I lock said case to the bag-cords by pressing forward upon the curved end d' of the bar D, when said bar will be moved forward, causing the head *f* of the bar to force the strands of the cord C within the pocket *n* of the case, thus binding the cords firmly to the case. As the bar D is moved forward the spring *i* engages with the notches e^4 of the bar, thus holding it in a locked position, and to unlock the parts a suitable key is inserted through the key-hole of the case over the pin *k*, then turning the key until it lifts the spring *i* free from the notches e^4 of the bar D, when the spring a^2 will draw the bar D back to the unlocked position of Fig. 2. Near the upper edge of the case, and between the cords C, I locate a bolt or pin, P, which keeps the cords apart and prevents them from winding over each other within the case.

On the face of the front plate, E, of the case I attach a card-case, H, for holding the shipping-label. This case is provided with suitable flanges to retain the card in position when inserted. One end of the case is pivoted, as shown at *z* of Fig. 3. In this view the end portion is turned up to insert or remove the card. On the face of the plate E, I secure a pressure-spring, *v*, which holds the end portion locked when turned over the card, as shown in Fig. 1.

When the cords C have been unwound from the spool S, the case may be locked to the cords to prevent said cords from being wound within the case while filling or emptying the bag by simply pressing the bar D against the cords, as hereinbefore stated, to lock it.

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

1. In a combined cord-case and lock, the metal case provided with the cord-pocket, the cord or cords C, said cords adapted to be forced into the pocket by the locking-bar D, having the toothed portion e^4, with springs *i* and a^2, operating in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

2. The plate E, provided with the card-case H, said card-case having a pivoted end portion, said pivoted end portion engaging with the tension-spring *v*, as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a combined cord-case and lock, the metal case containing the cord-reeling spool, the cord or cords C, attached to the spring *r* of the spool or reel, said cord or cords adapted to be forced into the cord-pocket by the locking-bar D, having the springs *i* and a^2, operating in the manner substantially as specified.

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

OLIVER B. YOUNG.

Witnesses:
WM. O. MCNUTT,
WM. H. BELL.