Jan. 24, 1967 C. S. GEHRIE 3,299,677

LATCHING AND LOCKING MEANS FOR LUGGAGE CASES AND LIKE RECEPTACLES

Filed Jan. 29, 1965 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

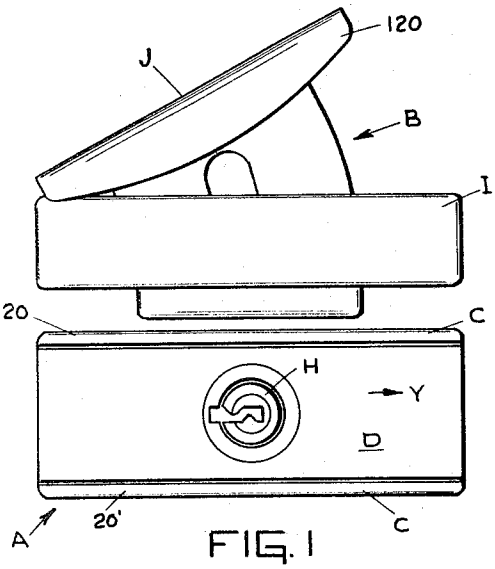


FIG. 1

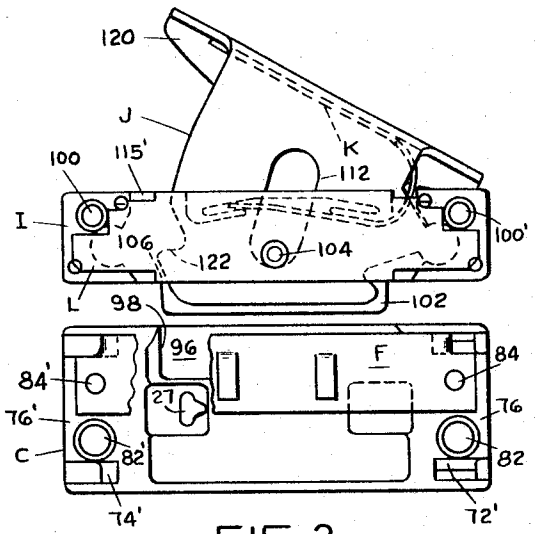


FIG. 2

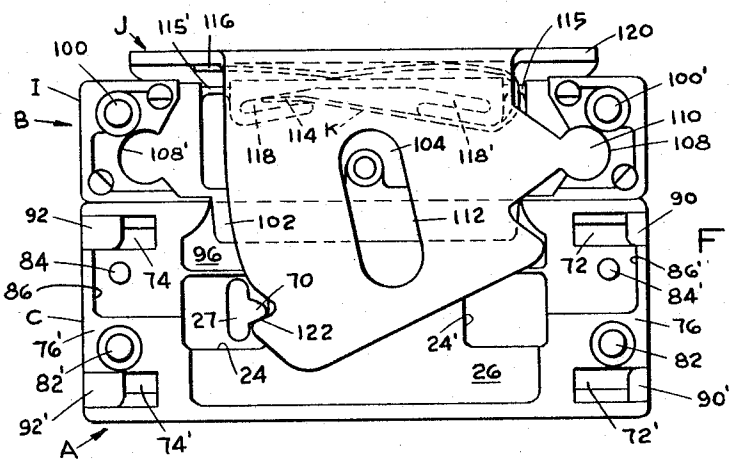


FIG. 3

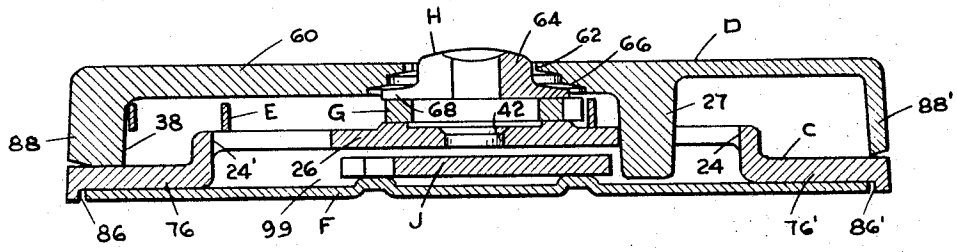


FIG. 5

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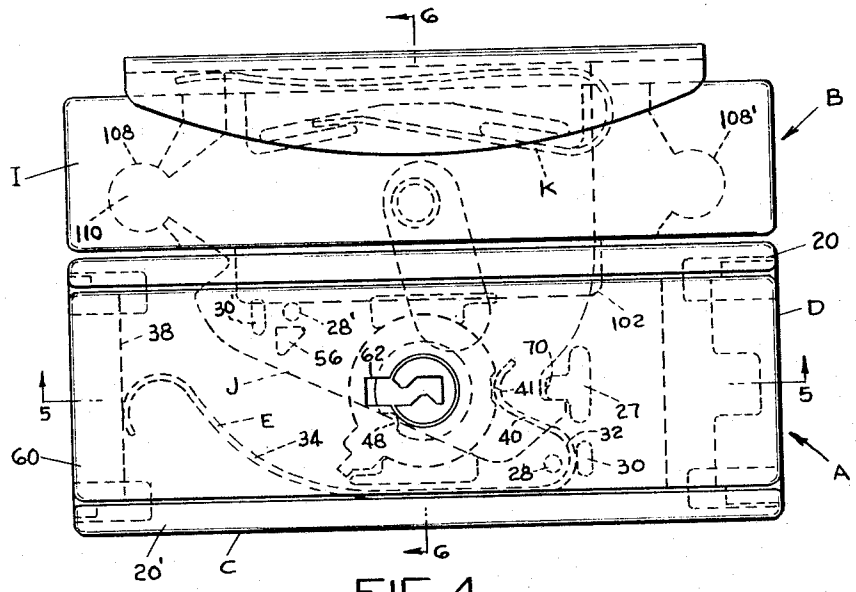


FIG. 4

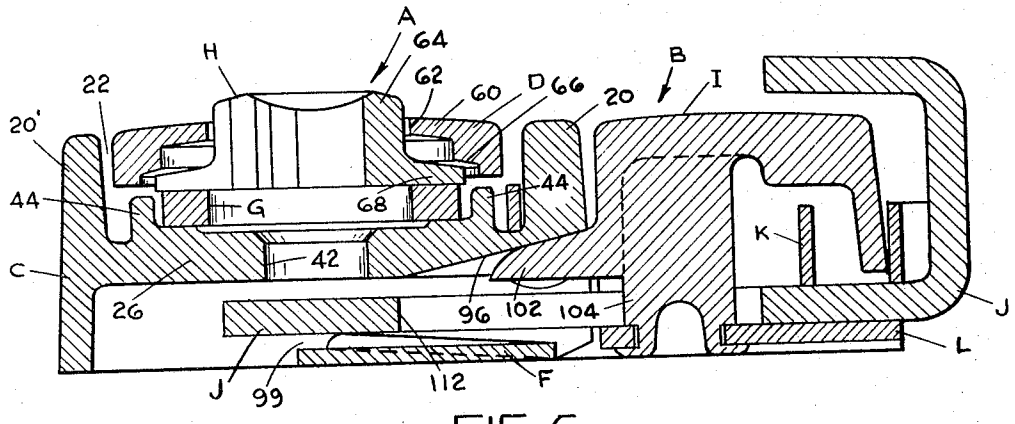


FIG. 6

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LATCHING AND LOCKING MEANS FOR LUGGAGE CASES AND LIKE RECEPTACLES

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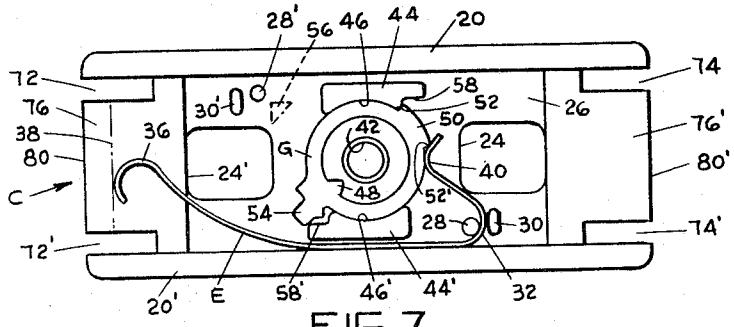


FIG. 7

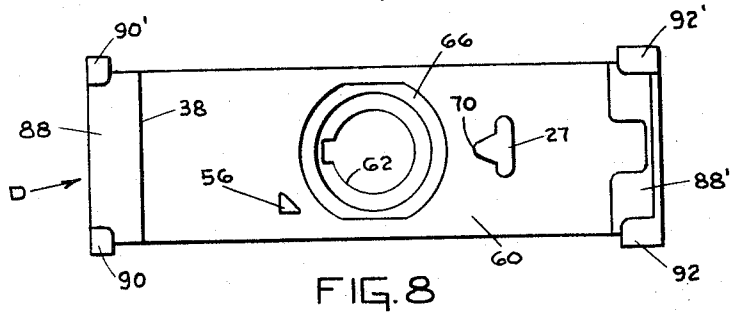


FIG. 8

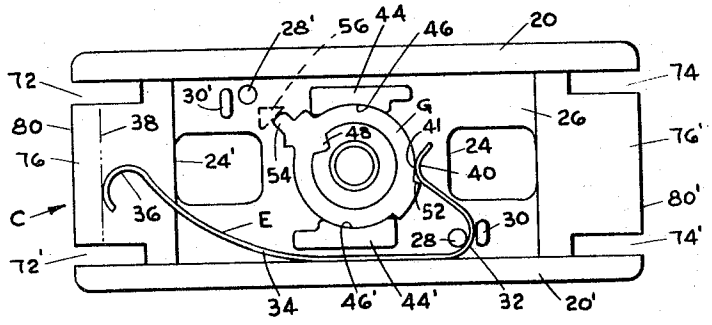


FIG. 9

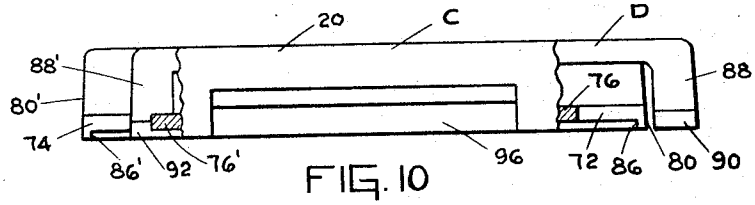


FIG. 10

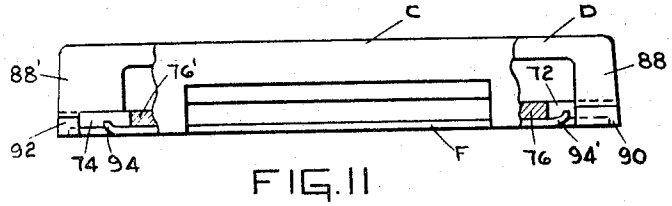


FIG. 11

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United States Patent Office 3,299,677 Patented Jan. 24, 1967

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LATCHING AND LOCKING MEANS FOR LUGGAGE CASES AND LIKE RECEPTACLES

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Filed Jan. 29, 1965, Ser. No. 428,930
11 Claims. (Cl. 70—69)

The invention relates to releasable latching and locking devices for luggage cases and like receptacles, and is more particularly directed to improvements upon the device disclosed in Levine Patent No. 2,820,359 granted January 21, 1958.

A primary object of the invention is to provide a latching and locking device of the type disclosed in the aforementioned patent wherein the number of parts is reduced while retaining the function of the omitted parts; also, to reduce the number of operations to make the product, thereby enabling a reduction in the cost of manufacturing the product.

Pursuant to the foregoing objective, the catch plate of the aforementioned patented device, which is associated with the latching slide plate or member, is omitted. The latching slide member is itself constructed to furnish the function of the omitted catch plate. Concomitantly, the cost of making the catch plate and the cost of assembling the catch plate with the latching slide member are eliminated.

Moreover, the latching slide member, latch body and back plate of the latching assembly are constructed to enable connection of the latching slide member to the latch body upon merely securing the essential back plate to the latch body, thereby eliminating the separate sub-assembly operation of securing the latching slide member to the latch body.

Another object of the invention is to improve the spring action of the pivotally mounted hasp plate of the hasp assembly disclosed in the aforementioned patent. To realize this objective, the pivoting of the hasp plate is accomplished by cooperatively forming the hasp plate and the hasp body in a manner which eliminates an extended pivot shaft and permits the substitution of a leaf spring for the coiled torsion spring positioned around a shaft as disclosed in the aforementioned patent. As a result, a more uniform resilient pressure is exerted upon the hasp plate throughout its full span of movement, a result which cannot be obtained with the coiled torsion spring and shaft arrangement disclosed in the aforementioned patent.

These, and other advantages and improved results of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description, taken in conjunction with the drawings illustrating a preferred embodiment of the invention, in which:

FIG. 1 is a front view of the latching and hasp assemblies in their unlatched condition;

FIG. 2 is a rear view of the assemblies of FIG. 1, the back plate of the latching assembly being partially broken away for clarity in illustration;

FIG. 3 is a rear view of the latching device with the hasp assembly latched to the latch assembly, the back plates of both the hasp and latch assemblies being omitted in this view for clarity of illustration;

FIG. 4 is a front view of the device, the hasp assembly being latched to the latching assembly;

FIG. 5 is a horizontal cross-sectional view taken approximately in the plane of line 5—5 of FIG. 4;

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FIG. 6 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken approximately in the plane of line 6—6 of FIG. 4;

FIG. 7 is a top plan view of the body of the latching assembly and the associated locking bolt and spring means which are supported by the body, the related spring bearing surface and blocking lug provided by the latching slide member being shown in phantom;

FIG. 8 is a plan view of the underside of the latching slide member which is adapted to being received for longitudinal sliding movement with respect to the body shown in FIG. 7;

FIG. 9 is a view similar to FIG. 7, except that the locking bolt has been rotated to locked position;

FIG. 10 illustrates the relationship of the latch body and latching slide member of the latching assembly when these components are being assembled with one another, part of the body being broken away and in section to better illustrate the manner of assembly of these two parts; and

FIG. 11 is a view similar to FIG. 10 showing the final stage of assembly of the body and latching slide member, with such components being secured to one another by the essential back plate of the assembly.

Referring to the drawings, a latching device made in accordance with the invention comprises a latching assembly A and a hasp assembly B. The latching assembly consists of but four components, namely a latch body C, a latching slide member D, a leaf spring E, and a back plate F. Where, as preferred, the latching device is also provided with means for locking the device in latched condition, the latching assembly is also provided with a locking bolt G and a key barrel H. The spring E is related to the latch body and latching slide member to normally urge the latching slide member toward latched position. The spring has the additional function of resiliently maintaining the locking bolt in its respective locked and unlocked positions.

The latch body C is generally rectangular in shape, and in order to fulfill its various functions most effectively with the greatest economy of manufacture, this component preferably is made by die casting. As best shown in FIGS. 6, 7 and 9, the latch body is formed on its top side with a pair of parallel, longitudinal, upstanding flanges **20**, **20'** extending along its sides to provide a transverse guideway **22** which is outwardly open and open at the ends of the body. The latching slide member D is positioned for longitudinal movement within the guideway **22**. The latching slide member is also rectangular in shape and has a length equal to the length of the latch body C. The latching slide member has a width slightly less than the width of the guideway **22** so that it may slide in the guideway without interference. The latching slide member is connected to the latch body in a manner to be subsequently described.

As shown in FIGS. 7 and 9, the latch body C is provided with a cutout or opening **24** in the wall **26** which extends between the upstanding guide flanges **20**, **20'**. As shown in FIG. 5, the opening **24** allows a latching lug **27** provided by the latching slide member D to extend therethrough for exposure on the underside of the wall **26**. In order to permit the latch body to be used for right and lefthanded assemblies, the wall **26** is provided with a second aperture **24'**.

The top surface of the latch body's wall **26** is provided with means for locating the leaf spring E, and for

this purpose the latch body is cast with an upstanding pin portion **28** and an adjacent lug **30**. The leaf spring E, which is bent to the configuration shown in FIGS. 4, 7 and 9, has the bight **32** thereof looped around the pin portion **28**, the bearing lug **30** for the spring being laterally spaced a short distance from the pin. For either a right or lefthanded assembly, a second pin and lug arrangement, **28'**, **30'**, is also provided. As shown in FIGS. 4, 5 and 7–9, the long arm **34** of the spring terminates in an inward curl **36** which bears against a shoulder **38** provided by the latching slide member D. The other or short arm **40** of the bent leaf spring is cooperatively related to and in engagement with the locking bolt G, the spring being bent at **41** at the bolt engaging area.

As shown in FIGS. 5, 6, 7 and 9, the wall **26** of the latch body C is provided with a central aperture **42** to allow the end of a key (not shown) to be received therein. The aperture is flanked by opposite, laterally spaced, elongated projections **44**, **44'** extending upwardly from the wall **26**. The inner sides of the projections are respectively concavely shaped at **46**, **46'** to confine the generally circular locking bolt G for rotation by the key.

As shown in FIGS. 7 and 9, the locking bolt G is generally in the form of an annular washer having an internal, lateral projection **48** adapted to be engaged by the tang of a key; when the key is rotated, the locking bolt is rotated. The outer periphery of the locking bolt is formed with a lateral projection **50** to provide shoulders **52**, **52'** for respective engagement with the curved end **41** of the spring's short arm **40** in the respective locked (FIG. 9) and unlocked (FIG. 7) positions of the locking bolt.

As also shown in FIGS. 7 and 9, the locking bolt G is provided on its outer periphery with a second laterally extending projection **54** diametrically opposite the projection **50**. The projection **54** is adapted for engagement by a locking lug **56** provided to extend from the underside of the latching slide member D when the locking bolt is rotated to the position shown in FIG. 9. In such position of the locking bolt, the projection **54** is in the path of the latching slide member's locking lug **56** and acts to block the movement of the latching slide member to thereby lock the latching slide member in its latched condition. The projections **44**, **44'** also furnish stops to limit the extent of rotation which may be imparted to the locking bolt. Such stops are provided by the transverse edges of the projections, one edge **58** of which is stepped to provide a shoulder for engagement with the projection **50**. A like step portion **58'** on the opposite projection **44'**, and the stops provided by such opposite projection permits the same latch body to be used for right and left-handed assemblies.

As shown in FIGS. 4, 5, 6 and 8, the latching slide member D has a wall **60** which is provided with a central keyhole-shaped aperture **62** for alignment with the aperture **42** of the latch body C when the latching slide member is in latched position. The aperture **62** is adapted to receive the upstanding boss portion **64** of the key barrel H. The wall **60** is countersunk at **66** to receive an annular flange **68** formed to extend around the base of the key barrel.

As also shown in FIG. 8, the underside of the latching slide member D is provided with the aforementioned latching lug **27** and the locking lug **56**. These lugs are in transversely spaced relationship and located on opposite sides of the keyhole-shaped aperture **62**. Both the latching lug and the locking lug are formed integrally with the latching slide member which also is preferably made by die casting. The latching lug **27** is provided with a nose portion **70** to facilitate its camming engagement with a hook-like portion provided on the hasp plate of the hasp assembly, as will be subsequently described.

The latch body C and the latching slide member D are cooperatively formed to enable their secure connection to one another in a manner permitting the latching slide member to be moved longitudinally in the guideway **22** by the assembly of the body and sliding member and the mere connection of the essential back plate F to the latch body. As shown in FIGS. 2, 3, 7 and 9, the latch body is provided at each of its ends with respective pairs of slots **72**, **72'** and **74**, **74'**. The slots are formed in walls **76**, **76'** which extend in a horizontal plane offset from the plane of the wall **26** (FIG. 5). The slots are each open to the ends of the latch body, such opposite ends being designated **80** and **80'**. As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, the underside of the walls **76**, **76'**, respectively, have integral, downwardly projecting connecting studs **82**, **82'** to permit securing the latching assembly A to the wall of a luggage case shell. This is accomplished by providing holes in the shell, extending the connecting studs **82**, **82'** therethrough and heading over the ends of the studs.

The latch body is also provided with a pair of back plate connecting studs **84**, **84'** cast to extend on the underside of the wall portions **76**, **76'**. As shown in FIG. 5, the underside of the wall portions **76**, **76'** are recessed at **86**, **86'** to accommodate the thickness of the back plate F so that the back plate will be flush with the adjoining surfaces of the latch body. The back plate is provided with apertures through which the back plate connecting studs **84**, **84'** are extended before heading over the extremities of the studs to make the connection. As shown in FIG. 2, the back plate F is of a width substantially half of the width of the latch body. The back plate is secured to the latch body after the latching slide member is assembled with the latch body as will be presently described.

As shown in FIGS. 5 and 8, the latching slide member is provided at opposite ends with vertical end walls **88**, **88'** which project downwardly from the wall **60**. The end wall **88** is of greater thickness than the wall **88'** so that its inner surface may provide the aforementioned vertically extending bearing shoulder **38** for the spring E at the desired spatial location. Each end wall is respectively provided with a pair of lateral projections **90**, **90'** and **92**, **92'**. With the locking bolt G positioned between the confining projections **44**, **44'** and the spring E related to the locking bolt as shown in FIG. 7, the key barrel is placed upon the locking bolt. Then, the lateral projections **90**, **90'** of the locking slide member are aligned with the slots **72**, **72'** of the latch body C. The latching slide member, with the end **36** of the spring bearing against the shoulder **38**, is moved to the right until movement of the latching slide member is stopped by the projections **90**, **90'** engaging the bases or ends of the slots **72**, **72'**. At this point, and with the latching slide member positioned in the trackway **22**, the lateral projections **92**, **92'** at the opposite end of the latching slide member, clear the end **80'** of the latch body as shown in FIG. 10. The projections **92**, **92'** are in alignment with the slots **74**, **74'** so that when the force urging the latching slide member to the right is released, the spring E causes the projections **92**, **92'** to enter the slots **74**, **74'**. To complete the assembly, the back plate F is positioned in the recesses **86**, **86'** on the rear face of the latch body and secured to the latch body by swaging over the ends of the connecting studs **84**, **84'**.

As shown in FIG. 11, the back plate F is provided with inturned tangs **94**, **94'** located on the back plate to enter the slots **72** and **74** on opposite sides of the latch body. The back plate tangs are positioned intermediate the bases of the slots **72** and **74** and the projections **90** and **92** respectively positioned in the slots. The distance between the back plate tangs **94** and **94'** is selected so that they are respectively engaged by the projections **90** and **92** depending upon whether the latching slide member is moved to the right or left. In either event, the ends **80**, **80'** of the latch body now cannot be cleared by the projections **90**, **90'** and **92**, **92'** so that the latch-

ing slide member cannot be separated from the latch body, though the latching slide member may be manually urged in the direction of the arrow (FIG. 1) toward unlatched position against the force of the spring E.

As shown in FIG. 6, the latch body is formed at the top and on the rear side of the wall **26** with a diverging or camming surface **96**. Such surface is in communication with a longitudinally extending slot **98** (FIG. 2) extending along the top transverse edge of the latch body to allow entry of a hasp plate in an area between the underside of the latch body wall **26** and the black plate F. Such area, designated **99**, is shown in FIGS. 5 and 6. Thus, the latch body is upwardly open to allow entry of a hasp plate to the concealed latching lug **27** on the underside of the latch body.

As shown in FIGS. 2, 3 4 and 6, the hasp assembly B comprises a hasp body I, a hasp plate J pivotally mounted with respect to the hasp body, a leaf spring K for normally urging the hasp plate to unlatchced position, and a back plate L. The hasp body which preferably is made by die casting, is provided with a pair of integrally formed, vertically extending connecting studs **100**, **100'** for securing the hasp assembly to an aligned opposing shell or lid of a luggage case for cooperation with the latching assembly A. The connecting studs are extended through apertures formed in a shell or the like and headed over to secure the hasp assembly thereto.

The hasp body I is provided at its lower side with an integrally formed dowel **102** which is adapted to engage the inclined surface **96** of the latch body, thereby assuring their proper relationship when the hasp assembly and the latching assembly are brought together. The hasp body is provided with a central, rearwardly extending stop stud **104** immediately above the dowel **102**, this stop stud also affording means for connecting the back plate L to the hasp body. As shown in FIG. 2, the hasp body is formed to provide a downwardly extending opening **106** on the rear face thereof adjacent the dowel **102** to allow movement of the hasp plate J downwardly into the opening **99** in the latching assembly.

The hasp plate J is pivotally and resiliently mounted upon the hasp body I for vertical swinging movement with respect to the hasp body and into and out of latching assembly where the hasp plate may directly coact with the latching lug **27** constituting an integral part of the latching slide member D. As shown in FIGS. 2, 3 and 4, the hasp body is cast with a substantially semi-circular bearing recess or fulcrum **108** which is adapted to receive a mating pivot **110** formed as an integral part of the hasp plate J. In order that the same hasp body may be used for right and left-handed assemblies, the hasp body is cast on its opposite side with a second fulcrum portion **108'**. The hasp plate J has a slot **112** extending therethrough, the lower end of which bears against the stud **104** in the extreme up position of the hasp plate as shown in FIG. 2.

The hasp plate is normally urged toward its uppermost or unlatched position (FIGS. 1 and 2) by the leaf spring K which is secured at one end **114** to the hasp body I and has its opposite end **116** bearing against a surface provided by the hasp plate. As shown in FIG. 3, the hasp body I is formed on its rear face with an upstanding projection which is slotted at **118** to receive the end **114** of the leaf spring. The leaf spring which is generally U-shaped has the bight thereof extending around a similar projection transversely spaced from the projection providing the slot **118**. This second projection is also slotted at **118'** to permit mounting of the spring in an opposite direction for a hasp plate of different hand. The upper transversely extending side of the hasp body is slotted at **115** (also **115'**) to allow the second arm of the spring, which provides the opposite end **116**, to reach and bear against the underside of an external finger piece **120**. The finger piece is made as an integral part of the hasp plate J, there being a horizontal connecting portion between it and the main body portion of the hasp plate. The spring end **116** bears against the underside of the connecting horizontal portion. The finger piece enables the hasp plate to be manually manipulated or pressed downwardly against the action of the spring when the hasp assembly is to be connected to the latching assembly.

As shown in FIGS. 3 and 4, the arcuate free end of the hasp plate J is provided at its lower end with a forwardly projecting hook portion **122** which, when the hasp plate enters the opening **99** of the latching assembly, engages the nose **70** of the latching lug **27** on the latching slide member D. The hasp plate is formed adjacent the hook **122** so that pressure of the hasp plate on the latching lug causes it, together with the latching slide member of which it is a part, to be retracted against the resilient pressure provided by the spring E. When the leading edge of the hook **122** passes over the nose portion **70**, the latching lug automatically springs back into the notch provided by the hook, and the hasp plate is latched to the latching slide member. Manual pressure upon the latching slide member in the direction of the arrow, designated *y* in FIG. 1, unhooks the hasp plate from the latching slide member causing the hasp plate to assume the position shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.

The hasp assembly is completed by placing the back plate L into a recess cast at the rear sides of the hasp body. As shown in FIG. 6, the back plate L has a central opening through which the end of the stud **104** is extended and then headed over to complete the connection. As shown in FIG. 2, the edges of the back plate are confined so that the back plate is immobilized by the single connecting stud **104**. The back plate closely overlies pivot **110** to maintain the same within the fulcrum recess **108**.

The described pivotal arrangement of the hasp plate J and the hasp body I, and the relationship of the leaf spring K connected to the hasp body and to the hasp plate as described, furnishes a smooth resilient action for the movement of the hasp plate throughout its span of arcuate rotation from its unlatched position, as shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, to its latched position, as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4.

It is believed that the advantages and improved results afforded by the minimal number of components, together with the minimal number of operations involved in assembling the components to furnish the latching and locking device of the invention, will be apparent from the foregoing detailed description. Various changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as sought to be defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A latching assembly cooperable with a hasp assembly having a manipulatable, pivotally and resiliently mounted hasp plate, said latching assembly comprising a latch body, the outer face of the latch body having an outwardly and end-wise open transverse guideway, a manipulatable latching slide member connected to the latch body and longitudinally movable in said guideway, a latching lug integral with the latching slide member extending from the underside thereof, an aperture in said latch body, said latching lug extending through the aperture and exposed on the underside of the latch body, spring means intermediate the latch body and the latching slide member to resiliently urge the latching slide member to latched position, and a back plate connected to the underside of the latch body, said back plate and the underside of the latch body providing an intermediate opening for entry of a hasp plate to directly engage said latching lug.

2. A latching assembly as set forth in claim **1**, wherein the latch body, latching slide member and back plate are provided with cooperative means whereby the connection of the back plate to the underside of the latch

body connects the latching slide member to the latch body for longitudinal movement of the latching slide member in the guideway provided by the latch body.

3. A latching assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein the latch body is provided with slot means at each end thereof extending parallel to said guideway; wherein the latching slide member is provided at each end thereof with projecting means received in said slot means; wherein the back plate is provided with tangs received in said slot means to limit the extent of longitudinal movement of the latching slide member in said guideway; and wherein the connection of the back plate to the latch body also connects the latching slide member to the latch body.

4. A latching assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein the spring means is a bent leaf spring, said latch body having spaced, integral means for confining a locking bolt, an annular locking bolt mounted intermediate said spaced means for rotation between locked and unlocked positions, said bent leaf spring having one arm in engagement with means provided by the latching slide member, the bight of the spring being in engagement with means provided by the latch body, the other arm of the spring being in engagement with means provided by the locking bolt to resiliently maintain the locking bolt in its respective locked and unlocked positions, a locking lug extending from the underside of the latching slide member cooperable with means provided by the locking bolt to prevent movement of the latching slide member with respect to the latch body, and a key barrel overlying the locking bolt, said key barrel having a portion thereof extending through an opening provided in the latching slide member.

5. A hasp assembly cooperable with a latching assembly, said hasp assembly comprising a hasp body having a substantially semi-circular recess formed in the rear face thereof, a projection on the rear face of the hasp body, said projection having a slot, a manipulatable hasp plate having means for cooperation with the latching assembly, said hasp plate having a pivot portion matingly received in said recess to provide a pivoted connection, an external finger piece integrally connected to the hasp plate by a horizontally connecting portion, a leaf spring intermediate the hasp body and the hasp plate normally urging the hasp plate to its raised, unlatched position about said pivoted connection, said leaf spring having one end thereof in said slot, the other end of the spring bearing against the underside of said horizontally connecting portion, and a back plate connected to the underside of the hasp body, said back plate overlying said pivot portion to maintain the pivot portion in said recess.

6. A latching device for a luggage case or the like comprising a latching assembly cooperable with a hasp assembly, said latching assembly comprising a latch body, the outer face of the latch body having an outwardly and end-wise open, transverse guideway, a manipulatable latching slide member connected to the latch body and longitudinally movable in said guideway, a latching lug integral with the latching slide member extending from the underside thereof, an aperture in said latch body, said latching lug extending through the aperture and exposed on the underside of the latch body, spring means intermediate the latch body and the latching slide member to resiliently urge the latching slide member to latched position, a back plate connected to the underside of the latch body, said back plate and the underside of the latch body providing an intermediate opening for entry of a hasp plate, said hasp assembly comprising a hasp body having a substantially semi-circular recess formed in the rear face thereof, a manipulatable hasp plate having means for directly engaging said latching lug upon entry of the hasp plate into said intermediate opening, said hasp plate having a pivot portion matingly received in said recess to provide a pivoted connection, a leaf spring intermediate said hasp body and said hasp plate normally urging the hasp plate to its raised, unlatched position about said pivoted connection, and a back plate connected to the underside of the hasp body, said back plate overlying said pivot portion to maintain the pivot portion in said recess.

7. A latching device as set forth in claim 6, wherein the latch body, latching slide member and back plate are provided with cooperative means whereby the connection of the back plate to the underside of the latch body connects the latching slide member to the latch body for longitudinal movement of the latching slide member in the guideway provided by the latch body.

8. A latching device as set forth in claim 6, wherein the latch body is provided with slot means at each end thereof extending parallel to said guideway; wherein the latching slide member is provided at each end thereof with projecting means received in said slot means; wherein the back plate is provided with tangs received in said slot means to limit the extent of longitudinal movement of the latching slide member in said guideway; and wherein the connection of the back plate to the latch body also connects the latching slide member to the latch body.

9. A latching device as set forth in claim 6, wherein the latching assembly spring means is a bent leaf spring, said latch body having spaced, integral means for confining a locking bolt, an annular locking bolt mounted intermediate said spaced means for rotation between locked and unlocked positions, said bent leaf spring having one arm in engagement with means provided by the latching slide member, the bight of the spring being in engagement with means provided by the latch body, the other arm of the spring being in engagement with means provided by the locking bolt to resiliently maintain the locking bolt in its respective locked and unlocked positions, a locking lug extending from the underside of the latching slide member cooperable with means provided by the locking bolt to prevent movement of the latching slide member with respect to the latch body, and a key barrel overlying the locking bolt, said key barrel having a portion thereof extending through an opening provided in the latching slide member.

10. A latching device as set forth in claim 6, wherein the hasp body is formed on its rear face with a slotted projection; wherein the hasp plate has an external finger piece integrally connected to the hasp plate by a horizontal connecting portion; and wherein the leaf spring has one end thereof in the slot of the projection and its other end bearing against the underside of said horizontal connecting portion.

11. A latching device as set forth in claim 6, wherein the latch body is provided with slot means at each end thereof extending parallel to said guideway; wherein the latching slide member is provided at each end thereof with projecting means received in said slot means; wherein the back plate is provided with tangs received in said slot means to limit the extent of longitudinal movement of the latching slide member in said guideway; wherein the connection of the back plate to the latch body also connects the latching slide member to the latch body; wherein the latching assembly spring means is a bent leaf spring, said latch body having spaced, integral means for confining a locking bolt, an annular locking bolt mounted intermediate said spaced means for rotation between locked and unlocked positions, said bent leaf spring having one arm in engagement with means provided by the latching slide member, the bight of the spring being in engagement with means provided by the latch body, the other arm of the spring being in engagement with means provided by the locking bolt to resiliently maintain the locking bolt in its respective locked and unlocked positions, a locking lug extending from the underside of the latching slide member cooperable with means provided by the locking bolt to prevent movement of the latching slide member with respect to the latch body, a key barrel overlying the locking bolt, said key barrel having a portion thereof

extending through an opening provided in the latching slide member; wherein the hasp body is formed on its rear face with a slotted projection; wherein the hasp plate has an external finger piece integrally connected to the hasp plate by a horizontal connecting portion; and wherein the hasp assembly leaf spring has one end thereof in the slot of the projection and its other end bearing against the underside of said horizontal connecting portion.

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