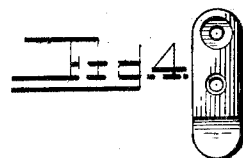
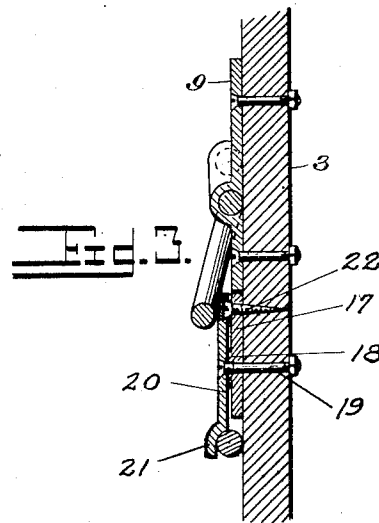
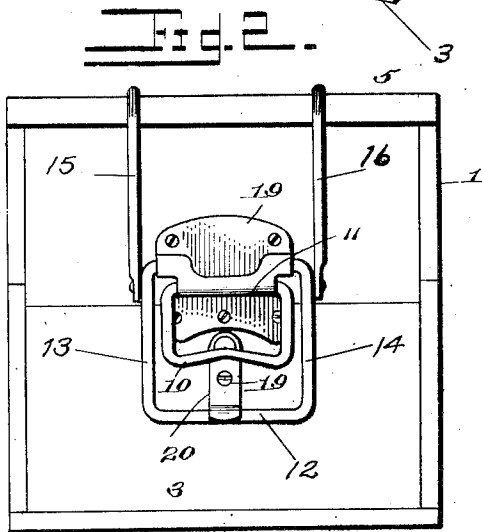
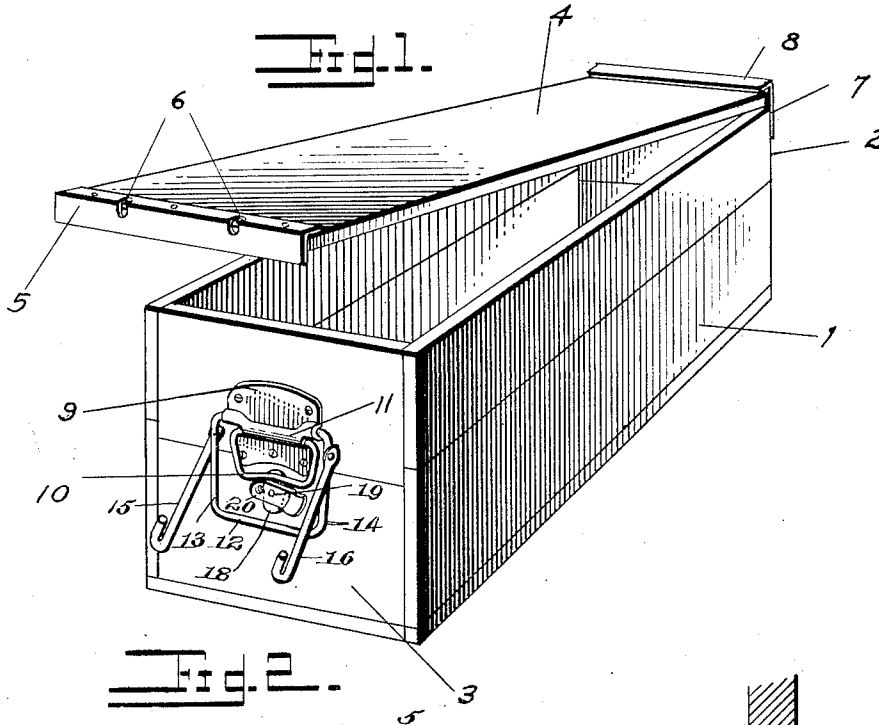


H. E. ASHCRAFT.
LOCKING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 10, 1920.

1,381,855.

Patented June 14, 1921.



Inventor

Horner & Ashcroft

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER E. ASHCRAFT, OF DAVENPORT, IOWA.

LOCKING DEVICE.

1,381,855.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 14, 1921.

Application filed January 10, 1920. Serial No. 350,676.

(FILED UNDER THE ACT OF MARCH 3, 1883, 22 STAT. L., 625.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be is known that I, HOMER E. ASHCRAFT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Davenport, county of Scott, and State of Iowa, have invented an Improvement in Locking Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The invention described herein may be used by the Government, or any of its officers or employees in prosecution of work for the Government, or by any other person in the United States, without payment to me of any royalty thereon.

This invention relates to cover fastening devices and has special reference to means for securely locking the cover of a box, chest or the like in closed position such means being so designed that the cover may be readily unlocked and removed.

This device is intended primarily as a substitute for the means formerly employed for shipping arms and ammunition although it will be understood that the invention is of general application. Previously the cover of the box was made secure by means of iron bands, which were nailed in position and by means of screws which were sealed in place. It is evident that such construction consumes a great deal of time, and also that the cover of the box is likely to be broken and destroyed during the operation of opening the box. By my invention, however, the cover of the box may be readily locked in closed position and as readily opened without any damage to the cover.

In the following specification reference is made to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box with the cover in partially closed position;

Fig. 2 is an end view of the box showing my improved device in locked position;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view through the locking mechanism, and

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the pivoted locker-arm.

1 represents the body of the box of ordinary construction and for convenience of description, it will be assumed to be a wooden box, although it is evident that any other appropriate material may be substituted. The box is composed of the usual rectangular sections and the end pieces 2

and 3. The numeral 4 represents a detachable cover, on one end of which is suitably secured the angle plate 5 having the apertures 6 which extend through both sides of the angle plate at the line of intersection of the angle plate.

To the end 2 of the box is secured the angle plate 7 the flange 8 of which is adapted to overlies and snugly fit the cover 4 when the latter is placed on top of the box. To the end 3 of the box is secured the handle plate 9, to which is pivotally secured the usual lifting handle 10.

The usual type of handle plate is provided with a projecting portion shown at 11 having a socket in which the handle 10 is pivoted and also a pair of sockets located above the handle socket and which are generally not utilized. The second mentioned sockets are utilized in this invention to pivotally support a loop, having a horizontal portion 12 and upwardly extending arms 13 and 14, to which arms are pivoted links 15 and 16 each having a hook-shaped upper end. It is evident that special handle plates of the type illustrated may be supplied in case the handle of the box is not of the type described.

Below the handle plate 9 a pivot plate 17 having an upwardly extending boss 18 is secured to end 3 of the box. On the boss 18 is pivoted the arm 20, preferably, by means of the fastening bolt and nut 19. The arm 20 has an outwardly curved lower end portion which is adapted to engage the horizontal portion 12 of the loop in order to maintain the device in locked position. The upper end of the arm 20 is provided with the counter-sunk hole alining with a hole near the upper end of plate 17, so that a lock screw 22 may be passed through the apertured arm and plate. The said screw may be then sealed in position by placing a seal in the countersunk hole so that the contents of the box cannot be disturbed during shipment without the breaking of the seal and removal of the screw.

In operation, one end of the cover 4 is slipped beneath the flange 8 of the angle plate 7 and the cover 4 is then placed in flat position on top of the box.

The loop having the horizontal portion 12 is then raised until the hook portions of

the links 15 and 16 engage in the apertures 6. The loop is then pushed to its lower position flush with the end 3 of the box, and the arm 20 is turned until its curved end 21 engages over the horizontal portion 12 of the loop. The screw 22 is placed in position through the arm 20 and plate 17 and a proper seal is then placed above the head of the screw and in the arm 20.

10 Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A fastening device for boxes or the like having a handle plate, a pivot plate secured to one end of the box immediately below said handle plate, a loop pivoted to said handle plate, a cover, means extending from said loop for engaging the cover, an arm mounted on said pivot plate for holding the loop 20 in locked position and means extending

through said arm and pivot plate for securing the arm in locked position.

2. A fastening device for boxes or the like having a handle plate, a pivot plate secured to one end of the box immediately below said handle plate, a loop pivoted to said handle plate, a cover, means extending from said loop for engaging the cover and means mounted on said pivot plate for holding said loop in locked position. 25

3. A fastening device for boxes or the like provided with a cover detachably secured at one end, including a handle plate secured to the other end of the box, a pivot plate secured immediately below said handle plate, a loop pivoted to said handle plate, means extending from said loop for engaging the cover and means mounted on the pivot plate for holding the loop in locked position. 30

HOMER E. ASHCRAFT.