This invention relates to box fasteners and the improvements are directed to novel and unique means adapted to be associated with a box, including telescopic members, said means cooperating to securely fasten the said members in position and to assure that unauthorized tampering with said members or the attempted opening of the box may not be consummated without leaving evidence of such action.

An important object of the invention is to produce a device of the above-mentioned character which includes two cooperating parts, adapted to operate in slidable relation and to be assembled to securely fasten the parts of a box in a manner to discourage unauthorized tampering.

Another object is to provide means adapted to be attached to the telescopic members of the ordinary paste-board box, said means cooperating to prevent detachment thereof in the event the sides of said box are flexed by pushing the flexible sides inwardly.

Still another object of the invention is to produce a fastening device, comprising simple parts and adapted to be cheaply manufactured and thus offered to the trade at a most reasonable figure.

With these objects in view, together with others which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the novel formation, combination and arrangement of parts, all as will be described more fully hereinafter, illustrated in the drawings and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary view of a box, including telescopic members, equipped with my invention, the parts being shown in locked position.

Fig. 2 is an elevation of an end portion of the inner telescopic member of a box carrying one of the parts of the device.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged side elevation of the part of the device shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the same.

Fig. 5 is a front elevation of that part of the device carried by the outer telescopic member of the box.

Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a view like unto Fig. 6, but slightly enlarged, and adapted to illustrate a certain spring action which takes place when the parts of the device are being assembled.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary elevation of the device illustrating in a somewhat exaggerated form the result of an unauthorized opening of the box.

Referring now more in particular to the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters of reference denote similar parts throughout the several views, let 10 indicate generally a box adapted to be equipped with my invention, said box preferably including outer and inner telescopic members, 11 and 12 respectively. In the example illustrated, the type of box is formed from paste-board and is adapted to contain men's suits or other clothing, it being understood that the same is to be construed as illustrative, rather than restrictive.

The fastening device, forming the subject-matter of the present application, comprises essentially the part 13, which is adapted to be secured to the sides of the outer member 11, as shown in Fig. 1, the rear portion of said part 13 being apertured, as indicated at 14, (Fig. 7) for the reception of suitable fastening devices. The other part 15 of the device is adapted to be secured to the inner member 12, said part having a lateral extension 16 which is secured to the bottom of said member 12, as shown at 17, the upstanding portion of said part 15 being arranged in spaced parallel relation to the side of said member 12, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

With the parts 13 and 15 affixed as aforesaid, the box 10 is placed in the condition shown in Fig. 1, by fitting said outer member 11 over the inner member 12, while the upstanding portion of part 13 is inserted within said part 13, which latter is tubular or sheaf-like as indicated in Fig. 6. Thus as the members 11 and 12 are fitted together the upstanding portion of part 15 extends a suitable distance within said part 13, the extent of said insertion depending, of course, upon the number of garments or the like arranged in said
box 10. In view of the parallel spacing of part 15 from the side of said member 12, as shown in Fig. 2, the side of the member 11 may readily engage the respective side of the member 12, as will be well understood.

In order to lock or secure the members 11 and 12 in position, and to prevent the unauthorized opening of the box, it is proposed to provide means whereby said parts 13 and 15 may be secured in assembled relation. To this end, said part 15 is provided with a plurality of headed projections 18, including neck portions 19, while the outer face portion of said part 13 is slit longitudinally, as indicated at 20, the width of the slit being slightly less than the diameter of said neck portions 19. Upon inspection of Figs. 1 and 5, it will be noted that angular slots 21 communicate with said slit 20, said slots being spaced there-

along to agree with the spacing of said projections 18 on said part 15, and further the lower end of said slit 20 leads from a notch 22 arranged at the lower end of the outer face of said part 13.

From the foregoing it is apparent that as the part 15 is inserted within the part 13, the neck portion 19 of the top projection 18 enters the notch 22 in part 13, and though the width of said slit 20 is slightly less than the width or diameter of said neck portion 19, the natural spring of resiliency of the face portion of said part 13, permits a slight flexing so that said neck portion 19 may pass along said slit until it reaches the first angular slot 21. The flexing, aforesaid, will be readily understood upon inspection of Fig. 7. As the top projection reaches the first angular slot 21, a continued fitting of the members 11 and 12, forces the succeeding neck portions 19 through the slit 20, as aforesaid, until said projections engage the slots 21 as indicated in Fig. 1. The above condition obviously exists when the members 11 and 12 are intimately engaged, that is, whenever the box contains a single suit of clothes or the like. However, in the event a large number of pieces are packed in the box, the members 11 and 12 will not engage so intimately as shown in Fig. 1, and in this condition it is probable that but one or two of the projections 18 will cooperate with a like number of slots 21 in said part 13. For this reason a plurality of cooperating projections and slots are provided. When the neck portions 19 are engaged in selected slots 21, the slit 20, previously expended, resumes its normal width, and hence an attempt to open the box is frustrated since the angular arrangement of said slots 21 precludes a reinsertion of said neck portions 19 in said slit 20. Obviously, an attempted forcing of the opening would cause the neck portions to ride downwardly into the slots 21 as shown in Fig. 8, and since the parts 13 and 15 are made from relatively thin material a distortion of the parts, readily discernible, would occur.

It will be seen that my improved device will readily supersede the usual tying or sealing, and since forcible entry into the box cannot be had without leaving evidence of such action, unauthorized tampering will be discouraged.

While the present is a disclosure of the preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the same is not limited thereto, as various changes in the minor details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A fastener for a box including outer and inner telescopic members, said fastener comprising two slidable parts adapted to be secured to said outer and inner members respectively, one of said parts being sheath-like and having a longitudinal slit and an angular slot in communication therewith, said slot being wider than said slit, the other part having headed projections presenting neck portions larger than the width of said slit and adapted for forcible entry into said slit and into the slot to secure the parts in non-releasable engagement.

2. A box fastener comprising a sheath-like member adapted to be secured to the outer telescopic member of a box, said member presenting a longitudinal slit and an intersecting slot in communication therewith and having a width greater than said slit and a member carried by the inner telescopic member of a box, said member having an upstanding portion insertible into said sheath-like member and presenting projections adapted to be forcibly entered into said slit and into said slot to secure the parts in non-releasable engagement.

3. A box fastener comprising a sheath-like member adapted to be secured to the outer telescopic member of a box, said member including a longitudinal slit and a plurality of angular slots in communication with said slit, and a member carried by the inner telescopic member of a box, said member having an upstanding portion insertible within said sheath-like member, and presenting headed projections having neck portions adapted to be entered into said slit, the diameters of said neck portions being greater than the width of said slit whereby said slit is expanded until said neck portions enter said slots, said slit returning to its normal width for locking said neck portions in said slots.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOSEPH G. FRIEDMAN.