To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN ROBIN, a citizen of the United States of America, and JOHN CAPLIN, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cash-Purses or Tobacco-Bags, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to a cash purse or tobacco bag and has for its principal object the production of a simple and efficient means for positively closing and retaining in a closed position the entrance thereof.

Another object of this invention is the production of a cash purse or tobacco bag which is provided with a retaining loop upon one side and which is further provided with a ring, which, of course, may be formed of any suitable material, which ring is slidably and removable mounted upon the bag so that when the entrance to the bag is folded to a compact position the ring may be slipped thereover and then moved downwardly for a distance, after which the entrance may be spread so as to hold the ring against slipping from the bag, whereby the ring will positively retain the entrance of the purse or bag in a closed position.

A still further object of this invention is the production of a cash purse or tobacco bag which is provided upon one side with a permanently secured loop which is constructed so as to prevent the accidental displacement of the ring which is used for closing the entrance to the purse or bag, although the loop will permit the ring to slip over the end of the purse or bag when it is desired to open the entrance for gaining access to the interior thereof, and the loop also constituting a grip means for permitting the user to very readily hold the purse or bag.

With these and other objects in view this invention consists of certain novel combinations, constructions, and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of the cash purse or tobacco bag shown in an open position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the cash purse or tobacco bag illustrating the same when the entrance thereof is closed by the ring. Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3--3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary plan view of a portion of the bag, illustrating the manner in which the loop is secured thereto. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary plan view of a portion of the bag and loop showing a slightly modified form of ring. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the bag and loop illustrating an elastic ring mounted upon the loop.

Referring to the accompanying drawing by numerals it will be seen that the cash purse or tobacco bag 1 has its edges 2 brought together and stitched, as shown at 3, or secured in any other suitable manner. When these edges 2 are brought together and stitched the ends 4 of the loop or strap 5 are positioned between the edges 2 and, therefore, when the edges are stitched together as shown at 3 the ends 4 of the loop will also be stitched, thus permanently retaining the loop in a set position upon one side of the cash purse or tobacco bag adjacent the upper end thereof. It should, of course, be understood that this bag may be made of any suitable material such as leather, morocco, oil cloth, and the like, and that the loop or strap 5 is also formed of flexible material so as to yield when necessary.

The ring 6 is preferably round in construction and as shown in Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive is preferably formed of metal and is positioned upon the loop 5 before the same is stitched when the purse or bag is formed. Therefore, after the edges 2 of the cash purse or tobacco bag have been stitched together thereby retaining the loop 5 in a set position the ring will be positively held upon the loop as shown clearly in Fig. 1.

When the device is used as a cash purse it is obvious that coins may be positioned therein or when so desired it may be used as a tobacco bag and under such conditions tobacco may be placed therein. When it is desired to close the entrance to the cash purse or tobacco bag the upper end thereof is folded a number of times upon itself, as shown most clearly in Fig. 3 so as to assume a very compact position, as shown also in dotted lines in Fig. 2. The ring 6 will at this time be carried loosely upon the loop 5. After the upper end of the cash purse or tobacco bag has been folded the ring 6 may be moved upwardly upon the loop 5 pulling the upper portions of the loop 5 upwardly, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. This action will cause the loop to extend to a
point adjacent the upper end of the bag so that the ring may then be swung very easily over the upper folded end of the cash purse or tobacco bag. The ring may then be slid or moved downwardly along the folded upper end of the cash purse or tobacco bag so as to be moved to a point adjacent the lower end of the loop 5 thereby positioning the ring at a distance from the upper end of the purse or bag. Of course, the upper end of the bag may be pulled slightly apart so as to open the folded portions or under its own normal urging the folds will expand slightly so as to hold the ring against accidentally sliding from the purse or bag because of the fact that it will be carried at the most cramped or crowded portion thereof and will not move over the open or unfolded upper end. Consequently, it will be seen that the contents of the purse or bag will be positively held therein since the entrance thereof is positively held in a closed position by means of the metallic ring 6. Of course, when access is desired to be had to the interior of the bag the upper end thereof may be folded upon itself as is the case when the ring is positioned thereon and then the ring may be very quickly and easily moved upwardly urging or pulling the loop upwardly until the ring can be removed from the upper end of the purse or bag. The bag will then be open so that access may be had to the interior thereof.

By referring to Fig. 5 it will be seen that the usual bag 1 having the loop 5 is provided with a ring 7 which is also slidably and movably mounted upon the loop 5 similar to the manner in which the ring 6 is carried. This ring 7, however, is formed preferably of leather or some similar fabric so as to be capable of yielding slightly when being passed over the upper folded end of the cash purse or tobacco bag or when the same is being closed. Furthermore, by referring to Fig. 6 it will be seen that the cash purse or tobacco bag 1 having the loop 5 permanently secured thereto may permit an elastic ring 8 to be mounted upon the loop 5. When an elastic ring 8 is used it will, of course, move upwardly along the loop 5 similar to the manner in which the ring 6 is moved along the loop when being positioned over the upper end of the cash purse or tobacco bag, as illustrated in dotted lines in Fig. 2, although because of the elastic construction of the ring 8 it may be stretched slightly so as to permit of its being sprung or slipped very quickly over the upper folded end of the bag, either when the entrance is being closed or when the entrance is being opened.

It is, of course, obvious that the loop or strap 5 is of sufficient size to permit the finger of the user to be easily slipped through for facilitating the holding of the bag in his hand, such for instance as where it is desired to pour change from the bag or where tobacco is being emptied therefrom to fill a pipe or prior to rolling a cigarette.

It will be seen that although three forms of ring have been disclosed the only difference between the same resides in the material from which the same is formed, for in the operation of either ring it is necessary to move the ring upwardly along the loop, causing the loop to be urged upwardly at its upper portion toward the upper end or top of the cash purse or tobacco bag, whereby the ring may be swung in a horizontal plane over the upper end of the cash purse or tobacco bag before being slid downwardly along the folded upper end or entrance to the cash purse or tobacco bag. Therefore it will be seen that the ring may be very quickly and easily swung over the upper folded entrance of the cash purse or tobacco bag which it possibly would not do if it were pivotally anchored in a set position at a distance from the top of the cash purse or tobacco bag. Of course, if the ring is secured so near to the upper end of the purse or bag as to permit its being swung over the upper end then it would be so near as to cause its accidental swinging off and the opening of the cash purse and tobacco bag when it should hold the same in a closed position. By having the ring mounted so as to slide along the folded entrance to the bag or purse and by having the loop provided for preventing the accidental loss of the ring it will be seen that the device will be in position to operate at all times and, furthermore, because of the fact that the upper portion of the loop is in a position to direct the movement of the ring over the folded end of the purse or bag it may be easily placed thereon and removed therefrom as desired. Consequently, it is not desired to limit the formation or construction of this invention to the specific formation as disclosed herein for it is desired to include all such forms of the invention as properly come within the scope thereof as claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described comprising a purse or bag having an open upper end, a loop permanently secured to said purse or bag adjacent its upper end, a ring carried upon said loop, said ring being adapted to be moved upwardly upon said loop for urging the loop upwardly at its upper portion to a point adjacent the top of the purse or bag, said purse or bag being adapted to be folded upon itself at its upper end to assume a compact position, at which time the ring may be swung over the upper end and then slid downwardly upon the folded upper end for a considerable distance therebelow to a point adjacent the lower por.
tion of said loop whereby the folded upper end of the purse or bag will spring slightly toward an open position above said ring so as to positively anchor the ring in a set position, whereby the entrance to the bag will be positively held in a closed position.

2. A device of the class described comprising a purse or bag having an open upper end, a yieldable loop having its ends inserted into and being secured to said purse or bag, whereby said loop will be positively retained in a set position upon the side portion of said purse or bag, a ring slidably mounted along said loop, the upper entrance portion of said bag being adapted to be folded upon itself to assume a compact position, at which time said ring may slide along said loop to the upper portion thereof and then urge the yieldable loop upwardly for a distance, whereby the loop will extend to a point adjacent the extreme upper end of said purse or bag, at which time said ring may be swung over the extreme top of the folded entrance and then slid downwardly over the folded entrance at which time the folded entrance will spring slightly open above said ring, whereby said ring will be anchored in a set position at a distance below the upper end of the purse or bag so as to positively close the entrance into the interior of the purse or bag.

3. A device of the class described comprising a purse or bag having an open upper end, a loop secured to said purse or bag, a yieldable ring slidably mounted upon said loop, said purse or bag being adapted to be folded upon itself at its upper end to assume a compact position, at which time said yieldable ring may be slid along said loop so as to urge the loop upwardly at its upper portion to a point adjacent the extreme upper end of said purse or bag, at which time the ring may be swung over the folded upper end of the purse or bag, said ring being capable of yielding slightly to conform in contour to the shape of the folded upper end of the purse or bag, at which time the ring may slide downwardly over the folds of the purse or bag for a distance below the upper end thereof, at which time the folds will spring slightly open, whereby the ring will be held in a set position upon the purse or bag for holding the entrance thereof in a closed position.

4. A device of the class described comprising a purse or bag having an open upper end, a yieldable loop carried by said purse or bag, an elastic ring carried upon said loop, said purse or bag being adapted to be folded upon itself at its upper portion so as to assume a very compact position, at which time the elastic ring may be moved or slid along the loop so as to urge the loop upwardly at its upper portions to a point adjacent the extreme top of said purse or bag, at which time the ring may be stretched slightly and swung toward the top of the folded end of said purse or bag, after which the ring may be slid downwardly over the folds which in turn will spring slightly so as to cause the elastic ring to bind upon said purse or bag at a distance from the upper end thereof, whereby the entrance to the purse or bag may be positively closed.

In testimony whereof we hereunto affix our signatures.

BENJAMIN ROBIN.

JOHN CAPLIN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."