

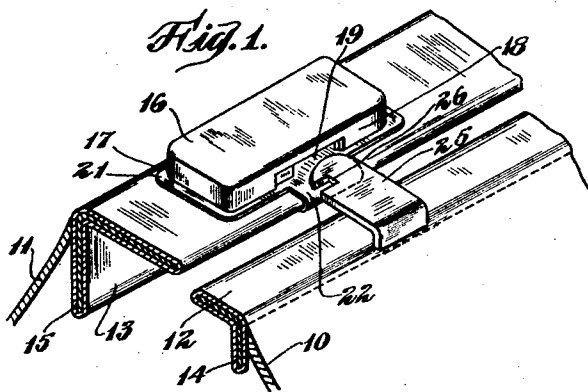
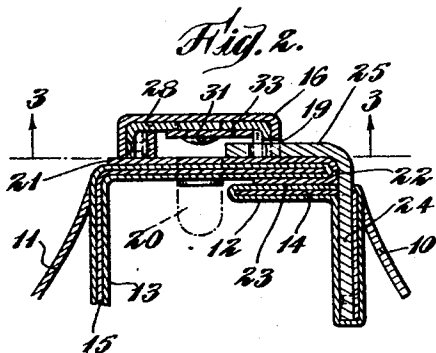
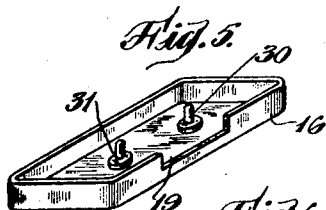
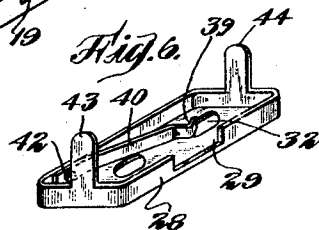
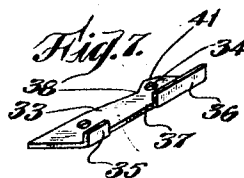
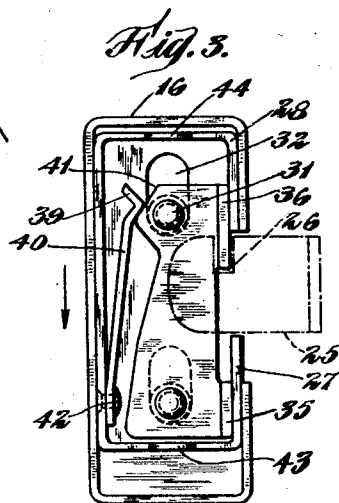
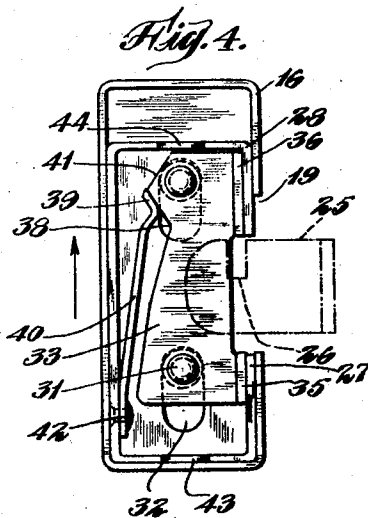
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W. A. LOTZ

LATCH FASTENER FOR BAGS

Filed July 1, 1924.



Inventor
William A. Lotz -
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LATCH FASTENER FOR BAGS.

Application filed July 1, 1924. Serial No. 723,433.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. LOTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Latch Fasteners for Bags, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in latch fasteners for bags, particularly traveling bags, and it is the principal object of the invention to provide a latch fastener of simple and inexpensive construction in which all moving parts are concealed in the sliding cap.

Another object of the invention is to provide a latch fastener for bags of the type used in traveling in which a sliding and unencumbered cap controls the opening and closing of the bag.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a latch fastener preferably for traveling bags the locking member of which is securely held within a casing and guided therein.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a durable and positively acting latch fastener for bags having an extremely simple construction.

These and other objects of my invention and advantages thereof will become more fully known as the description thereof proceeds, and will then be specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing fragments of a conventional type of traveling bag equipped with a latch fastener constructed according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a transverse section of the structure shown in Figure 1 on an enlarged scale and taken in a central plane.

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the cap and casing for the latch fastener, seen in the direction of the arrows on line 3—3 of Figure 2, with the latch in its locked position.

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 with the latch in its unlocked position.

Figure 5 is a perspective detail view of the outer movable cap.

Figure 6 is a similar view of an inner stationary casing.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the latch plate.

The side walls 10 and 11 of a traveling bag made of any suitable material and of any desired shape are stitched or otherwise secured to coverings 12 and 13 completely enveloping the angular frame members 14 and 15, as is customary in the manufacture of such bags.

A hollow, oblong movable cap 16 having rounded corners and preferably made of sheet metal is formed with a top plate which is wholly unencumbered and has uniformly flanged end and side edges 17 and 18 respectively. One of the side edges 18 has a centrally located recess 19 opening downwardly.

Intermediate the lower edges of the walls 17 and 18, and the top of the bag frame is interposed a base-plate 21 the same extending marginally therebeyond as shown, and formed with the front edge of this plate, below the recess 19 is an extension 22 bent to tightly engage over the edge of the bag frame, its re-entrantly turned portion 23 being folded firmly against the underside of the frame.

It will be understood that the cap 16 can slide upon the base-plate within certain limits as will hereafter be more fully explained.

Firmly secured to the other member 14 of the bag frame by rivets or other suitable fastening means, is the vertical element 24 of a keeper 25, the same passing through the upper horizontal portion of the frame member to a spaced distance thereabove corresponding to the combined thickness of the opposite frame element as covered by the base-plate extension, the frame member 14 passing below the element 23 and the forwardly extending keeper element 25 entering the recess 19 over the plate 21.

The forward and entering end of the keeper 25 is rounded to readily enter the recess and provided with a transverse recess 26 for the reception of a locking member or tongue formed with a latch plate to be more fully described herebelow.

The main portion of the keeper 25 is proportioned as to neatly fit the recess 19 so that when in engagement the frame members are prevented from relative movement in any direction whatever, laterally or vertically, but can be separated by drawing

apart by a direct straight pull outwardly after the release of the keeper by the locking member.

An inner casing 28 having flange-shaped side walls 27, has a recess 29 in one of these side walls or flanges oppositely disposed to the recess 19 in the cap and allowing the passage of the keeper 25. The casing 28 is open at the bottom, and rests with its top against the bottom of the cap at the inner face thereof.

A pair of studs 30 are secured to or integrally made with sockets 31 attached to or formed with the inner face of the cap 16, and these studs pass through elongated slots 32 of the inner casing 28 and are adapted to guide the cap 16 during its movements and to limit the same.

A latch plate 33 is held within the casing 28 on the inner ends of the studs 30 which extend through suitable openings 34 in the plate and are then capped.

The plate 33 at one of its side edges is provided with lateral downturned flanges 35 and 36 separated by a recess 37. By reason of its connection with the cap 16 the plate 33 will slide with the same so that its flange 36 sliding along the inner face of the side wall 27 of casing 28 will enter or recede from the slot 26 of the keeper 25. A substantially V-shaped recess 38 is formed in the side edge of the plate 33 opposite to the flanges 35, 36 thereof, and the upper, substantially V-formed back of the end 39 of a leaf spring 40 is adapted to engage in the V-shaped recess 38 of plate 33 in the unlocked position of the latch plate while its rear edge will rest against the bevel face 41 of the latch plate 33 in the locking position as illustrated in Figure 3, in order to firmly guide and hold the latch plate in either of its positions. The opposite end of the leaf spring 40 is attached to one of the side walls of casing 28 as indicated at 42.

The end walls of the casing 28 carry downwardly directed extensions 43 and 44, one of which is indicated by the broken lines 20 in Figure 2. These extensions or tongues are adapted to pass through the horizontal element of the frame member 15 and to be bent thereunder, thus rigidly securing the casing to the bag frame.

In operation, if the parts are for instance in their locked position shown in Figure 3, and it is desired to open the bag, the cap 16 is moved by hand from its position shown in Figure 3 into the position shown in Figure 4; on account of its connection with the cap 16 by means of the studs 30 sliding in the openings 32 of casing 28, the latch plate 33 will be compelled to participate in the movement of the cap, and its flange 36 will move out of engagement with the slot or recess 26 of the keeper element 25, and the latch 35 constituted by the flange will be in

its open position. These movements are clearly indicated by the arrows in Figures 3 and 4. It will be evident that any lateral movement of the latch plate 33 will be positively prevented by the spring 40. The closing and locking of the bag will be effected in a similar manner by the displacement of the cap 16 on its base-plate 21 in the opposite direction, as indicated by the arrow in Figure 4.

This simple but effective device has all of its parts concealed and protected within the moving cap so that tampering is not possible and the moving parts are concealed and protected against the influences of the weather, thus prolonging the usefulness of the latch fastener for traveling bags beyond the ordinary period.

Although the foregoing is descriptive of the preferred embodiment of the invention, it will be apparent that minor changes may be made in its construction without the exercise of invention or conflicting with the scope of the claims hereto appended.

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

1. A latch fastener for traveling bags comprising a movable cap, a base-plate on said bag on which said cap slides, a keeper adapted to enter said cap laterally, a stationary frame in said cap secured to said bag for guiding said cap and limiting its movements, studs on said cap, passing through said frame, a locking member within said frame secured to said studs to participate in the movements of said cap for engaging said keeper or being disengaged therefrom, and a means within said frame for preventing lateral displacement of said locking member within said frame.

2. A latch fastener for bags comprising an inverted movable cap having depending side flanges, one of said flanges recessed, means for guiding said cap on the bag, a keeper on said bag adapted to enter the recess of the cap flange, and means concealed within said cap adapted to engage said keeper and to be disengaged therefrom by the movements of said cap to lock and unlock the bag.

3. A latch fastener for bags comprising a cap, means for holding and guiding said cap on one of the frame members of said bag, said cap adapted to receive a keeper secured to the other frame member of the bag, a latch plate having depending lateral flanges, one adapted to engage said keeper and be disengaged therefrom, means within said cap to connect said latch plate and said cap, a stationary casing within said cap in which said latch plate is displaceable, and a spring in said casing adapted to engage said latch plate for ensuring a positive locking and unlocking movement of said plate.

4. A latch fastener for bags comprising a

movable cap on top of one of the frame members, a keeper having a recess secured to the other frame member of said bag and adapted to enter said cap, a perforated stationary
5 frame in said cap, prongs at the ends of said frame adapted to engage the frame member of said bag to which the cap is secured, studs within said cap passed through the perforations of said frame, a locking
10 plate secured to the inner ends of said studs to participate in the movements of said cap, depending flanges on the lateral edges of said plate, one of said flanges constituting a latch adapted to engage in the recess of said keeper and to be disengaged therefrom, said
15 locking plate having a V-shaped recess in one of its edges, a spring secured to the frame and having a V-shaped free upper end adapted to engage said V-recess in the locking position of said plate and a bevelled
20 face on said plate above said recess in the unlocked position for preventing lateral displacement of said plate in either position.

This specification signed this 26th day of May, 1924.

WILLIAM A. LOTZ.