H. VARNUM.
LOOK FOR MAIL BAGS.
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Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Witnesses

Henry Varnum, Inventor

by C. Snow, Attorneys

COLUMBIA PHOTOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY VARNUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Duval and State of Florida, have invented a new and useful Lock for Mail-Sacks, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject-matter of this application is adapted to be employed for applying a pad-lock or other fastening, to the cords which are attached to mail bags or the like, the construction being such that the mail bag or other article cannot be opened without unfastening the pad-lock or cutting the cord.

The primary function of the device herein disclosed is to hold the ends of a cord together, securely, so that the ends of the cord may be retained by a pad-lock or the like.

The invention aims to provide a device of this type in which a pair of cooperating parts are so constructed as to prevent an unwinding of the cord from one part.

A further object of the invention is to provide a means of preventing the cord from being slid endwise off the other part.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 shows the invention in perspective applied to a mail bag; Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the device; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section thereof; Fig. 4 is a perspective of the cap; and Fig. 5 is a perspective of the base.

The invention includes, as constituent parts, a base 1 and a cap 2, the base and the cap preferably being of rectangular contour. Projecting from one of the constituent parts of the structure, preferably from the base 1, is a lock holder, in the form of an eye 3, the eye 3 being adapted to pass through an opening 4 in the cap 2. The cap 2 is provided along certain of its edges with projecting, oppositely disposed flanges 5, adapted to overlap the edges 6 of the base 1, the flanges 5 being spaced from the edges 6 of the base 1, as indicated at 7, to provide for the insertion of the cord, as will be set forth hereinafter. The base 1 is supplied along others of its edges, with projecting, oppositely disposed flanges 8, adapted to overlap the edges 9 of the cap 2. The flanges 8 of the base 1 are terminally extended, as shown at 10, to overlap the ends 11 of the flanges 5 of the cap 2. Upon the inner face of the base 1 there are spaced ribs 12, extended at right angles to the flanges 8, and upon the inner faces of the flanges 8 there are ribs 14, located approximately parallel to the base 1. Extended longitudinally of the cap 2, upon the under face thereof, are spaced ribs 15.

In practical operation, a cord 16 is assembled with the mail bag or other article 17, in the usual manner, the ends of the cord being wound about the base 1, parallel to the flanges 8, any desired number of convolutions being passed about the base 1. The cap 2 is then superposed upon the base 1, the eye 3 passing through the opening 4, a lock 18 or other fastening means being extended through the projecting portion of the eye, as indicated in Fig. 1. Owing to the fact that the flanges 8 of the base 1 extend across the ends of the cap 2, the convolutions of the cord 16 which surround the base 1 cannot be slid endwise off the base, thereby permitting an opening of the mail bag 17. Owing to the fact that the flanges 5 of the cap 2 overlap the side faces 6 of the base 1, it is impossible to secure a straight pull upon the cord 16, whereby the cord may be withdrawn from between the base 1 and the cap 2. Since the ends of the flanges 8 of the base 1 overlap the end faces 11 of the flanges 5 of the cap 2, it will be impossible to insert a wire or the like within the cap 2, parallel to the flanges 5, for the purpose of displacing any of the convolutions of the cord 16, whereby the base 1 is surrounded. The ribs 14 upon the flanges 8 obviously aid in preventing a displacement of the cord 16 from the base 1. The ribs 15 of the cap 2 cooperate with the ribs 12 of the cap 2, and thus a series of kinks are formed in the cord 16, preventing an endwise withdrawal of the cord. The ribs 15 of the cap 2 lie upon opposite sides of the opening 4, and the cap is thus reinforced, to offset the weakening incident to the formation of the opening 4.
Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described comprising as constituent parts, a base and a cap, one of which parts is provided with an eye, the other of which parts is provided with an opening to receive the eye, the cap having projecting flanges along certain of its opposite edges, overlapping certain of the edges of the base but spaced therefrom to provide for the passage of a cord, the base having projecting flanges along others of its opposite edges, overlapping other edges of the cap, the flanges of the base being terminally extended beyond the base to overlap the ends of the flanges of the cap, the being cord-holding ribs upon the adjacent faces of said constituent parts, the ribs of one part being located upon opposite sides of the opening therein, to offset the weakening of said part resulting from the formation of the opening.

2. A device of the class described comprising as constituent parts, a base and a cap, one of which parts is provided with an eye, the other of which parts is provided with an opening to receive the eye, the cap having projecting flanges along certain of its opposite edges, overlapping certain of the edges of the base but spaced therefrom to provide for the passage of a cord, the base having projecting flanges along others of its opposite edges, overlapping other edges of the cap, the flanges of the base being terminally extended beyond the base to overlap the ends of the flanges of the cap.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY VARNUM.

Witnesses:
M. A. BOWLIN,
O. O. EVERS.

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