Lock for Mail Sacks

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Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. MOLONEY, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and resident of the city of Toronto, county of York, Province of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Lock for Mail Sacks, as described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings that form part of the same.

The principal objects of the invention are, to effectively lock the rope tying the sack and seal the lock so that the mail contained therein cannot be tampered with.

A further object is to devise a form of fastener of very simple construction which will be strong and durable and may be used with any form of sack and which can be furnished at moderate cost.

The principal features of the invention consist in the novel construction and arrangement of parts, whereby the sack rope is gripped and held securely by a pivotal gripping member loosely mounted on the pivotal lock carrying member and whereby the key orifice of the lock is effectively covered by a seal which may be easily and quickly removed by authorized persons.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved sack lock shown in the closed position.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the lock shown open.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the pivotal rope jamming member showing its arrangement on the lock member.

Figure 4 is a transverse section of the lock through the pivot, the parts being in the position as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a longitudinal sectional and part elevational view of the lock.

In the use of locks for mail sacks there are two very important features to be considered. First, the importance of fastening the ropes so that they cannot be loosened to allow entrance to the sack and the other important feature is to provide for the securing of the lock against it being opened by unauthorized persons.

In the accomplishment of this result the present invention has been devised to cover both features.

The bottom section 1 is here shown formed up of sheet metal and having a pair of side lugs 2 and a closing end lug 3, the latter having holes 4 through which the rope is rove.

Immediately inside the lug 3 and between the side lugs 2 is arranged a block 5 over which the rope passes.

A pivot pin 6 extends between the upper portions of the side lugs and on this pin is pivotally mounted a loop shaped member 7, the cross bar 8 of which is adapted to engage and jam against the rope 9.

The lock case 10 is formed of sheet metal having end lugs 11 pivotally mounted on the pivot pin 6, said lugs projecting laterally at each side of the pivotal end of the case and having the recesses 12 to receive the pivotal ends of the loop members 7, said loop member having a certain latitude of swinging movement in the recesses so that when the lock case is swung over the bottom section to the position shown in Figure 1 the forward notch of the side lugs of the case 10 engage the loop member, swinging it downwardly into contact with the rope. The rope is then free to swing further through the limits of the notch so that the harder to lock is pulled the tighter the clamp shaped loop member will jam the rope into contact with the block 5.

A rigid notched pin 13 is secured to the section 1 and is adapted to be engaged by a suitable locking mechanism contained within the case 10 so as to lock the pivotal member down when it has been pressed into place.

The lock is manipulated through a suitable key hole 14 but in order to prevent tampering with the lock a seal is provided. This seal is in the form of a ribbon 15 of a suitable soft metal which extends across the key hole and passes downwardly through the slots 16 in the sides of the case 10. The ends of the ribbon pass under the lock case and extend over a pin 17, being secured on said pin by being perforated thereby.

The perforation of the sealing ribbon is effected by means of a die 18 arranged on the bottom of the case adapted to receive the end of the pin 17 so that when the lock case is closed the pin is forced into the die, cutting through the lead strip or ribbon 15 and thus fastening the seal in place.

The seal effectively closes the key hole so that a key cannot be entered therein or the lock picked without the seal being broken, consequently none but authorized persons

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may open the sack and intermediate persons handing the sack will be held responsible for the security of the seal.

In using the device when the bag is closed the rope is drawn tight. A strip of lead is inserted through the slots 16 so that the portion between the ends covers the key hole. The ends are then brought together over the pin 14. When this has been accomplished the lock case is brought down sharply on to the end portion to force the pin 17 into the die through the ribbon. The back of the section 1 is formed with longitudinal flanges 10 to receive a destination card.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A lock for mail sacks, comprising a member through which the tie ropes are rove, a cam member pivotally mounted on the aforesaid member and adapted to grip the rope, a member pivotally mounted on the aforesaid member adapted to engage and force said cam into gripping contact with the rope, means for locking the latter pivotal member in its closed position, and means for sealing the lock.

2. A lock for mail sacks, comprising, a member through which the tie ropes are rove, a cam member pivotally mounted on the aforesaid member and adapted to grip the rope, a member pivotally mounted on the aforesaid member adapted to engage and force said cam into gripping contact with the rope, means for locking the latter pivotal member to hold the cam in engagement with the ropes, and a ribbon seal extending across the key hole of the locking means and having its ends secured between the aforesaid pivotal members.

3. A lock for mail sacks, comprising, a member through which the tie ropes are rove, a cam member pivotally mounted on the aforesaid member and adapted to grip the rope, a member pivotally mounted on the aforesaid member adapted to engage and force said cam into gripping contact with the rope, means for locking said pivotal members together, a ribbon seal extending across the key hole of the lock and having its ends doubled under the locking member, a die arranged on one pivotal member, and a punch arranged on the other pivotal member adapted to punch through the ends of the ribbon seal to secure it in place.

4. A lock for mail sacks, comprising a sheet metal member having a pair of side lugs, a pivot pin extending between said side lugs, a loop member pivoted on said pivot pin and extending between the lugs, a lock case having a pair of lugs pivoted on said pin, said lugs having recesses to receive the loop allowing it to swing on the pivot pin relatively to the lock case, a transverse obstruction member adapted to co-operate with the cross bar of the lock member to engage and grip the rope, a lock stud rigidly secured in said sheet metal member, a lock in the lock case, adapted to lock on said stud, and means for sealing the lock.

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