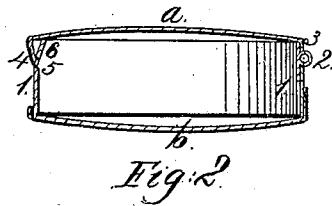
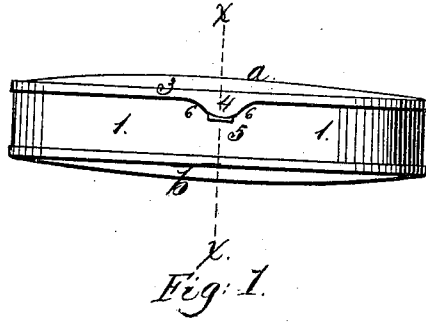


*C. C. Ashley,*  
*Metallic Tobacco Box.*  
*N<sup>o</sup> 44,304. Patented Sep. 20, 1864.*



*Witnesses*

*Thos. Geo. Harrod*

*Chas. H. Smith*

*Inventor:*

*Chas. C. Ashley*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. ASHLEY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO JAMES L. HARLEM, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVED CLASP FOR TOBACCO-BOXES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **44,364**, dated September 20, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. ASHLEY, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a certain new and useful Improvement in Catches for Tobacco-Boxes, Spectacle-Cases, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a box containing my improved catch. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same at the line *x x*.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

The nature of my said invention consists in a catch formed by lengthening the rim or flange of the cover at the point where it is desired to secure the cover or lid to the rim of the box or case, and turning inward the end of said catch on the rim or flange, so as to spring into a hole in the rim of the box or case, after passing over an incline plane running from said hole to the top of the flange. When the cover or lid is closed, the said turned rim or flange travels down the incline plane, springing outward until it meets the hole in the rim of the box or case, when it springs into the said hole, thereby securing the box-lid in place when shut down.

In the drawings, *a* is the cover or lid, *b* is the bottom, and 1 is the rim around the same, with a hinge at 2, the whole forming a box or case of any desired shape or configuration. 3 is the rim of the cover or lid, lengthened at 4 and turned inward at its end. A hole or indentation at 5 is made in the rim 1, and 6 is an incline plane from the edge of 1 to this hole 5.

It will be evident that in order to open said box or case the rim of the box is to be pressed upon at the point where the clasp of the cover or lid takes the hole, and with the other hand to press upward the rim of the lid or cover, when the box will open, and in closing the box it is only necessary to press the lid down to its place, the catch springing to its position.

Having thus described my said improvement, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A clasp for tobacco-boxes, spectacle-cases, &c., formed in the manner described and shown.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature this 2d day of July, 1864.

CHAS. C. ASHLEY.

Witnesses:

THOS. GEO. HAROLD,  
CHAS. H. SMITH.