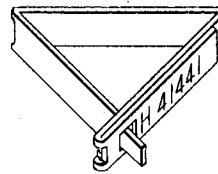
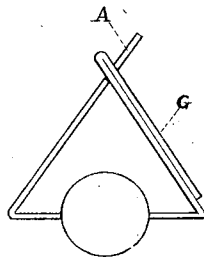
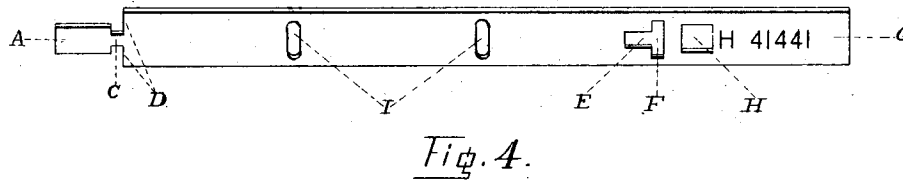
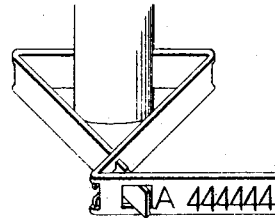
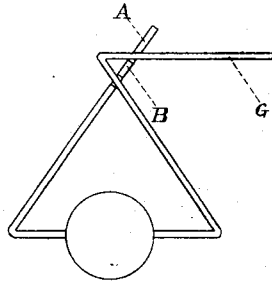
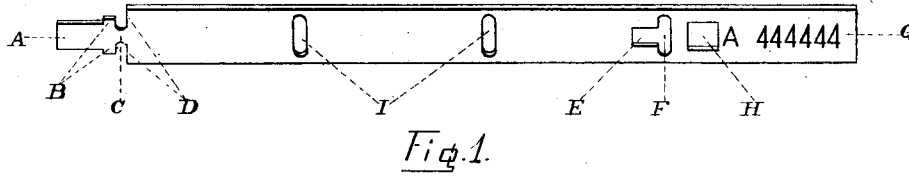


W. K. EDGAR.
SEALING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 3, 1912.

1,064,463.

Patented June 10, 1913.



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SEALING DEVICE.

1,064,463.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 10, 1913.

Application filed September 3, 1912. Serial No. 718,344.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM KERR EDGAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lawrence, in the county of Douglas and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sealing Devices, of which the following, together with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for sealing freight cars, freight and express wagons, and other shipping and storage receptacles and containers which are closed with a door or lid, and fastened with hasp and staple, or hasp, staple and locking-pin, or some similar contrivance; and has for its objects, in addition to the obviation of every kind of auxiliary sealing instrument, simplicity of construction, cheapness of manufacture, ease of application, difficulty or impossibility of repair, etc., the production of a seal that will not break or become dislodged by reason of any motion, bumping or jolting, and having a locker bearing a serial or identification number, and in such a position as to render the latter especially noticeable, and which must be bent through such a considerable angle in opening the seal as will necessitate its severance therefrom, thus serving immediate notice of any tampering therewith.

I accomplish these objects by a device which consists of a single strip of iron or steel, or other suitable metal or material, of such character, quality, size and weight as to be, at once, relatively rigid, bendable and breakable, same being weakened at various points along its length by appropriate cuttings, so as to render it readily bendable, localize the strain of the bends, and insure its severance on being rebent, and having a T-like tongue or head with shoulders at one end, and a T-like opening or slot adjacent the other, adapted to receive and engage said tongue or head, the said slot being flanked by an apron, shutter or locker bearing a serial or an identification number, and provided with an opening to secure said engagement, and for its own anchorage when the strip is bent into sealing position.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device ready for use; Fig. 2 is a view from above or beneath of the device inserted into the key-hole of a locking-pin, and bent into sealed position;

while Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device in place in a locking-pin, and locked. Figs. 4, 5, and 6, represent, in similar order, a modification of the device more especially adapted for sealing shipping and storage receptacles and containers that receive more or less of rough handling or abuse.

The same letters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the various views.

The device is stamped out of a single strip of iron, steel, or other suitable metal or material, and has at one end a T-like head or tongue A, flanked by the lugs B, a neck C, and shoulders D; and at or adjacent the other, a T-shaped opening or slot consisting of the throat E and the mouth F, the latter flanked by a number-bearing apron, shutter or locker G provided with an anchorage hole H, and adapted to receive, engage and secure said tongue or head, one another, while that part of the strip between the neck and slot is divided into approximately equal segments and partially severed by the oblong perforations I, so as to render the strip readily bendable into a triangular loop, localize the strain of the bends, and insure breaking on being rebent.

It will be observed that, at the neck C, and at the extremes of the perforations I, and the mouth F, the cuttings are arcs of very small circles, this being the best expedient yet discovered for localizing the strain of the bends, and slightly rupturing the metal, and insuring severance on rebending.

With the side of the strip bearing the serial or identification number next the operator, the device is inserted into the key-hole of the locking-pin, or other fastening to be sealed, and thrust through until all segments are free of same except the one between the perforations I. The strip is then bent forward at said perforations into a triangular loop, the tongue or head A, inserted into the mouth F, and the neck C, thrust down into the throat E. The shutter or locker G, is then bent backward over the projecting part of the tongue A, the latter entering the opening H, and down until stopped by the lugs B, thus leaving the locker G, with the seal's identification number in prominent relief; and, since the opening H, fits rather snugly over the projecting tongue A, securely anchoring it there, an operation which results in engaging the otherwise free ends of the loop and securing

them, and exposing the number to plain, even obtrusive view, where it and all other parts will remain until the seal is broken by the reversal of this process, or in some other way or some other point. The resulting seal, it will be observed, is really a double seal. That is to say, unless the device is first broken or severed at some point or angle other than the angle of engagement, it will ordinarily require at least two breakings of same in order to unseal and remove it, one at the extremes of the mouth F, and another at one of the angles or perforations I; for the strip has been so weakened at all said points as to insure its breaking and parting thereat on being straightened or rebent.

The modified form shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, differs from the parent form only in that the tongue A, is without lugs so as to permit the locker G, to be doubled clear down upon the adjacent leg of the triangle, and in that the cuttings at the neck C, and at the extremes of the mouth F, are square instead of circular, and about 3/64 of an inch from the edges, so as to prevent extreme localization of the strain of the bend at said mouth, and permit of this doubling without fracturing or rupturing the metal or other material of which the seal may be made. The resulting seal, shown in perspective in Fig. 6, will stand almost any kind of rough handling or abuse without breaking or becoming dislodged, while it will necessarily break on being opened or unsealed.

It is, of course, understood that other modifications might be resorted to, but without materially departing from the spirit, scope and purpose of my invention, sacrificing any of its advantages, or resulting in anything but substantial equivalents.

I am aware that, prior to this invention, seals have been made of strips of such material, with bending and breaking points determined by partial severance, and having their ends engaged by the insertion of a T-like head into a T-like slot, and secured by bending a shutter across said head; but the things that are new in this device are the head or tongue with lugs at its base, and the relatively long shutter or locker bearing the serial or identification number, and provided with an opening adjacent the slot to fit over the projecting end of said tongue, and for the double purpose of anchoring said locker in place, and making it neces-

sary to rebend said locker through a considerable angle in order to release it, or any other part of the engagement. The circular character of the cuttings at the extremes of the perforations I, in both types of seal shown; and the circular cuttings shown in Fig. 1, at the neck C, and at the extremes of the mouth F, for the purpose of determining and controlling the nature and extent of the weakening at those points, are also new.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In a sealing device substantially as specified, a strip of material bent into an angular loop, same being weakened at each bend by partial severance, and having its ends intersectionally engaged by the insertion of a T-like tongue, at one, into a T-like slot flanked by a locker provided with an opening adjacent said slot, at the other, and secured by bending said locker down as far as possible over the projecting end of said tongue, the latter entering and fitting into said opening.

2. A strip of material bent into an angular loop, same being partially severed at each bend by an oblong perforation, and having its ends intersectionally engaged by the insertion of a T-like tongue with shoulders, at one, into a T-like slot flanked by a number-bearing locker provided with an opening adjacent said slot, at the other, and secured by bending said locker down as far as possible over the projecting end of said tongue, the latter entering and fitting snugly into said opening.

3. A strip of metal bent into a triangular loop, same being partially severed and weakened at each angle by an oblong perforation with circular extremes, and having its ends intersectionally engaged by the insertion of a T-like tongue with lugs at its base, at one, into a T-like slot flanked by a number-bearing locker provided with an opening adjacent said slot, at the other, and secured by bending said locker down as far as possible over the projecting end of said tongue, the latter entering and fitting snugly into said opening.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM KERR EDGAR.

Witnesses:

W. BROMELSICK,
MARY C. SWEENEY.