

D. M. READ.
POCKET-BOOK FASTENING.

No. 171,859.

Patented Jan. 4, 1876.

Fig. 1

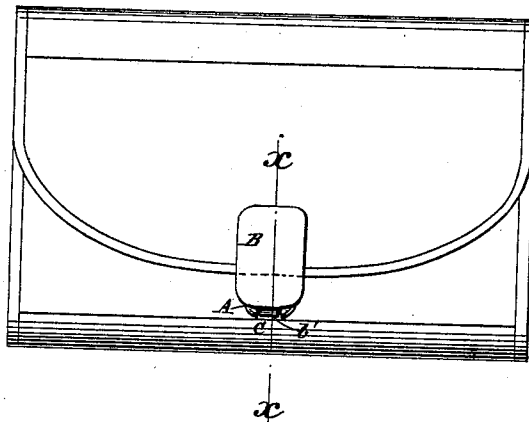


Fig. 2

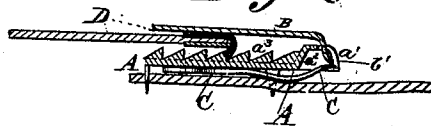
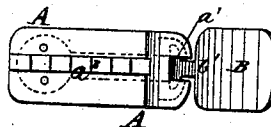


Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN POCKET-BOOK FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 171,859, dated January 4, 1876; application filed July 24, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL M. READ, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Adjustable Fastener for Pocket-Books, &c., of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved fastener, shown as applied to a pocket-book. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the same, shown as detached and open.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention is an improvement in a well-known class of pocket-book fasteners; and relates to the ratchet or toothed plate and hook or claw for engaging the same adjustably, as hereinafter described.

A is the lower plate of the fastener, which is made with points or claws upon its edge to be passed through the pocket-book, or any article to which it is to be applied, and bent down and clinched. In the rear end of the plate A is formed a slot, *a*¹, to receive the neck of a stem, *b*¹, formed upon the rear end of the top or cap plate B, the head of which stem works in a recess, *a*², formed in the under side of the rear end of the plate A, so as to hinge the plate B to the plate A. C is a spring placed beneath the plate A. The forward end of the spring C is widened, and is secured to the forward part of the plate A by one or more rivets, and its rear or free

end presses against the head of the stem of the top plate B, so as to hold said plate B in place, both when closed and when open. Upon the middle part of the upper side of the plate A, and in one piece therewith, is formed a longitudinal rib, upon which are formed a number of ratchet-teeth *a*³, upon which the catch D takes hold. The jaw of the catch D is formed with a notch to receive the toothed rib *a*³, so that the said catch cannot get out of place laterally. The catch D is held down upon the teeth, *a*³ by the plate B, so that it cannot be drawn back or unfastened without first raising the said plate B, but may be pushed forward freely to draw the pocket-book or other article closer together. The entire fastening is thus made of four pieces—the plates A B, the spring C, and the catch D.

I do not claim a hinged-spring cap-plate for confining the flap of a pocket-book, such combination being old and in common use.

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

The pocket-book fastening consisting of the plate A, having the longitudinal rib provided with ratchet-teeth, the hook-shaped catch D, and spring cap-plate B, all constructed and arranged as shown and described.

DANIEL M. READ.

Witnesses:

JAMES T. GRAHAM,
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