

A. RICHARDSON.

No. 122,060.

Improvement in Vault-Cover Lock.

Patented Dec. 19, 1871.

(93.)

Fig. 1.

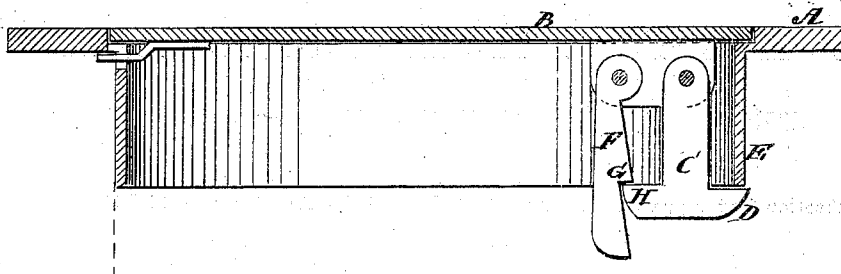
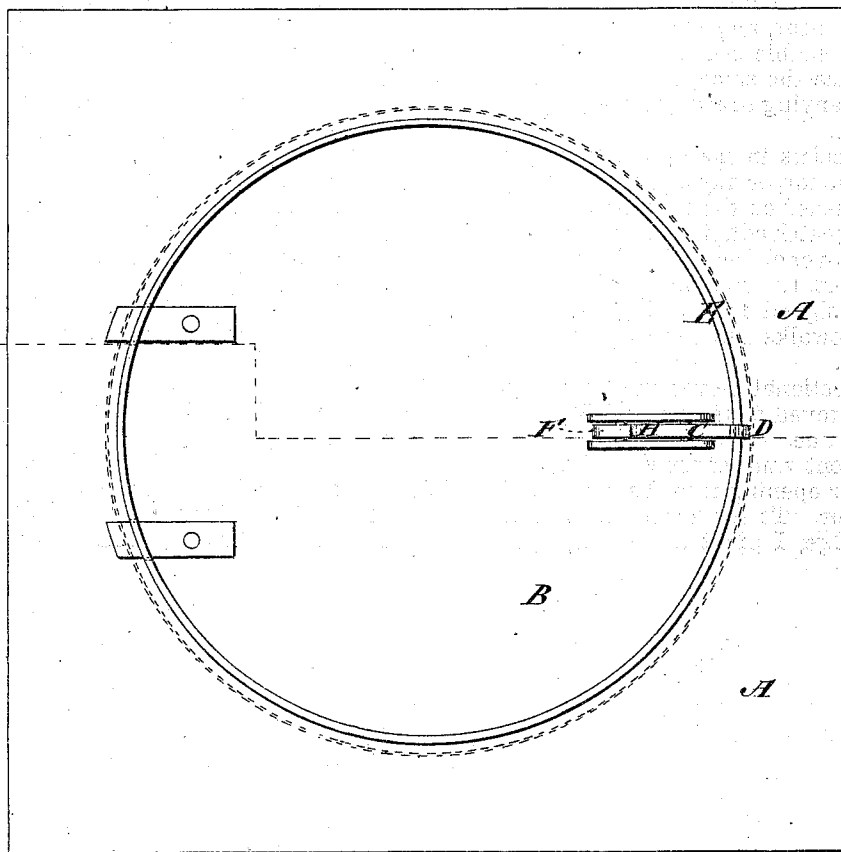


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW RICHARDSON, OF NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN VAULT-COVER LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 122,060, dated December 19, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW RICHARDSON, of New Brunswick, in the county of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Automatic Trap-Door and Vault-Cover Lock; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

My invention consists in the application to a vault-cover or trap-door, or any like cover or top requiring to be fastened on the outside, of an automatically-locking catch adapted to be locked by gravity when the cover or door is let down. The said improved automatic fastenings or locks are more especially designed for locking the coal-vault covers in sidewalks and the trap-doors on the roofs of houses.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of a vault-cover with my improved fastening, and Fig. 2 is a top view of the same.

A is the permanent vault-cover with the ordinary round hole for opening into the vault, and B the cover therefor. To the lower side of this cover, near one edge, I pivot a T-catch, C, so

that one end, D, will swing under the flange E of the permanent cover A, or other permanent stop, to lock the cover B; and to prevent it from tilting and swinging from under said flange or other stop I provide a swinging locking-catch, F, with a notch, G, arranged to engage the arm H of the catch C as soon as said catch comes to a vertical position by the swinging of arm D under the flange E. This catch F also hangs from the cover B, and takes effect in locking catch C by the action of gravity, which also maintains it, as well as the catch C, in the locked condition, and makes it impossible to raise the cover at the upper side until the catch F is lifted off from H by hand.

This simple contrivance is less expensive than the chains commonly used, besides being altogether better.

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

The pivoted catches C D H and F G, constructed and applied to a vault-cover, A B E, as and for the purpose described.

ANDREW RICHARDSON.

Witnesses:

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