No. 677,895. Patented July 9, 1901.

H. A. SKINNER.

KEYLESS TOY BANK.

(Application filed July 6, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

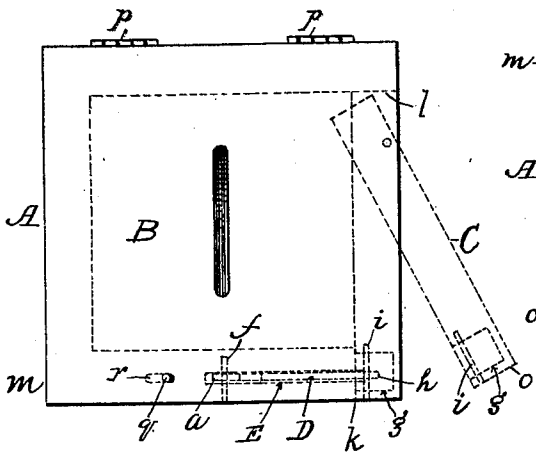


Fig. 2.

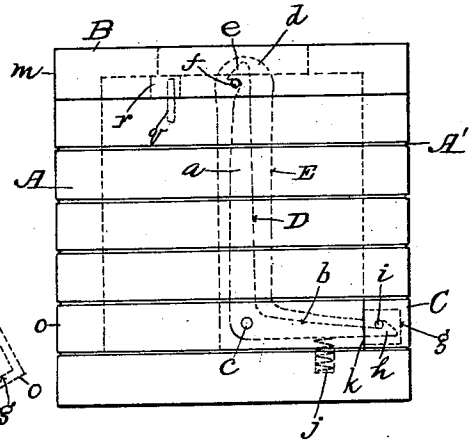


Fig. 3.

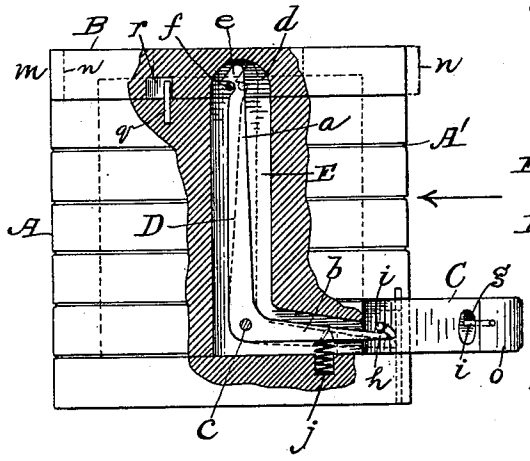
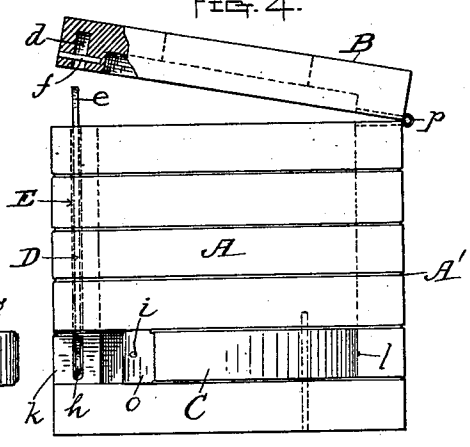


Fig. 4.



Witnesses;

W. B. Nourse.

E. N. Barker.

Inventor;

Henry A. Skinner.

By A. A. Barker. Atty.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY A. SKINNER, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE HUNTEX COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

KEYLESS TOY BANK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 677,895, dated July 9, 1901.

Application filed July 6, 1900. Serial No. 22,722. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY A. SKINNER, of the city and county of Worcester, in the State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Keyless Toy Banks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a top or plan view of my said improved keyless toy bank. Fig. 2 is a front side view thereof. Fig. 3 is also a front side view with part of the front broken away to show the keyless locking mechanism of the bank; and Fig. 4 is a side view, partly in section, looking in the direction of the arrow in Fig. 3.

The object of my invention is to provide a toy bank for children which may be locked by a concealed spring-latch device without the use of a key and which may also be used as a puzzle by older people in unlocking the same.

Said invention consists of a box having a hinged cover and a pivoted small door combined with a concealed pivoted spring-latch adapted to engage with said cover and door to hold both closed and locked and which may be unlocked by first springing the cover to one side, so as to operate the spring-latch to release the door and allow it to be swung out, and the cover then released to permit its being opened by pressing edgewise in a downward direction against the lower outer end of the spring-latch, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order that others may better understand the nature and purpose of my said invention, I will now proceed to describe it more in detail.

In the drawings, A represents the box, which constitutes the body of the bank. B is the cover thereof, and C the pivoted small door previously alluded to. It is preferable to form horizontal lines A′ on the outside of said box by marking or grooving the surface thereof, and also to make the pivoted door C the width of one of the sections between said horizontal markings in order to conceal as much as possible that said door is designed to open. The pivoted spring-latch D is also concealed in a channel E, formed in the front wall of the box A. Said spring-latch is provided with a long vertical arm *a* and a shorter horizontal arm *b* and is pivoted to a pin *c* at the juncture of said arms. The arm *a* projects above the wall of the box into a recess *d*, formed in the cover, when said cover is closed and is provided with a hook *e*, adapted to engage with a pin *f*, extending across said recess *d* in the cover, and the arm *b* also projects outside of the wall of the box into a recess *g*, formed in the pivoted door C, when said door is closed and is also, like the arm *a*, provided with a hook *h*, which engages with a pin *i*, extending across said recess *g* in said door. When in their normal positions with the cover and door closed and locked, the hooked ends *e h* of the spring-latch are engaged with their respective holding-pins *f* and *i*, as is shown by full lines in Fig. 3 and dotted lines in Fig. 2. They are thus held in engagement by the spiral spring *j* until forcibly disengaged, said spiral spring *j* being arranged in this instance under the short arm *b* and held in position in a suitable recess in the bottom of the box. Being thus closed and locked by means entirely concealed from external view, the bank apparently has no way provided for unlocking and opening the same, the only points indicating that the box is not made tight below the cover being the joints *k l* at the ends of the narrow door C, the horizontal joints being concealed by the recessed lines A′, previously referred to.

To open the bank, the forefinger of the left hand is placed against the front corner of the side edge of the cover B at *m* and the thumb against the opposite side of the box below said cover. By now pressing with the forefinger against the edge of the cover the latter is sprung toward the right, as is indicated by dotted lines *n*, Fig. 3, thereby causing the pin *f* to force the hooked end *e* of the spring-latch D toward the right, also and in consequence moving the hooked end *h* thereof down out of engagement with its pin *i* in the door C, which being released may now be swung out, as is indicated in Figs. 1, 3, and 4, by pressing outward on the end *o* with the thumb of the right hand, in opening the box the

thumb of the right hand being placed over said end *o* with the fingers over the opposite or rear side of the box. The door C having been released, as above described, the side pressure on the cover is removed; but as the spring *j* is still pressing upward on the arm *b* of the latch D its upper hooked end is also still kept in engagement with the holding-pin *f* of the cover, and to disengage said parts the hooked end *h* of the latch is forced down, when the cover is unlocked and may then be raised, as is indicated in Fig. 4.

In order that the cover B may be sprung to one side, as aforesaid, the hinges P thereof are in practice made sufficiently loose-jointed to admit of said lateral motion. Being thus loosely fitted, it is preferable to provide means for holding the cover when closed independent of the latch D and pin *f;* but I do not limit myself thereto. In this instance I have shown it as being thus fastened by means of a vertical pin *q*, projecting up from box A into a recess *r*, formed in the cover, said recess being oblong in shape, as is shown in Fig. 1, to permit the cover being sprung to one side, as previously described. The door C is in this instance shown as coming at the bottom of one side of the box A; but, if preferred, it may be arranged to come at any other desired point on said box, the spring-latch D of course being made of the proper size and shape to conform therewith.

I reserve the right to make such modifications in the construction and arrangement of the various parts of my improved toy bank as may be desired, coming within the scope of my invention.

A device constructed as hereinbefore described, it is obvious, may be used not only as a toy bank for children, but also a puzzle and means of amusement for older people, the concealed mechanism for locking the device when closed making it very mystifying and difficult to unlock and open the same when thus closed, many who have attempted to unlock and open it being unsuccessful after long and continued efforts.

Having now described my invention, what I claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A box, having a hinged cover and a pivoted small door, in combination with a concealed, pivoted, spring-latch adapted to engage with said cover and door to hold both closed and locked, and which may be unlocked by first springing the cover to one side so as to operate said spring-latch to release the door and allow it to be swung out, and the cover then released to permit its being opened by pressing edgewise in a downward direction against the lower, outer end of the spring-latch, substantially as set forth.

HENRY A. SKINNER.

Witnesses:
FRANK W. EDDY,
A. A. BARKER.