G. A. SOFIELD.

Trunk Fastener.

No. 230,827. Patented Aug. 3, 1880

Fig. 1

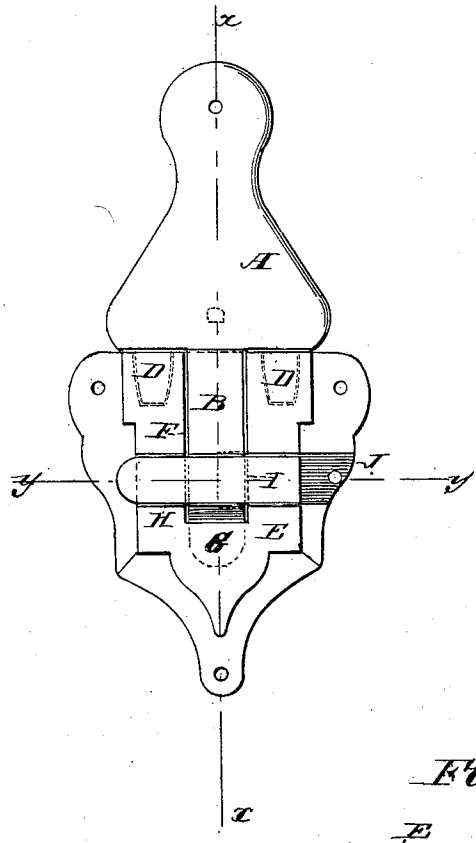


Fig. 2.

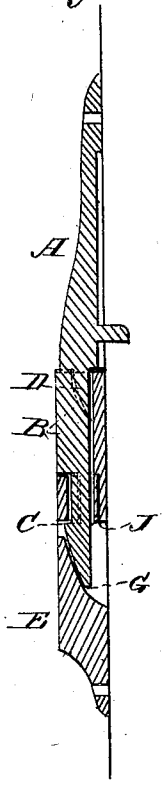


Fig 3.

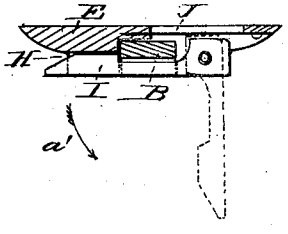
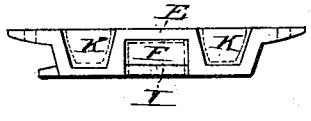


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. SOFIELD, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

TRUNK-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 230,827, dated August 3, 1880.

Application filed January 30, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. SOFIELD, of Jersey City, Hudson county, State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Trunk-Bolt, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved trunk-bolt which is simple in construction and effective in use.

The invention consists in the combination, with a bolt-tongue having a transverse groove, of a socket provided with a longitudinal groove to receive the said bolt and with a transverse groove containing a spring-latch fitting into it and catching into the transverse groove of the bolt-tongue.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my improved trunk-bolt. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same on the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a horizontal cross-sectional view on the line *y y*, Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a top view of the socket.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The bolt A is provided with a central tongue, B, beveled at the end, and having a transverse groove, C, at the end of the bevel, and with two beveled studs, D D, at the sides of the central tongue, B.

The socket E is provided with a central longitudinal groove, F, terminating in a beveled pocket, G, with the beveled recesses K for receiving the studs D D, and with a transverse groove, H, containing a pivoted latch, I, fitting into the said groove and acted upon by the spring J.

The transverse groove C in the tongue B and the transverse groove H of the socket E are so arranged as to be in a straight line when the tongue rests in its corresponding groove F in the socket E.

The operation is as follows: If the bolt is locked, as shown in the drawings, the same is opened by turning the spring-latch in the direction of the arrow *a'*, thereby releasing the tongue B and permitting the same to be drawn out of the groove F. If the trunk is to be locked the bolt is turned back into the position shown in the drawings, and as the lid of the trunk closes the tongue passes into the groove F. The beveled forward end of the tongue raises the latch I, which then drops into the groove C, adjoining the bevel, and thereby locks the tongue. The tongue can also be passed into the groove F with the latch I open, which may be closed afterward.

The beveled projections D D and the beveled forward end of the tongue B guide and hold the tongue B against the back of the socket, so that the spring J need only have sufficient strength to keep the latch in place, and need not press the tongue against the back of the socket.

A bolt made as herein described can easily be locked or unlocked without any exertion, and cannot get out of order or project beyond the surface of the trunk.

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

The bolt A, having tongue B, with grooved bevel end and a beveled stud, D, at each side of tongue, in combination with the socket E, having a central longitudinal groove, F, terminating in a pocket, G, the two beveled recesses K, the transverse groove H, and the spring J and latch I, all constructed and arranged substantially as shown and described.

GEORGE A. SOFIELD.

Witnesses:

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