To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John P. Reily, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hinges for Beer-Cases, of which the following is a specification containing a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention relates to hinges for beer-cases; and the object of my invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive hinge which is particularly adapted for all manner of boxes, trunks, and chests wherein the lids swing entirely over against and into a plane parallel with the wall of the box to which the hinge is fixed.

By my improved construction of hinges the lids to which they are fixed can be swung all the way back without pulling out the retaining-screws of the hinges or breaking the lids.

To the above purposes, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more clearly set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a box equipped with my improved hinge and showing the lid thereof swung rearwardly and downwardly into a plane parallel with the back of the box. Fig. 2 is a detail section of the upper rear corner of a box and showing my improved hinge thereupon in side elevation. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a sliding tongue that is carried by the hinge member that is secured to the box-lid. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper portion of the hinge member that is secured to the box. Fig. 6 is a detail section taken on the line 6 6 of Fig. 1.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawings, 1 indicates the back of a box or beer-case, and 2 the lid or cover thereof, which cover is usually provided with one or more cleats 3, that extend transversely across the top of said cover.

4 designates the hinge member which is secured to the back of the box or case 1, which member comprises a metallic plate, preferably constructed of suitable sheet metal and having a portion near its top end bent rearwardly, as indicated by 5, and a portion 6, integral with this portion 5, being doubled back beneath the portion 5, as indicated by 6, thus forming a very stiff plate extending laterally at right angles to the body of the member 4 and which is adapted to occupy a suitably-formed notch 7 in the top edge of the rear wall 1 of the box. The body of the member 4 is secured to the wall 1 by means of screws 8 or in any suitable manner. The center of the rearwardly-bent portion 5 is bent upwardly, as indicated by 9, to form a slot or bearing 10, and corresponding elongated slots 11 are formed through the side edges of the part 5 in alinement with this bearing 10.

Formed through the upper portion of the member 4 immediately beneath the front one of the slots 11 is a short slot 12.

The hinge member that is secured to the lid or cover of the box comprises a plate 13, preferably formed of sheet metal, it being secured to the under side of the cover by means of screws 14 or in any suitable manner, and said plate extends a slight distance beyond the rear edge of the cover, and this extended portion is bifurcated and formed into a pair of horizontally-aligned circular loops 15.

A sliding tongue or plate 16, preferably constructed of sheet metal, is provided at its rear end with a loop 17, which is positioned between the loops 15 and is held therein by means of the hinge-pin 18. This tongue or plate 16 is of such width that it snugly fits within and readily slides through the bearing 10, formed between the parts 5 and 9, and said tongue slides through the apertures 11 at the ends of said bearing. The forward end of this plate is bent vertically downward, as indicated by 19, and formed integral with the lower end of said downwardly-bent portion is the laterally-bent hook 20, that is adapted to engage in the slot 12 when the cover is swung open and into a vertical plane parallel with the wall 1.

When the various parts of my improved hinge are properly assembled and secured in operative position upon a box or similar receptacle and the lid or cover of said box is closed, the loops 15 and 17 are located immediately against the upper rear edge of the rear wall of the box, and this position necessarily brings the forward portion of the tongue...
or plate 16 forward a slight distance in front of the member 4.

When the lid or cover is swung open, the loops 15 of the plate 13 swing upon the hinge-pin 18, which is held in the loop 17 of the tongue or plate 16. When the lid or cover is swung far enough over so that the rear corners of the reinforcing-cleats 3 bear against the rear face of the rear wall 1, the tongue or plate 16 will then commence to slide rearwardly, so as to allow the lid or cover and the cleats carried thereby to swing downwardly into planes parallel with the rear wall 1. Thus the hinge-pin 18 moves rearwardly to accommodate the thickness of the cleats and the cover as the same swing downwardly against the rear wall 1, and when so positioned the downwardly-bent end 19 of the plate 16 engages against the face of the member 4 and the hook 20 engages in the slot 12, and thus very firmly retains the plate or tongue in proper position and receives and distributes any strain that may be brought upon the plate or tongue 16 resulting from the engagement of the lid or cover with the floor or an article lying thereupon.

If desired, screw-holes 8* may be formed through the ends of the parts 5 and 6 to receive screws in rigidly fixing the member 4 to the box.

My improved hinge is particularly adapted for all manner of beer-cases, boxes, trunks, and chests, and by its use the lids of such receptacles, which are usually provided with reinforcing-slats, can be swung downwardly into vertical planes parallel with the backs of said receptacles.

My improved hinge is simple, inexpensive, easily applied for use, and provides very simple means whereby the lids and covers of boxes and the like are connected to said boxes, so that they can swing to the limit of movement thereon.

I claim—

1. A hinge for beer-cases, and the like, constructed with a pair of plates, one of said plates having a bearing formed in the upper end thereof, and having a slot formed in said plate below the bearing, a tongue hinged to the opposite plate and arranged to slide through the bearing, said tongue having an integral hook adapted to enter the slot, substantially as specified.

2. In a hinge of the class described, a plate, a tongue hinged to one end thereof, a second plate having one end bent at right angles to the body portion thereof and having a transverse loop formed in said bent end through which the tongue slides, and the end of the tongue opposite the hinged end being bent at right angles to the body portion of said tongue, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN P. REILY.

Witnesses:
M. P. SMITH,
E. M. HARRINGTON.