

No. 648,565.

E. S. JONES.
CAR SEAL.

Patented May 1, 1900.

(Application filed May 8, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

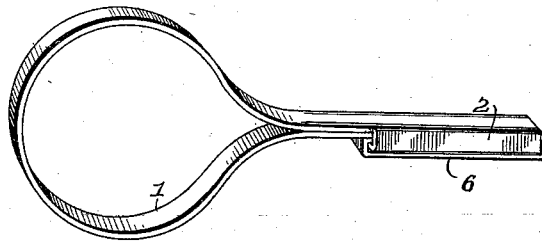


Fig. 2.

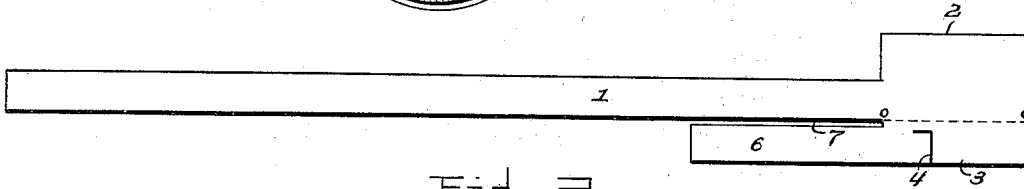


Fig. 3

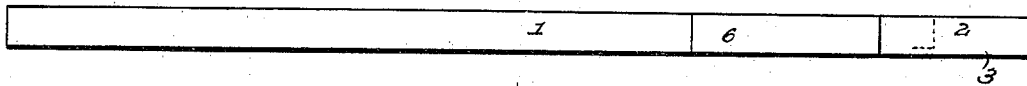


Fig. 4

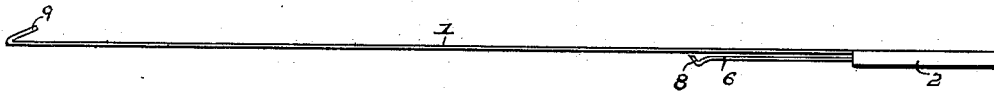


Fig. 6

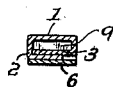


Fig. 5.

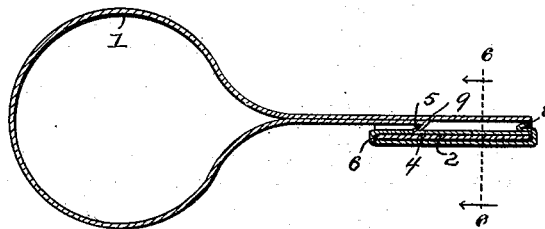
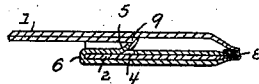


Fig. 7



Witnesses.

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By his Attorneys,

E. S. Jones Inventor.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN S. JONES, OF DE WITT, IOWA.

CAR-SEAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,565, dated May 1, 1900.

Application filed May 6, 1899. Serial No. 715,899. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN S. JONES, a citizen of the United States, residing at De Witt, in the county of Clinton, State of Iowa, have invented a new, improved, and useful Railway-Freight-Car-Door Seal, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to seals for car-doors and the like, and has for one object to provide an improved device which may be readily applied to the staple or keeper of a lock and which is destroyed or damaged by the opening of the door, so as to effectually indicate that the latter has been previously opened.

A further object is to form the seal from a single blank of pliable metal and without the employment of any separate parts, so that there may be no danger of looseness or loss of such parts and also to permit of a plurality of seals being packed in a comparatively small space for storage or transportation and finally to provide for the convenient folding of the blank into a completed seal when it is desired to apply the latter to a lock.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a seal constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank from which the seal is formed. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank partly folded in the formation of the seal. Fig. 4 is an edge elevation of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of the completed seal. Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 6 6 of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a detail sectional view similar to Fig. 5 and showing the outer end of the pocket pressed together to secure the free end of the tongue.

Corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings are designated by like characters of reference.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates the blank from which the seal is formed, which comprises a flat strap of pliable metal having at one end the laterally-projecting wings 2 and 3. These wings are substantially oblong in shape and project in opposite directions from the opposite longitudinal edges of the strap and form a substantially-square end therefor. The wing 3 is provided with a substantially L-shaped incision 4, which extends inwardly from the outer edge of the wing and then toward the opposite end of the strap, so as to form a spring-tongue 5, which is bent outwardly from the wing. At the inner end of the wing 3 there is provided a longitudinally-disposed tongue 6, which is formed by a continuation of the wing and is separated from the adjacent longitudinal edge of the strap by means of a longitudinal slot or incision 7. The free extremity of this tongue is bent into a substantially V-shaped catch 8, which projects at one side of the tongue and in a direction opposite to that of the lip 5. To form this blank into a completed seal, the wing 3 is bent inwardly and folded along the dotted line O O, so as to overlap the adjacent side of the strap, and then the opposite wing 2 is bent inwardly upon the same side of the strap, so as to embrace the outer side of the wing 3. As best indicated in Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings, it will be seen that the spring-tongue 5 engages the adjacent inner side of the strap, so as to space the wing 3 therefrom, and the combined wings, together with the adjacent portion of the strap, form a pocket which is open at its opposite ends. The tongue 6 is then bent outwardly across the outer face of the exterior wing 2, and the free end of the tongue is re-bent and inserted into the outer open end of the pocket, so that the spring-catch 8 may frictionally engage the opposite walls of the pocket, and thereby prevent accidental displacement of the tongue while the latter is being secured in place—as, for instance, by striking or otherwise compressing the tongue and the wings against the body of the seal, whereby the tongue cannot be removed without breaking the latter at the bend thereof. By this arrangement the wings 2 and 3 are effectually held together and a strong and durable pocket is formed.

When it is desired to apply the seal to a lock, the free end of the strap is passed through the staple or keeper and then bent rearwardly, so that it may be introduced into the adjacent inner open end of the pocket, which is formed at the opposite end of the strap, the free extremity of the latter having been previously bent upon itself to form a catch 9, which engages with the spring-tongue 5, so as to prevent accidental withdrawal of the free end of the strap. It will now be apparent that to open the door the seal must first be removed, which will result in destroying or damaging both the pocket and the catch 9, which will indicate that the door has been previously opened.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the present seal is formed from a single blank of metal and has no separate parts. Moreover, a plurality of these blanks may be packed in a comparatively small space, so as to facilitate storage and transportation thereof and to provide for conveniently folding the blank when it is desired to complete the seal and apply it to a lock.

Having thus described the invention, I claim—

1. A seal, comprising a strap, provided with a pocket having one or more open ends, and formed by opposite inwardly-folded wings, and a tongue folded to embrace the wings, and having its free end secured within one open end of the pocket, and means for securing the free end of the strap within one open end of the pocket.

2. A seal, comprising a strap, provided with a pocket which is open at its opposite inner and outer ends, and is formed by opposite inwardly-folded wings, and a tongue folded to embrace the wings, and having its free end secured within one of the open ends of the pocket, and means for securing the free end of the strap within the opposite open end of the pocket.

3. A seal, comprising a strap, provided with a pocket, which is formed by opposite in-

wardly-folded wings, and a tongue carried by one of the wings, folded to embrace both of the wings, and having its free end secured within the pocket, and means for securing the free end of the strap within the pocket.

4. A seal comprising a strap, provided with a pocket, which is open at its opposite inner and outer ends, and is formed by opposite inwardly-folded wings, and a tongue carried by the inner end of the inner wing and folded outwardly to embrace both wings, the free end of the tongue being secured within the outer open end of the pocket, and means for securing the free end of the strap within the inner open end of the pocket.

5. A seal, comprising a strap, provided with a pocket, which is open at its opposite ends, and formed by opposite inwardly-folded wings, and a tongue carried at the inner end of the inner wing and folded across the outer side of the outer wing, the free extremity of the tongue being formed into a spring-catch for insertion into the outer open end of the pocket, means for permanently securing the tongue within the pocket, and a fastening device for securing the free end of the strap within the adjacent inner end of the pocket.

6. A blank for a seal, comprising a flat pliable metallic strap, having opposite wings located at one end thereof and projecting outwardly in opposite directions from the respective longitudinal edges of the strap, one of the wings being provided with a substantially L-shaped incision, which extends inwardly from the outer edge of the wing and then toward the opposite end of the strap, the inner end of the latter wing being extended longitudinally toward the opposite end of the strap, to form a tongue, which is separated from the adjacent edge of the strap, by a slot or incision.

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Witnesses:

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