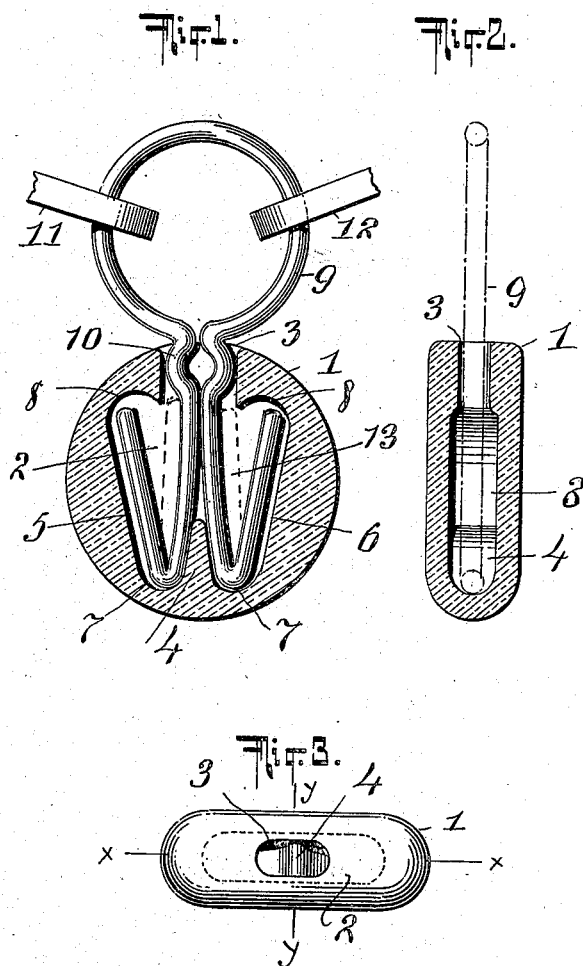


No. 885,634.

PATENTED APR. 21, 1908.

T. E. MURRAY.  
SEAL FASTENING.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 8, 1907.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. MURRAY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## SEAL-FASTENING.

No. 885,634.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 21, 1908.

Application filed October 8, 1907. Serial No. 396,463.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. MURRAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Seal-Fastenings, of which the following is a specification.

The invention is a seal fastening whereby two loops or eyes may be secured together by means of a wire and holding block or "seal body", in such a way as that the ends of the wire cannot be withdrawn from the block after insertion therein.

The object of the invention is, first, to prevent the opening of covers, lids, doors, and generally the separation of any objects which it may be desirable to retain connected, and, second, to prevent the device being used a second time.

The invention consists in the combination of the wire fastening loop having its end portions bent backward in substantially V form with the holding block having an internal cavity so constructed as to form internal abutments for the extremities of said bent back portions and seats for V-shaped parts thereof, whereby withdrawal of the wire from the block is prevented: also in the combinations more particularly set forth in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a vertical section on the line *x x* of Fig. 3. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on the line *y y* of Fig. 3, and Fig. 3 is a top view of my improved seal fastening.

Similar numbers of reference indicate like parts.

The holding block or seal 1 may be made of porcelain or other fictile material and of cylindrical shape. It has an internal recess or cavity 2 with a contracted entrance 3 and is provided opposite to said entrance with an inwardly projecting wedge shaped projection 4. The sides 5, 6, of the recess are inclined toward the projection 4 and between said sides and the sides of the projection are formed curved seats 7, while between said

sides and the inner edges of the entrance are formed shoulders 8.

The fastening wire 9 (dotted lines in Fig. 2) is in loop form and has its end portions turned backwardly and outwardly in substantially V shape. In each standing part of the wire and located between its loop and the extremities of the turned back portions are outwardly bent crimps 10. In Fig. 1, 11 and 12 represent the eyes which are to be retained together by means of the device.

In operation, the turned back portions of the fastening wire which normally spring outward as shown in full lines Fig. 1, are passed through the eyes 11, 12, and are pressed against the standing portions of the wire as shown by the dotted lines 13. The V shaped parts thus formed are then inserted through the entrance 3 into the recess 2, until the apexes of the V's are seated in the seats 7. As soon as the extremities of said V shaped portions clear the inner edges of the entrance they spring outwardly taking the positions shown in full lines Fig. 1, while at the same time the projection 4 entering between the V shaped portions force said portions asunder. The crimps come into place in the entrance 3 and fit therein closely. The extremities of the V shaped portions then abut on the shoulders 8, and are locked in that position by the projection 4, so that it becomes impossible to withdraw the wire from the holding block. A perfectly secure fastening is thus obtained, which can be released only by breaking the holding block or cutting the fastening wire.

It is well known that in fastenings in which the ends of a wire loop are held in a so-called seal, it is often possible to cut the wire and then, after unauthorized access to the sealed chamber or compartment is had, to place a new wire in the holding block, so that no indication of tampering remains. In my present device this cannot be done, because no matter how much the external loop may be cut the V shaped parts inside the holding

block cannot be got out either jointly or singly through the entrance 3, nor can any new wire be put into the block. Hence re-use of the holding block is made impossible.  
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I claim:—

In combination with a wire loop having its end portions turned backward in substantially V shape, a holding block having a  
10 single cavity and a single entrance com-

municating therewith: the said cavity being constructed internally to form seats for the apexes of said V shaped parts and to form abutments for the extremities of said parts.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my  
signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS E. MURRAY.

Witnesses:

GERTRUDE T. PORTER,

J. P. CAMPBELL.