

(No Model.)

G. P. COMBS & E. L. WETZ.
KEY.

No. 579,134.

Patented Mar. 23, 1897.

Fig 1.

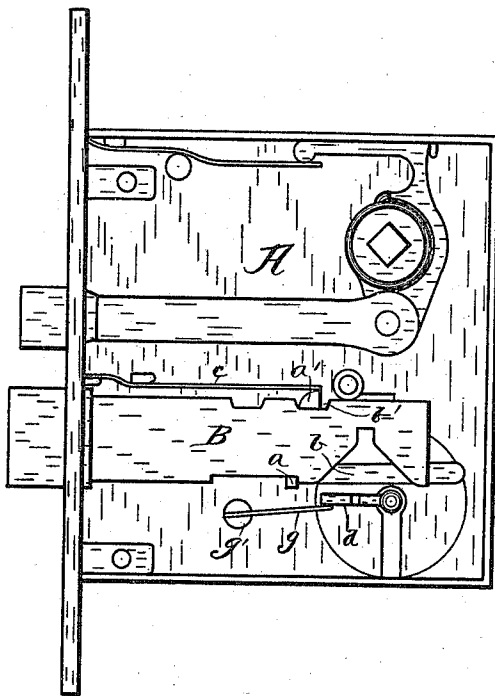


Fig 2.

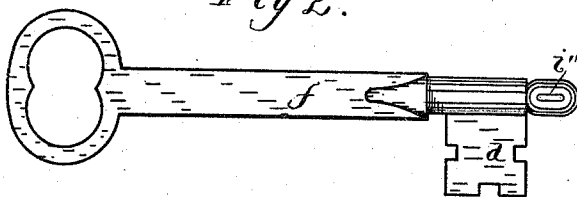
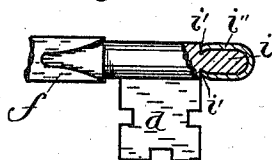


Fig 3.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GARY P. COMBS AND EDWARD L. WETZ, OF DAYTON, OHIO, ASSIGNORS TO
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KEY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 579,134, dated March 23, 1897.

Application filed March 18, 1895. Renewed December 10, 1896. Serial No. 615,232. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GARY P. COMBS and EDWARD L. WETZ, of Dayton, county of Montgomery, State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Keys; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to new and useful improvements in locks, and has special reference to locks the keys of which may be inserted from either side, such, for example, as door-locks.

The object of our invention is to improve the ordinary door-lock, which as a rule offers little impediment to the entry of burglars, and to render it substantially burglar-proof.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of an ordinary door-lock of the mortise type, the plate being removed to show the internal mechanism. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal elevation of a key for said lock. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of an end of said key, showing the pilot end of the key in section.

A designates the side plate of the lock, upon which the bolts and other devices are supported and in which the main bolt B is retained in a sliding position by a lug a.

b is a dog having a lug a', that fits in a slot b' in said bolt. The dog b is moved against the tension of a spring c by the flange d of the key f.

g designates a metallic plate which is secured to a lug g', that projects from the inner face of the lock. This plate g has a resilient nature and yields under sufficient pressure of the key, but which is stout enough to maintain the key in the position shown in Fig. 1 after the bolt has been thrown to lock the door. The key therefore cannot be gotten into a position from without to be removed from the lock.

The feature of the invention appertains to the key f and embodies means for preventing the turning of the key from without. This consists in constructing the pilot end i of an elliptical shape in side elevation, forming an annular groove i'.

i'' is a metallic cap that incloses the pilot end and is secured thereto by having its inner edge crimped or pressed into the groove i'. When this cap is placed upon the end of the key in this manner, it may be freely turned thereon without the possibility of its removal. It is therefore plain that all efforts at turning the key from without through the use of pincers will be futile. A lock having these features cannot be picked or manipulated by burglars who employ the usual means for gaining an entrance to residences, and no specially-constructed or expensive lock is necessary. Any of the ordinary locks in use may be fitted with our improvements.

We are aware that it is not new to make a specially-constructed lock with means for holding the key in a position to prevent its being tampered with. We are also aware that it is not new to construct the pilot end of a key in a manner to admit of its being turned independently of the key, said end being maintained in position by means of a set-screw. Therefore we do not claim the same, broadly; but

What we claim is—

A key having the pilot end reduced in size and an annular groove formed at the inner terminal of said reduced portion, an oblong cap inclosing said reduced portion and having its inner end pressed into said annular groove whereby means are provided for preventing the key from being turned from without, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 11th day of March, 1895.

GARY P. COMBS.
EDWARD L. WETZ.

Witnesses:

R. J. McCARTY,
LESTER L. ALLEN.