

(No Model.)

S. HARRIS.
INDICATOR BOLT.

No. 398,722.

Patented Feb. 26, 1889.

Fig. 1.

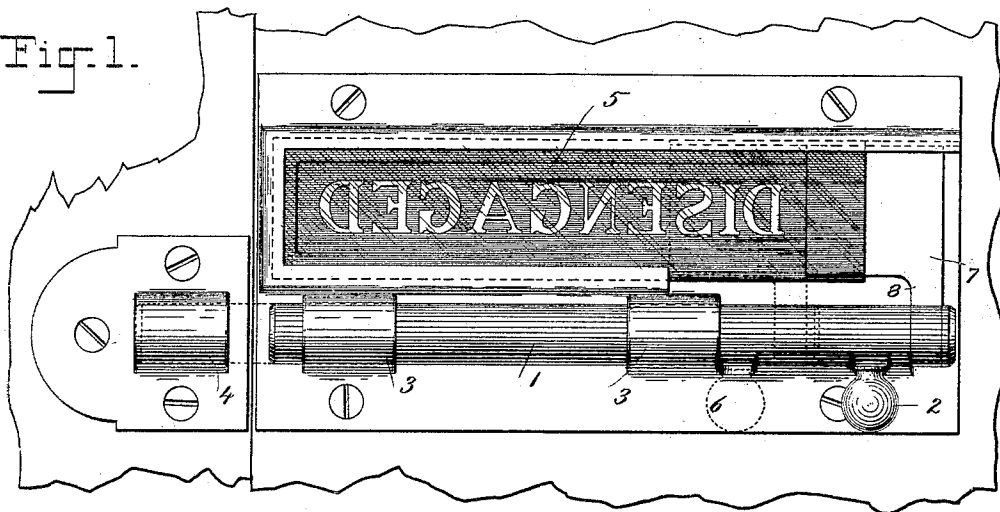


Fig. 3.

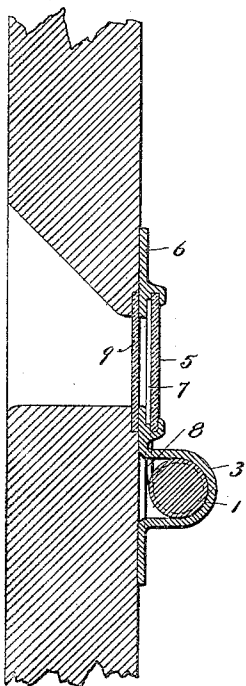


Fig. 4.

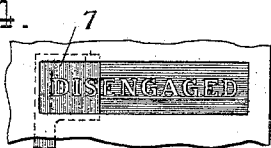


Fig. 2.

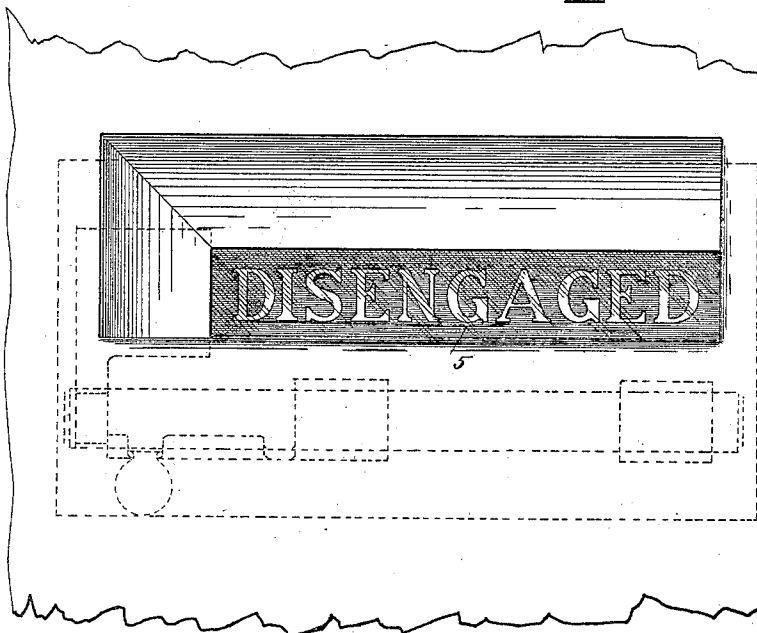
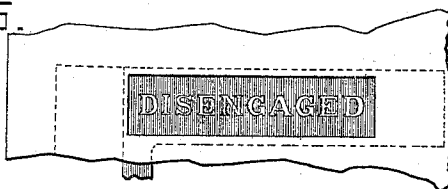


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL HARRIS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

INDICATOR-BOLT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 398,722, dated February 26, 1889.

Application filed April 18, 1888. Serial No. 271,053. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL HARRIS, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Door Bolts or Locks, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to an attachment for a door bolt or lock, whereby the locked or unlocked position of the bolt is made to indicate whether the closet or room to the door of which said bolt is applied is occupied or unoccupied. To this end I so arrange the bolt or provide it with such a projection that when the bolt is moved it will cover or uncover a portion of a word—such as “Unoccupied” or “Disengaged”—and so indicate whether the closet or room is occupied or not.

My invention will first be fully described with reference to the accompanying drawings, and then pointed out in the claim.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved bolt from the rear side of the door. Fig. 2 is a view of the indicator outside of the door. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section of the bolt and indicator. Figs. 4 and 5 are face views of the indicator, exhibiting modifications.

In Fig. 4 a modification of the invention is shown, in which the first syllable of the word “Disengaged” is printed or produced on the sliding plate 7, so that it will disappear into the recess or guide made in the door when the bolt is shut, and a similar arrangement is shown in Fig. 5, where the whole word is printed on the sliding plate 7, the first syllable being hidden by the recess in the door when the door is bolted.

I may represent an ordinary or any preferred form of door-bolt, which in the present instance is shown provided with a finger-piece, 2, and arranged to slide in housings 3 and to engage in a hasp, 4, on the door jamb or post.

5 is an indicator-plate on which is printed or produced in any manner the word “Disengaged” or “Unoccupied,” or a similar word. Preferably, this plate is of opaque glass—such as blue glass—on which the letters of the

word are formed in white, and the plate is mounted on an extension, 6, of the base of the housing 3. Glass is preferably employed, so that when the gas is lighted in the closet or room the sign will be shown up clearly by the light. The door, of course, is provided with an elongated opening or slot equal at least in length to the space occupied by the word employed, in order to disclose the whole word or a part thereof.

At one end of the bolt 1 is hinged a plate, 60 7. Part of the arm 8 surrounding the bolt is so seated thereon as to present no obstacle to the free movement of the bolt longitudinally, and by reason of the hinging of these two parts together the rotary movement of the bolt is also not interfered with. The bolt in its longitudinal movement, however, to close or open the door will slide the plate 7 so as to uncover the whole of the word “Disengaged” or “Unoccupied,” as the case may be, or else to cover the first syllable of such word—thus changing the indication and showing whether the closet or room locked or unlocked by the bolt is occupied or unoccupied.

To prevent manipulation of the bolt from the outside, a plate, 9, of clear glass may be seated on the door in rear of the base-plate, 6, and across the aperture made in the door.

This bolt is intended for water-closets in hotels, in private houses, at railway-stations, 80 on board vessels, or for private and other offices. It can be manufactured at very small expense over and above expense of manufacturing an ordinary bolt.

I am aware that it is quite an old idea to 85 combine with a door lock or bolt a mask, adapted when the bolt is shot so as to fasten the door to uncover an indicating-word to show that the room is occupied; and also that a bolt has been devised, the forward 90 movement of which would expose the letters of such an indicating word through a series of apertures. This, therefore, I do not claim; but my improvement possesses advantages over those referred to, in that it furnishes a 95 positive and intelligible indication under either condition, and this useful result I accomplish by the specific means thus set forth.

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

The combination, with a door-bolt, of the
5 fixed indicator-plate 5, bearing the word "Dis-
engaged" or equivalent word, and a slide, 7,
connected to the bolt and operated thereby,
so as to cover the first syllable of the word

when the bolt is advanced and uncover it
when the bolt is retracted, thus giving posi- 10
tive and opposite indications with the re-
spective positions of the bolt, as explained.

SAMUEL HARRIS.

Witnesses:

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