No. 850,446. PATENTED APR. 16, 1907.

A. ROBBINS.

KEYHOLE GUARD FOR LOCKS.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 19, 1907.

Fig. 1

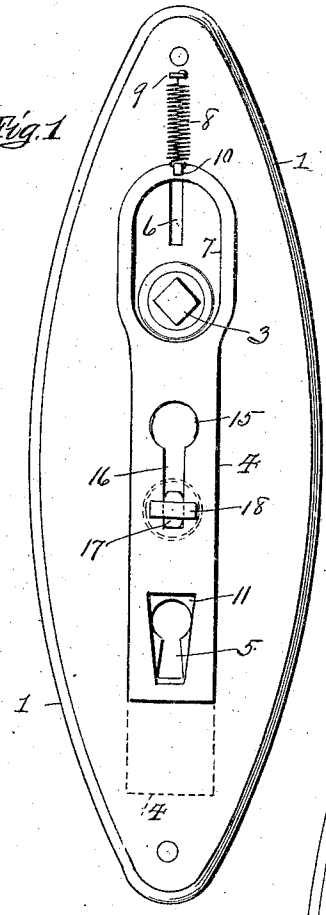
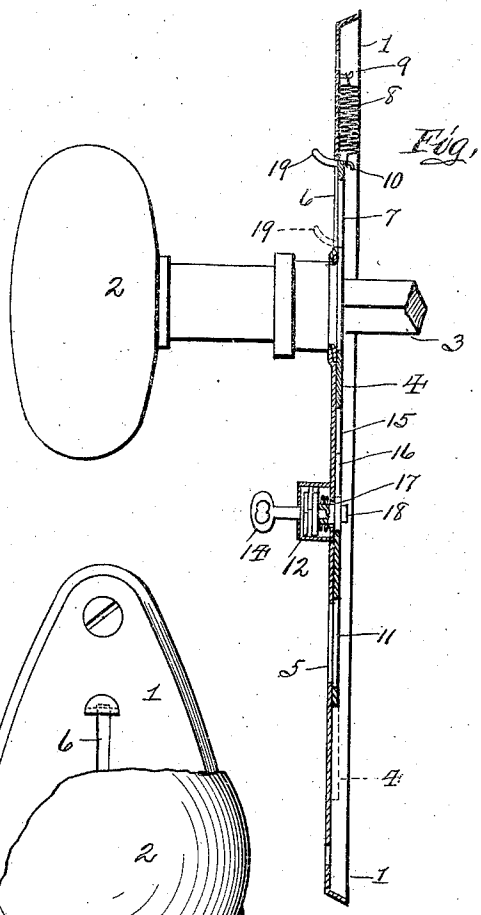


Fig. 2



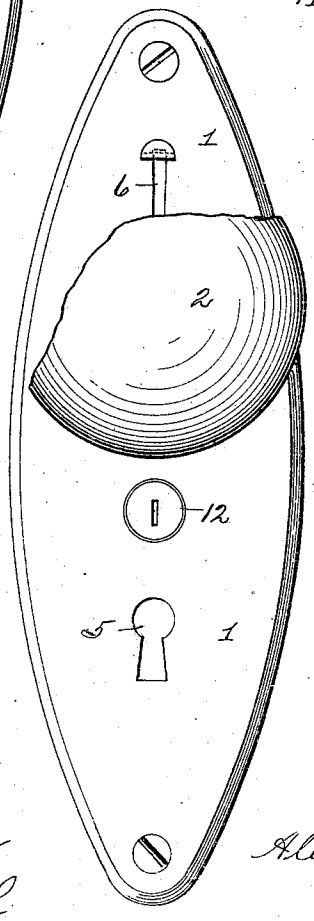


Fig. 3

Witnesses:
Wm. G. Walter
Otto A. Hensel

Inventor,
Alexander Robbins,
by his attorney,
M. E. Harrison.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER ROBBINS, OF ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

KEYHOLE-GUARD FOR LOCKS.

No. 850,446. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 16, 1907.

Application filed January 19, 1907. Serial No. 353,023.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER ROBBINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Allegheny, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Keyhole-Guards for Locks; and I 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 and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved keyhole-guard for door-locks; and it consists in arranging a shield or guard within the face-plate of the lock in such manner as to cover the key-opening, a means for locking said guard and releasing the same; and the invention further consists in the certain details of construction and combination of parts, as will be fully described hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a rear elevation of the face-plate of an ordinary door-lock, showing my improved shield or guard for closing the key-opening, the same being constructed and arranged in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the face-plate, showing the position of the lock for keeping the guard closed and also the position of the thumb-piece for moving said guard downward.

To construct a keyhole-guard in accordance with my invention and adapt the same for use in connection with the ordinary face-plate 1 of a common door-lock, I arrange at the rear of said plate a slidable piece 4, having an opening 7 to span the knob-bar 3, which will admit of said piece being moved vertically a short distance. The upper end of this piece 4 is formed with a small hook 10 to engage with one end of a short spiral spring 8, the other end of which is attached to a projecting piece 9, attached to the inner wall of the said door-plate 1, the object of said spring being to lift the piece 4 upward to its normal position. Near the lower end of the sliding piece 4 is an opening 11, which when said piece is in its normal position will register with the key-opening 5 in the face-plate 1. Near the top of the face-plate 1 is a vertical slot 6, which is formed for the reception of a thumb-piece 19, formed integral with or attached to the upper part of the sliding plate 4, the said thumb-piece projecting through the slot 6 and is used for the purpose of pressing the sliding piece downward, thereby bringing a solid portion of said piece over the key-opening 5. To lock the sliding piece in this latter position, a small spring-actuated tumbler-lock 12, fitted with a removable key 14, is arranged at a suitable position on the outside of the door-plate 1. This lock may be of any well-known construction and is connected with the sliding piece 4 by two parts 17 and 18, the one part smaller than the other and arranged in a horizontal and vertical position. The inner part 17 operates in a slot 16, formed in the sliding piece 4, and the outer part 18 acts as a guide and retaining piece. These two parts 17 and 18 form the lock proper and are capable of being revolved either by the key or by the spring within the lock 12 when within an enlarged part 15 of the slot 16. The part 17 when turned at right angles to the position shown on the drawings at Fig. 1 will engage with the shoulders of the enlargement and hold the sliding piece 4 in its lowered position, from which it can be released only by means of the key 14.

In operation, the parts being in their normal position, such as shown at Fig. 1 of the drawings, the thumb-piece 19 is pressed downward to the limit of the slot 6, the latch-key turned a quarter-revolution to engage the part 17 with the shoulders 15 of the slot 16, and the said key removed, thereby covering the keyhole 5 to prevent the insertion of a key therein. To open the keyhole 5, it is only necessary to use the latch-key 14, release the lock part 17 by turning the same in line with the slot 16, at which time the spring 8 will bring the sliding piece 4 back to its normal position, leaving the keyhole free from obstruction.

By the use of this device in connection with the locks of outside doors of dwelling-houses or in other places—such as on trunks, boxes, &c—the lock cannot be opened without the use of the second key.

It is obvious that slight modifications and changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the spirit of the invention. Therefore I do not wish to confine myself to the exact construction shown and described, but wish to claim all such modified forms as would come properly within the general scope of the invention.

A modified form of the invention would be

the placing of the shield or guard within the shell or casing of the door-lock or upon the outside surface of the same.

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

The herein-described keyhole guard or shield for locks, comprising in combination with the lock-plate 1, the sliding piece 4 arranged at the rear of said plate and adapted to cover the keyhole 5, an opening 11 in said sliding piece to register with said keyhole, a spring to keep the sliding piece in its normal position, a thumb-piece 19 projecting beyond the face of the lock-plate, said thumb-piece operating in a slot 6, and a means for locking said sliding piece 4 in its lowered position, said means consisting of a lock operated by a key to engage with a shouldered slot, substantially as described.

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

ALEXANDER ROBBINS.

Witnesses:

WM. G. WALTER,

M. E. HARRISON.