C. F. KLINE.

GUARD FOR DOOR LATCHES.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 8, 1916.

1,215,384.

Patented Feb. 13, 1917

Fig. 1

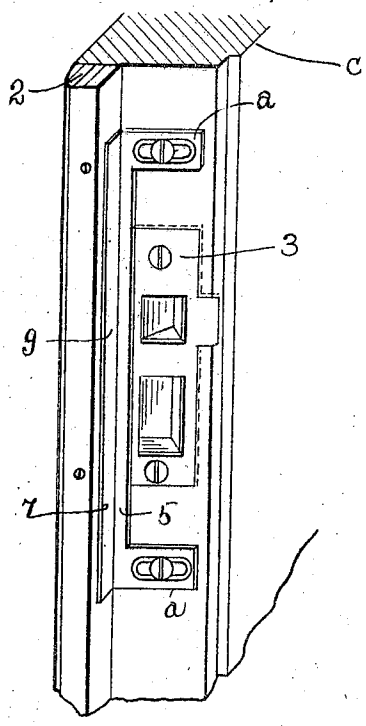


Fig. 2

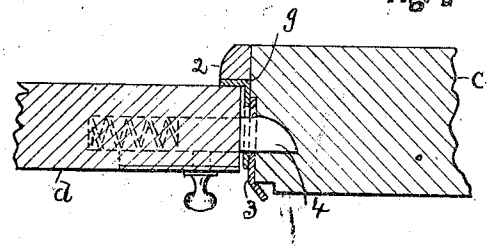


Fig. 3.

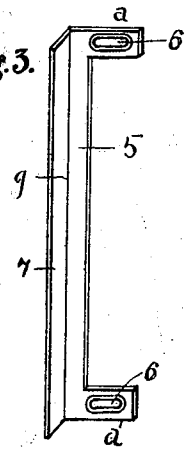
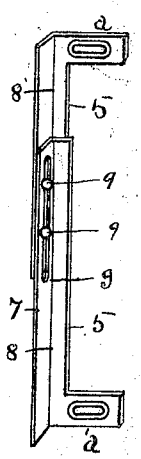


Fig. 4.



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INVENTOR.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. KLINE, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO W. C. KLINE, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

GUARD FOR DOOR-LATCHES.

1,215,384. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 13, 1917.

Application filed September 8, 1916. Serial No. 118,999.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. KLINE, citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Guards for Door-Latches, of which the following is a specification.

The invention herein has for its object to safeguard doors having spring pressed locks or latches with beveled engaging ends and adapted to slide back and forth into and out of closing position in the usual latch plates. Generally such doors close against a removable jamb or strip, and generally also the door fits loosely in its casing, so that, if one desires to pick the latch he can release or remove the jamb and insert a thin knife blade or other thin strip of metal and by bearing against the exposed bevel of the latch force it back and open the door. This, in fact, is known especially well by house breakers and burglars, and frequently is resorted to by this class of men to enter a dwelling or other edifice. Hence, I have conceived the idea of a latch guard having the construction and adaptability substantially as shown and described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section of a door casing and jamb and a latch plate thereon, and my safety guard in working relations as to said plate and jamb. Fig. 2 is a cross section of said parts and of a section of the door with the latch in engaging relations. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the guard in its most simple form and as made in one piece, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modification of the guard and as made in two pieces slidably and adjustably related.

As thus shown *c* represents the door casing and *d* the door. The said casing has the usual jamb or strip 2 fixed on the casing and serving as a stop for the door. The usual latch plate 3 also is affixed to the casing and adapted to be engaged by the sliding latch 4 supported on the door in the usual way and having a usual beveled extremity which comes outside in the latch plate and where the said bevel is exposed more or less when the jamb 2 is removed.

Now, as to the latch plate 3 and latch 4, it is to be understood that they may have any popular or preferred form or style and that they are not affected by nor changed in any manner to apply my safety guard therewith. In fact my invention contemplates going to doors as they are commonly found in residences and other places in house to house work and installing my guard therein without any change or even removal of the latch plate, the said guard in any case being of such length as to extend past said plate at both ends more or less as may be preferred.

Thus, in Fig. 3, I show a guard plate *g* made in a single piece of comparatively thin but strong sheet metal, say sheet steel, which can be struck up to shape and has a relatively narrow body 5, an arm *a* at each end projecting inward and provided with a longitudinal slot 6 through which it is secured by screws to the door casing, and right angled flange 7 along its outer edge. In Fig. 1 it will be seen that both ends and arms of the guard are clear of the latch plate, and that the said guard is extended far enough past said plate above and below the same to prevent possible introduction of a thin instrument of any kind to bear against the latch and force it back. For this reason, also, I have made a modification of the said guard extensible lengthwise by constituting the same in two equal parts or pieces 8 having longitudinal slots in their overlapping portions and rivets 9 through said slots. This makes a guard adapted to be lengthened and also to be shortened within limits, and affords a range of adjustment and applicability not present in the one piece guard, Fig. 3. In practice, the door casing and the jamb may be slightly recessed to place the guard flush with the respective surfaces.

The lateral adjustability of the guard afforded by the slots 6 enables me to set the guard to doors of different thicknesses, which is very important in a device of this kind.

What I claim is:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a guard for door latches consisting of sheet metal and having a relatively narrow body provided with a right angled flange along its outer edge and a flat inward projection at each end in the plane of said body having

each a slot lengthwise and adapted to be adjusted to doors of different thickness.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a guard for door latches constructed of two substantially equal members having overlapping slotted ends slidably connected, and each member having an inward projection at its outer end provided with a slot lengthwise thereof and a flange in overlapped relations with a flange on the other member.

Signed at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, this 26th day of August, 1916.

CHARLES F. KLINE.