J. Hanley,

Key.

No. 7,917. Patented Jan. 28, 1851.

Fig 1

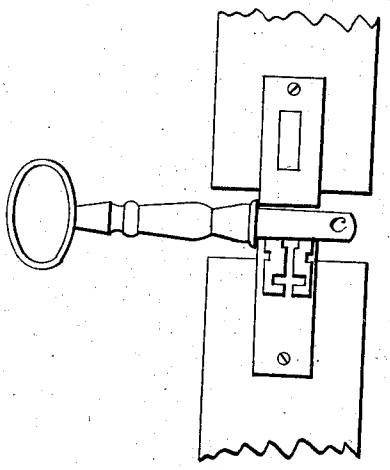


Fig 2

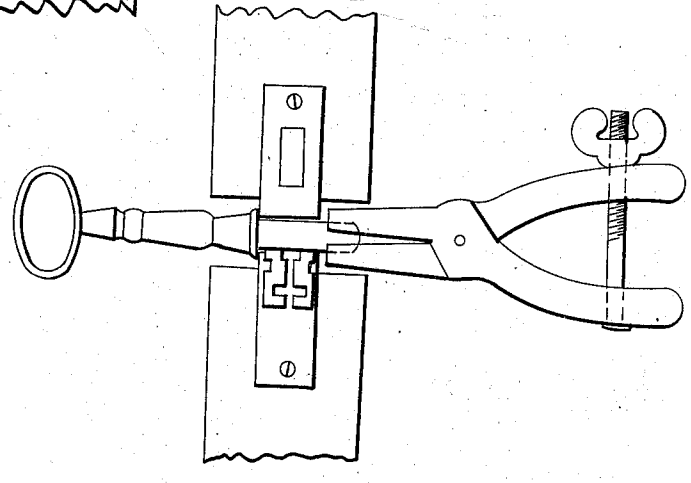


Fig 3

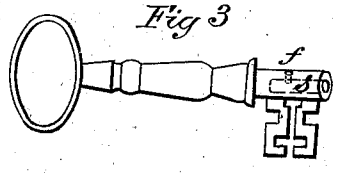


Fig 4



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES HANLEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SWIVEL-NIBBED KEY.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 7,917, dated January 28, 1851.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES HANLEY, of No. 10 North William street, in the city of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and improved mode of preventing a door-lock being opened from the outside by the action of nippers or other instruments being attached to the projecting end of the key used in locking the door on the inside and thereby turning the key in the lock and opening the door; and I hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in making the exposed or projecting end of the key (marked C) to revolve on an axis connecting it with the other parts of the key so that this end may be seized and turned either way without producing any effect toward opening the lock or moving the key in the wards. So that my improved key can always be left in the lock when the bolt is shot, thereby preventing the entrance of another key or pick, and also affording great security to the inmate of a room thus fastened, not merely from robbers but for ready egress from the apartment in case of fire or sudden alarm when excitement or fear often prevent the finding a key taken out of the lock or putting it in the lock when found.

My improvement consists substantially in making the end of the key, that passes through the lock, to revolve, irrespective of the particular mechanical means by which it is attached to the key, and one way of carrying out my invention is by making the exposed end of the key a separate piece (marked on the drawing No. 4) having an axis (*a*) and which axis being fitted into a socket (S) made in the key and attached thereto by a shoulder (*e*) and pin or screw (*f*) the end (C) will revolve either way without moving the key in the wards.

I therefore claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The making the exposed ends of keys in such manner that they may revolve freely upon the other parts of the key substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.

JAMES HANLEY.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL OWEN,

JAMES C. STOWALL.