(No Model.)

P. CONNOLLY.

MEANS FOR LOCKING VALVES.

No. 280,912. Patented July 10, 1883.

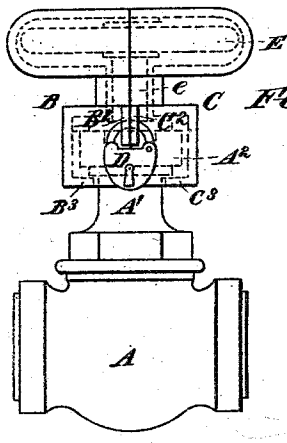


Fig: 1.

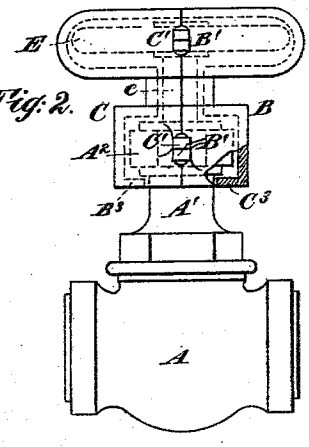


Fig: 2.

Fig: 3.

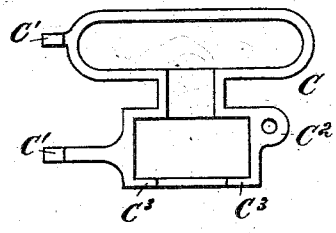


Fig: 4.

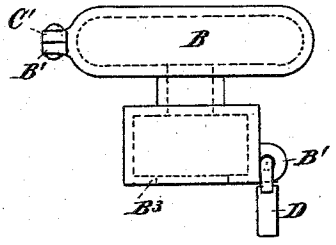
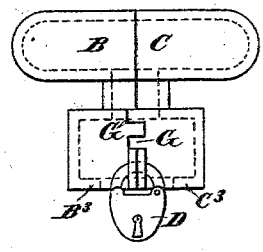


Fig: 5.



Witnesses:
M. F. Boyle.
A. D. Gardner

Inventor:
Patrick Connolly
by his attorney
Thomas D. Pleton.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PATRICK CONNOLLY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

MEANS FOR LOCKING VALVES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 280,912, dated July 10, 1883.

Application filed October 6, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PATRICK CONNOLLY, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Locking Valves, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement is intended more particularly for screw-valves or analogous valves controlling the supply of gas, steam, water, and other fluids to dwellings, factories, and the like where taxes are demanded, and it is sometimes necessary for the proper authorities to close the valves and to keep them closed against the wishes of the owner or occupant of the building.

The invention may be employed to lock similar or analogous valves controlling the flow of steam or other fluid in any situation. I provide a loosely-fitted case, which covers the hand-wheel or other turning device, and also all the exposed portion of the shaft or stem of the valve, and engages under the flange of the stuffing-box or other suitable enlargement or projection on the fixed portion of the apparatus. I make this case in two parts and provide a padlock or other lock, which firmly engages them together and forbids their separation so as to allow access to the hand-wheel. The case must be loose, so that turning it around will have no effect on the valve.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

Figure 1 is a front elevation, and Fig. 2 a rear elevation, of the device complete as applied to the operating means of an ordinary valve. Figs. 3 represents one of the halves of my case detached. Figs. 4 and 5 show a modification. Fig. 4 is a side elevation, and Fig. 5 a corresponding front elevation.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A is an ordinary valve-casing, and A′ the neck or extension thereof, which surrounds the valve-stem and carries at its end an ordinary stuffing-box, A^2. The valve-stem *e* extends through this stuffing-box and is operated by a hand-wheel, E. The stuffing-box A^2, stem, and wheel may be of any ordinary or suitable construction, and are indicated in dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 2.

B and C are the two halves of my case. Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, they are joined together at the back by hinges or loosely-riveted eyes B′ C′. At the front they are provided with lips or projections B^2 C^2, each having a sufficient hole therein, which, when the case is closed together, may be secured by a padlock, D. B and C are properly matched to each other, and inclose a cavity a little larger than the stuffing-box, stem, and hand-wheel. They are preferably of a form approximating to these parts. The lower edge of each part B and C is equipped with an internal lip, B^3 C^3, which is adapted to engage under the stuffing-box. This insures that any force applied to my case to lift it shall be received, not on the hand-wheel, so as to make a friction which might, under some possible conditions, turn the valve, but on the stuffing-box, so that, at the worst, the stuffing-box only will be tightened or loosened by any such turning of my case.

In the modification shown in Figs. 4 and 5 only a single hinge or eye is provided at the back of the case. The front of the case is equipped with lugs or perforated lips to receive the padlock, as in the other form, but the lips are placed lower and the space above is utilized to form locking projections and recesses G, which, when the device is closed, engage with each other and aid to maintain the parts against displacement. The case, being made with two enlargements covering two protuberances or enlargements on the valve and connections, will constitute a covering which will not be removed by the disengagement of one of the enlargements, but upon one being broken the other will serve.

Modifications may be made in many of the details. With stuffing-boxes which are liable to come to rest at different heights, my case must be made of ample depth to accommodate the parts in all positions. It is important that the case shall fit so close that nothing may be extended up from below or extended inward from the joint between the two parts to allow the case to be engaged with the hand-wheel, the success of the device depending on its being allowed to turn freely without operating the hand-wheel or equivalent device which controls the valve.

The invention may be used for other purposes than those above indicated. I believe

that it may be applied successfully on oil-tanks and a great number of other vessels which, from their nature or position, cannot be well guarded against unauthorized persons.

Instead of the padlock D, I can fit a lock in one of the parts of the casing B C and cause its bolt to engage with the other part, as will be obvious.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the valve and connections having the stuffing-box or other enlargement A^2 and the operating means E, constituting a second enlargement at a different height, of the locking-case A, having an enlargement for covering the part E, and another enlargement for covering the part A^2, and a diminished portion between them, as herein set forth.

2. In combination with a valve-case, A, having a stuffing-box, A^2, or analogous enlargement on the neck, the casing B C, made in two parts hinged together and provided with the internal lips, B^3 C^3, engaging under the projection A^2, and arranged to not only inclose the valve-operating means E and prevent access thereto, but also to relieve the latter from frictional turning force, as herein specified.

3. The locking-case B C, having one or more eyes or hinges, B′ C′, lugs B^2 C^2, and projections and recesses G, in combination with the lock D, valve-case A, stem *e*, and operating means E, all substantially as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, at New York city, this 28th day of September, 1882, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PATRICK CONNOLLY.

Witnesses:

CHARLES R. SEARLE,

JOHN F. SULLIVAN.