

W. S. WATKINS.

Combined Burglar-Alarm and Door-Fastener.

No. 168,200.

Patented Sept. 28, 1875.

Fig. 1.

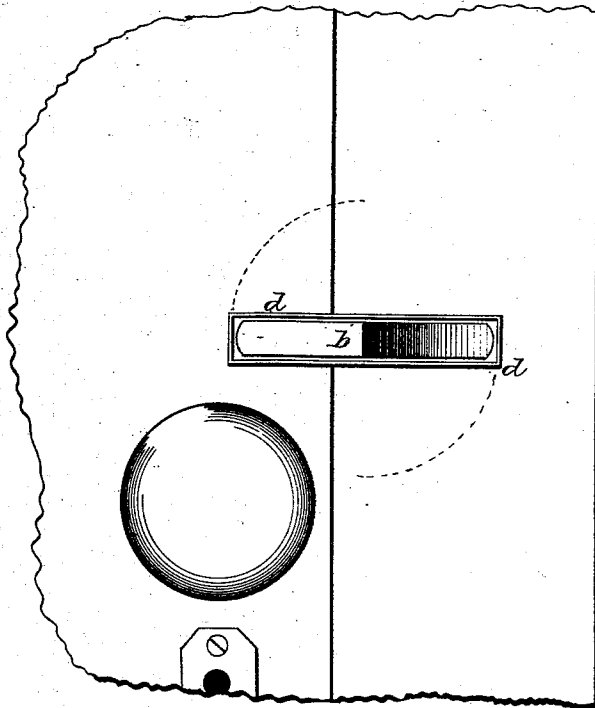
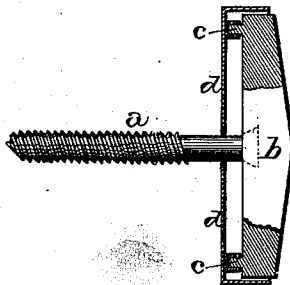


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. WATKINS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED BURGLAR-ALARMS AND DOOR-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,200**, dated September 23, 1875; application filed September 20, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. S. WATKINS, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar-Alarms; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in burglar-alarms; and it consists in a screw for screwing into the wood-work of the window-shutter or door-jamb, and to which is secured an elongated metallic head, provided with nipples at each end to receive gun-caps. Slipped up over this screw, so as to cover the inner and outer sides and ends of the head, is a metallic case that bears against the caps, so that they will be exploded by pressure, and at the same time keep in the flash of the cap, to prevent the curtains from catching on fire. This device is to be used both as a burglar-alarm and as door-fastener.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same.

a represents a powerful screw, upon the outer end of which is cast an elongated metallic head, *b*, which head is provided on its inner side with a nipple or projection, *c*, at each end, to receive a gun-cap. This head *b* is made of such a form and length as to best adapt it for fastening a door or shutter, at the same time that it forms a burglar-alarm. Passed up over the screw, so as to inclose the head *b* at all points except its outer side, is a metallic casing, *d*, that presents a hard surface

for bearing against the cap, to cause its explosion from pressure, and for keeping in the flash of the cap, so that it cannot injure the wood-work or set fire to the curtains when used in a window.

In using my invention, the screw is screwed into the wood-work of the door or window-shutter until the head comes down over the door, as shown in Fig. 1, like a button, or so as to catch over the catch on the window-frame, to hold the shutter fast. Any one attempting to force open the door or shutter will cause a pressure on the cap that will make it explode, and thus alarm the inmates of the house, scare away the burglar, and give notice to the police.

In order to cause the caps to explode easily, the fulminate of a match may be placed in them, so that a very slight pressure will set them off.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of the screw *a* and head *b*, provided with the nipples *c*, substantially as shown, whereby a burglar-alarm and door-fastener is formed, as described.

2. The combination of the screw *a*, head *b*, nipples *c*, and casing *d*, whereby a combined burglar-alarm and door-fastener is formed, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of September, 1875.

W. S. WATKINS.

Witnesses:

F. A. LEHMANN,
JNO. W. IRWIN.