D. E. DOPP & L. C. WALTERS.

Key-Fastener.

No. 212,543. Patented Feb. 25, 1879.

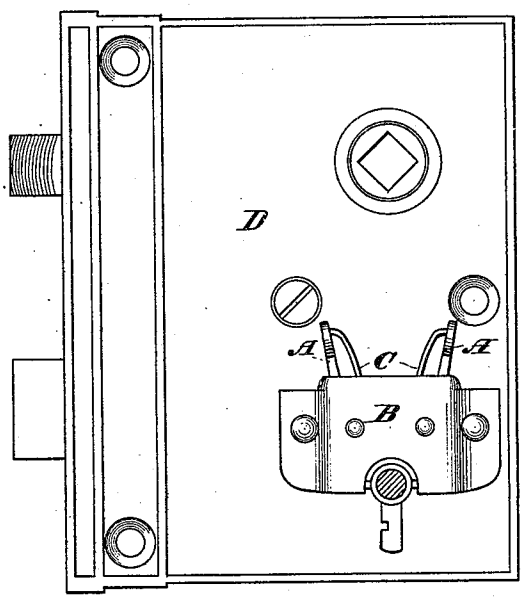


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

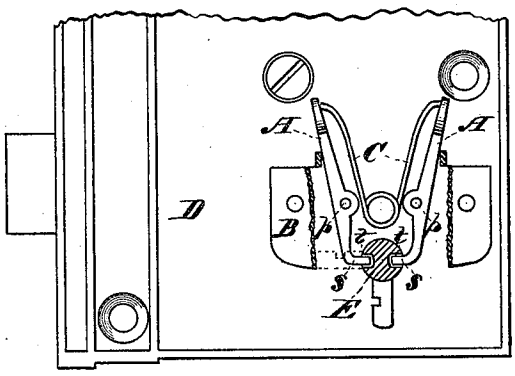


Fig. 3

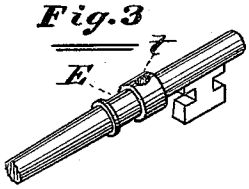
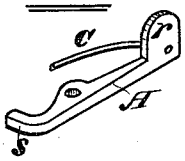


Fig. 4



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DANIEL E. DOPP, OF WHEELING, AND LOUIS C. WALTERS, OF BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN KEY-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **212,543**, dated February 25, 1879; application filed December 23, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, DANIEL E. DOPP, of Wheeling, and LOUIS C. WALTERS, of Barrington, both in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Safety Attachment for Locks; and we hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of our device as attached to a lock; Fig. 2, a similar view with a portion of the inclosing-plate broken away, showing the interior construction; Fig. 3, a perspective view of the key-shank properly notched, and Fig. 4 a perspective view of one of the catch-levers.

Our invention relates to a device for rendering locks burglar-proof, by making it impossible either to pick them or turn the key with any instrument whatever from the outside; and our object is to accomplish this by means of a cheap and simple contrivance, which may easily be adjusted to any lock without injuring or impairing the same.

To this end our invention consists in employing two levers working upon separate pivots, attaching them to a plate or to the lock, the said levers having their lower ends bent inward, and being provided with a spring, tending to bring the said bent ends toward each other, whereby, when the device is attached to the lock in proper position, the said bent ends enter notches formed in the key-shank whenever the latter is so turned as to lock the door, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Referring to the drawings, A A are the pair of nipping-levers, having their fulcrums at *p*, where they are pivoted to a plate, B, and having their upper ends broadened into plates *r*, and their lower ends, *s*, bent inward, as shown.

A spring, C, tends to spread the upper ends apart and bring the ends *s* toward each other.

The plate B is attached, by means of screws or rivets, to the lock D, in such position that the ends *s* of the levers are brought in line with the center of the circular aperture, forming the upper part of the key-hole, and which receives the shank of the key.

The plate B may be cut away, as represented in Fig. 1, in order that it shall not obstruct the key-hole.

The shank E is provided with two notches or recesses, *t*, opposite each other, and in such position that when the key is inserted they will be vertical with relation to each other, or in line with the length of the key-hole, and equally distant with the ends *s* of the levers from the entrance to the key-hole.

The operation of our device is as follows: The key having been inserted, (to permit which it is necessary, of course, to press the upper ends of the levers together,) the ends *s* rest against the unrecessed sides of the key, thus allowing the latter to be easily turned. When, however, the key is so turned as to lock the door, as represented by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, the notches are brought around so as to engage with the ends *s*, when the latter immediately fly into them by the force of the spring C, as shown in Fig. 2, thus holding the key firmly, and rendering it impossible to turn it back without first pinching the upper ends of the levers, which are accessible only from the inside of the room. Not only does this prevent the turning of the key by means of nippers, and thus unlocking the door with it, but it also serves to hold the key as a firm barrier, beyond which no picking-instrument can possibly be forced.

The ends *s* enter the notches also when the key is turned to a corresponding position in the opposite direction in unlocking the door, thus rendering the key little liable to be taken out by children and lost.

While we prefer to employ the plate B, it is evident that the levers may, if desired, be pivoted to the metal of the lock itself.

Other forms of spring than the one shown, also, may be employed without a material departure from our invention.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The safety attachment for locks, consisting of the levers A, pivoted at their fulcrums to a plate, B, and having their lower ends, *s*, bent inward, as shown, to enter notches *t* in the key-shank, in combination with the spring C, substantially as described.

DANIEL E. DOPP.
LOUIS C. WALTERS.

In presence of—
H. E. WOAKEY,
E. F. MERRILL.