

J. Hardy, 2d & B. B. Floyd,

Latch.

N^o 81,779.

Patented Sep. 1, 1868

Fig 1.

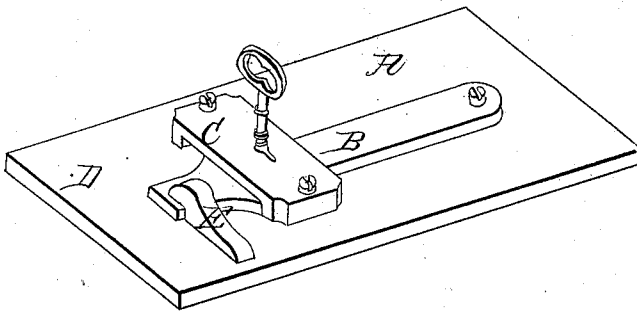


Fig 2.

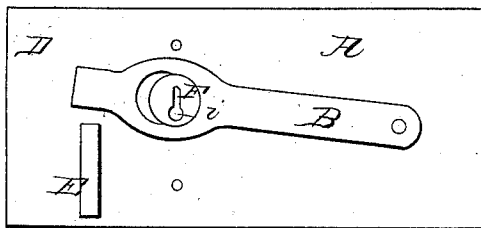
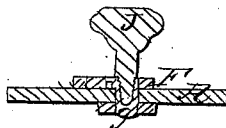


Fig 3.



Witnesses:

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JOHN HARDY, 2D, OF ANDOVER, AND BYRON B. FLOYD, OF LAWRENCE,
MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 81,779, dated September 1, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN LOCKING-LATCHES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, JOHN HARDY, 2d, of Andover, and BYRON B. FLOYD, of Lawrence, of Essex county, Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Locking-Latches for stove-doors and other purposes; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the drawings that accompany and form a part of these specifications, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the latch and key.

Figure 2, a longitudinal section illustrating the interior parts.

Figure 3, a view showing the use of a knob instead of a key, with detached pieces, button, and knob.

Letter A, the door, to which the locking-latch is applied.

Letter B, the latch, operated by certain devices within the keeper.

Letter C, the latch-keeper, provided with a key-mortise.

Letter D, the jamb, to which the catch is attached.

Letter E, the catch, fastened firmly to the plate D.

Letter F, a button, whose spindle, *g*, is quite eccentric as to the centre of the said button.

Letter *h*, an oblong opening in the latch, in which works the button F.

Letter *i*, key-mortise, the upper portion of which is fitted with screw-threads, to receive the spindle of the knob J.

The object of my invention is to provide a latch for stove-doors for railroad-cars that will not open by upsetting of the cars, and that may not be interfered with by the passengers, either to throw the door open—often causing much smoke in the car—or filling the stove with wood sufficient to render the heat almost intolerable, and yet to have it such that it may be readily opened by a key in the hand of the person having charge of the regulation of the fires.

The drawings will sufficiently illustrate the mechanical devices by which I secure the desired working of parts.

Suppose the key placed as in fig. 1, and turned towards the right, the button is turned so as to raise the latch, as may be seen in fig. 2, and relieve it from the catch E.

In case the knob J is used instead of the key, the door will not open by being upset, for the latch cannot move or be relieved from the catch E, except by having the button F turned on its eccentric-spindle *g*, and this can be done by taking hold of the knob and turning it, as mentioned of the key heretofore.

Thus the knob J, used in connection with the button F, provides against the opening of the stove-door, and producing liability to fire in case a car is upset or thrown from the track.

Should it be considered desirable to keep the fire free from intermeddling by all except the person whose business it is to attend thereto, the key should be used instead of the knob, the form of the eccentric-button F, and its arrangement such in the oblong opening *h* of the latch B, that it operates to keep the latch raised, or closing into the catch, as well as to prevent it from being opened when turned down. This feature may be of great convenience when it is desirable, for any purpose, to leave a door ajar.

A latch containing the provisions herein set forth may be of great advantage in many places. An engineer or fireman having charge of boilers and machinery may find such fastenings a means of safety.

In offices and stores, thoughtless visitors are frequently opening the stove-doors, to the great annoyance of the proprietors.

Shops are often set on fire by an accidental or careless opening of the stove-door.

In all these places our device would be very applicable.

What we claim as of our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A latch, provided with the eccentric-button F, when arranged within the space *h*, as illustrated, and operated either by removable key or retained knob J, substantially in the manner and for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof, we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN HARDY, 2D,
BYRON B. FLOYD.

Witnesses:

ANDREW C. STONE,
ROBERT W. PEARSON.