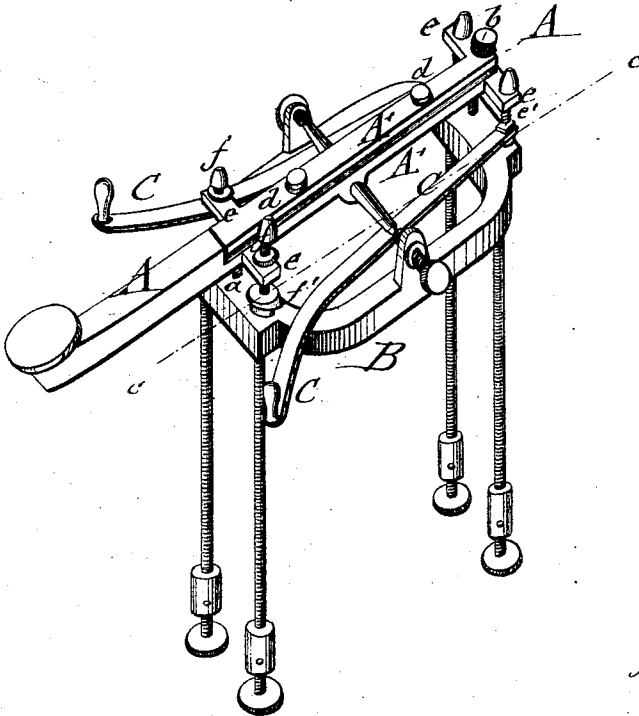


**R. W. WALKER.**  
**Telegraph Keys.**

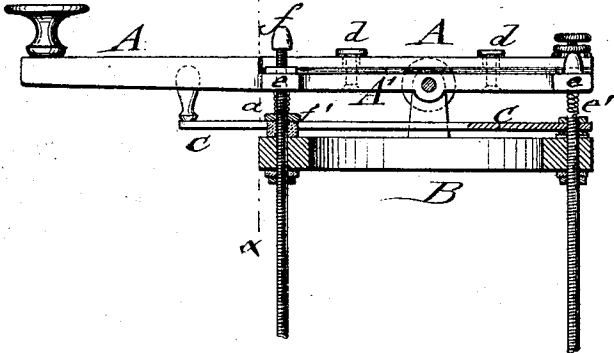
No. 152,199.

Patented June 16, 1874.

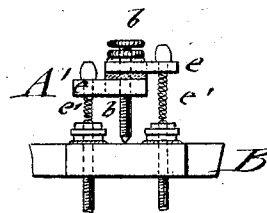
*fig. 1*



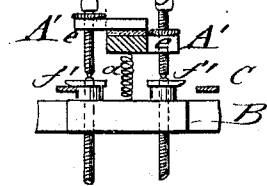
*fig. 2*



*fig. 3. Back*



*fig. 4. Front*



**WITNESSES:**

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*Pledgwick*

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**BY**

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RANDALL W. WALKER, OF OXFORD, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TELEGRAPH-KEYS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **152,199**, dated June 16, 1874; application filed April 25, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RANDALL W. WALKER, of Oxford, Chenango county, New York, have invented a new and Improved Telegraph Key, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved telegraph-key; Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section of the same on the line *c c*, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a rear view of the key; and Fig. 4, a vertical transverse section of the same on the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of my invention is to furnish an improved combined telegraph-key, by which a dispatch may be sent over two or more lines at the same time, or over one or more separate lines, as desired. My invention consists of a telegraph-key made of as many insulated plates as there are lines to be worked, which plates are provided with sidewise-projecting lugs for attachment to the connecting-wires. Any one or more lines may be worked separately for transmitting dispatches by cutting the remaining wires out by circuit-closers.

In the drawing, A represents my improved combination telegraph-key, which is pivoted in the usual manner by a steel or other rod to supporting-screws and bearings of the base part B. The front part of the key A is acted upon by a spiral or other spring, *a*, and regulated by an insulated set-screw, *b*, at the rear end. The main part of key A is constructed of two or more plates, A', which are placed one above the other, and completely separated by suitable insulating material. The plates A' are firmly connected by insulated screws *d*, so as to form one compact lever with as many independent connecting-plates as there are lines desired to be worked for simultaneous transmissions. Each plate A' is provided with front and rear side projecting lugs *e*,

of which the rear lug is placed by a spiral wire, *e*, in connection with a line-wire, while the front lug carries the adjustable contact-screw *f* for closing the circuit on the contact-point *f'* of the connecting-wire. The contact-screws *f* are accurately adjusted at equal height above their contact-points, so that by depressing the key they are all brought in contact therewith, and transmit messages simultaneously over the insulated key-plates to as many different lines as may be arranged with the key. Each line-wire is provided with a circuit-closer, C, which is pivoted to its connecting screw-bolt, and thoroughly insulated from the base and pivot bearings of the key, so that when the circuit-closer is brought in connection with the projecting part of its contact *f'* the line is closed, and the dispatch transmitted over the remaining wires. The key may, therefore, be used as a single key for working any desired line separately, or for working several or all of them at the same time, as may be desired, forming thereby a very useful and time-saving instrument for telegraph-offices, being especially useful for the transmission of press-dispatches and other purposes.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The improved telegraph-key, for transmitting dispatches simultaneously over several lines, composed of insulated plates A', as many as there are lines to be connected, which are provided with sidewise-projecting front and rear lugs or extensions *e e*, for attaching the contact-screws and connecting-wires, substantially as set forth.

RANDALL W. WALKER.

Witnesses:

JOHN C. LEWIS,  
SAML. S. STAFFORD.