

J. W. Still,

Patent:

No. 97,985.

Patented Dec. 14, 1869.

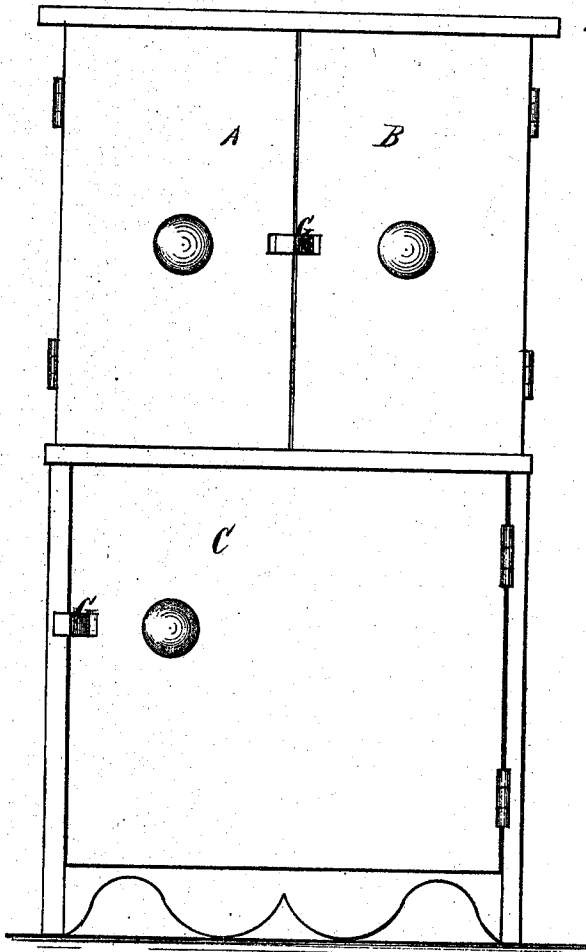


Fig. 1.

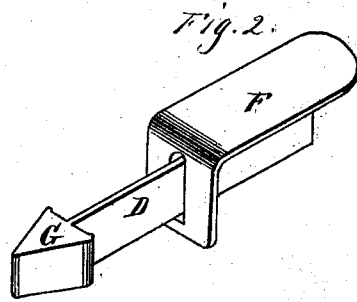


Fig. 2.

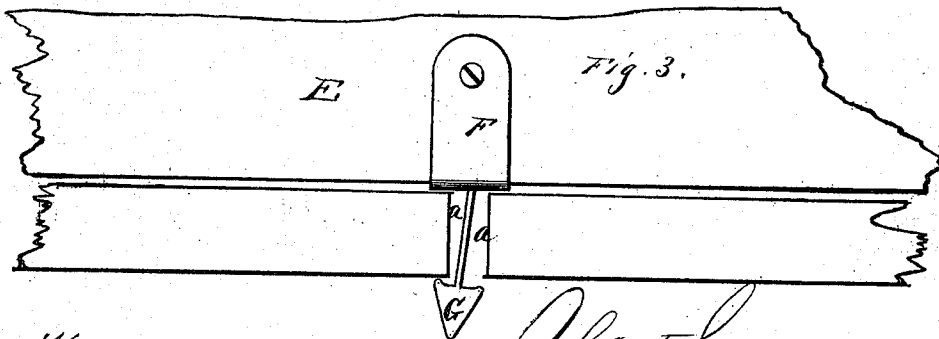


Fig. 3.

Witnesses.
Geo. H. Strong,
John L. Boone

John W. Still Inventor.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. STILL, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVED LATCH FOR DOUBLE DOORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 97,985, dated December 14, 1869.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. STILL, of the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improved Double or Single Latch for Doors; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvements without further invention or experiment.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved latch for doors, so constructed that it will operate equally well for either of two doors which close together, forming a double door.

It consists of an elastic strip of metal, which extends from a shelf or other point of support out between the doors. At the end of this spring is a wedge-shaped head, having its base inward. The doors are slightly cut away on each side of the spring, so that either of them in closing will press on the inclined side of the head and bend the spring to one side till the door passes the head, when the spring returns to its original position, and holds it.

Referring to the accompanying drawings for a more complete explanation of my invention, A and B are two doors, closing toward the center, and forming double doors, and C is a single door, all being arranged on a closet, to illustrate my invention, which consists of a thin elastic strip of metal, D, which, in the case of doors, stands vertically; but it will be seen that its position is easily changed, as cir-

cumstances require. In order to fasten this spring to the shelf or other support E, Fig. 3, it is passed through one side of a plate of metal, F, bent at an angle, as shown, and fastened to it below.

The spring has a wedge-shaped head, G, at such a distance from F that the doors can pass the head before reaching the position they will occupy when closed.

Each of the doors is cut away slightly, as at *a*, so that in closing either door the spring can give way on the side opposite till the door has passed to its place, when the spring returns the head to the center, and the doors are latched.

In order to open a door it is only necessary to press the head to one side, and the door will be free.

I do not claim a double catch when held and made to operate by a ring of india-rubber or other elastic material; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with the spring-stem D, of the wedge-shaped head G, forming a shoulder on each side of the stem, with its face at right angles to the stem, so as to make a secure fastening for two contiguous doors, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

JOHN W. STILL. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

GEO. H. STRONG,
WM. GERLACH.