No. 676,450. Patented June 18, 1901.

W. SCHWARTZ.

KEYHOLE GUARD.

(Application filed Feb. 28, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

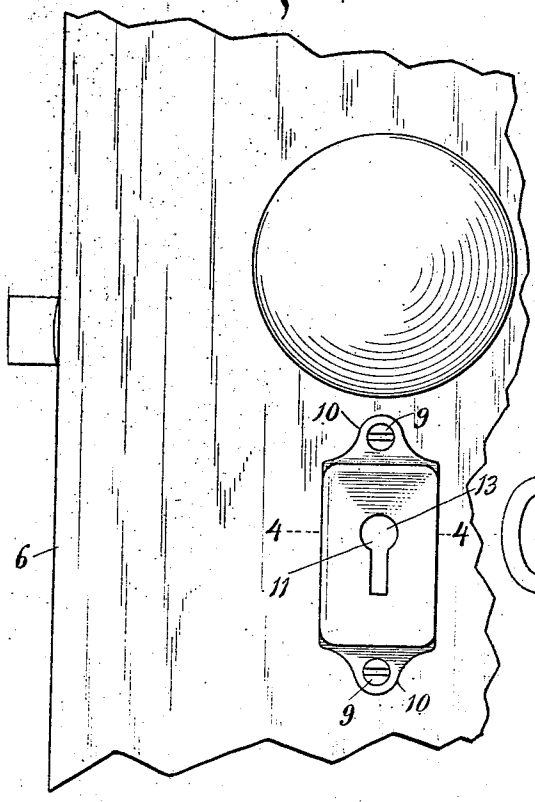


Fig. 2.

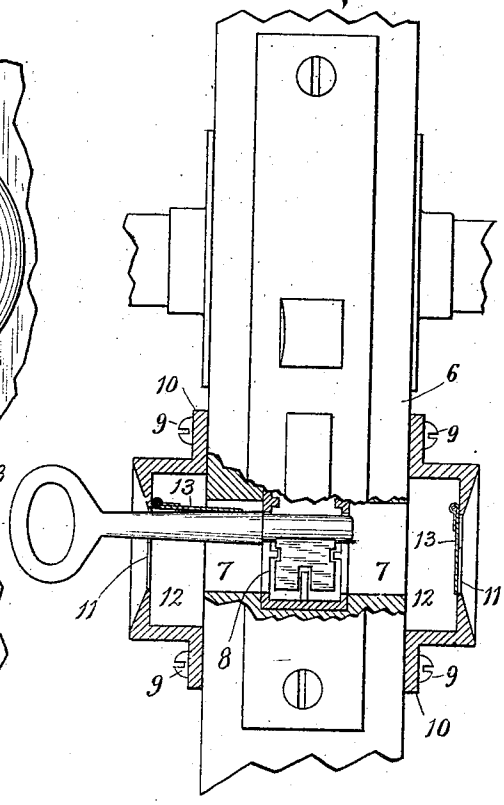


Fig. 3.

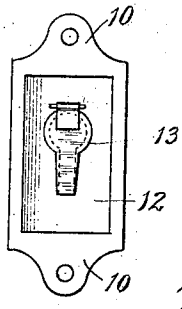


Fig. 4.

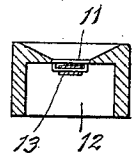
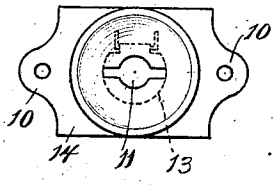


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

C. N. Keeney

Anne V. Faust

Inventor:

William Schwartz

By Benedict & Morsell

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SCHWARTZ, OF WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN.

KEYHOLE-GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 676,450, dated June 18, 1901.

Application filed February 28, 1901. Serial No. 49,192. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SCHWARTZ, residing in Waukesha, in the county of Waukesha and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Attachments to Keyholes, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to improvements in attachment to keyholes.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an improved construction which will facilitate the guiding of the key to the keyhole.

A further object is to provide an improved construction for automatically closing the keyhole when the key is withdrawn from the lock and rendering the lock burglar-proof, peep-proof, and dust-proof, and which means is also of such a character as not to interfere in the least with the unlocking when the key is inserted in the keyhole.

With the above primary and other incidental objects in view the invention consists of the devices and parts or their equivalents, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a fragment of a door equipped with my improvements. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the door shown in Fig. 1, parts being broken away and in section. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the inner side of the attachment. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the attachment, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of a modified form of attachment adapted for flat keys.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 6 indicates a fragment of a door provided upon opposite sides with the usual alined keyholes 7 7, which communicate with the interior passage 8 of the door in which the key works. Upon opposite outer sides of the door and over the keyhole 7 thereof are arranged my improved attachments. These attachments may be made of any desirable material and are of a box-like form, being so constructed as to stand out a considerable distance from the door and in some cases attached to the door by means of screws 9, turned through flanges 10, extending from the attachments. The front or outer face of each attachment is in the form of a shallow concavity, the concave surfaces converging to the central keyhole 11. By reason of the fact that the attachment is in the form of an outstanding box-like device a chamber 12, of considerable depth, is formed back of the concave front face.

Pivoted at its upper end to the rear side of the front concave face of each attachment is a tongue 13, said tongue being of sufficient length to completely close the keyhole when the tongue is turned down in the position illustrated in Fig. 3. The pivot of this tongue is horizontal, extending in a plane across the keyhole, so that said tongue is capable of being swung upwardly and in a direction toward the opposite keyhole.

It will be seen that with my attachments applied to the opposite sides of a door, as shown in Fig. 2, when a key is not in either keyhole both of said keyholes are closed, and consequently the attachments render the lock dust-proof as well as peep-proof. The attachments furthermore render the lock burglar-proof, inasmuch as if a key is inserted into the lock from one side, as shown in Fig. 2, and a person should attempt to pick the lock from the opposite side by inserting nippers through the keyhole from that side said nippers would lift the tongue and the tongue thereby afford an effective barrier against the nippers engaging the key and turning the same.

In the use of my invention when it is desired to lock or unlock a door the key is inserted, as illustrated in Fig. 2, and as said key is forced inwardly it uplifts the tongue until, when the key is forced inwardly to its full extent, said tongue is raised to the Fig. 2 position. When the key is removed, the tongue automatically drops to its normal position, (shown in Fig. 3,) thereby effectually closing the keyhole.

By my improved attachments it will be seen that the tongue is both automatically raised in a direction toward the opposite keyhole by the insertion of the key and is automatically lowered by the withdrawal of the key without the necessity of any manual manipulation whatever of the tongue.

An important feature of my invention is the provision of the deep rear chamber 12, whereby the tongue when uplifted is prevented from extending such a distance into the door as to interfere with the free action of the key

on the lock. It is of course essential that the tongue should be sufficiently long to close the keyhole, and if the chamber referred to were not provided and the attachment made of flat or substantially flat form the tongue when lifted would extend into the door such a distance as to seriously interfere with the working of the lock. By my arrangement the major portion of the length of the tongue is in the rear chamber 12, while only a short portion of the length of said tongue extends into the passage of the door.

Another advantage of providing an attachment having a considerable outward projection from the door resides in the fact that a person in the dark may readily locate the position of the attachment by contact of the key therewith, and after the attachment is thus located the key may be readily brought to position to be passed through the keyhole.

It is obvious that my improved attachment may be cast in a single piece, or, if preferred, it may be pressed with dies out of thin sheet metal.

Fig. 5 of the drawings illustrates a slightly-modified form of attachment adapted for flat keys. This modified form is indicated by the numeral 14 and is substantially similar to the other form, excepting that I prefer that the projecting portion thereof shall be of more or less circular form and the rear chamber, as well as the pivoted tongue therein, of a corresponding form.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination with a door having a keyhole therein, of an attachment secured to the outside of the door over the keyhole thereof, said attachment having its outer face provided with a keyhole in line with the keyhole of the door, and an inwardly and upwardly swinging hinged tongue pivoted to the inner side of the attachment at the upper extremity of the keyhole thereof, on a horizontal pivot arranged across the keyhole, said tongue adapted to be swung inward and away from said keyhole by contact with the key as the same is inserted, the said swing being upwardly and toward the opposite keyhole, and to drop back by its own gravity and close said keyhole, when the key is withdrawn.

2. The combination with a door having a keyhole therein, of an attachment secured to the outside of the door over the keyhole thereof, said attachment having its outer face provided with a keyhole in line with the keyhole of the door, and said attachment also having a rear chamber located back of its outer face, and an inwardly and upwardly swinging hinged tongue pivoted to the inner side of the attachment at the upper extremity of the keyhole thereof, and within the rear chamber, on a horizontal pivot arranged across the keyhole, said tongue adapted to be swung inward and away from said keyhole by contact with the key as the same is inserted, the said swing being upwardly and toward the opposite keyhole, and to drop back by its own gravity and close said keyhole when the key is withdrawn, the depth of the rear chamber and the length of the pivoted tongue being such that the major portion of the length of said tongue is within the recess, when said tongue is uplifted.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM SCHWARTZ.

Witnesses:
A. L. MORSELL,
ANNA V. FAUST.