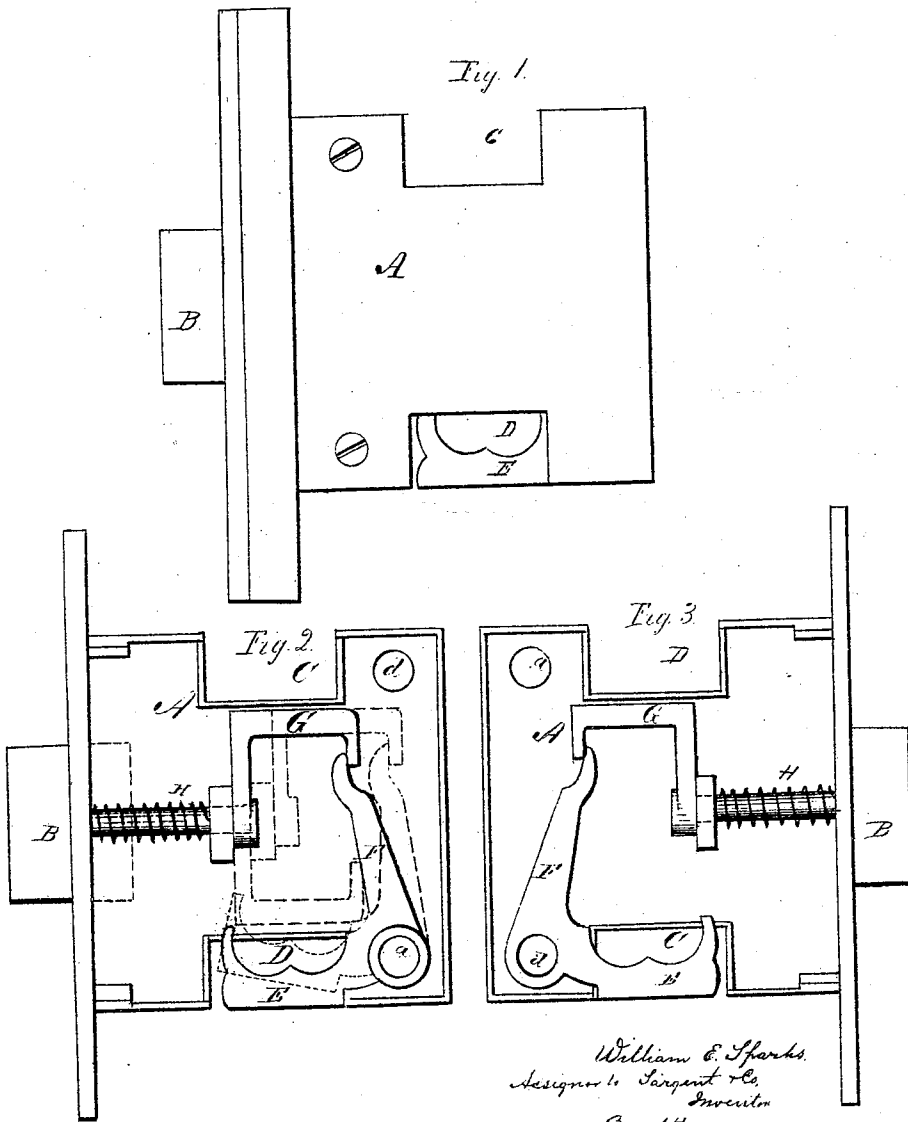


W. E. Sparks,

Reversible Latch.

No. 102723.

Patented May 3, 1870.



William E. Sparks,  
Assignor to Targent & Co.  
Inventor  
By Attorney

John E. Eads

Witnesses  
J. H. Shumway  
A. J. Tibbits

# United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM E. SPARKS, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO SARGENT & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 102,723, dated May 3, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN REVERSIBLE-LATCHES.

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

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. SPARKS, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Thumb-Latches; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent in—

Figure 1, a side view;

Figure 2, a view of the operative mechanism set for a right-hand door; and in

Figure 3, set for a left-hand door.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of mortise latches which is constructed to be operated by the thumb-piece or lever extending through the door, the object being to adapt the latch to either a right or left-hand door; and

The invention consists in pivoting the yoke to the latch-spindle, so that it may be turned toward either edge of the lock-case, and the arrangement of the lever in connection with the said yoke, so that the lever may be transferred from one edge to the other of the case to reverse the action.

A is the latch-case;

B, the latch-bolt; and

C and D recesses cut in opposite edges of the case through which the thumb-piece passes.

E is one arm, and F the other arm of a lever arranged within the case upon a pivot, *a*, as seen in fig. 2, so that the arm E lies in the recess D in the case, and when the thumb-lever is raised it will raise the arm, as denoted in broken lines.

G is a yoke, pivoted to the spindle H of the latch-bolt, so as to be turned from the position denoted in fig. 2 to that denoted in broken lines in the same figure, so as to be in connection with the arm F. Therefore, when the lever is raised it draws in the latch-bolt, as denoted in broken lines.

To reverse the latch, as for a left-hand door, remove the lever from its pivot or fulcrum *a*, turn the yoke G over, as denoted in broken lines fig. 2, and as seen in fig. 3; then reset the lever on the pivot *d*, which brings the arm E into the opposite recess C, and consequently reverses the operation of the latch.

I claim as my invention—

The yoke G pivoted to the latch-bolt B, so as to be turned to opposite sides, combined with the levers E F, constructed to be set in position on the fulcras *a* or *d*, as the case may be, for the purpose of reversing the action of the latch-bolt, substantially as set forth.

WILLIAM E. SPARKS.

Witnesses:

A. J. TIBBITS,

J. H. SHUMWAY.