

JOHN HOMRIGHOUS.

Improvement in Fastening Keys for Coffins.

No. 124,745.

Patented March 19, 1872.

Fig. 1.

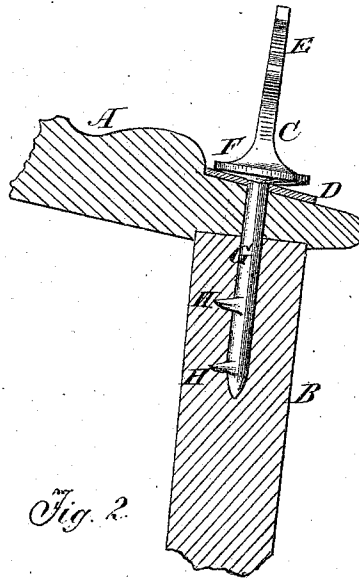
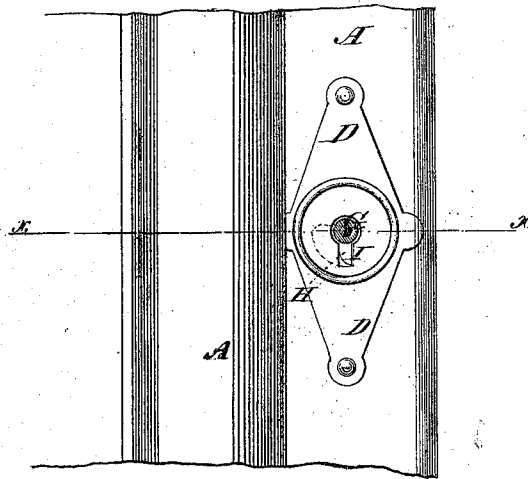


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HOMRIGHOUS, OF ROYALTON, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENING-KEYS FOR COFFINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 124,745, dated March 19, 1872.

Specification describing certain Improvements in Coffin-Fastening Key, invented by JOHN HOMRIGHOUS, of Royalton, in the county of Fairfield and State of Ohio.

The object of this invention is to provide a substitute for screws, used in fastening the lids of coffins, and for all similar purposes, whereby much time and annoyance may be saved; and it consists in a key, constructed and applied as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a vertical section, showing the key applied to a coffin and the manner of its application, the section being taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top view with the key removed.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the cover, and B the side or end of a coffin or box of any kind. C is the fastening-key. D is a plate, attached to the cover by small screws or nails through which the key passes, and which forms an ornament or finish on the cover. E is the top part of the key, which may be of any form or size, so that the key may be turned either by the thumb and finger, or by a wrench or pin. Ordinarily, the key would be constructed as represented in the drawing, so that it could be turned like a thumb-screw. F is the shoulder, and G is the shank of the key, which passes through the cover and enters the side or end B the same as a common wood screw. H represents one or more spurs, which project from the side of the shank near its end, as seen in Fig. 1. These spurs are preferably flat and sharp on one edge, and placed spirally on the shank, or like the thread of a screw, so that when the key is turned the spurs will draw

the key down and tighten the cover to the side, the same as would be done by turning down a screw.

To apply the key in this manner, a hole is bored through the top or cover and in the side or end, and then a channel, I, is cut in one side of the hole of sufficient size to admit the spurs. The channel is seen in Fig. 2, extending through the plate D. With the hole thus prepared the key may be dropped into it, and when it is turned, the spur or spurs will penetrate the wood and act the same as a screw-thread to draw the parts of the coffin, box, or other article, together. The lower edge of the obliquely-placed spur is sharpened or made thin, so that it will readily penetrate the wood. Ordinarily, the spur or spurs will be placed so that the key would be turned to the right to fasten, and to the left to unfasten. One-fourth of a revolution will do either. A great saving of time is thus effected, when the time required for driving screws with a screw-driver is considered.

I do not confine myself to the precise form or arrangement of the parts described, nor to any particular use or purpose as regards the application of the key, but design it more especially as a coffin-fastening.

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

The key C, with a shoulder, F, and one or more spurs, H, arranged substantially as and for the purposes described.

JOHN HOMRIGHOUS.

Witnesses:

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