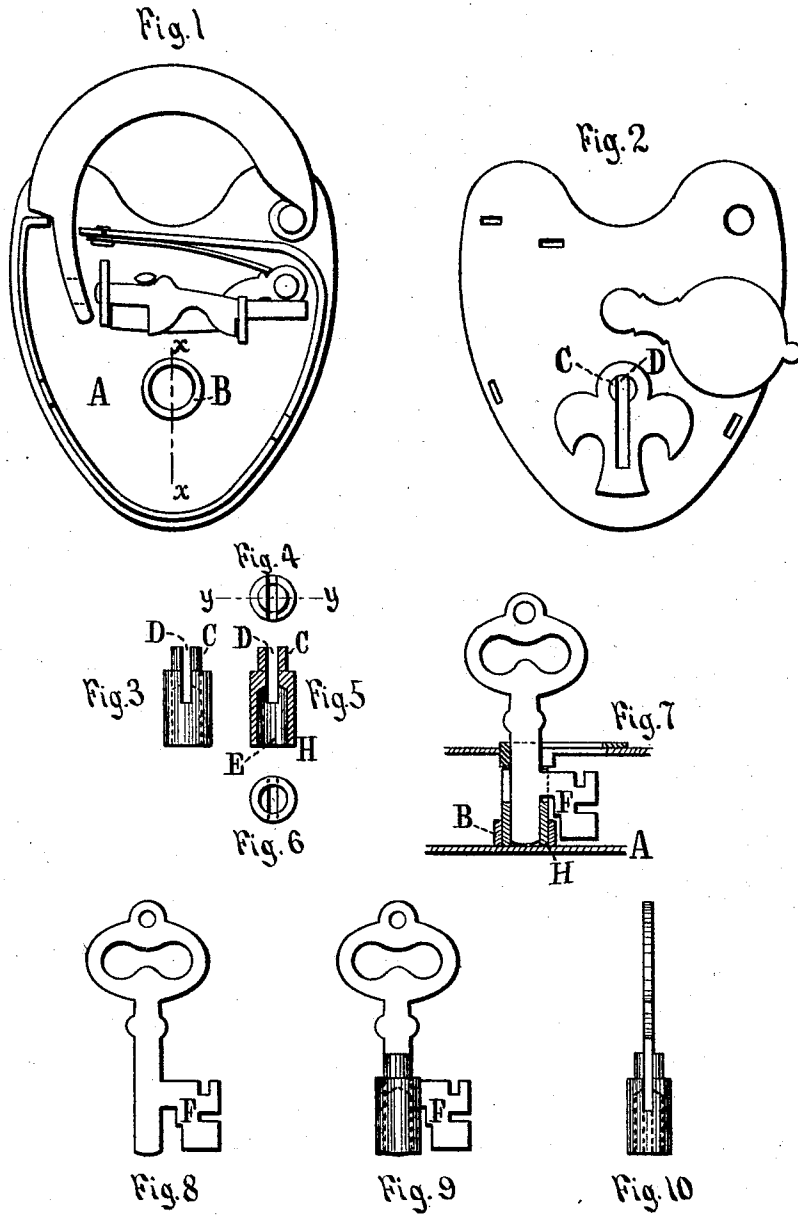


W. WILCOX.
Pad-Locks.

No. 146,968.

Patented Jan. 27, 1874.



Witnesses

Samuel Babcock
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WILLIAM WILCOX, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN PADLOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **146,968**, dated January 27, 1874; application filed December 30, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WILCOX, of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Padlocks, of which the following is a full and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to enable me to apply a perfectly flat key to the ordinary padlock without the necessity of changing its construction, except adding a simple and inexpensive key-hub.

The annexed drawings represent the common padlock, and my invention as applied to it, in which—

Figure 1 is an interior view of an ordinary padlock, showing the socket B on the back plate, in which the cavity end of the key-hub rotates, and which also forms a ward that the key must properly fit. Fig. 2 is a view of the top plate, showing the slotted end C of the key-hub as it appears on the exterior or front of the lock. Fig. 3 is a side view of the rotating key-hub, showing the slot D, which receives the bit of the flat key, on either side of the hub. Fig. 4 is a top and end view of the same. Fig. 5 is a vertical section of the same along the line *y y*. Fig. 6 is a view of the lower or cavity end of the same. Fig. 7 is a central vertical section of the padlock on the line *x x*, showing the flat key and the rotating key-hub in position. Fig. 8 is a side view of the flat key. Fig. 9 is a side view of the flat key and the rotating key-hub. Fig. 10 is an edge view of the same.

The letter A indicates the back plate of the lock. B is the round socket fixed in the back plate, in which sits and rotates the end H of the key-hub. (Shown in Fig. 7.) The socket also performs the office of a ward. The end C of the key-hub is reduced in size, forming a shoulder, by which it is held in position by the top plate, as shown in Figs. 2 and 7. The rotating key-hub has a slot, D, cut entirely through it at the end C, as shown in Fig. 3, and sufficiently deep to meet the cavity or counter-bore E. (Shown in Fig. 5.) Through this slot the stem of the flat key passes and penetrates the cavity or counter-bore, and is supported laterally by the slot D, and vertically by the cavity or counter-bore E, which fits it and furnishes an exceedingly simple and positive support for the key throughout its whole rotation, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10.

It is immaterial which side of the slot D the bit of the flat key is entered, as the lock may be operated equally well in either position.

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

A rotating key-hub, with the cavity or counter-bore E at one end, and the slot D at the opposite end, the cavity and slot meeting, forming bearings for the sides and edges of the flat key, and supporting it firmly in its proper position while performing its entire rotation.

WILLIAM WILCOX.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL BABCOCK,
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