H. Hungerford,

Key Fastener.

No. 46,239. Patented Feb. 7, 1865.

Fig. 1.

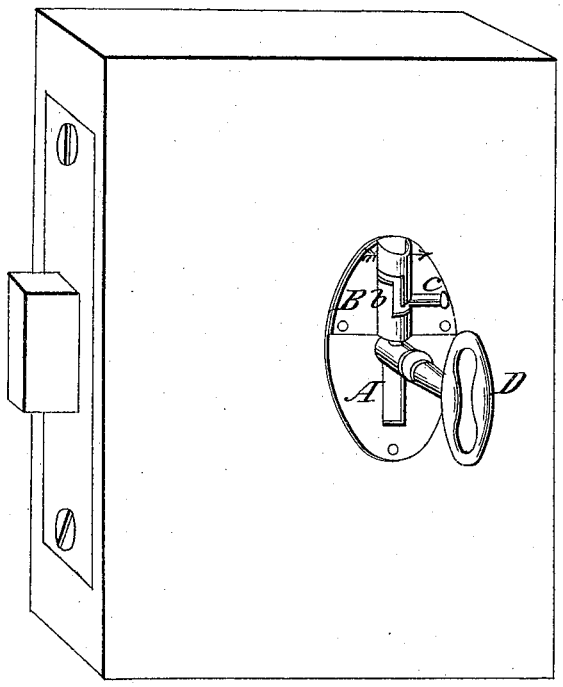


Fig. 2.

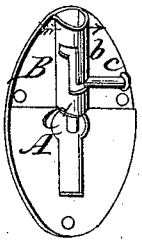


Fig. 3.

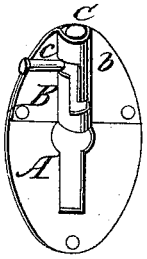
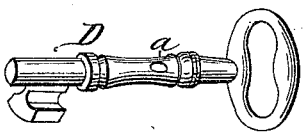


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY HUNGERFORD, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN KEY-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **46,239**, dated February 7, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY HUNGERFORD, of Brooklyn, Kings county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Lock-Scutcheon and Key-Fastener, for holding and fastening the keys of door-locks so they cannot be turned in or pushed out of such locks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my invention and of its mode or manner of operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, and making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the production and arrangement of a device which can easily be attached to any ordinary door-lock, either mortise or box lock, and by means of which the key, after the door has been locked, is securely held and fastened in the lock, so that it can neither be turned to unlock the lock nor be pushed out so that the lock can be picked.

Figure 1 shows a lock with its bolt thrown out and the key fastened therein. Figs. 2 and 3 are views of the key fastener in two positions. Fig. 4 is a view of the key fitted to take the fastener.

To or over the usual scutcheon-plate, A, or upon the face of the lock, there is fixed or placed another plate, B, behind which moves the bolt C, as required. The lower end of such bolt is reduced in size, as shown more plainly in Fig. 2, and generally such bolt is so placed as to be directly over the key-hole and key. In the shank of the key D, at such place as to be under the bolt C when the key is fully entered within the lock, there is drilled a hole, *a*, Figs. 1 and 4, of a suitable size to receive the reduced end of the bolt C, and into which such bolt will enter when it is moved in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

As will be at once apparent, when the bolt C is moved downward and caused to enter the hole in the shank of the key, as shown in Fig. 1, the key will be securely held in the position it then has, and cannot be turned in the lock, either by nippers or otherwise, nor can it be pushed out of the lock so that any tool can be inserted to pick it. The lock is thus effectually protected from being opened either by the key itself or by being picked.

To render the action of the bolt C more certain and hold it in any desired position, the plate B is cut or slotted, as shown at *b*, Figs. 1, 2, and 3, in which slot moves the stem *c*, which enters the bolt C. When the bolt is passed into the shank of the key, as represented in Fig. 1, the stem *c* is turned into the lower horizontal section of the slot *b*, and as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the bolt is thereby prevented from being raised, except by moving such stem into the perpendicular section of such slot. On the other hand, when the use of the bolt is not required to fasten the key, the stem is carried in the position shown in Fig. 3. The bolt is thus kept elevated, and the key can be entered or removed from the lock without inconvenience. Such form of bolt, with its stem, in combination with the slotted guide-plate, both secures the bolt in the key and prevents its turning, and also sustains the bolt above the key when desired.

An additional means of holding the bolt in the key may be made use of, if desired, by having a small hole made through the sides of the plate B near the top, as indicated by the arrow, and inserting a pin therein; but it is believed that the security obtained by the stem *c* moving in the sections of the slot *b* will be all-sufficient.

The bolt may be placed on the outside of the lock, as shown in Fig. 1, or may be sunk partly or mostly behind the ordinary plate A, as desirable, either for convenience or appearance. Such bolt may also move vertically or horizontally or at an angle, and the key may be held in the position shown in Fig. 1 or at a half-turn.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination and arrangement of the bolt C, constructed substantially as described, and its guide or case B, with the perforated key, the whole combined and operating substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

Witnesses: HENRY HUNGERFORD.
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W. R. RONALDS.