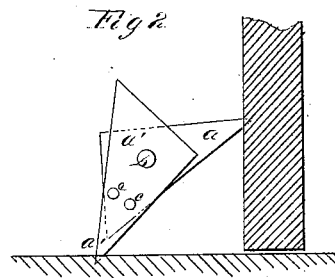
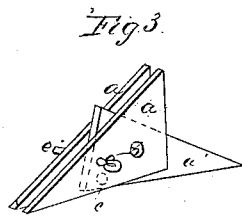
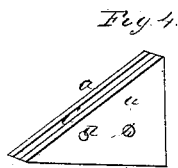
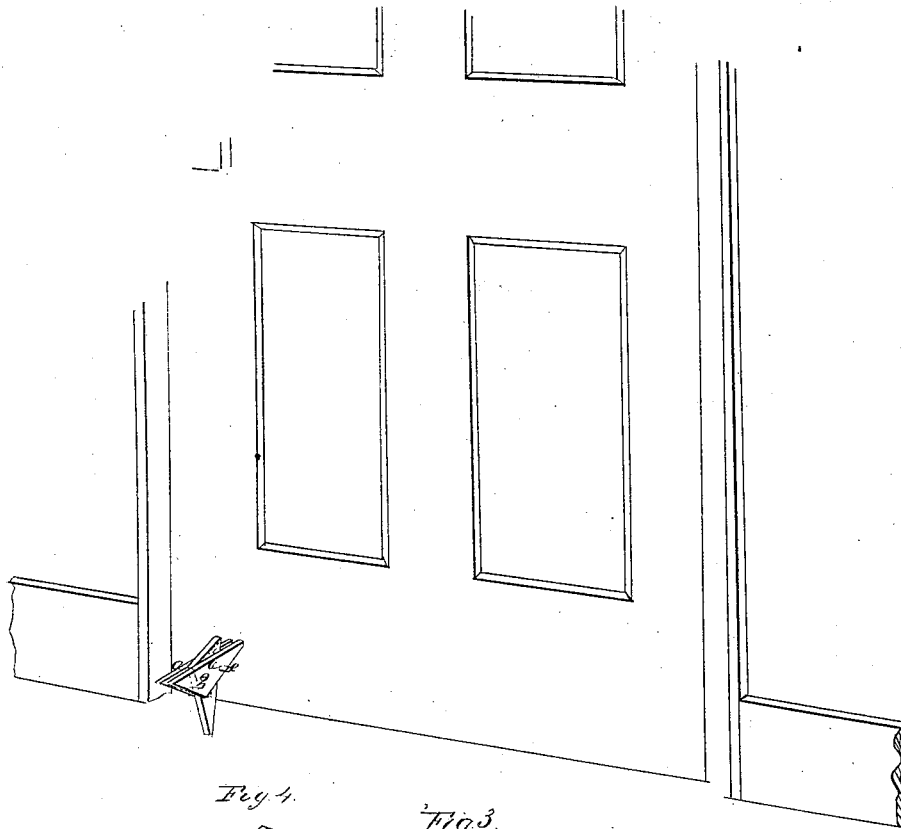


*A. V. Thomas,*

*Door Securer.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 50,751.*

*Patented Oct. 31, 1865.*



*Witnesses*  
*R. S. Campbell*  
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*Inventor*  
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*Man. Daniel H. Thomas*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED V. THOMAS, OF FREDERICK, MARYLAND.

## TRAVELER'S NIGHT-LOCK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,751, dated October 31, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALFRED V. THOMAS, of Frederick, county of Frederick, and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Traveler's Night-Lock; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the manner of applying the lock to the inside of a door. Fig. 2 is a side view of the lock in position for holding a door closed. Figs. 3 and 4 are perspective views of the lock.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

Doors which are not provided with bolts are always unsafe, as almost all of the ordinary door-locks can be easily picked. Hence the importance of having a contrivance by means of which a person can securely lock himself into his room at night and feel perfectly secure from burglars, and upon leaving the room carry the lock with him.

The object of my invention is to provide a portable or pocket door-lock which shall be applicable to any and all varieties of doors, and which can be applied to a door so as to effectually prevent the entrance of persons from without, as will be hereinafter described.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand my invention, I will describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings, *a a a'* represent three triangular plates of metal, of an equal size, which can be stamped out of thin metal plates by means of dies and punches adapted for the purpose. These three plates are pivoted together by means of a transverse pin, *b*, which should be large and strong; the ends of this pin may be riveted so as to keep it in its place and allow the three plates to turn freely around it.

*c c* are perforations which are made through the intermediate plate, *a'*, in a curved line which is concentric with the axis of the pin *b*, so that the perforations *d d* through the outside plates, *a a*, may both be brought to register with either one of the holes *c c*, and a pin, *e*,

inserted, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, for the purpose of holding the three plates rigidly together in a position for locking a door. The acute angles of the triangular plates are made sufficiently sharp to enter wood with a slight pressure upon them.

The manner of using this lock is clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, where it will be seen that the plates are turned so that the acute angles of the plates *a a* project in an opposite direction to the acute angle of the intermediate plate, *a'*. The sharp angles of the plates being thus arranged, and the pin *e* inserted through the proper holes, one of the angles is pressed against the door and the other two pressed down upon the floor. This forms an inclined prop which will penetrate the wood sufficiently to retain itself in place and prevent the door from being forced open.

When the device is not in immediate use the three plates are turned so as to present the compact form shown in Fig. 4, and it can be conveniently carried in the pocket.

The advantage of using triangular plates is that the greatest strength occurs at the point where the greatest strain comes upon them, and by using three plates two of them will support the other, so as to keep it upright against a door.

By making two or more holes through the intermediate plate, *a'*, the acute angles can be adjusted nearer to or set farther from each other, to increase or diminish the angle of the prop.

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

A portable or pocket door-fastening composed of triangular plates, which are pivoted together so as to operate substantially as described.

Witness my hand in the matter of my application for a patent for improvement in travelers' night-locks.

ALFRED V. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

E. SCHAFER,  
EDM. F. BROWN.