W. E. Sparks,

Latch.

No. 107,418. Patented Sep. 13. 1870.

fig. 1.

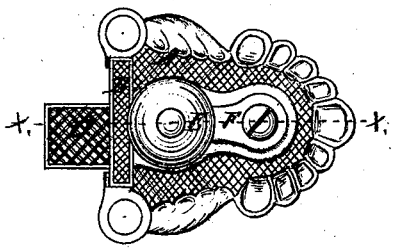


fig. 2.

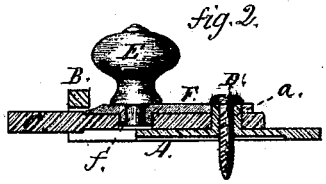


fig. 3.

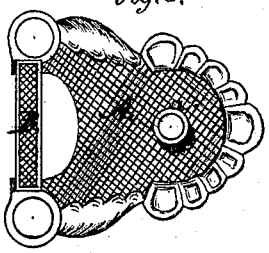


fig. 4.

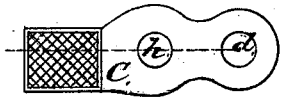


fig. 5.

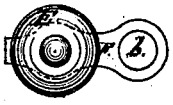


fig. 6.

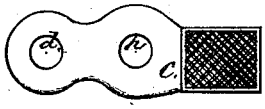
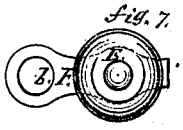


fig. 7.



Witnesses.

A. J. Sibbitt

J. H. Shumway

William E. Sparks.
Inventor
By his Attorney.
John E. Earl

United States Patent Office.

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

Letters Patent No. 107,418, *dated September* 13, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN CUPBOARD-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 Cupboard-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 front view;
Figure 2, a section on line *x x*;
Figure 3, the latch-plate;
Figure 4, the latch;
Figure 5, the knob or lifter;
Figure 6, the reverse side of the latch; and in
Figure 7, the latch in a reversed position.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of latches known to the trade as cupboard-latches, that is, a small latch arranged upon a plate, to be fixed to the outside of the door, the object being to make such latches reversible for a right or left-hand door.

The invention consists in the latch-head, constructed with a pivot-point at one side of the center of the said latch-head, and combined with a knob or lifter upon a detachable plate, which is fixed to the latch and hung upon the same pivot with the latch.

A is the latch-plate, constructed with a guard, B, so as to allow the necessary play for the latch, and with a bearing or pivot, *a*, upon which to hang the latch, the said pivot being in a central position relative to the guard B.

C, the latch, is constructed as seen in fig. 4, and perforated at *d*, to fit onto the bearing *a*, the said perforation *d* being at one side of the central line, so that one side out, that is, as seen in fig. 4, the latch on the pivot will rest at the lower side of the guard B, as seen in fig. 1, and, when turned over, the other side out, as seen in fig. 6, these will lie, as seen in fig. 7, in the same relative position upon the guard B, without changing the position of the bearing.

I prefer to employ the bearing *a* to receive the latch, and to insert a screw, D, through the said bearing, to hold the plate in its place, and at the same time the latch upon the plate; yet it may be readily seen that the screw itself may form the bearing, without the pivot *a* formed on the plate.

To thus reverse the latch, it is necessary that the knob or lifter should be on the other side of the latch. To do this, I fix the knob E to a separate plate, F, and form the said plate F with a stud or projection, *f*, to fit a seat, *h*, in the latch, and also extend the said plate F back and perforate it, as at *b*, (see figs. 2 and 5,) corresponding to the perforation *d* in the latch, so that the same screw which secures the latch-plate A, will also secure the plate F and its knob onto the latch, as seen in figs. 1 and 2.

I do not wish to be understood as broadly claiming a reversible cupboard-latch, as such, I am aware, is not new; but

I do claim as my invention—

The latch-head C, constructed with the pivot-point *d*, at one side of the center of the said latch-head, and combined with the reversible knob or lifter E on the plate F, substantially in the manner set forth.

WILLIAM E. SPARKS.

Witnesses:

A. J. TIBBITS,
J. H. SHUMWAY.