

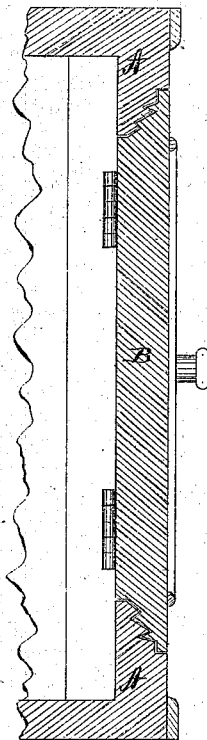
SAMUEL S. B. LEWIS & WILLIAM H. STERLING.

Improvement in Safes.

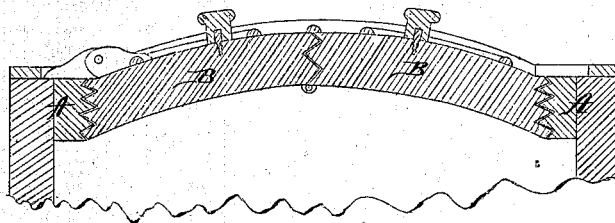
No. 115,221.

Patented May 23, 1871.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnessed  
Jas. Hutchinson  
Chas. L. Evert,

Inventor.  
Saml. S. B. Lewis  
Wm. H. Sterling  
per Alexander Thomson  
Attys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL S. B. LEWIS AND WILLIAM H. STERLING, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SAFES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 115,221, dated May 23, 1871.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, SAMUEL S. B. LEWIS and WILLIAM H. STERLING, of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer and in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar-Proof Safes; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon making a part of this specification.

The nature of our invention consists in the construction and arrangement of safe-doors and safe-fronts in such a manner as to render the safe wedge-proof, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which our invention appertains to make and use the same, we will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section, and Fig. 2 is a horizontal section.

A A represent the jambs of the safe for the doors B B. These doors may be either hinged in the center, as shown in the drawing, or one door hinged at each side, closing in the center. The edges of the doors B B are on all four sides cut with tongues and grooves, as shown, and the door-jambs A A are cut in a corresponding manner, so as to lock together, as represented in the drawing, when it will be impossible for any burglar to introduce a wedge for the purpose of opening the doors; and we call this a wedge-proof safe.

In making the doors and jambs of a safe in this manner we propose to make the doors, and also the front of the safe around the doors, concavo-convex so far that the center hinge, if one be used, will be on, or nearly on, a line with the outside of the jambs, as such a construction will facilitate the opening of the safe when unlocked, and also allow of making the tongues and grooves at the front and back of the doors better for interlocking and for se-

curity than could be accomplished with a straight door. We, however, intend to include straight doors in our claims.

It will be seen that, with a safe-door constructed in this manner, it will be impossible to open the door at the inner or outer edge by any means except by unlocking the safe-lock, when the joint in the center may be broken, and then only the door can be opened.

The same manner of construction may also be applied to any other safe-door; for instance, those made rounding at the top and bottom, and those partially round.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A centrally-bisected safe-door, provided on its inner and outer edges with tongues and grooves, and interlocking with corresponding grooves and tongues in the door-jambs, substantially as shown and described, so that neither edge can be moved square out from its seat, as herein set forth.

2. A safe-door, provided on its inner and outer edges with tongues and grooves interlocking with corresponding grooves and tongues in the door-jambs, and bisected vertically through the center, said central division having also interlocking tongues and grooves, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

3. A centrally-bisected concavo-convex door, with corresponding door-frame, on a safe having square sides, where the door and frame are provided with interlocking tongues and grooves, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands this 30th day of November, 1870.

SAMUEL S. B. LEWIS.  
WILLIAM H. STERLING.

Witnesses:

H. REM INGALLS,  
E. A. PALMER.