

(No Model.)

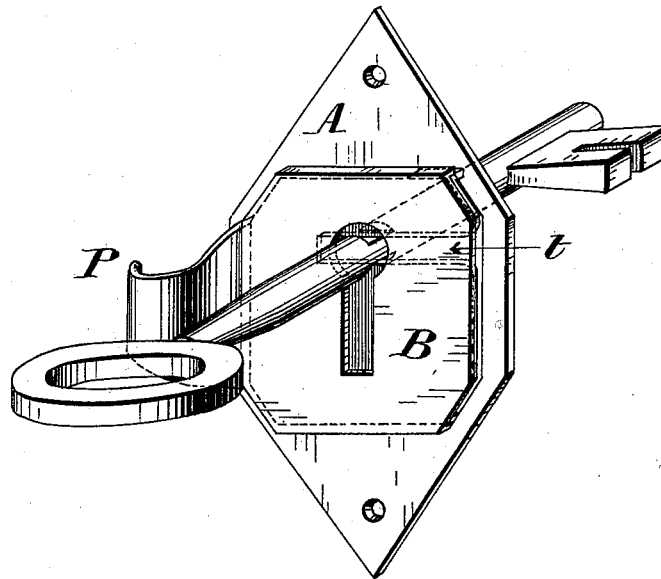
E. K. SUMERWELL.

KEY FASTENER.

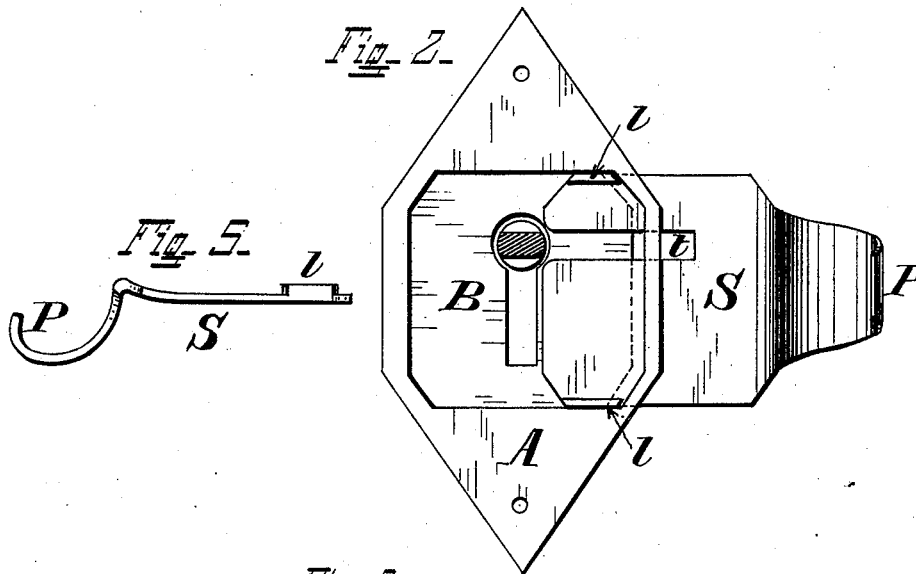
No. 304,763.

Patented Sept. 9, 1884.

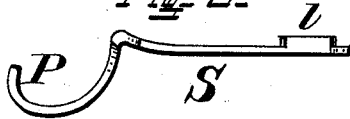
*Fig. 1.*



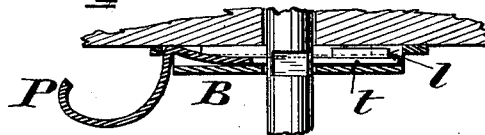
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 3.*



Attest  
Carl Spengel  
S. J. Godley.

*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD K. SUMERWELL, OF COVINGTON, KENTUCKY.

## KEY-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,763, dated September 9, 1884.

Application filed March 10, 1884. (No model.)

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

Be it known that I, EDWARD K. SUMERWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing in Covington, Kenton county, and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved device which can be applied to the face of the lock itself, or where mortised locks are used can be attached to the frame of the door in a line with the key-hole, whereby, if desired, the key is secured in the lock, so that it cannot be turned from the outside by the use of nippers or such other instrument as is used by persons of evil intent. Besides this it prevents the key from being readily detached from the lock by children and mislaid. Another advantage incident to my device is that it closes the key-hole and acts as a preventive of prying and the injection of any somniferous substance.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device, showing the key in position and locked. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same when the slide is drawn out and the key unsecured. Fig. 3 is a horizontal cross-section taken through the shield and escutcheon in a line with the key-hole. Fig. 4 is an end view of a modified form of the locking-slide, and Fig. 5 is an end view of the locking-slide which is represented in Figs. 1, 2, and 3.

A is the shield, which is fastened to the face of the lock or the frame of the door, or it may form an integral part of the face of the lock.

B is the escutcheon attached to the shield. The escutcheon and shield may be stamped out of one piece of metal or brazed together, sufficient space being left between them to admit of the slide S working back and forth. This slide is made, preferably, of spring brass or steel, and has a slot, *t*, designed to embrace and firmly hold the shank of the key. In case the shank be round, it is notched, as seen in Fig. 1, so that when the slide is pushed forward it will engage with the notch and securely hold the key. The notch is not necessary where the shank is flat or square, as then its sides engage with the locking-slot and prevent turning.

It will be noticed that the slide shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and more plainly in Figs. 3 and

5, is provided with a slight curvature near the thumb-piece, while the balance of the slide on each side of the key-hole is perfectly flat or straight. The object of this curvature is to impart a certain amount of elastic force at that point, so that the slide will bind or hug the back of the escutcheon in case an attempt is made to force it back from the outside, and throw it against the bearing or shoulder formed by the shield A, as seen more plainly in Fig. 3, thus defeating the object desired.

*h* is the heel of the slide, which bears against the shoulder of the shield A, and prevents the slide from being operated from the outside.

In lieu of the before-mentioned curvature, the slide may be made perfectly straight throughout, and have attached to its surface near the thumb-piece a small spring, *s*, as seen in Fig. 4. This will accomplish the same work, though as a measure of simplicity and economy I prefer the slide as first described.

*ll* are lugs or ears for limiting the backward throw of the slide, while the thumb-piece P performs the same function relative to the forward throw.

It will be noticed that when the slide is thrown forward it covers the key-hole, so that there is no possibility of observing from the outside what is occurring within the room. This closing of the key-hole also insures protection from that class of depredators who, through such openings, first manage, by means of certain drugs, to throw their victims into insensibility, if not worse, and then ply their nefarious calling with the chances in favor of their non-detection greatly increased.

When it is desired to lock the key, all that is necessary to be done is to push the slide forward, so that its slot will engage with the shank of the key. This will effect the desired result. In order to release the key, the slide is moved in the opposite direction.

It will be observed that the escutcheon is fastened to the shield in such a manner as to permit the slide being inserted and worked from either side, in order that the device may be adapted to a right or left handed lock.

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

In a key-fastener, a shield, as A, with an

escutcheon formed integral therewith, and provided with slideways at its sides, formed by striking up the metal to form the escutcheon, in combination with a slide adapted 5 to engage with the shank of the key, said slide being provided with lugs *h*, and formed of thin metal, and bent to form a shoulder or stop, *h*,

to engage with the side of the shield and hold it in locking position, substantially as described.

EDWARD K. SUMERWELL.

Witnesses:

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