

W. Miller,

Key Fastener,

No. 40,115,

Patented Sep. 29, 1863.

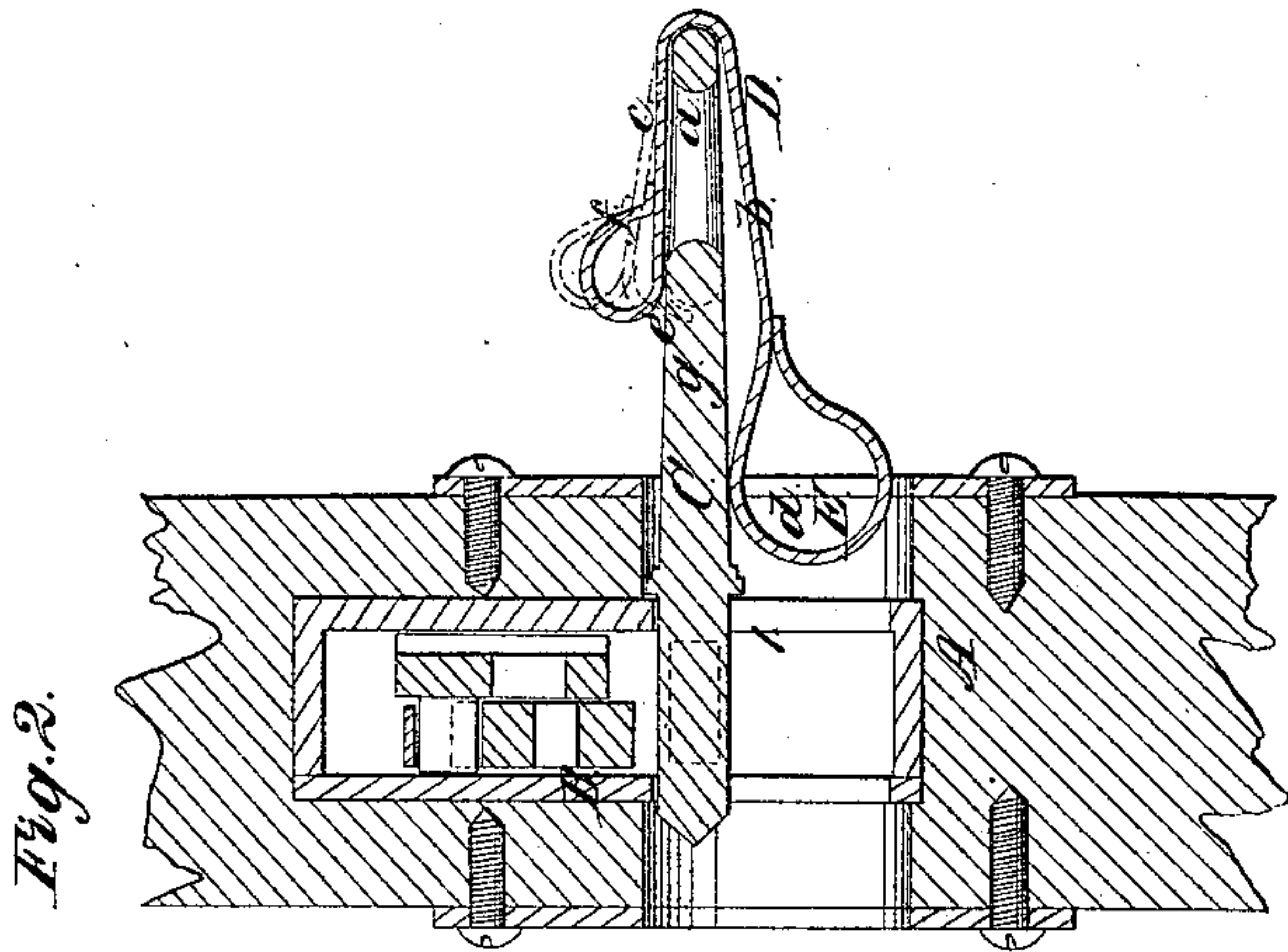


Fig. 3.

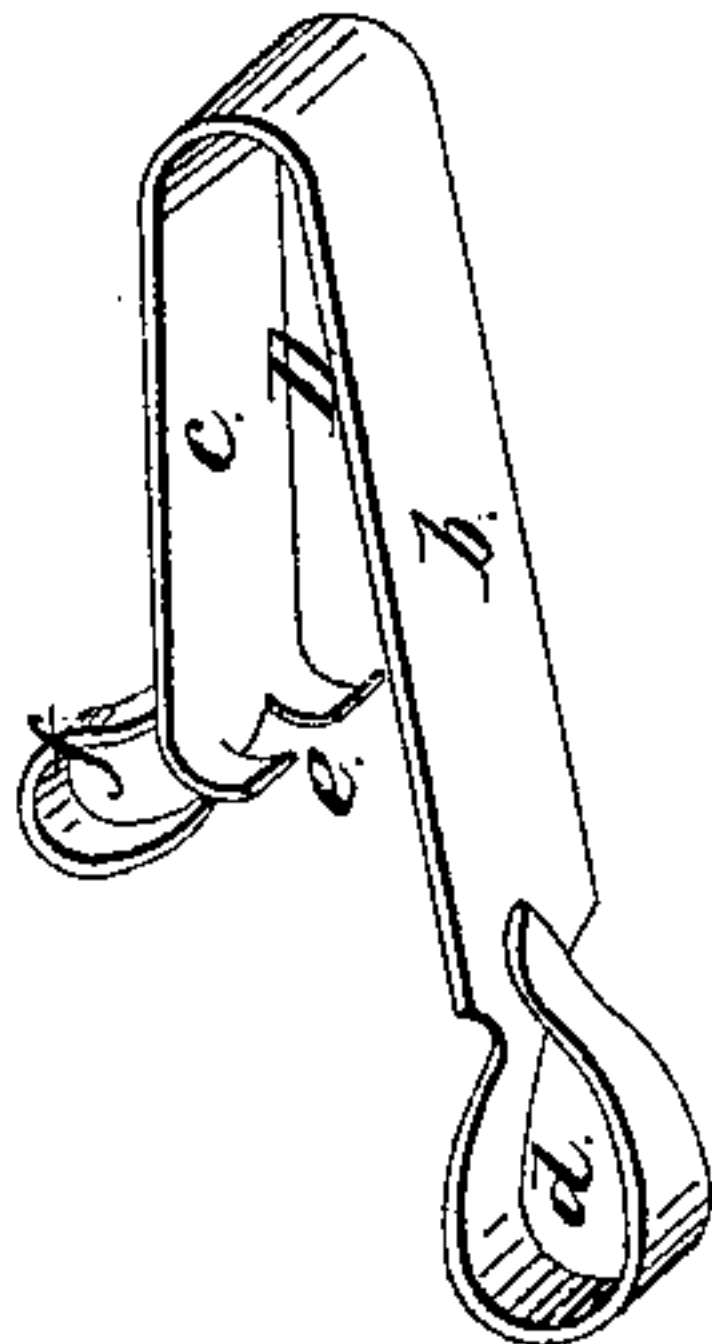
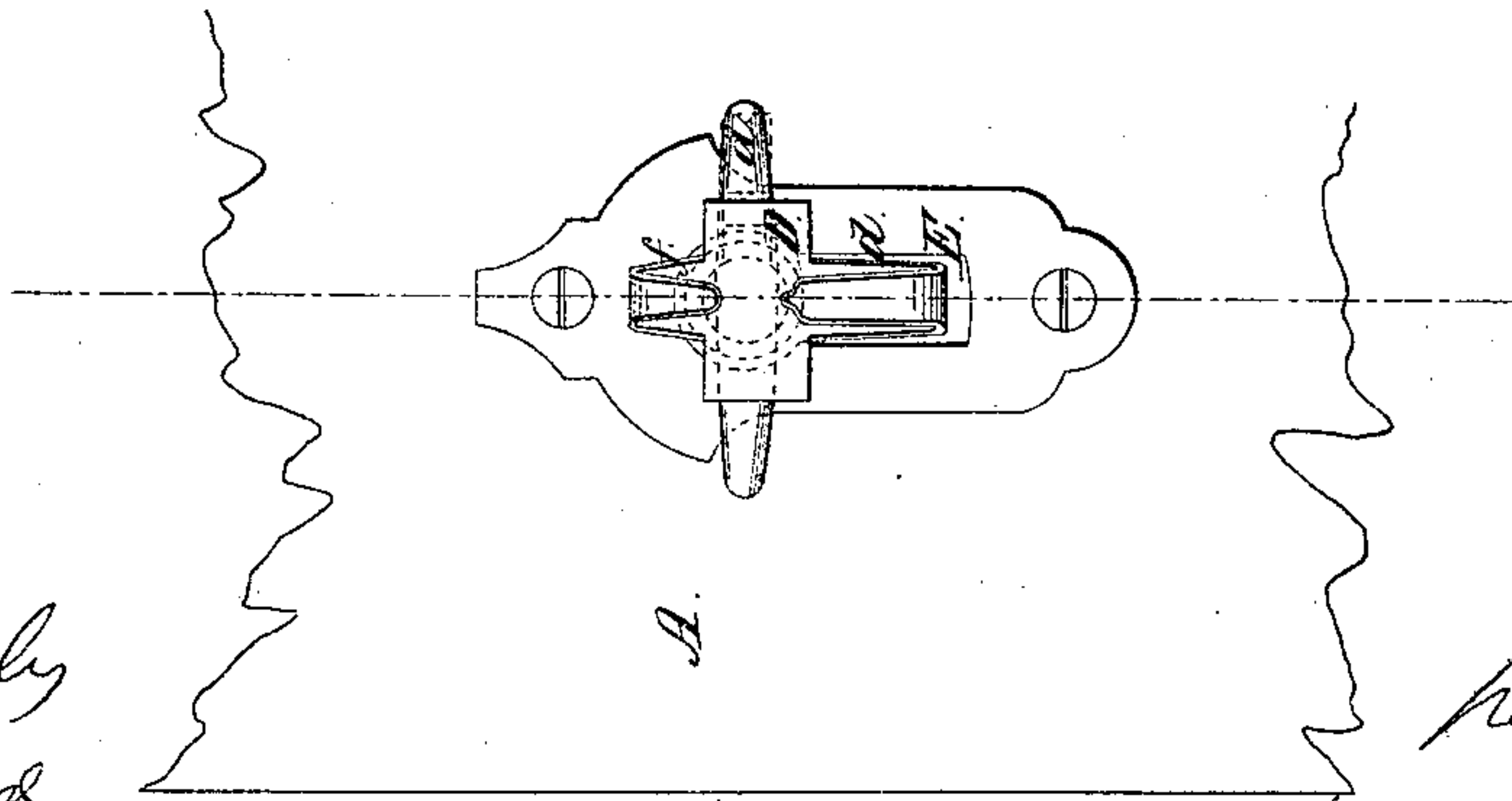


Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

J. W. Coombs,
Geo. W. Reed

Inventor.

Wm. Miller
per Munroe & Co
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM MILLER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVED GUARD ATTACHMENT FOR LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 40,115, dated September 29, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MILLER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Guard Attachment for Locks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front or face view of a portion of a door having a mortise lock fitted in it with my invention applied to it; Fig. 2, a section of the same, taken in the line *aa*; Fig. 3, a detached perspective view of my invention.

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

The object of this invention is to obtain a simple, efficient, and cheap device which may be readily applied to a lock and to the key thereof in such a manner as to prevent the turning of the key at the outer side of the door, an expedient frequently resorted to by burglars to open doors when locked, and the key left in the inner side of the lock.

The invention consists in the employment or use of a metal plate bent so as to form a clasp, which may be fitted over the bow of the key, so as to be secured thereto and have one end fitted in the key-hole, substantially as hereinafter fully shown and described, whereby the desired end is attained.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a portion of a door containing a mortise-lock, B, of the usual or any proper construction. C is the key, represented as being in the lock, and provided with the usual bow *a*, by which it may be readily turned by the hand.

D is a clasp, formed of a flat metal plate bent in V form, or in a form approximating thereto and having one of its legs or parts, *b*, rather longer than the other one, *c*. The largest leg, or part *b* of the clasp terminates in a loop, *d*, which is shown clearly in Figs. 2 and 3, the loop being considerably narrower than the plate, so that the former may readily enter the key-hole E of the lock. (See Fig. 2.) The end of the short part C of the clasp terminates in a fork or claw, *e*, shown clearly in Fig. 3, and a loop, *f*, is also attached to the short end of the clasp, said loop serving as a handle to aid in lifting or raising the part C when necessary.

The device is applied to the lock and key as follows: The clasp is fitted on the bow *a* of the key, the loop *d* entering the key-hole E, and the claw *e* fitting over the arbor or shank *g* of the key at the junction of the latter with the bow. The clasp has sufficient spring or elasticity in itself to keep the claw *e* in the arbor or shank *g* of the key.

The clasp D is sufficiently broad to cover the greater portion of the bow *a* of the key, and it will be seen that when the clasp is applied to the key and lock as described the key cannot be turned at the outer side of the door, as the clasp encompasses the bow *a*, and the former is prevented from turning on account of the loop *d* fitting in the key-hole E. The claw *e*, in consequence of fitting on the shank or arbor *g* of the key in front of the bow *a*, together with the spring or elasticity of the clasp, prevents the latter from being casually detached from the bow and the loop *d* from slipping out from the key-hole E. The clasp may be detached from the bow *a* of the key when necessary by raising the part *c* by means of the loop *f*, so that the claw may be free from the arbor or shank *g* of the key.

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

The clasp D, constructed substantially as shown, so as to be capable of being fitted on the bow *a* of the key C with one end in the key-hole E, as and for the purpose set forth.

WM. MILLER.

Witnesses:

M. M. LIVINGSTON,
J. W. COOMBS.