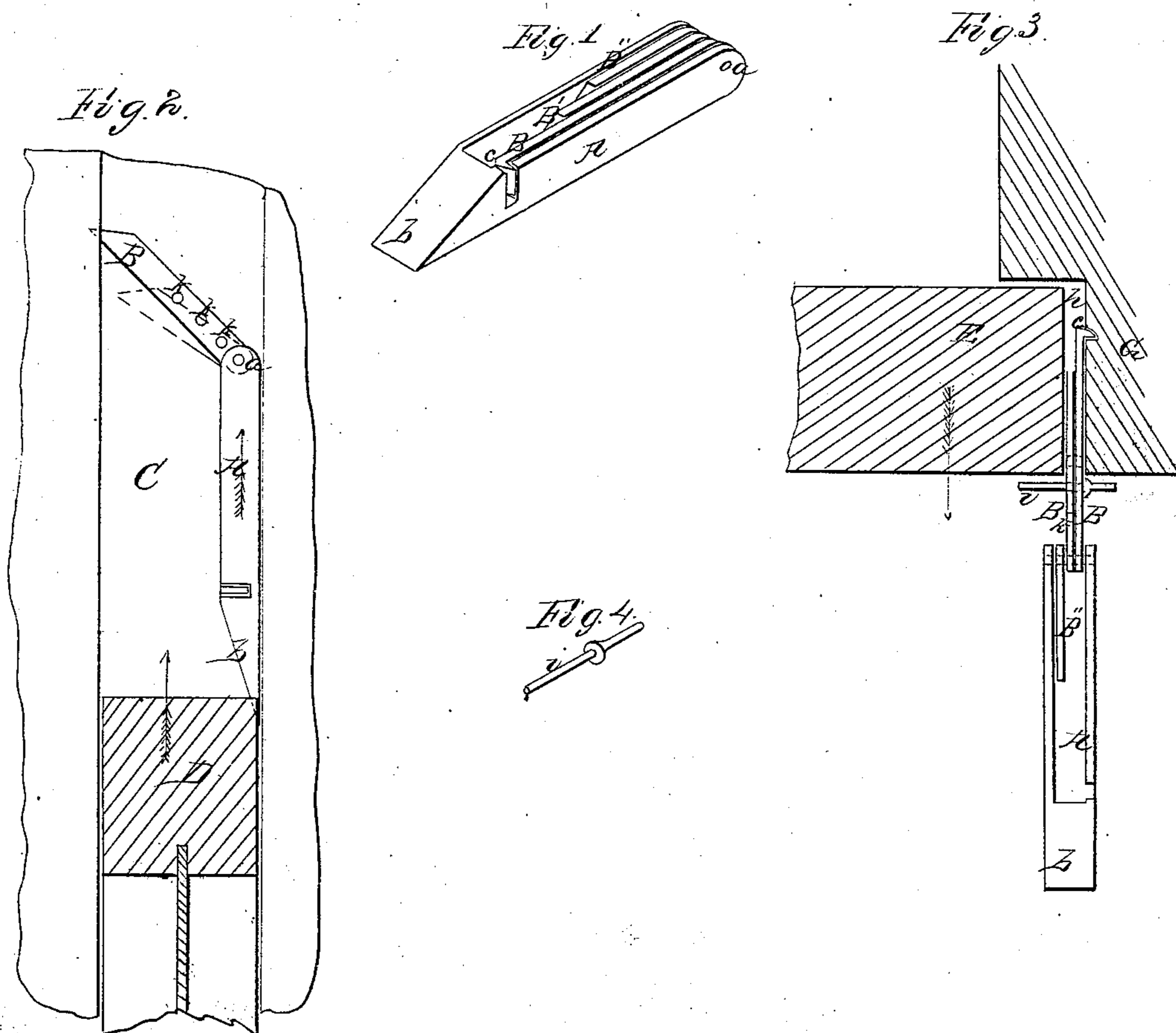


L. C. Bignall,
Door Securer.
N^o 42,924. Patented May 31, 1864.



Witnesses
Charles H. Cherry
W. A. Loebe

Inventor.
L. C. Bignall,
By J. Fraser & Co.,
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

L. C. BIGNALL, OF LOCKPORT, NEW YORK.

IMPROVED WINDOW AND DOOR FASTENER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 42,921, dated May 31, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, L. C. BIGNALL, of Lockport, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Window and Door Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fastener with the blades shut, in the condition to be carried in the pocket; Fig. 2, a view of the same as applied to a window; Fig. 3, a view of the same as applied to a door; Fig. 4, a perspective view of the stop pin.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My improved device is a portable instrument, intended both for fastening windows and doors, being applied in the former case to the sash in one of the grooves in which the sash works, and in the latter case in the crack between the edge of the door and the seat in which it rests.

In general form the instrument somewhat resembles an ordinary pocket-knife, being composed of a handle, A, and two, three, or more blades, B B' B'', turning on a pivot, *a*, and shutting into the handle. Each of these two elements composing the device has, however, a characteristic that distinguishes it from a knife, viz: the handle at its minor end is made wedging, as represented at *b*, and the blades are made of gradually-decreasing length, as clearly shown. The blades are all made pointed, with the exception of the longest one, which is provided with a right-angled nib or projection, *c*, knife-edged or pointed, and of suitable size, and whose use will presently be described.

The blades are all provided with holes *k k*, coincidently and at suitable distance apart, for the insertion of a simple stop-pin, *i*, which is used in fastening doors.

When the instrument is used as a window-fastener, as represented in Fig. 2, its position is in the groove C of the casing, in which the sash D rests. The wedging end *b* of the handle is pressed down on one side or the other into the crack between the sash and casing,

and one or more of the blades is braced angularly across the groove with its point resting on the opposite side.

By the employment of a set of blades of different lengths it is manifest that the device is adapted to use in grooves of different widths, such as are necessary in windows of different sizes. A narrow groove would render a single blade too long, while a wide groove would render it too short. I remedy the difficulty by having a graduated set of blades that is adapted to any size of groove. Thus arranged it is apparent that if the sash is pressed upward in the direction of the arrows the wedge *b* will resist the movement, and the fastener itself will be prevented from being displaced by the angular brace-blade B'. The principal strain comes on the wedge and not the blade, and therefore the former secures an important result, which could not be produced were the edge of the handle blunt. The instrument being thus fast at both ends, cannot easily be displaced. It is apparent that the upper sash may be held from moving down by bracing in the opposite direction, or that the device may be applied for holding the lower sash open at any position by placing the wedge under the sash, and bracing to the opposite side of the groove.

When used as a door-fastener, the long blade B is inserted in the crack *h*, between the edge of the door E and its seat G, as represented in Fig. 3, and the door is then shut, thus pressing the nib or projection *c* into the side of the seat so as to hold firmly there. If the crack is too wide for a single blade to hold, one or more of the other blades are opened, side by side with the first, thus adapting the thickness of the blades to that of the crack, and fitting the device to different doors. When thus arranged, the stop pin *i* is inserted in any one of the set of holes *k k*, and secures the door as firmly as any ordinary lock or bolt. When thus inserted, the stop-pin also serves the additional purpose of holding the blades together. The advantage of this combined arrangement is obvious. It is equally applicable to windows or doors, and is adapted to different sizes or conditions of the same. The blades B' B'', by being of different lengths, are adapted to different-sized grooves in the win-

dows, and by furnishing several thicknesses are also adapted to different widths of the cracks in doors. I am not aware that any device combining this double advantage has ever before been known. When the blades are closed, the instrument is in a compact and convenient form to be carried in the pocket, and is thus always at hand, in traveling, to apply to a door or window.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the handle A, provided with the wedging end *b*, and the several blades B B' B'' of graduated length, arranged

and operating substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. In combination with the wedge-handle A and graduated blades B B' B'', (one of which is provided with the nib *c*,) the holes *k* and stop-pin *i*, substantially as and for the purpose hereinafter specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

L. C. BIGNALL.

Witnesses:

A. F. BROWN,
W. E. WATTERS.