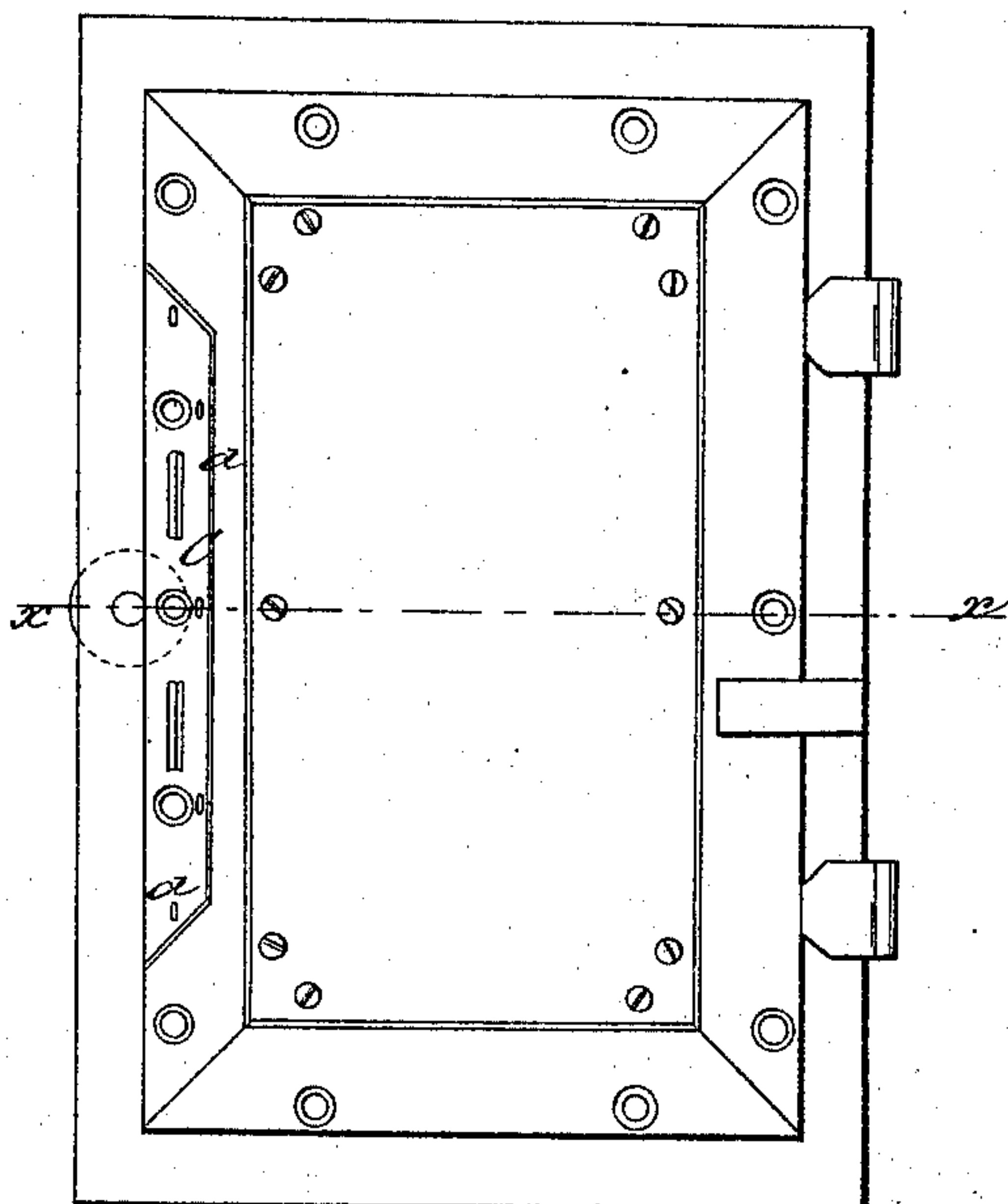
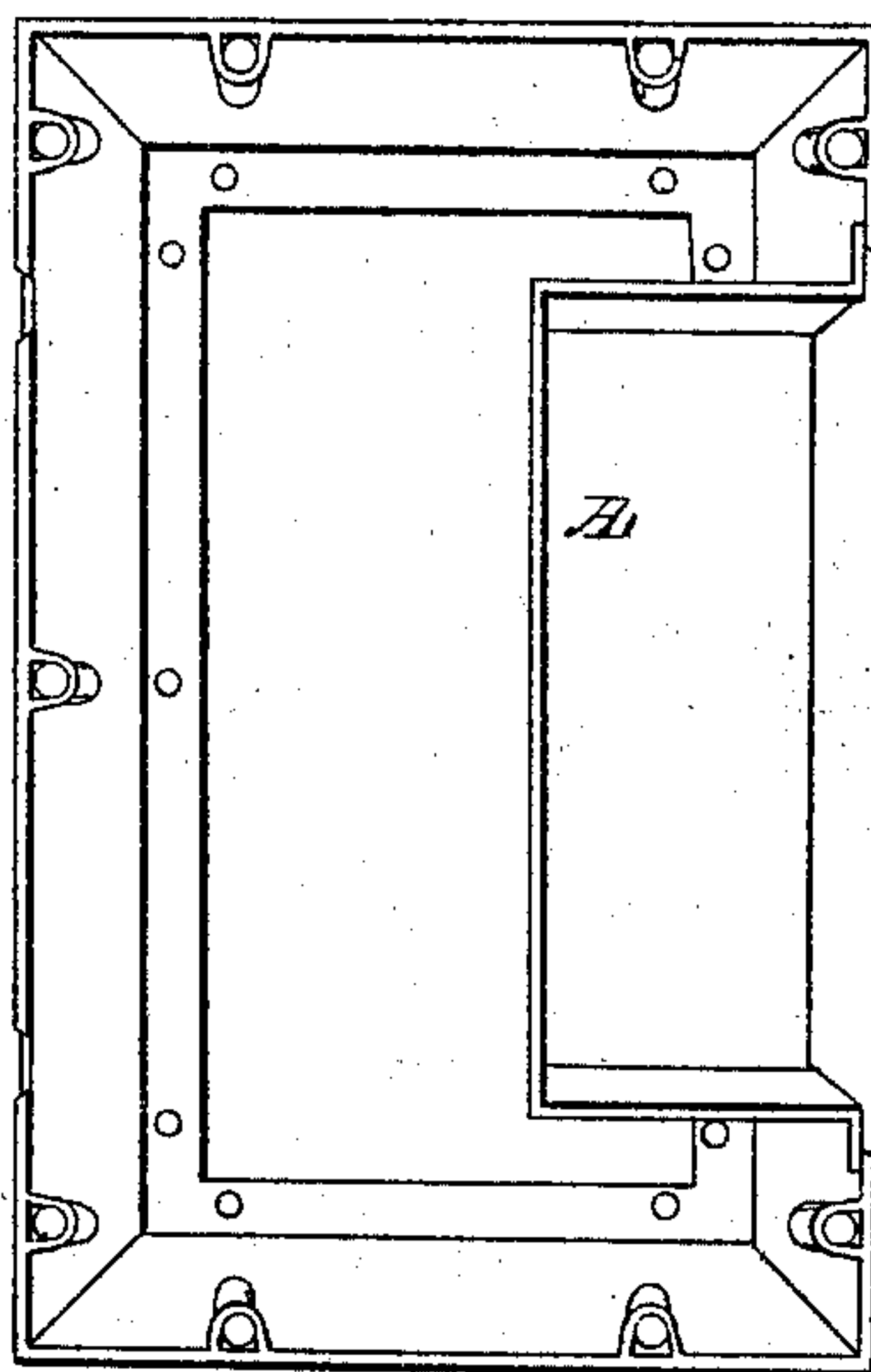


*T. Dolan,*  
*Fire-Proof Safe.*  
*N<sup>o</sup> 43,296.      Patented June 28, 1864.*

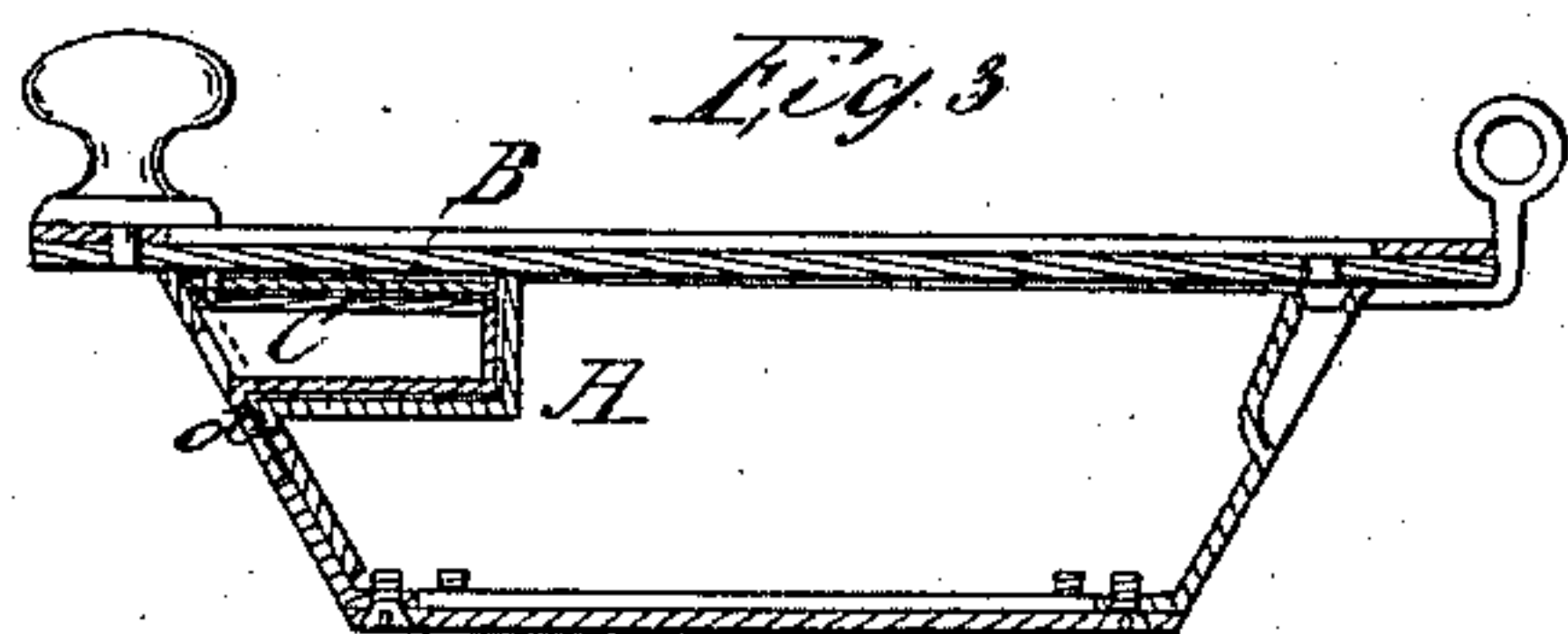
*Fig 1*



*Fig 2*



*Fig 3*



*Witnesses*

*Henry Morris*  
*C. L. Topliff*

*Inventor*

*Thomas Dolan*  
*per Munn & Co*  
*Attorneys*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS DOLAN, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SAFES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 43,296, dated June 28, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS DOLAN, of Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Applying Locks to the Doors of Fire Proof Safes; 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 an inner side view of a safe-door having a lock applied to it according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the door-casting, the lock not being applied to it; Fig. 3, a horizontal section of Fig. 1, taken in the line *x x*.

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

The object of this invention is to obtain a means whereby locks may be applied to the doors of fire-proof safes without being affected by the moisture emanating from the filling between the double walls of the door. This filling is applied in a moist state, and the dampness has hitherto proved very detrimental to the locks, causing them to need repairs in a very short time and at considerable expense, owing to the difficulty in removing the locks from the doors.

My invention, while it freely protects the lock from dampness, also admits of it being removed from the door with the greatest facility and without the aid of a mechanic, so that the lock may, when it requires to be repaired, be removed by the owner and sent to a locksmith and again applied at a comparatively small expense.

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

I cast the shell of the door with an offset or chamber, A, of sufficient dimensions to receive the lock. This chamber, until attached, is open on two sides—one toward the outside plate of the door and the other toward the

edge of the door that shuts against the casing. The former may be closed by a plate, B, which brings it flush with the inside of the outer plate of the door, while the latter side remains open for the insertion of the lock.

In place of the detached plate B the chamber may be cast complete upon the shell of the door, having but one opening—that for the insertion of the lock. The lock C is fitted in this offset or chamber A, and secured therein by screws passing through flanges *a* at the front edge of the lock. By means of this offset or chamber the lock is fully protected from the dampness emanating from the filling, as there is no communication between said offset or chamber and the space which contains the filling. The usual way is to inclose the lock within a sheet-iron covering and have the joints luted with putty. This plan, when carefully carried out, is imperfect, and more or less moisture will find its way into the lock. Besides, when the lock requires repairs, the filling has to be picked out and removed before the lock is accessible, and this renders the aid of a mechanic necessary, causing considerable trouble and expense, especially when a safe is at a considerable distance from a place where a mechanic can be obtained.

My improvement also renders a lock more secure than formerly, placing it beyond the action of gunpowder and drills. It can also be applied to a safe at a less expense than by the old plan.

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

The casting of the shell of a fire-proof safe-door with an offset or chamber, A, to receive the lock C, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

THOMAS DOLAN.

Witnesses:

ALVA H. TREMAIN,  
WILLIAM WAIT.