

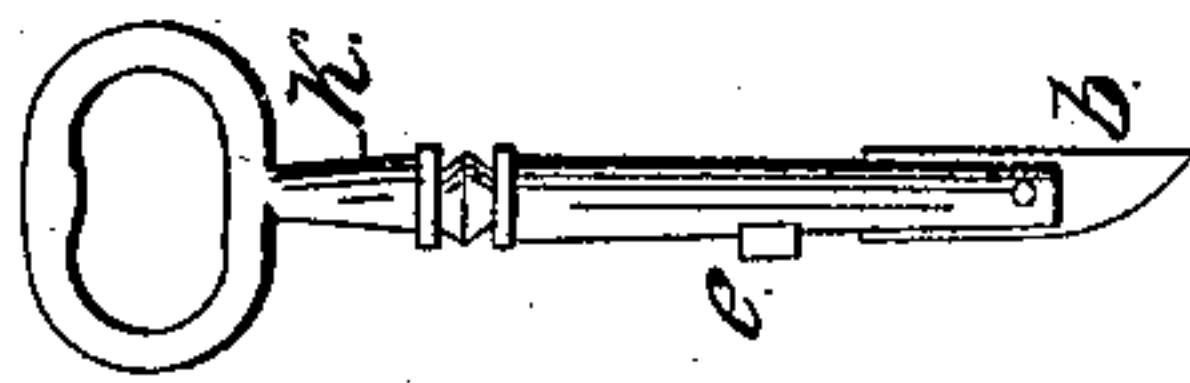
*C. Claude,*

*Latch,*

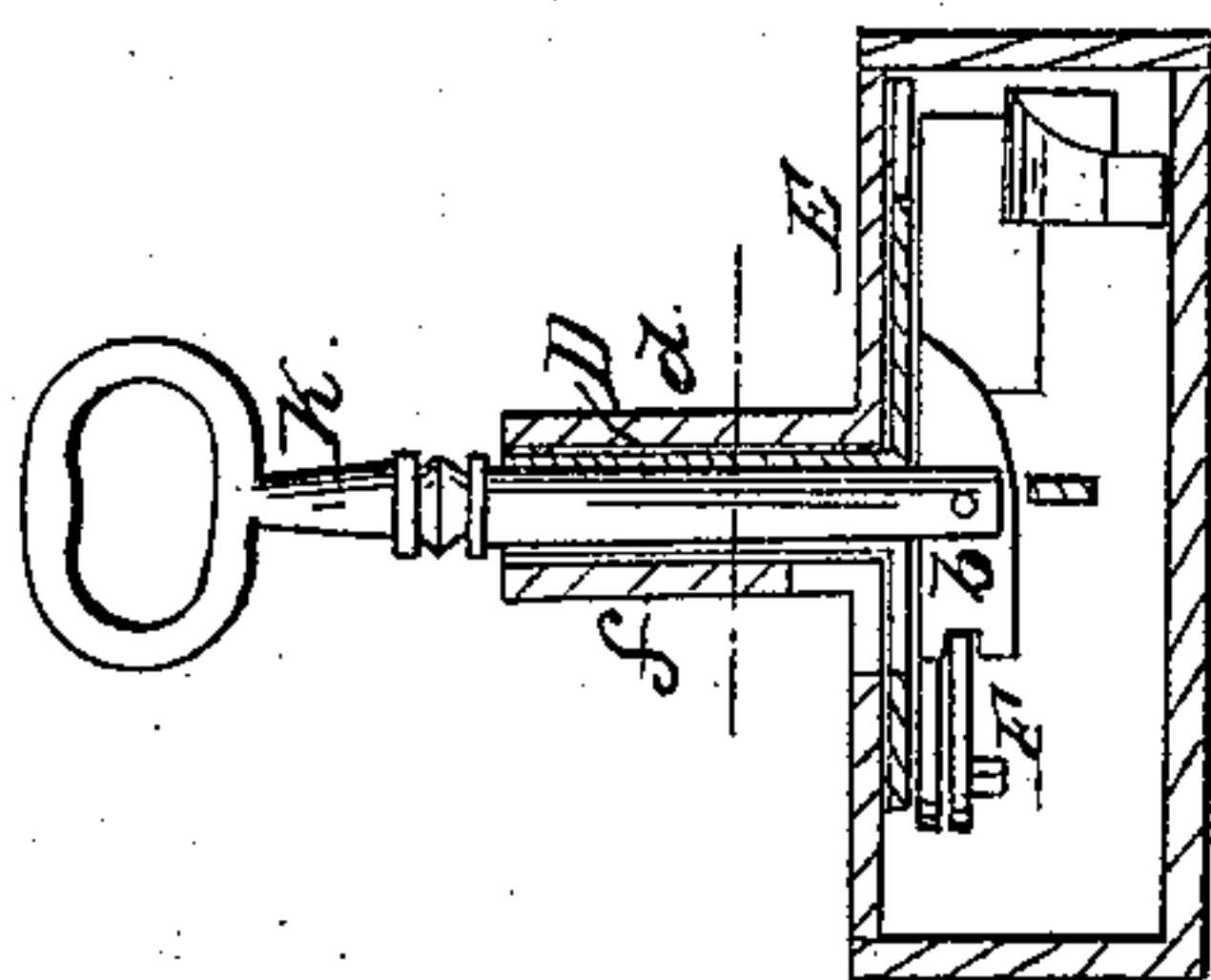
*No 54,297,*

*Patented May 1, 1866.*

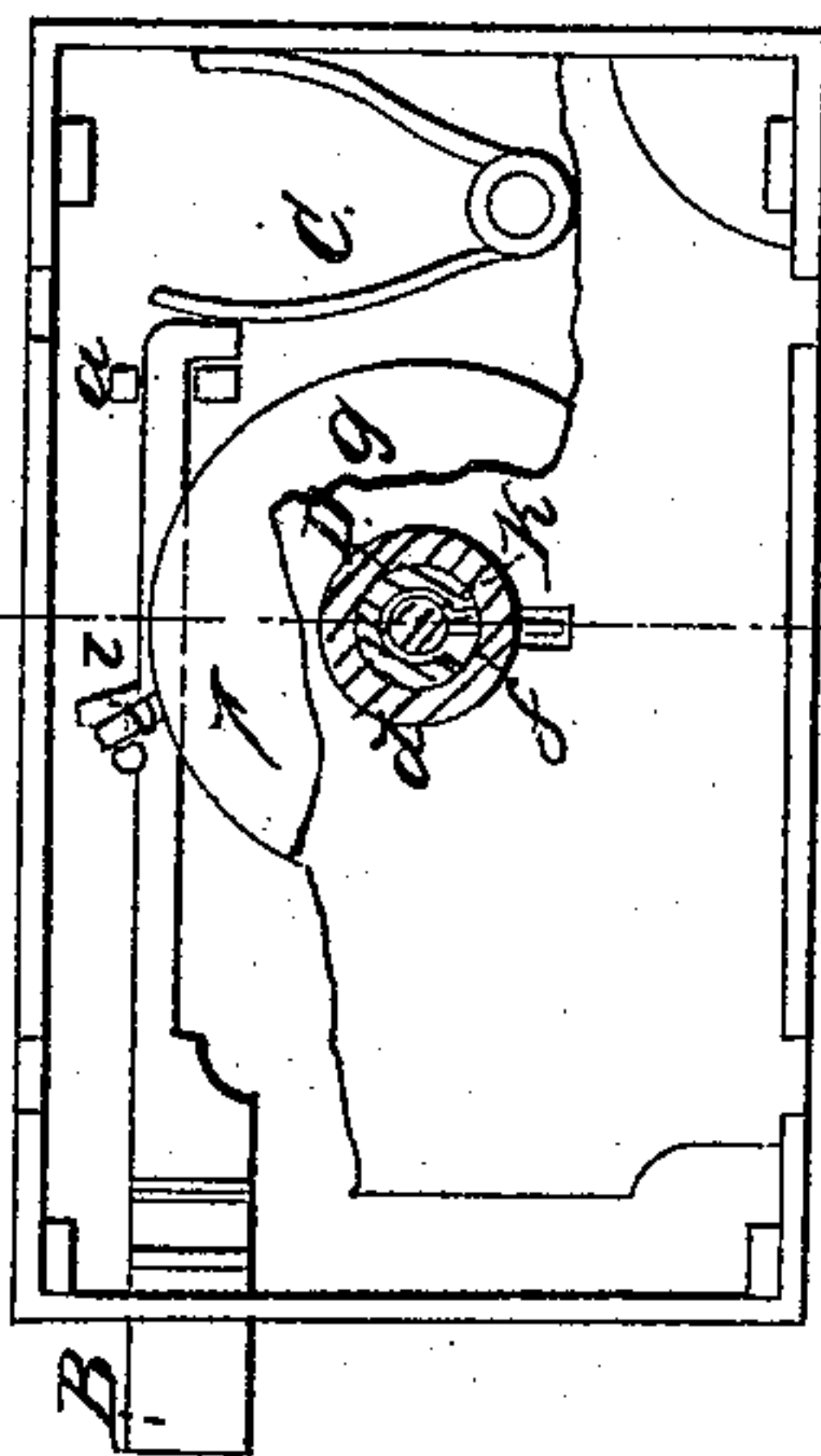
*Fig. 3.*



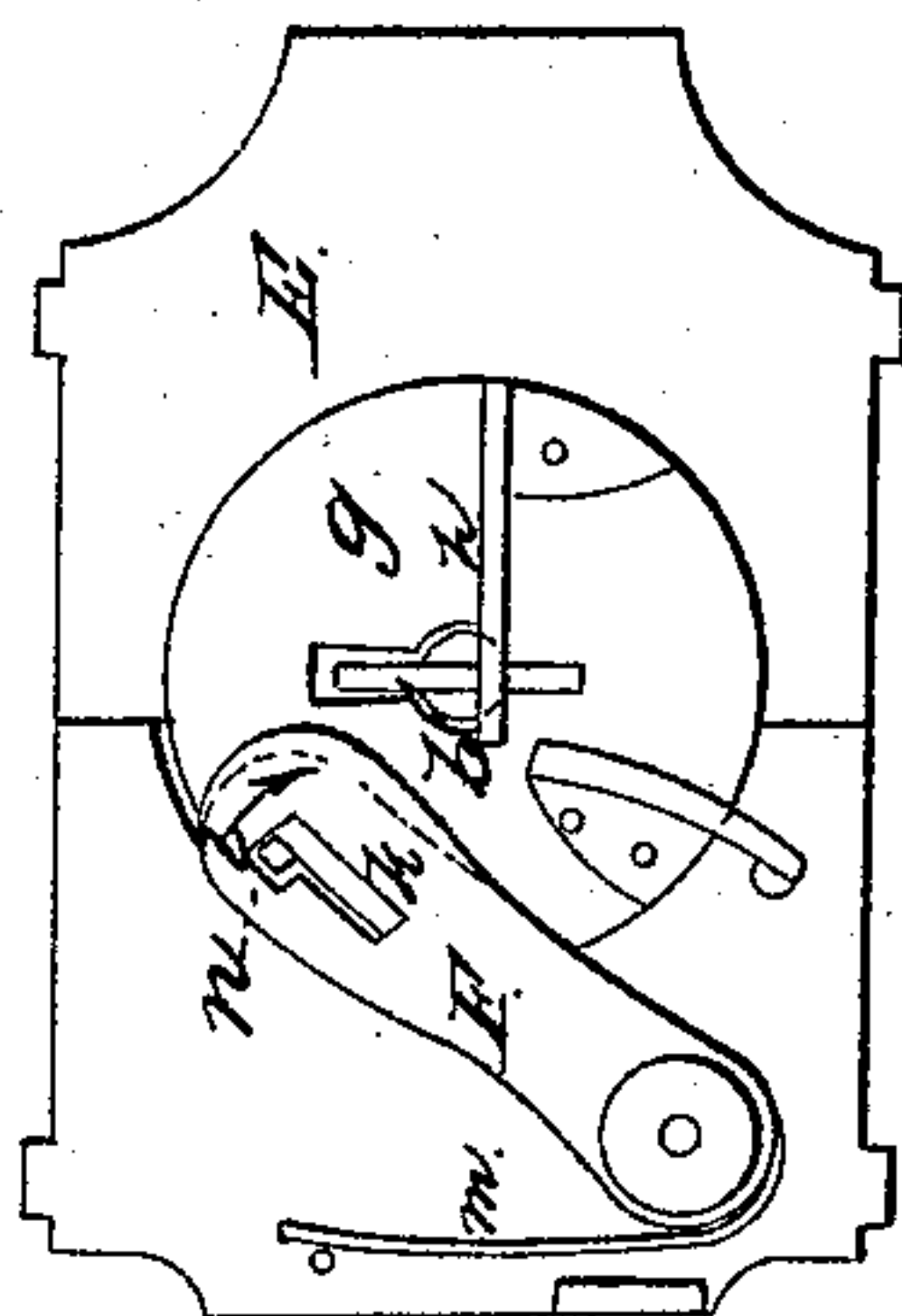
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Witnesses:*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES CLAUDE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 54,297, dated May 1, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES CLAUDE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Locks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents an inside elevation of this invention, the back plate being partially broken away so as to expose the mechanism of the lock. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same, the line *x x*, Fig. 1, indicating the plane of section. Fig. 3 is a detached elevation of the key. Fig. 4 is a detached inverted plan of the back plate.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to a lock which is locked and unlocked by means of a key with a hinged bit. This key is introduced through a tubular key-hole which revolves in a socket in the back plate, and to the inner side of which a disk is attached which carries a guard for the purpose of tilting the bit of the key as the same emerges from the inner end of the key-hole, and which also carries a nose for the purpose of pushing back the bolt or latch. Said bolt is held in position and prevented from turning spontaneously, or from being turned with another instrument besides the key, by one or more tumblers which are adjusted by the bit of the key when the lock is to be unlocked.

A represents a case, of sheet metal or any other suitable material, and of any convenient form and shape. In the front end of this case is a suitable slot to admit the head of the latch or bolt B, and the shank of said latch is guided in a forked-stud, *a*, or by any other suitable means. A spring, C, has a tendency to keep the head of the latch out in the position in which the same is shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

K is the key, the bit *b* of which is hinged to its shank so that it can be brought in line with said shank or turned at right angles with the same. This key is introduced through a tube,

D, which revolves in a suitable socket, *d*, in the back plate, E, of the lock.

In order to cause the tube D to revolve by the action of the key, said key is provided with a projection, *e*, which fits into a longitudinal groove, *f*, in the tube. On the inner end of said tube is secured a disk, *g*, which carries a guard, *h*, in such a position that the bit, on emerging from the inner end of the key-hole, strikes said guard and tilts over to the position shown in Figs. 2 and 4, and a nose, *i*, which is firmly secured to the disk *g* and projects beyond its periphery, acts against a lip, *j*, on the shank of the latch B, and forces said latch back whenever the disk is rotated in the direction of the arrow marked on it in Fig. 1. Said disk and tube D are prevented from being rotated until the tumblers F are brought in such a position that their longitudinal slots *k* register with the stop-pin *l*, projecting from the inner surface of the disk. The tumblers are pivoted to the inner surface of the back plate, and springs *m* have a tendency to force the same in the direction of the arrow marked on them in Fig. 4 until the edges of the lateral slots *n* strike the pin *l*. After the key is introduced into the key-hole it must first be turned, so that its bit strikes the edges of the tumblers and brings them in such a position that all the longitudinal slots *k* register with the pin *l*, and when this has been accomplished the disk and key turn together and the latch is forced back.

This lock is very simple in its construction, it is safe, and it cannot easily be opened by another instrument except the proper key. It is intended particularly for a night-latch, but the same mechanism can also be used for an ordinary lock.

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

The tube D and disk or plate *g*, provided with a guard, *h*, nose *i*, and stop-pin *l*, in combination with the hinged bit of the key K, latch or bolt B, and one or more tumblers, F, all constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Witnesses: CHARLES CLAUDE.

M. M. LIVINGSTON,  
W. HAUFF.