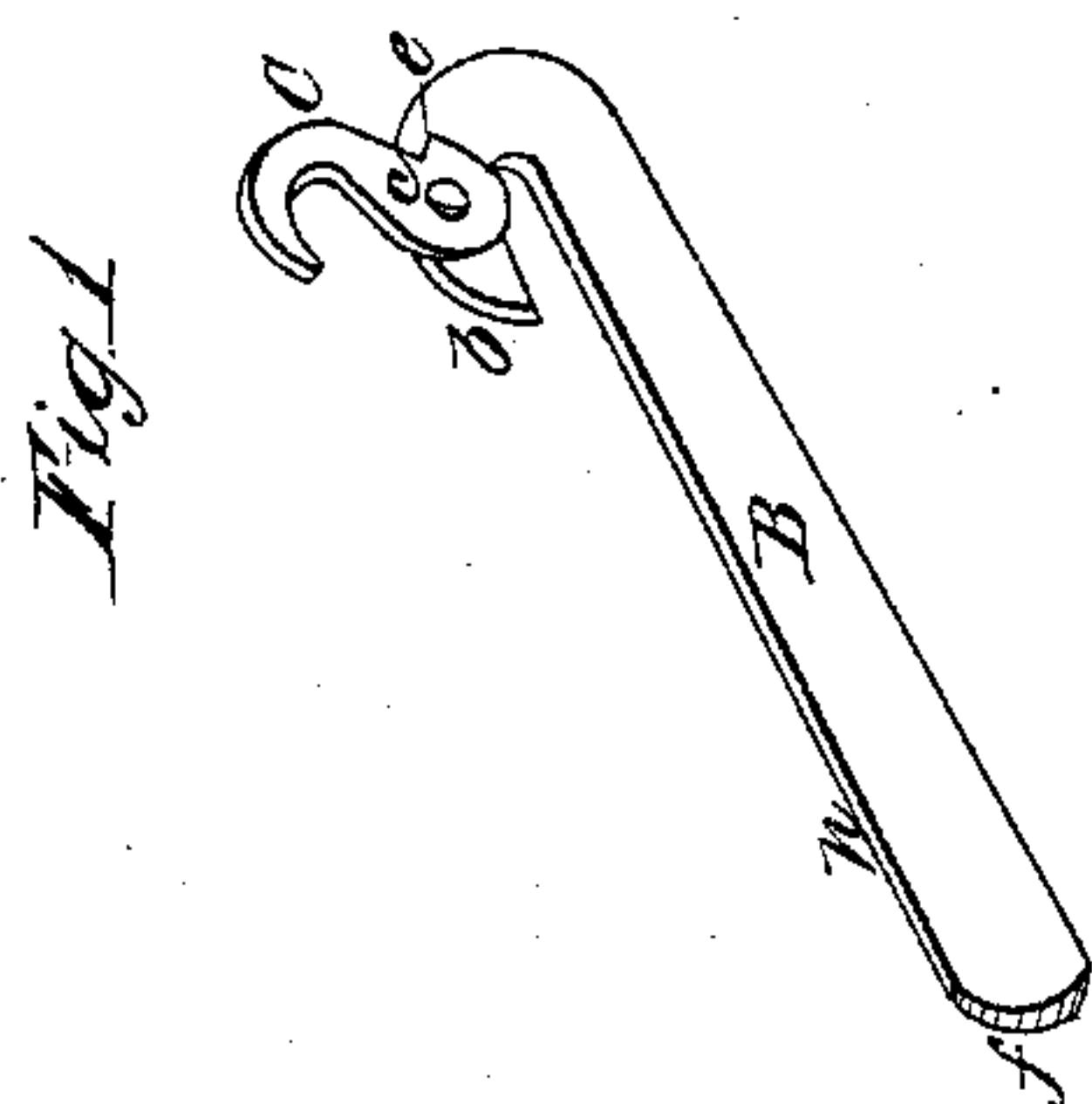
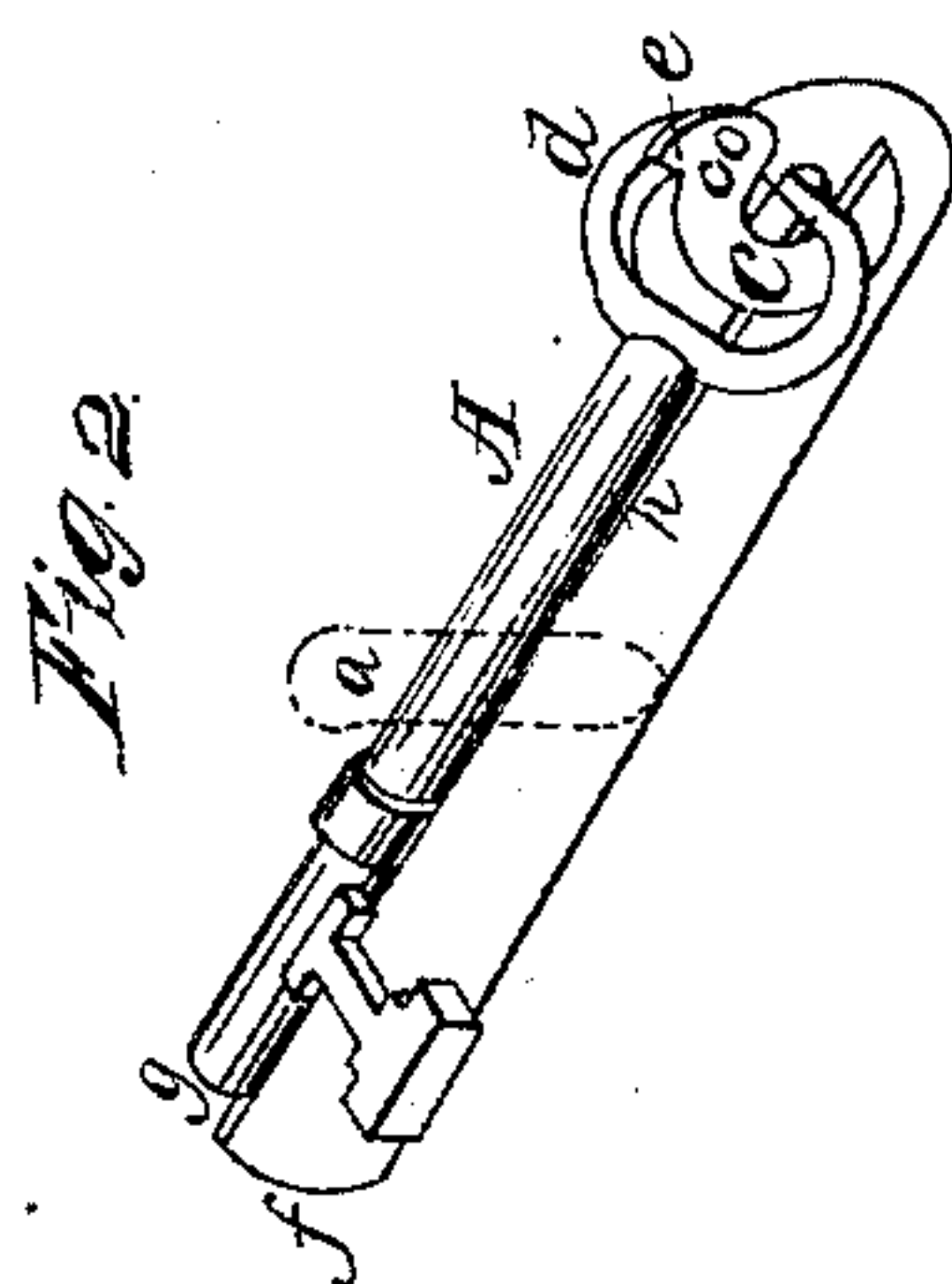
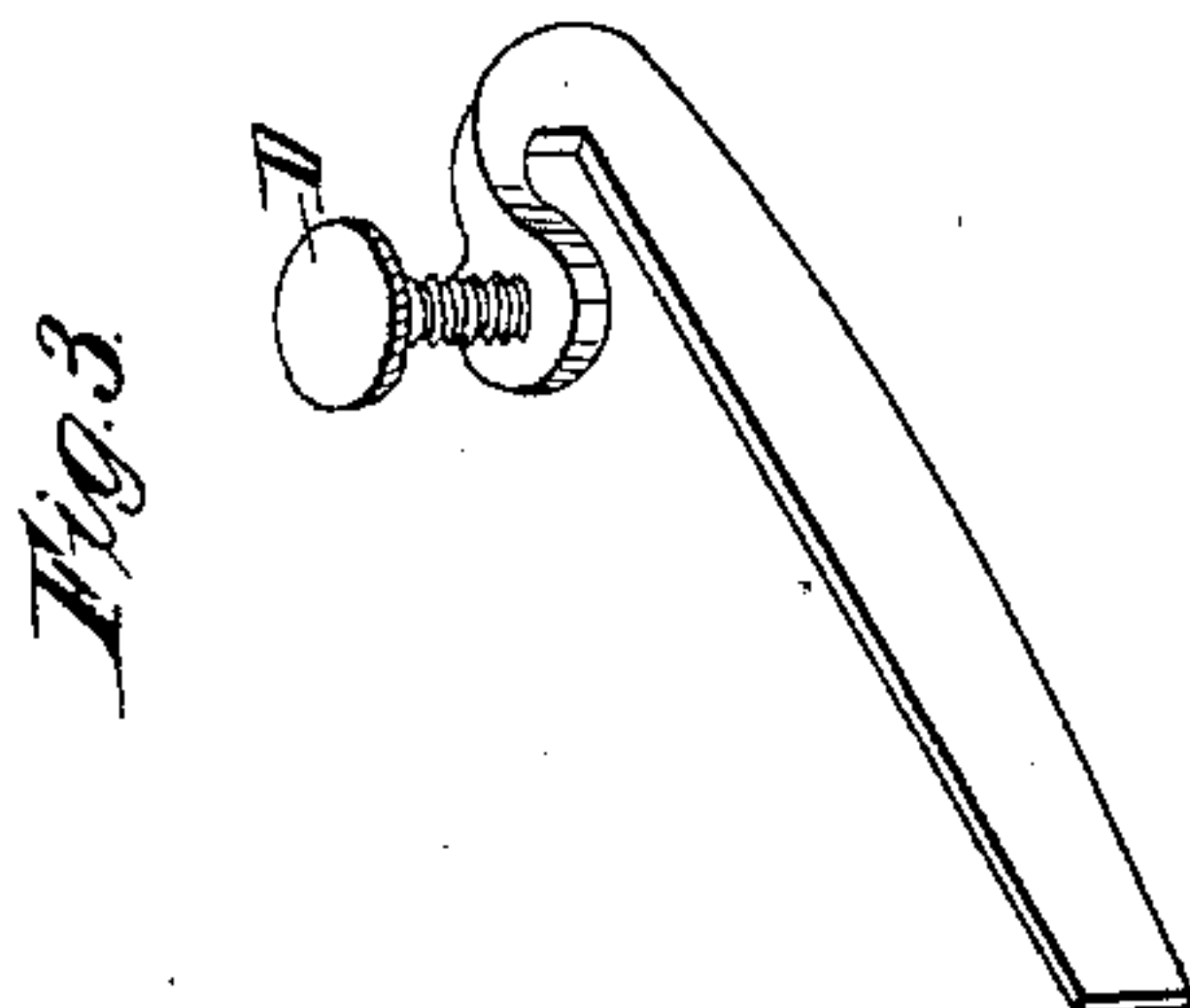


*P. A. Gladwin,
Key Fastener,*

No 55,582,

Patented June 12, 1866.



Witnesses.

*P. B. Teschemacher
N. W. Stearns*

*Inventor
Porter A. Gladwin*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PORTER A. GLADWIN, OF BOSTON, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND HORACE M. LEE, OF DORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN KEYS FOR LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,582, dated June 12, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PORTER A. GLADWIN, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Safety-Guard for Locking-Keys, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved safety-guard detached. Fig. 2 is a view of my safety-guard attached to the bow of a key turned at right angles to the direction of the key-hole. Fig. 3 represents a modification of my safety-guard.

The object of my invention is to provide a convenient and reliable means of fastening a key within its key-hole, thus preventing the key from being turned and pushed out to allow of inserting a duplicate key, or the use of any instrument for picking the lock; and my invention consists in an attachment or guard, one end of the shank of which is bent around to admit of its being slipped over the key-bow or handle of the key when turned in the lock after the bolt is thrown forward, the bent portion of the shank being provided with a hook which holds the key-bow, and prevents the removal of the key from the key-hole or the bolt from being withdrawn.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In Fig. 2 of the said drawings, A represents a key in the position it would occupy within a lock when turned therein and the bolt thrown

forward. *a* is the key-hole, (seen in red.) B is a flat strip of metal or other suitable material having one of its ends *b* bent around in the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and having pivoted thereto, at *c*, the curved hook C, which is raised when the key-bow *d* is to be released by the projection *e*. After the key A has been turned in the lock, as shown in Fig. 2, the outer end, *f*, of the shank B is passed into the key-hole *a*, beyond the end *g* of the bit and spindle of the key, the upper edge, *h*, of the shank B extending longitudinally under the key; and the bent portion of the shank B being slipped over the key-bow *d*, the hook C is thrown down in front, confining the key-bow, as seen in Fig. 2.

It will thus be seen that when forceps or other instruments are applied to turn the key the upper and lower edges of the shank B will strike against the sides of the key-hole *a*, and prevent the spindle from rotating and the bolt from being withdrawn.

Instead of the bent portion of the shank B being provided with a hook, C, a screw, D, may be used to close the opening for the reception of the key-bow, as seen in Fig. 3, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

The within-described safety-guard for locking-keys, consisting of the shank B, in combination with the hook C, substantially as described.

PORTER A. GLADWIN.

Witnesses:

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,
N. W. STEARNS.