

Patented Jan. 8, 1867.



Inventor,
B. C. Fitzhugh,
By atty A. B. Stoughton

United States Patent Office.

B. G. FITZHUGH, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 61,061, dated January 8, 1867.

IMPROVED BURGLAR ALARM FOR SAFES, &c.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, B. G. FITZHUGH, of the city of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Burglars' Alarms, for the doors of safes, vaults, rooms, and other apartments or receptacles where valuables are kept; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a top plan; and

Figure 2 a vertical section of so much of a vault, safe, or other apartment, as will illustrate my invention.

I am aware that many kinds of alarms have been used in connection with doors, windows, &c., so that the opening of such doors or windows will sound an alarm or fire off a charge; but in all these cases the alarm or trigger that sets them off must be arranged or set by a person on the inside of such door, window, or apartment, and which, in the case of safes or vaults, is impracticable; and if arranged from the outside, the burglar or other person forcing or attempting to force the door may also from the outside disconnect said alarm or fire-arm, and thus render it inoperative for the purpose.

My invention consists in placing an alarm on the inside of a safe, vault, or other receptacle or apartment, and so connecting the door of such safe, vault, room, or other apartment with it, that the act of closing said door from the outside shall connect it with the alarm or fire-arm, and the opening of said door from the outside set off the alarm or fire-arm.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same, with reference to the drawings.

A represents the interior of a safe, vault, or other receptacle or apartment in which valuables are kept, and the door, B, of which swings outward. C is a lock, such as are used on any fire-arm, and composed of a hammer, *a*, nipple, *b*, and the ordinary appliances for holding the hammer at the cock, and letting it off by tripping the dog or sere. *c c* are guides arranged near the lock, and beyond them a cam or inclined ledge, *d*, which also acts as a guide, as will be explained. To the door B of the safe, vault, or other apartment, and on the inside thereof, is pivoted, as at *e*, a lever, D, having upon its extreme end a wedge or cam-shaped projection, *f*, and in or on said lever there is also a pin or stud, *i*, to guide it in the proper direction to connect it with the lock C. The lever D is pivoted or hinged to allow it to have two motions, first longitudinally and then laterally, to connect with the dog or sere lever *g* as it is moved inward by the closing of the door B, and also that it may be swung around out of action (as shown by the dotted lines in fig. 1) during the day and when the alarm is not required to be used. When the alarm is to be used or connected with the door, the nipple *b* is capped, and if a barrel is connected to it the latter may be loaded. The hammer *a* is set at the full cock, and the pin or stud *i* of the lever D being placed between the guides *c c*, the door of the safe, vault, &c., may be pushed shut and locked in the ordinary way. As the door is closed, the lever D moves forward until its front end strikes against the incline *d*, at which position the stud *i* has passed the guides *c c*, and the incline *d* moves the lever laterally and places its wedge *f* under the dog or sere lever *g*. As the door of the safe, &c., is drawn open, the wedge *f* raises the dog *g*, which releases the hammer and lets it fly upon the cap and explodes it or the charge in the barrel, if there be a barrel connected, but ordinarily the musket cap will sound a very loud alarm.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim in burglars' alarms for safes, vaults, and other apartments, is—

In combination with a fire-arm lock on the inside of such safe or other apartment or receptacle, a lever or arm connected with the door thereof and controlled by suitable guides, so that the act of closing the door from the outside shall connect the lever or arm with the dog or sere lever of the lock, and the opening of said door trip the hammer and let it fly upon the cap or fire a charge of powder, substantially as described.

B. G. FITZHUGH.

Witnesses:

A. B. STOUGHTON,

EDM. F. BROWN.