H. Eiffler.

Padlock.

No. 72378 Patented Dec. 17, 1867

Fig. 2.

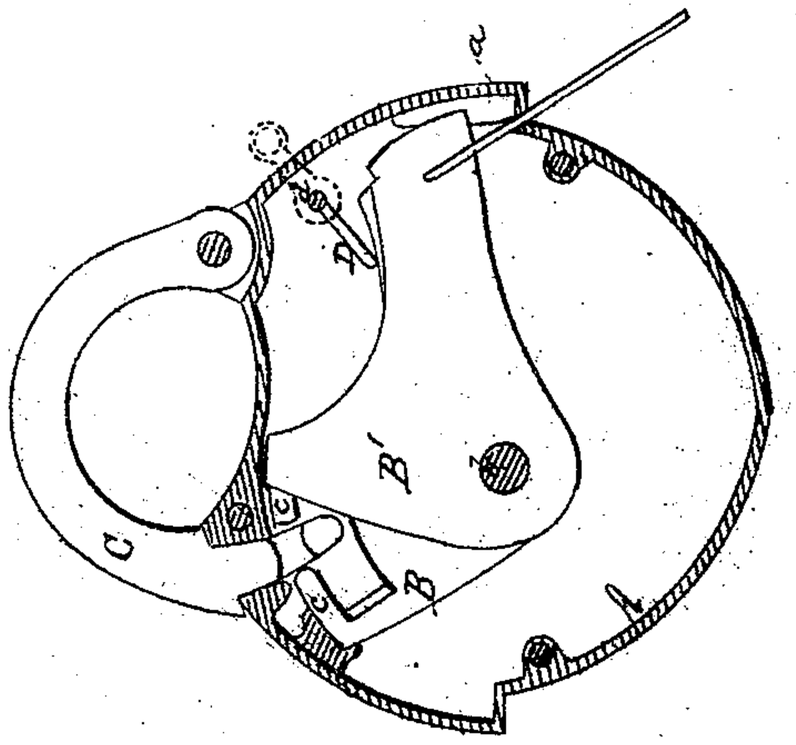
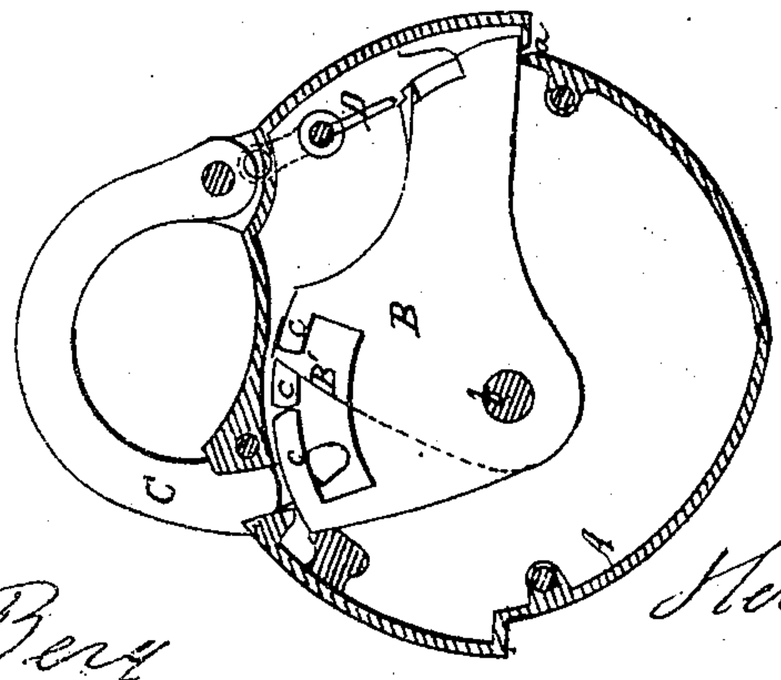


Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

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HERRMAN EIFFLER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 72,378, *dated December* 17, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN PADLOCKS.

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, HERRMAN EIFFLER, of New York, No. 209 Bowery, in the 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 those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 represents a sectional elevation of a padlock, constructed according to this invention, when locked.

Figure 2 is a similar view of the same when unlocked.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the arrangement of a lever-stop, in combination with a series of loose tumblers or with a series of tumblers which are not subjected to the action of springs, in such a manner that when said lever-stop is turned in one direction, the tumblers are locked and the shackle or bolt of the lock is securely retained in position, and if the lever-stop is turned in the opposite direction, the key can be inserted, and thereby the tumblers are brought in the proper position to release the shackle or bolt.

The invention consists also in the arrangement of false tumblers between the regular tumblers, so as to prevent said regular tumblers from carrying each other along by friction.

A represents the case which encloses the working-mechanism of my lock. In the side of this case is the key-hole *a* through which the key is inserted. This key consists of a flat piece of sheet metal, and its notched edge acts on the tumblers B B′. These tumblers have their fulcrum on a stud, *b*, which is firmly secured in the lock-plate. On this stud the tumblers swing loosely back and forth, and the regular tumblers B are provided with hooks, *c*, which catch into the end of the shackle C, and retain the same in a locked condition, as shown in fig. 1 of the drawing. Between the regular tumblers B are the false tumblers B′, which have no hooks, and are used simply to prevent the regular tumblers from carrying each other along by friction. All the tumblers are perfectly loose, and not subjected to the action of springs. When locked, the tumblers are held in position by a lever-stop, D. This stop is secured to a stud, *d*, in the interior of the case, and it can be turned by means of a button, which, being situated on the face-plate of the lock, is shown in red outlines. When this stop is turned to the position shown in fig. 1, the key cannot be inserted, the tumblers being prevented by the stop from receding and arranging themselves in the proper position for the key. If desired, the stop may be so arranged that it permits the tumblers to recede a short distance, but not far enough to unlock the shackle or bolt, and in this case, persons not acquainted with the construction of my lock will have great difficulty to unlock the same, even if they have the proper key.

In order to unlock the lock, the stop D must be turned to the position shown in fig. 2, and by inserting the key the tumblers are brought in the proper position to release the shackle or bolt.

It will be readily understood by those skilled in the art, that a lock of this kind is very difficult, if not impossible to pick, since in feeling the tumblers, it is impossible to tell in what position each of them stands, and by pressing on one of the tumblers it may be pushed up too far or not far enough, and if pushed too far, it catches again in the shackle, and it can only be pushed back by turning the lever-stop down to the position shown in fig. 1, which will throw all the tumblers into their locking position. And furthermore, by interposing the false tumblers, the operation of picking the lock is rendered still more difficult, since it is impossible, in picking the lock, to distinguish between the regular and the false tumblers. It will be readily understood that my loose tumblers and lever-stop can be applied to an ordinary lock, as well as to a padlock.

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

The lever-stop D, in combination with a series of loose tumblers, B, provided with hooks, *c*, and forming the bolt of a padlock, and loose false tumblers B, situated as described, the tumblers being operated by a key through the opening *a* in the side of the padlock, to open or lock the same, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

HERRMAN EIFFLER.

Witnesses:

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