W. T. Munger,

Reversible Latch.

No. 90,288. Patented May 18, 1869.

Fig. 1.

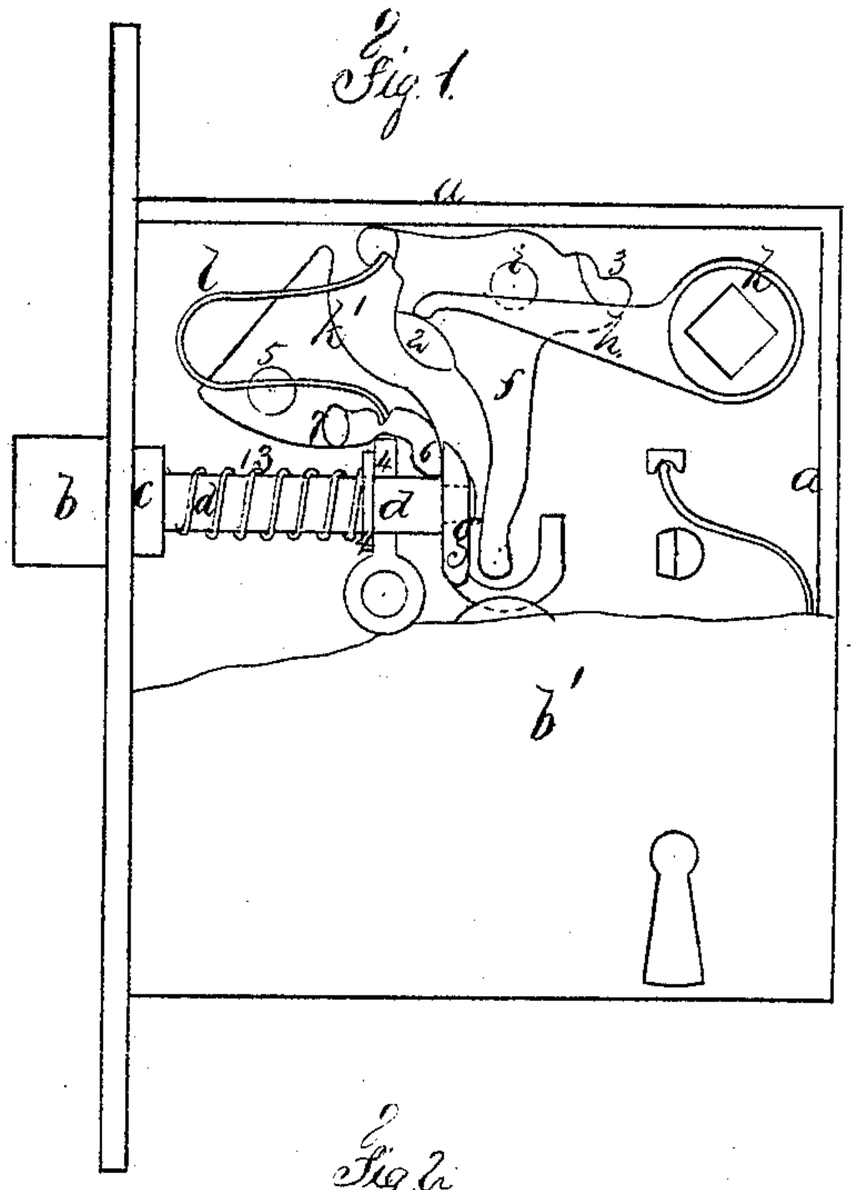


Fig. 3.

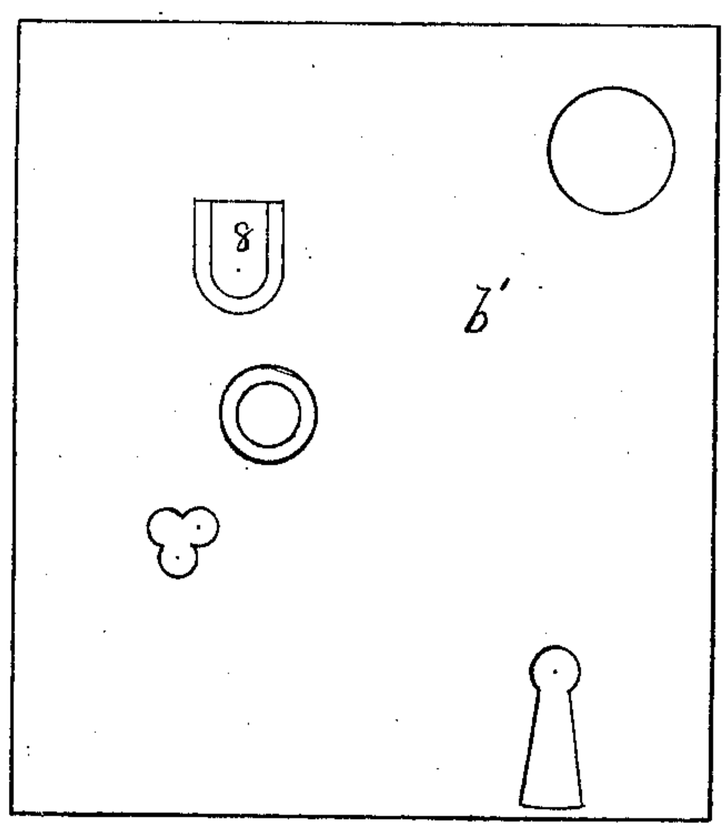
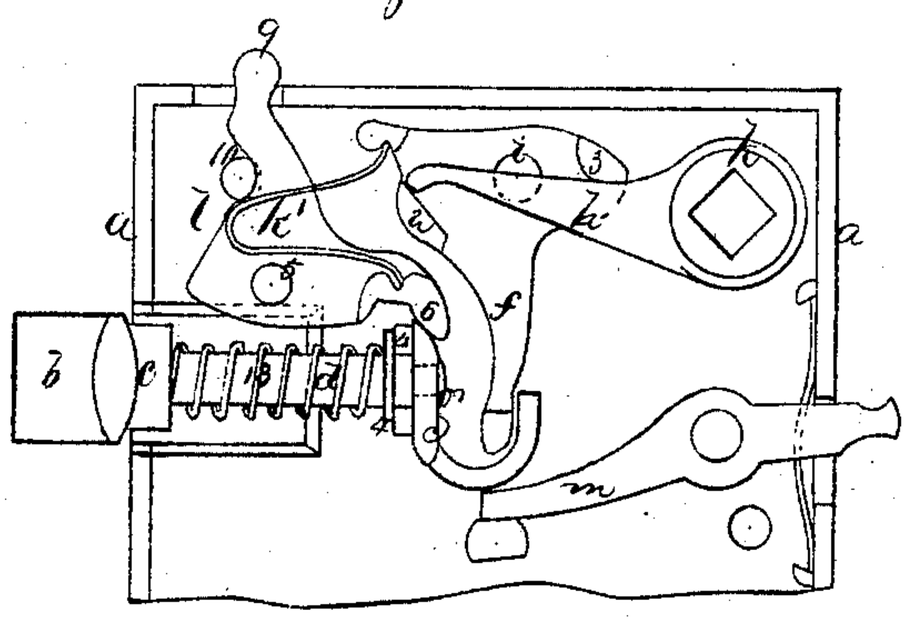


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Chas. H. Smith

Geo. D. Wales

W. T. Munger

per L. W. Serrell

Atty

United States Patent Office.

W. T. MUNGER, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO P. AND F. CORBIN, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 90,288, *dated May* 18, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN REVERSIBLE LATCHES.

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, W. T. MUNGER, of New Britain, in the county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented and made a new and useful Improvement in Reversible Latches; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a mortise-lock, with the cap-plate partially removed, to show my invention, the parts being in their normal position, ready for use;

Figure 2 is a similar view of a portion of a box, or rim-lock, the parts being in position for allowing the latch to be reversed; and

Figure 3 represents the cap-plate for the lock, fig. 1.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

This invention relates to a swinging spring blocking-piece, combined with the reversible latch and swinging link, that is operated upon by an arm from the spindle-hub.

By this construction, the latch is retained by the spring blocking-piece from going too far forward, but when the blocking-piece is moved, the latch passes sufficiently far forward to allow of its being turned, or reversed.

In the drawing—

The link *f*, on the fulcrum-stud *i*, with the studs 2 and 3, acted upon by the arm *h*, from the hub *k*, of the spindle, are substantially similar to those shown in Letters Patent No. 83,652. The lower end of the link *f*, however, only enters a notch in the claw-piece *g*, that, is upon the inner end of the shank *d*, of the latch *b*, and in which the shank *d* can turn.

The lock-case *a*, and cap *b'*, may be adapted either to a mortise-lock, figs. 1 and 3, or to a rim-lock, fig. 2.

The base of the latch *b* is made cylindrical, as at *c*, and allows of the same being turned when the latch is in the position of fig. 2, and 13 is the latch-spring between the head of the latch and the plate and studs 4.

My spring blocking-piece *k'* is set on a fulcrum, 5, and is operated upon by the spring *l*, that also moves the link *f*.

The end 6, of this blocking-piece *k'*, passing in between *g* and 4, holds the latch from going forward. (See fig. 1.)

In order to move the spring blocking-piece *k'*, I make use of a stud, 7, projecting into an opening, 8, in the cap-plate *b'*, where this improvement is used in a mortise-lock, figs. 1 and 3, but where it is used with a rim-lock, the blocking-piece *k'* is made with a thumb-piece, 9, passing through the case *a*, and the screw passing through the lock, as at 10, prevents the blocking-piece being moved, after the lock is secured to the door.

After the latch has been reversed, the parts can be restored to their normal position, by pressing, or drawing the latch into its place, the inclines on *g* and 6 causing the blocking-piece *k'* to be pressed back.

A swing-lever stop, *m*, may be applied to the latch, as seen in fig. 2.

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

The bent claw *g*, upon the inner end of the shank *d*, of the latch, in combination with the link *f*, and the swinging blocking-piece *k*, whereby said claw *g* becomes the connection between the latch-shank and the link *f*, and also the stop, to take against the blocking-piece *k*, as and for the purposes specified.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this 11th day of January, 1869.

W. T. MUNGER.

Witnesses:

C. E. MITCHELL,

CHARLES PECK.