M. J. Woodruff.

Lock.

No. 97,332. Patented Nov. 30, 1869.

Fig: 1.

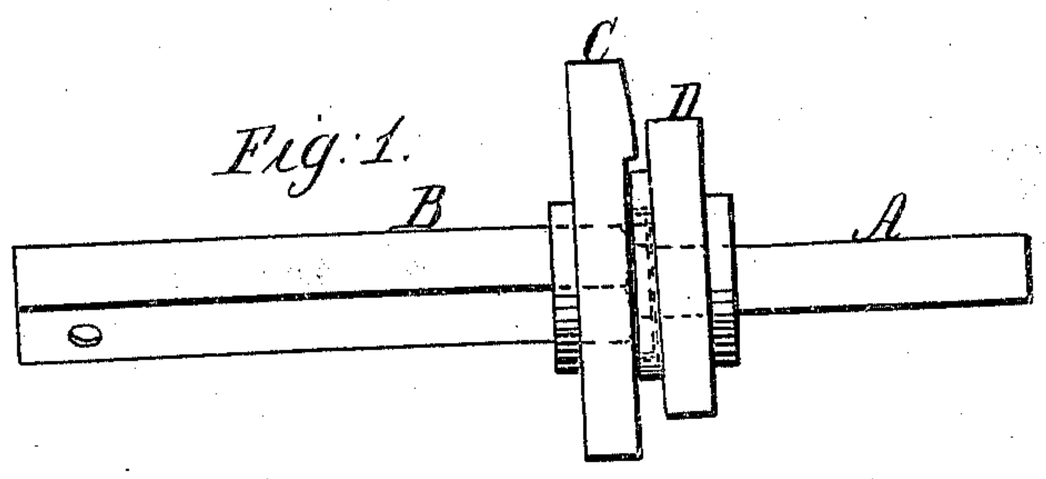


Fig: 2.

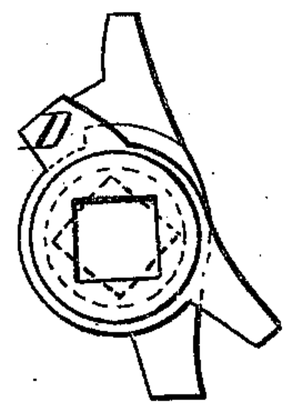


Fig: 4.

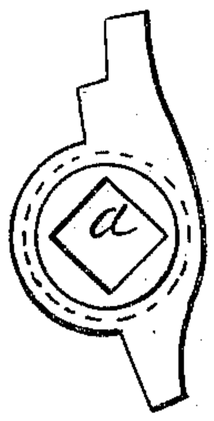


Fig: 3.

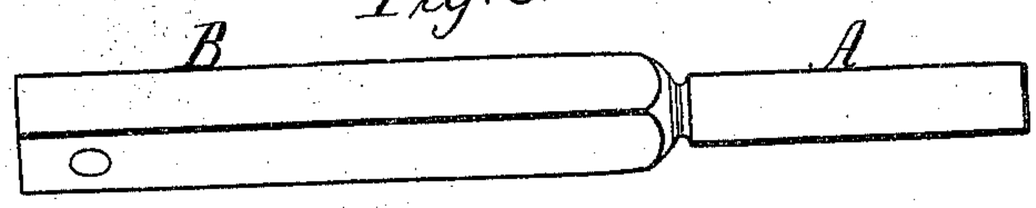
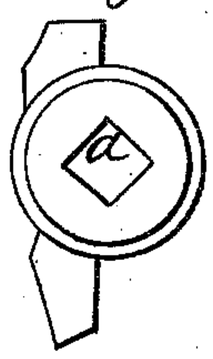


Fig: 5



Witnesses;

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Edw. M. North

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MAHLON J. WOODRUFF, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO RUSSELL AND ERWIN MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 97,332, *dated November* 30, 1869.

IMPROVED LATCH.

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, MAHLON J. WOODRUFF, of New Britain, in the county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Locks; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings, making a part of the same, is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

This invention relates to the construction of the swivel-spindle, and hubs used therewith, commonly employed in first-class outside door-locks, and is intended to thwart one of the common plans of the night thief to effect an entrance into a hall, whose door is protected by a lock of this class, as heretofore constructed.

It is well understood that the class of locks referred to is made with a spindle, in two parts, united by a swivel-joint.

The hub of the lock is made in two parts, as shown at Figure 2, and the wings of either of the parts are capable of working the latch.

The knob-spindle is so set in the lock that the joint of the swivel shall lie in the plane which divides the two parts of the hub, and consequently either portion of the spindle may be used to work the latch, while the knob attached to the other portion is kept from turning by means of a catch, which locks fast that portion of the hub into which it enters.

I propose to make use of a spindle, made in two parts, and united by a swivel-joint, as heretofore practised; but the two parts are of unequal size, as seen at Figures 1 and 3.

The smaller portion, A, is intended to receive the knob placed upon the inside of the door, and the larger portion, B, the outer knob.

The two parts of the hub are shown at C, Figure 4, and D, Figure 5, and in their usual relation with each other, at figs. 1 and 2.

The mortises *a*, in each, are respectively of the proper size to accommodate the portion of the spindle which they receive, that in the hub D being too small to permit of the entrance of any part of the spindle B.

From the foregoing, it will be readily seen, that with this improved construction, it will be impossible for a burglar to effect an entrance into the house by resorting to the common plan of removing the outer knob, pushing the spindle clear through the lock, and inserting an instrument, bent at the end, into the inner portion of the hub to work the latch.

The spindle in this, as in the former method of construction, cannot be pulled outward from the lock, in consequence of the knob upon the inside.

I am aware that a structure is described in the Letters Patent granted to Peter Rodgers, dated September 25, 1840, which prevents the knob-spindle from being pushed through the lock from the outside. I do not, therefore, claim broadly all the variations of form and arrangement by which a spindle can be constructed so as not to be able to be pushed through the lock from the outside; but

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

The combination of a swivel-jointed spindle, whose two portions, A and B, are of unequal size, with a divided hub, C D, cast separately from the spindle, when such spindle and hub are arranged in the lock, so that the former cannot be pushed through the latter from the outside of the door to which such lock is applied, substantially as herein described.

Witnesses: MAHLON J. WOODRUFF.

H. E. RUSSELL, 2d,

G. R. POST.