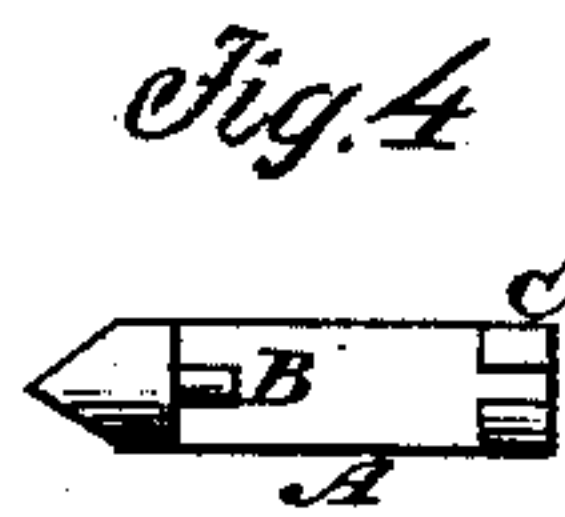
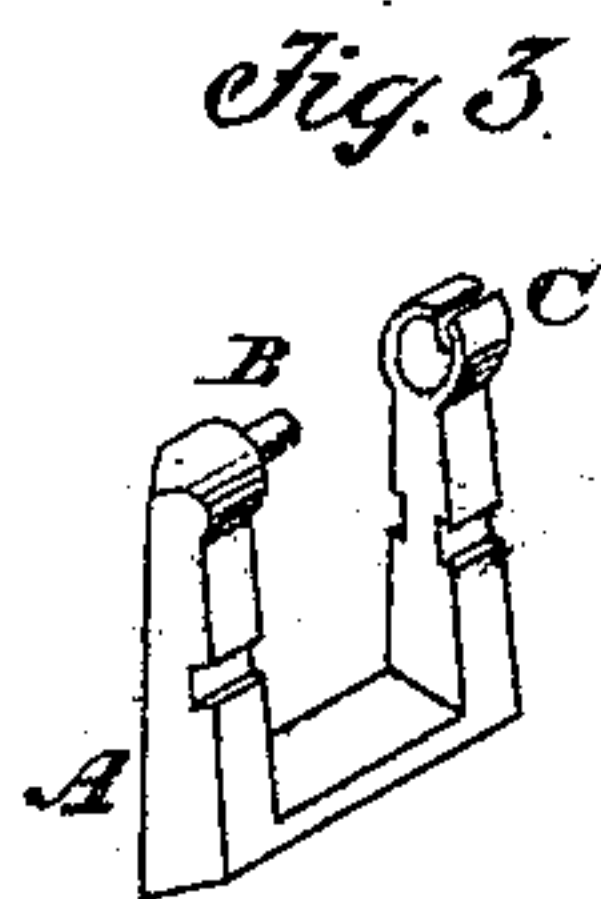
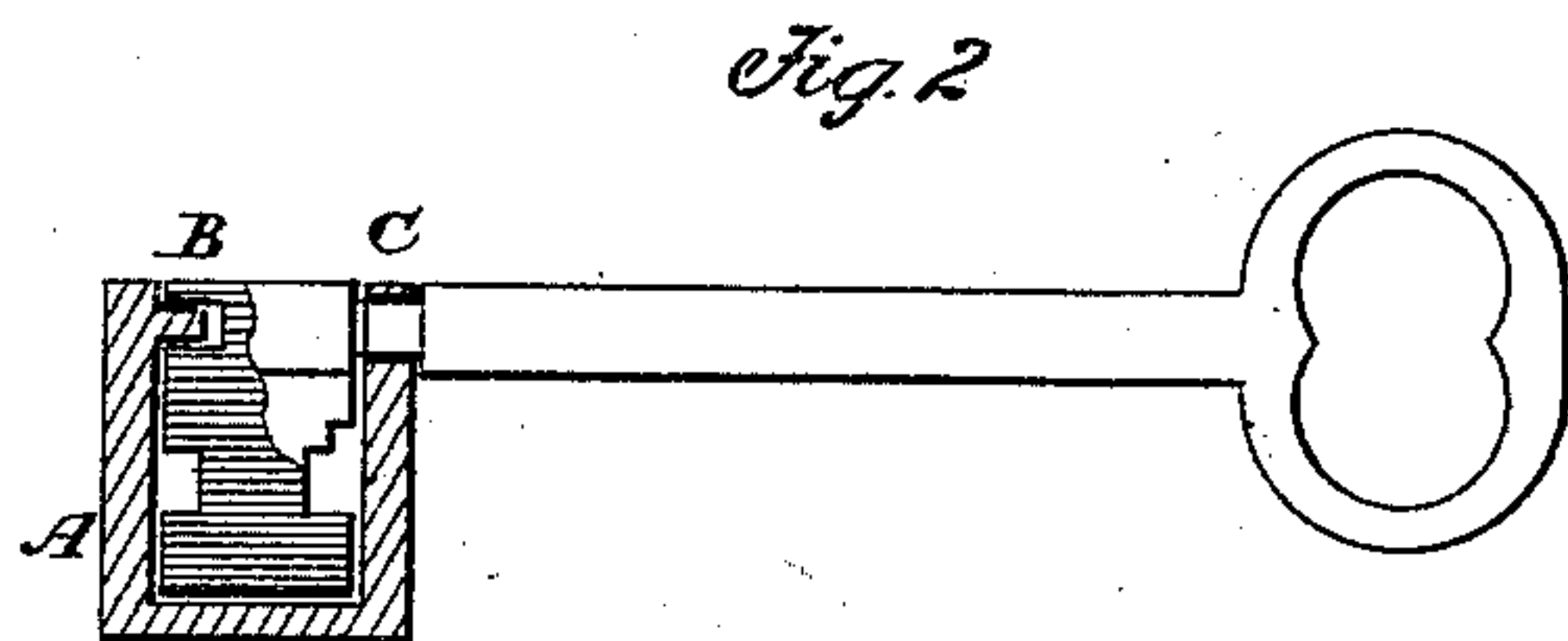
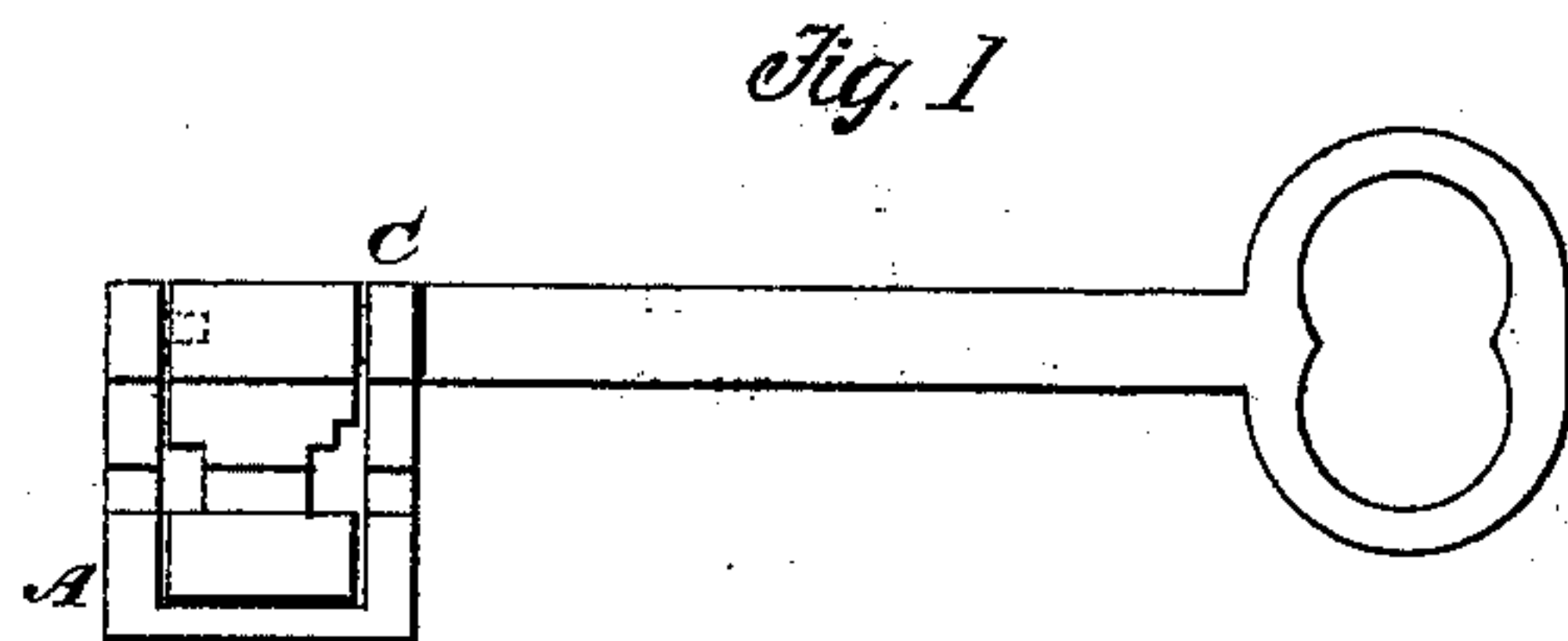


W. H. GUTHRIE.  
KEYS FOR LOCKS.

No. 171,014.

Patented Dec. 14, 1875.



WITNESSES:

Alex F. Roberts  
Alfred Lurcott.

INVENTOR:

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BY  
Munn & Co.  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WARREN H. GUTHRIE, OF HUDSON CITY, NEW JERSEY.

## IMPROVEMENT IN KEYS FOR LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,014**, dated December 14, 1875; application filed October 30, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WARREN H. GUTHRIE, of Hudson City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Burglar-Proof Key, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to construct an attachment for the keys of door-locks, which will render them burglar-proof by closing the key-hole on each side of the lock, and thus leave no part of the key exposed on which a gripe might be obtained from the outside, and also effectually prevent the insertion of a skeleton key or other instrument ordinarily used by burglars to throw the bolt of the lock, the construction and operation of my invention being described as follows:

Figure 1 represents a side view of key with my improvement applied. Fig. 2 is a sectional side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of guard-staple detached. Fig. 4 is a plan of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

In the case here presented I have a swinging staple-shaped guard, A, made to correspond with the form of key-hole in the lock-plates. One end of the said staple-shaped guard has a projecting pin or lug, B, cast, welded, or swaged thereon, which fits in the barrel end of the key. The opposite end of the said staple is hung in an annular recess on the key-shank, by bending its end C over, as shown in the drawing. By splitting or dividing the eye on the upper end C of the guard-staple, the same can be readily applied to the groove in the key-shank, and secured by bringing the edges of the eye together.

Thus, it will be perceived that the guard can be applied to a key of the ordinary construction, without cutting away the bit.

It will also be seen that when the key is inserted in the lock each of the key-holes in the lock-plate will be filled by the above-described guard, and the key allowed to turn in either direction; and, in order to further protect the key from being tampered with from the outside, I have the outer section of the guard-staple made wedge-shaped, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, so that there will be no flat face on which a burglar might plant a drill.

I am aware of the patent granted to F. Green, June 20, 1868, No. 79,466, which relates to a door-key having a swinging guard with an arm to close the outside key-hole. Said guard is so contrived that when the key is introduced into the key-hole it can turn freely, while it is intended that the guard shall remain stationary to prevent tampering with the key.

It will be found, however, that a key, having a flat or plain surfaced guard or key-hole-closing plate, does not afford sufficient protection, for a burglar can readily plant a drill and penetrate the guard, so as to gain access to the key proper, when it can be readily turned by an instrument. The projecting shank or plug in the exposed surface of the guard also facilitates the operation of drilling the guard and increases the size and cost of the key.

My invention is designed to overcome the objections above stated by producing a key which is perfectly burglar-proof, and one which can be used on either side of the lock.

It will be perceived that the only part of the guard upon which a burglar could operate is the outer beveled surface of the guard-arm in the outer key hole, but said beveled surface effectually prevents the planting of a drill.

By leaving no projecting part on said guard and providing the same with an inwardly-projecting lug, journaled in the end of the key, effectual provision is made to prevent all tampering with, or turning of, the lock.

The beveled outer surface of the guard will also facilitate the entrance or centering of the key in the key-hole.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The guard-staple A, having an outer and inner key-hole-closing arm, provided, respectively, with a beveled outer surface, and inwardly-projecting lug B, and with a divided or split eye, C, in combination with a key having a socket and groove for journaling the guard, all constructed and arranged substantially as herein set forth and shown.

WARREN H. GUTHRIE.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. NASH,  
T. B. MOSHER.