

(Model.)

J. H. BARNES & J. H. WOOLASTON.
Escutcheon for Locks.

No. 242,861.

Patented June 14, 1881.

fig. 1

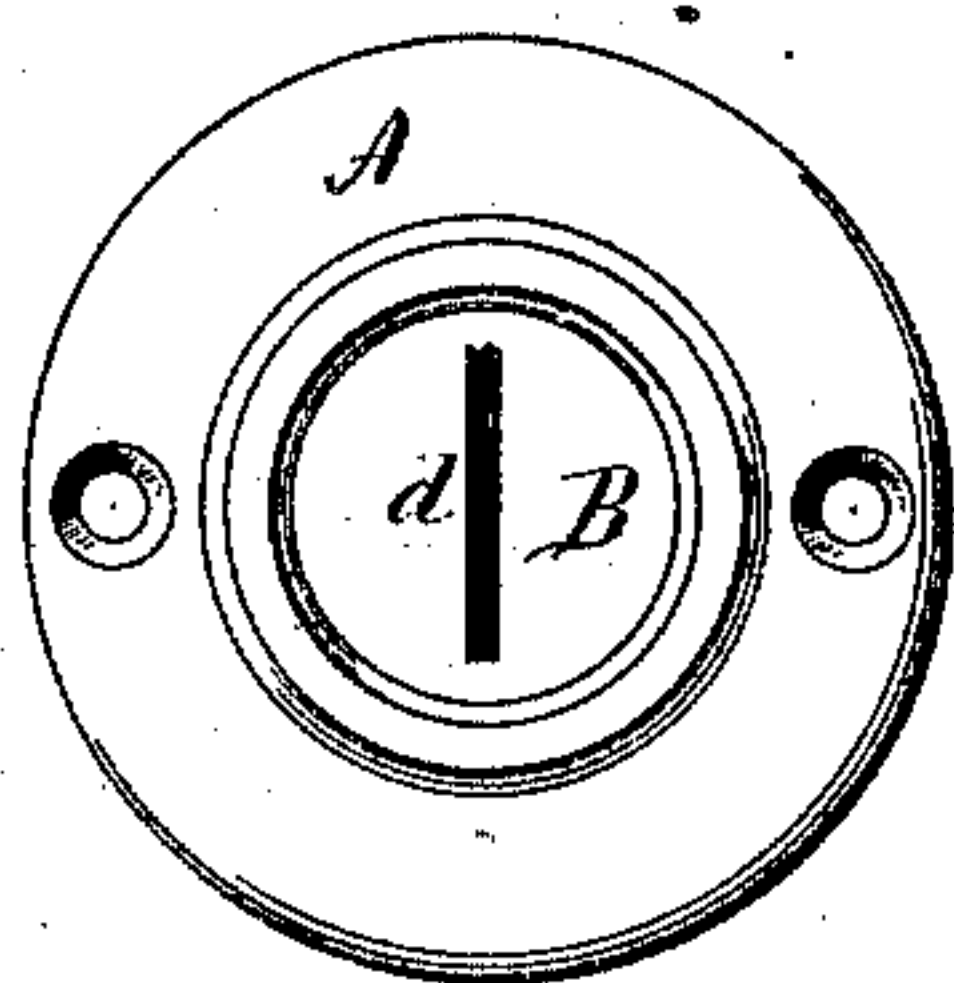


fig. 2

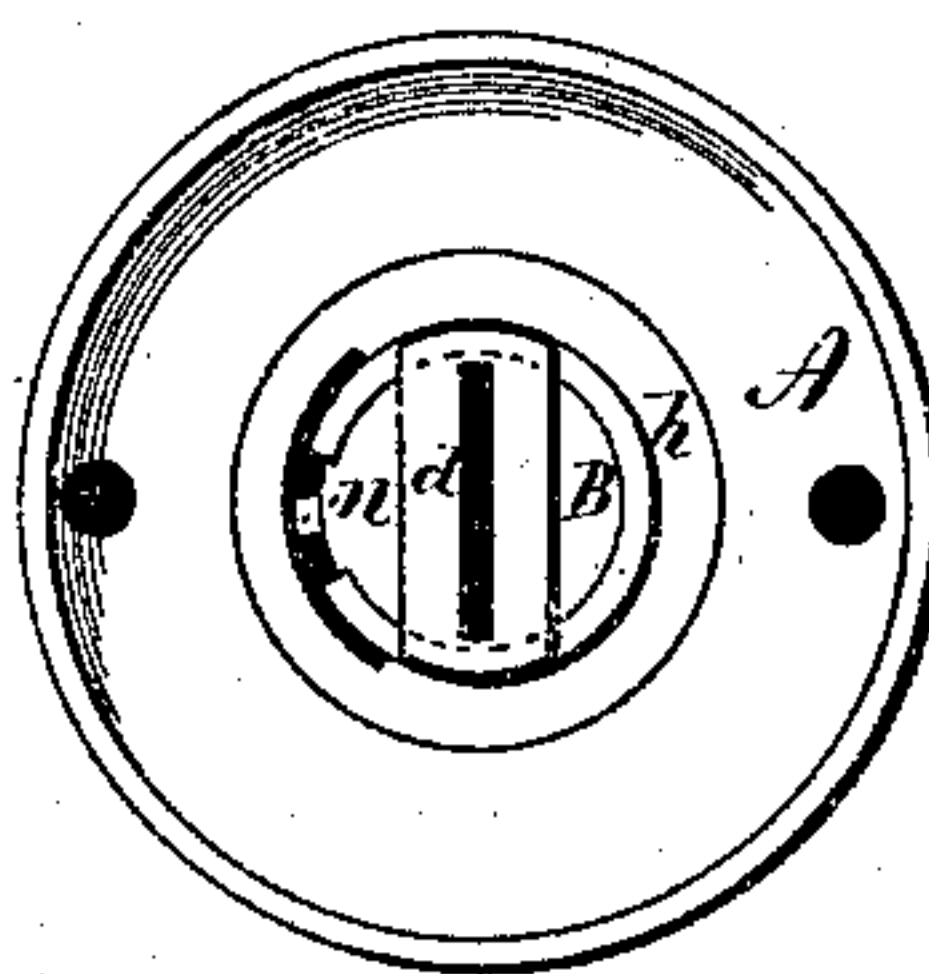


fig. 3

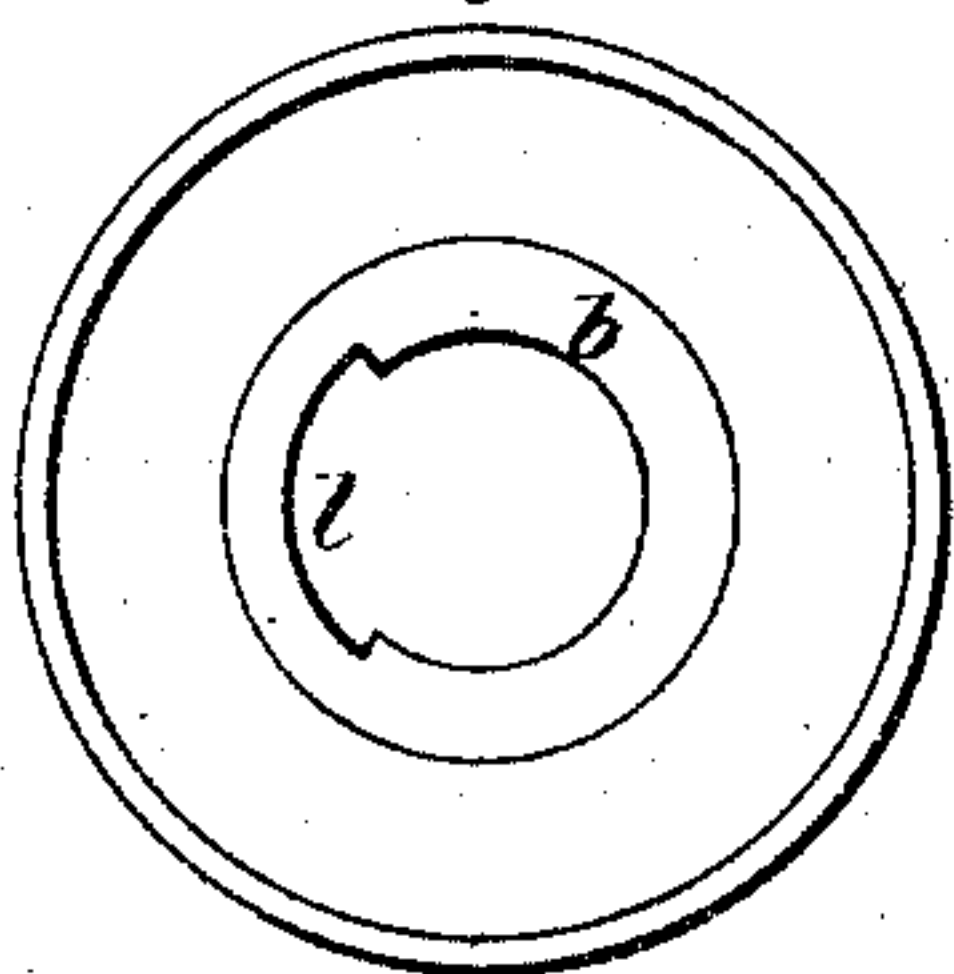
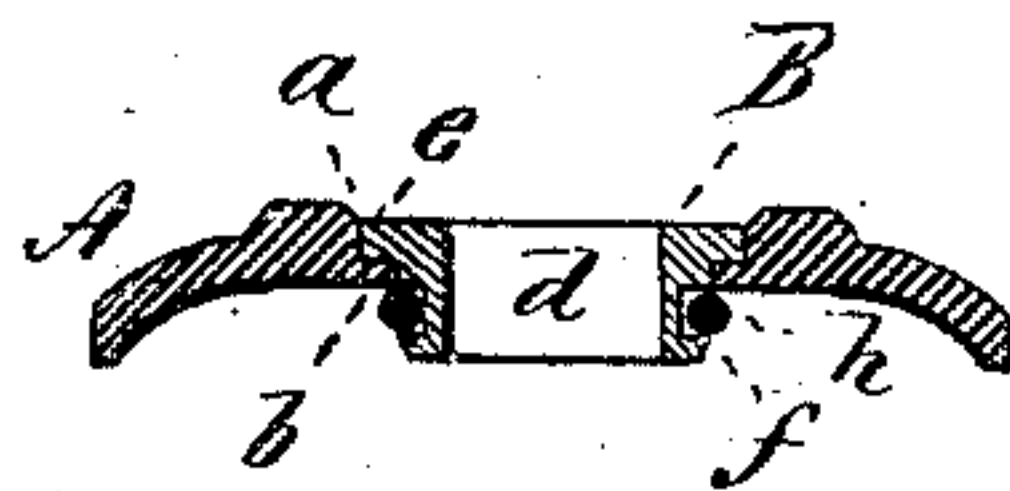


fig. 4



fig. 5



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. BARNES AND JOSEPH H. WOOLASTON, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNORS TO THE BARNES MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

ESCUTCHEON FOR LOCKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 242,861, dated June 14, 1881.

Application filed February 12, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN H. BARNES and JOSEPH H. WOOLASTON, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented new Improvements in Lock and Latch Escutcheons; and we do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a front or outside view; Fig. 2, a rear view; Figs. 3 and 4, plate and escutcheon detached; Fig. 5, a vertical section.

This invention relates to an improvement in escutcheons for that class of locks or latches commonly called "tubular" or "cylinder" locks or latches, and such as employ a thin flat key.

The escutcheon for this class of locks has heretofore been made with a stationary plate to be secured to the door with a central circular opening, into which the key-guide is fitted, and so that it may be freely rotated in its seat in the escutcheon-plate, and so as to turn with the key after the key has been inserted into the tube of the lock.

As usually constructed, the key-guide has been introduced from the back side of the escutcheon-plate, and so that the bearing comes upon the front of the key-guide. This leaves an exposed vertical joint between the key-guide and its plate, and into which joint obstructions are liable to enter and prevent the free turning of the key-guide. Particularly is this the case in escutcheons which are frequently cleaned. The cleaning material is unavoidably forced into the joint, so that the free working of the key-guide is prevented. Again, in such escutcheons there is no limit to the extent of rotation, and it is frequently so much out of place as to be difficult to insert the key.

The object of this invention is to overcome these difficulties; and it consists in the construction as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claim.

A is the escutcheon-plate, of substantially the usual form, but constructed with a central circular opening, *a*, with an internally-projecting flange, *b*, forming an annular shoulder with-

in said opening. B, the key-guide, provided with the usual flat key-hole, *d*, is constructed with an annular flange, *e*, at its outer end to fit the shoulder formed by the flange *b* on the plate, as seen in Fig. 5. It is also constructed with an annular groove, *f*, distant from the flange *e* equal to the thickness of the flange *b*, and into this groove a divided ring, *h*, is sprung, said ring projecting from the key-guide over the shoulder *b*, as seen in Fig. 5, which secures the key-guide in its place. This construction enables the key-guide to be introduced from the outside of the plate inward, and thus overcome the difficulties from the inside introduction hereinbefore referred to, the joint being protected from the entrance of obstructions to prevent the free working of the key-guide.

To prevent the key-guide from being turned beyond the point required for the operation of the key, we form a recess, *l*, in one side of the flange *b*, as seen in Fig. 3, and on the key-guide make a corresponding stud or projection, *n*, as seen in Fig. 4, which works in said recess when the key-guide is turned, the said recess being of such length that the stud *n* will strike either end of said recess when it has reached the extreme of its required movement in that direction.

As shown in the drawings, the construction is for a lock in which the key turns either to the right or left to draw the bolt. In cases where the key turns in but one direction to draw the bolt, one of the shoulders would be placed where the stud would strike it when the hole in the key-guide is brought into line with the hole in the tube. In no case, therefore, can the key-guide be turned beyond the limits of the recess *l*. The advantage of this stop is still greater in that class of locks in which the key-hole is eccentric to the escutcheon and tube, because a great difficulty is experienced in that class of escutcheons, in that the key-guide is liable to be inverted, bringing the hole in the key-guide into the same plane as the key-hole in the tube, but above or below it, as the case may be, in which case the greatest difficulty is experienced, because the key will but partially enter the key-hole, and the occasion of the difficulty is not readily observed.

It will be readily understood that, instead

of making the recess on the plate and the stud
n on the key-guide, the order may be reversed.

5 In the case of locks in which the key turns
only in one direction a spring may be applied
to the key-guide, against the force of which
the key-guide will be turned, and so that the
reaction of the spring will force and hold the
key-guide back to its place in line with the
key-hole in the tube.

10 We do not wish to be understood as broadly
claiming securing one part of a thing to an-
other by means of a divided ring sprung into
an annular groove on one part so as to overlap
the other, as such we are aware is not new; but

15 What we do claim is—

An escutcheon-plate constructed with a cen-
tral opening, combined with a key-guide ar-

ranged to rotate in said opening, and con-
structed to be inserted from the outside in-
ward, its outer edge overlapping said plate to 20
form a bearing thereon, and also constructed
with an annular groove at a point inside the
plate, a divided ring sprung into said annular
groove to form a bearing against the inside of
the plate, a stud on the one part and a corre- 25
sponding recess on the other part, the ends of
said recess forming stops for said stud to limit
the rotation of the key-guide, substantially as
described.

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Witnesses:

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