(No Model.)

A. BOURGEOIS & P. JACKY.

WATCH KEY.

No. 267,057. Patented Nov. 7, 1882.

Fig. 1

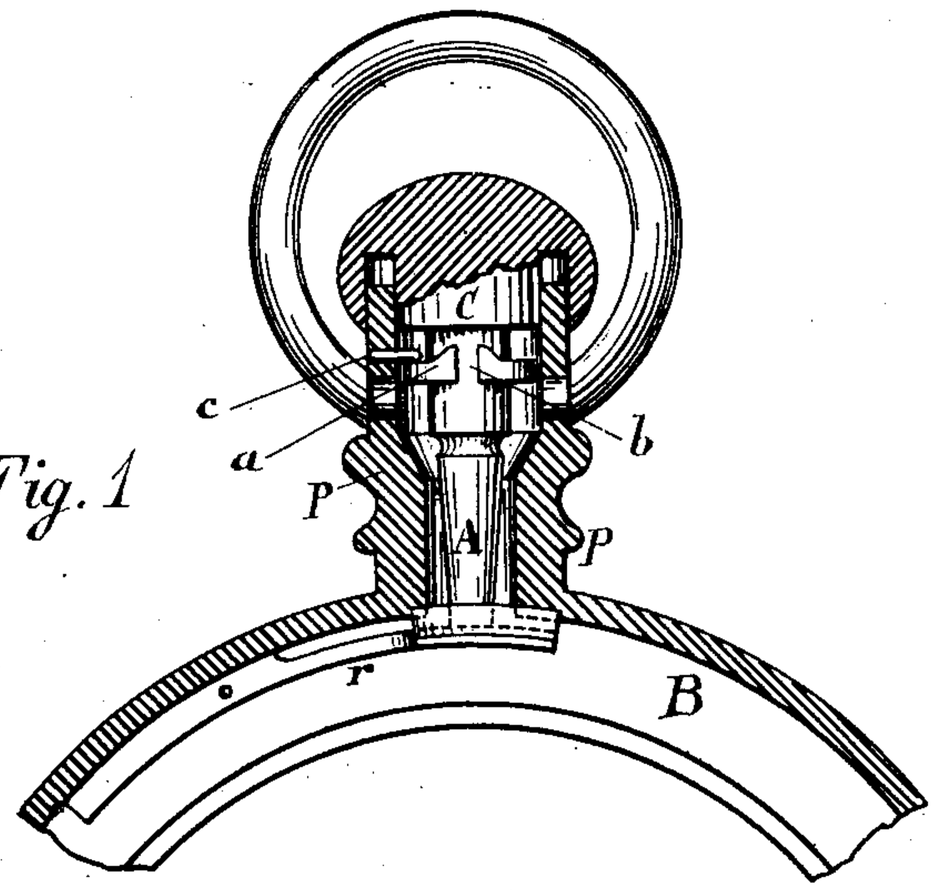


Fig. 2

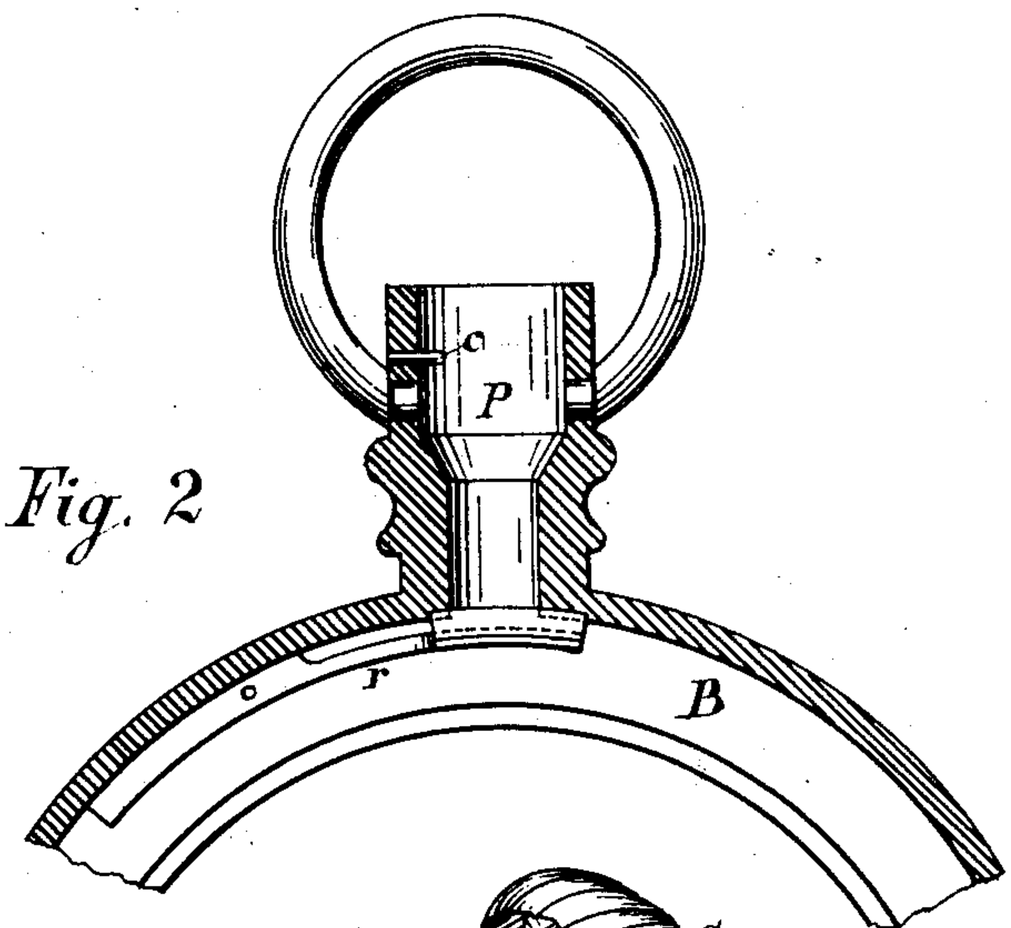
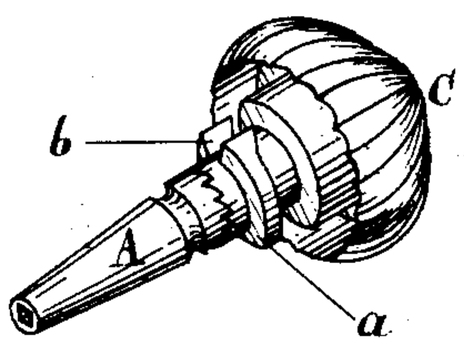


Fig. 3



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT BOURGEOIS AND PAUL JACKY, OF BIENNE, SWITZERLAND.

WATCH-KEY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 267,057, dated November 7, 1882.

Application filed July 7, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALBERT BOURGEOIS and PAUL JACKY, both citizens of Switzerland, and residents of Bienne, canton of Berne, Switzerland, have invented an Improvement in Watches, of which the following is a specification.

Previous to our invention watch-keys had been secured in the pendants of watches, in one instance by a screw-thread upon the shank of the key taking a thread in a recessed portion of the pendant, and in another instance by a pin on the pendant entering a bayonet-lock groove cut in the shank of the key. Keys made as aforesaid were also adapted to act as push-pins for opening the watch-case.

Our invention relates to a notched-flange on the key, with inclines at each side of the notch, in combination with the hollow shank for receiving such key, a spring, and a pin in the shank that passes above the notched flange. The inclines at the sides of the notch prevent the key becoming detached accidentally, because the key has to be pressed in against the action of the spring before it can be turned around to liberate it from the pin.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a section of the pendant and part of the watch-case center or ring with the key retained in the shank. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the key removed from the shank. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the key.

B represents part of the ring or center of a watch-case, and *r* the spring, having a catch for retaining the cap of the watch-case when closed.

P is the hollow shank, secured to the watch-case center or ring in the usual manner, and *c* is a pin projecting into the interior of the pendant. The outer end of the shank is made cylindrical and enters an annular groove in the under side of the head or handle *c* of the key. These parts are of usual character, and have been used previous to our invention.

Upon the shank of the watch-key is our locking-flange *a*, either in one with the shank of the key or secured to it by soldering or otherwise. This flange is divided or notched at *b*, to pass the pin *c*, when the key is placed in the pendant, and said flange is made with inclines in its upper surface, adjacent to the notch, to prevent the key being turned enough for the pin *c* to enter the notch and liberate the key.

When the key is in the pendant or shank, as shown in Fig. 1, the end of the barrel portion of the key is pressed upon by the spring *r*, and keeps the rear of the flange against the pin *c* and securely holds the key in place, and by pressing upon the head of the key said key becomes a push-pin for opening the watch-case.

To remove the key from the pendant or shank, the key is pressed in against the action of the spring *r* and turned in either direction until the pin *c* enters the notch *b*, when the pressure on the key is released and the spring *r* ejects or partially throws it out of the shank. The reverse operation is necessary for securing the key in the shank.

We claim as our invention—

The watch-key A, with a notched flange thereon, and with inclines upon the flange at each side of the notch, in combination with the hollow pendant or shank P, pin *c*, and spring *r*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:
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