

No. 877,930.

PATENTED FEB. 4, 1908.

O. KATZENBERGER.
KEY.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 22, 1906.

Fig. 1.

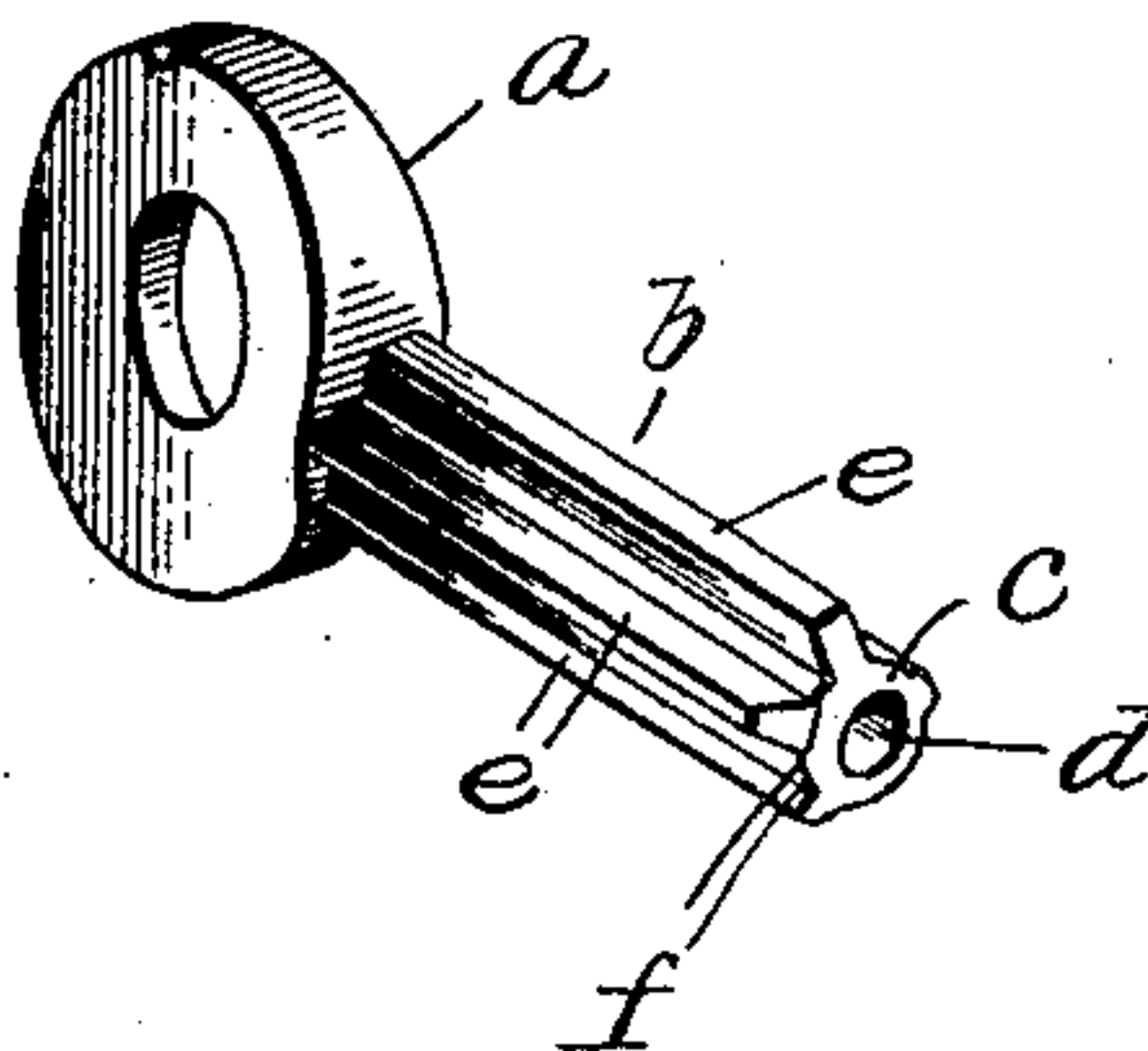


Fig. 2.

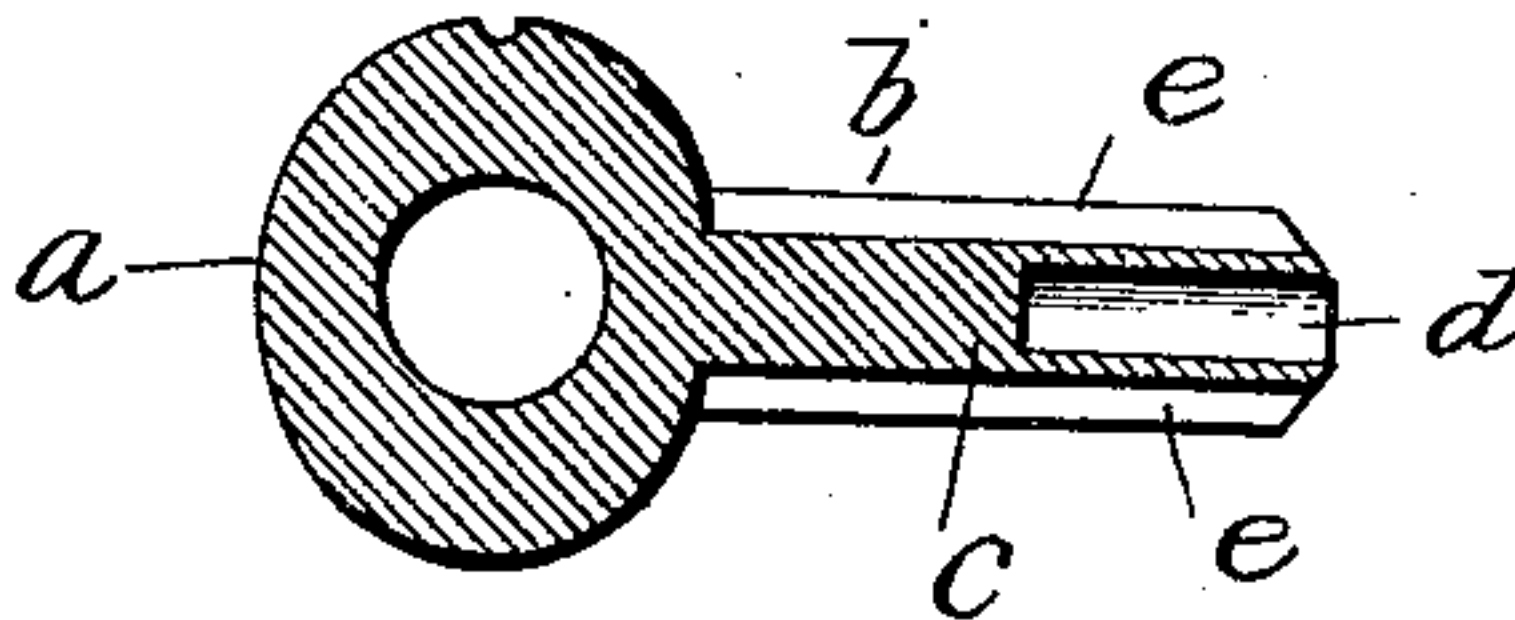
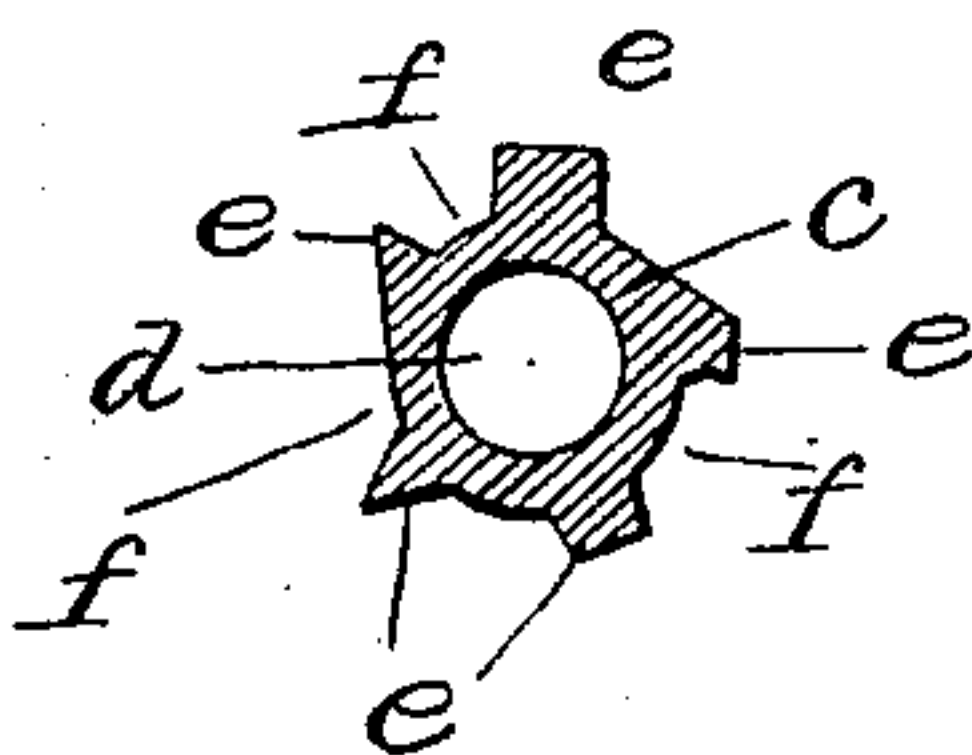


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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KEY.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 4, 1908.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR KATZENBERGER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Keys, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The invention relates to improvements in keys of that description which are used in operating locks of that class in which the bolt-actuating mechanism is guarded by wards.

It has for its object the provision of a device which, by a slight variation in construction, can be produced in great numbers all of which will be different so that no two keys will be alike to such an extent as to open the same lock.

The invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts herein-after fully described, pointed out in the appended claim, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings, in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a key embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view.

The key comprises the bow *a*, which may be of any construction suitable in the prem-

ises, and the shank *b*. The main part *c* of the shank is cylindrical in form and has in its entering end the pivot bearing *d*. Extending longitudinally of the shank parallel to its axis of rotation and placed at intervals around the same are the bits *e* separated by the intervening recesses *f*. The bits and intervening recesses are all of different shapes and dimensions and are irregularly disposed around the shank. The bits and intervening recesses are formed by cutting into the cylindrical shank to extend along its length longitudinal grooves of irregular cross-sections. By varying the shape, size, relative positions and number of the bits and recesses a great many different combinations can be obtained so that a great variety of keys can be produced which can be used to operate a corresponding variety of locks. Also, by the foregoing construction the keys can be manufactured at a comparatively low cost.

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

As an improved article of manufacture a key provided with a cylindrical shank having grooves extending along its length of irregular cross-sections forming bits and intervening recesses of different shapes and dimensions.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

OSCAR KATZENBERGER.

Witnesses:

EDWARD HOMER ELMENDORF,
SUE ACKLIN PEACOCK.