

No. 897,473.

PATENTED SEPT. 1, 1908.

E. L. MEDLER.
KEYHOLE GUARD AND KEY LOCK.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 2, 1906.

Fig. 1

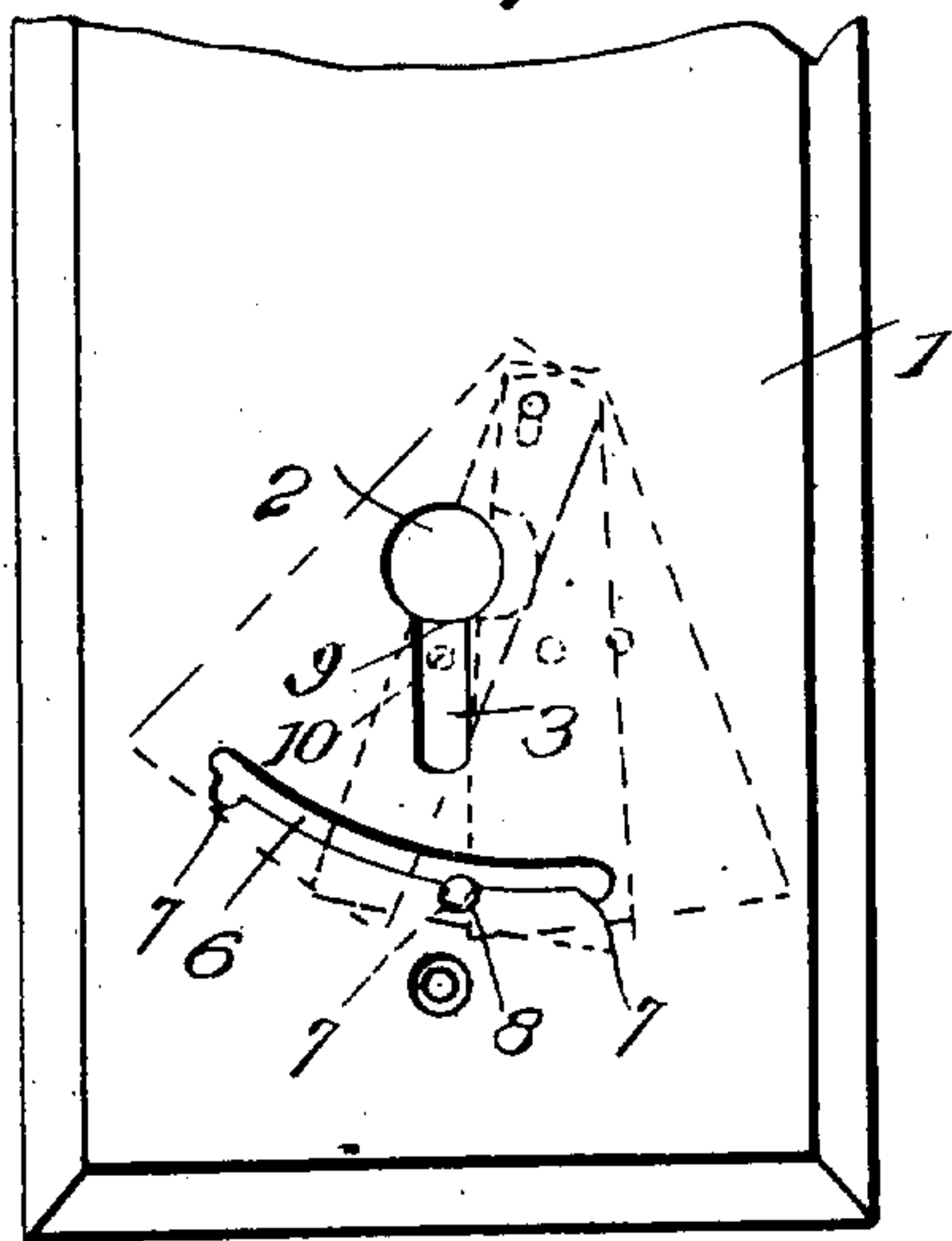


Fig. 2

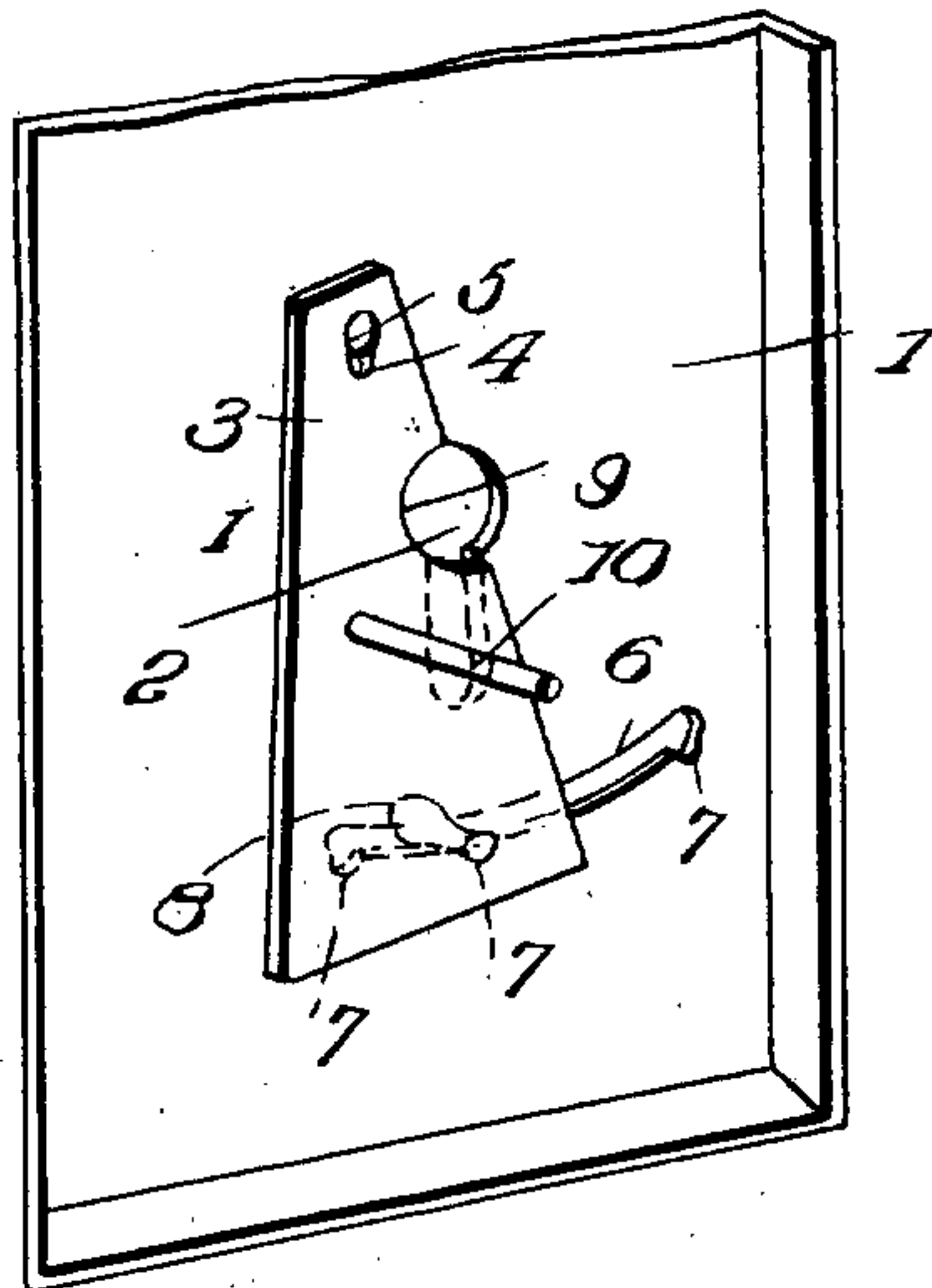
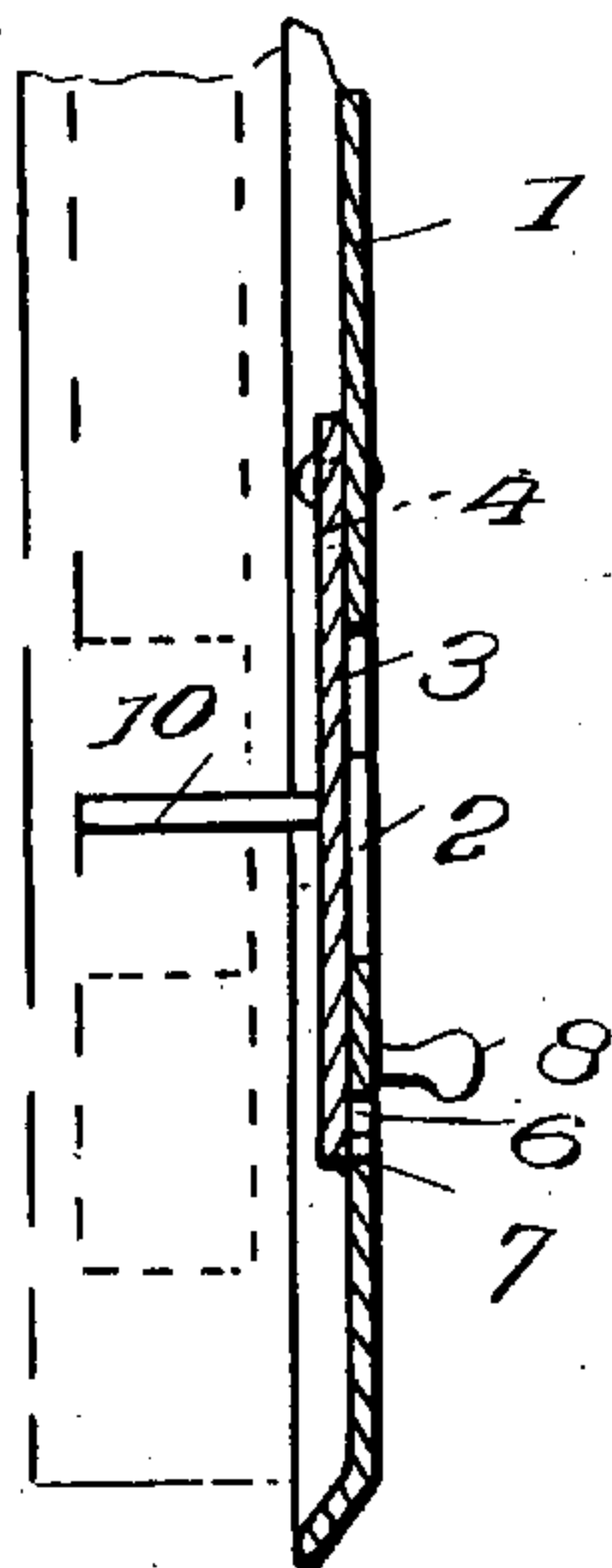


Fig. 3



Inventor

Edward L. Medler

Witnesses

W. H. Woodron
W. H. Woodron

By

Thas Racey, Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. MEDLER, OF ALBUQUERQUE, TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO.

KEYHOLE-GUARD AND KEY-LOCK.

No. 897,473.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 1, 1908.

Application filed May 2, 1906. Serial No. 314,888.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD L. MEDLER, citizen of the United States, residing at Albuquerque, in the county of Bernalillo and Territory of New Mexico, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Keyhole-Guards and Key-Locks, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a novel form of guard for locks of doors to prevent picking of the lock and to afford greater security than is incident to the most common types of door locks at present in use.

The essential feature of the invention resides in the provision of a peculiar form of guard plate which is preferably attached to the escutcheon of the lock and which prevents the introduction of a key or tool by which to operate the locking mechanism, after said guard plate has been properly adjusted for this purpose.

The guard plate above mentioned is not only designed to afford a guard for the keyhole opening of the lock, but is adapted to lock a key, already placed in the lock from the inside, from displacement.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a door lock showing a common form of escutcheon and illustrating the invention in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a perspective view from the rear, bringing out more clearly the manner of mounting the guard plate upon the escutcheon. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view through the escutcheon.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

Specifically describing the invention and referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the escutcheon at the inner side of a door lock, the same being of any common form and being provided with the usual key opening 2. The invention is preferably applied to the escutcheon 1 and consists of a plate 3, the upper end portion of which is provided with a vertical slot 4 receiving a headed stud 5 projecting from the inner face of the member 1. The slot 4 permits

of a certain amount of vertical movement of the plate 3, said plate being likewise adapted for a certain amount of pivotal movement so that it may be thrown laterally to assume a position either partially closing or entirely closing the key opening 2. The adjustment of the plate 3 is determined by means of an arcuate slot 6 formed in the escutcheon 1 a short distance below the key opening 2, said slot 6 being provided at its ends and intermediate of its ends with notches 7 constituting virtually, continued portions of the slot. A finger-piece 8 projects outwardly from the plate 3 through the slot 6 and is adapted to be grasped in order to effect actuation of the plate 3.

The shank of the finger-piece 8 is adapted by vertical movement of the plate 3, to be engaged in any one of the notches 7 to hold the plate in a position, first, entirely closing the opening 2; second, partially closing the opening 2; and third, leaving the opening 2 wholly free to permit of passage of the key therinto, or removal of such key. In other words, when the finger-piece 8 of the plate 3 is so manipulated as to impart pivotal movement to the plate sufficiently to throw the lower portion of the plate across the lower portion of the key opening 2, it will be comprehended that the key already in the lock, will be prevented from displacement by being engaged by the said plate 3. It will be noted that the plate 3 is provided in one of its vertical edges with a recessed portion 9 to receive the body of the key and permit of engagement of the plate 3 therewith in the manner above mentioned. When the key is removed from the lock, the plate 3 may be adjusted so that the finger-piece 8 engages in one of the extreme notches 7 and entirely closes the key opening from the inner side of the door. The plate 3 has an arm 10 projecting perpendicularly from its outer side, and located at a point on said plate at the back of the recess 9 so that when said plate entirely closes the opening 2, this arm will assume a position in line with the key opening 2 of the lock and will form a stop to prevent the insertion of a key from the outer side of the door.

The position of the plate 3 when adjusted in any of the various ways above suggested, is fixed by reason of the interlocking engagement of the finger-piece 8 with one of the notches 7.

The invention is very simple and may be

readily applied to the various forms of lock at present in use, in an obvious way.

It is to be particularly noted that the arm 10 is always in transverse alinement with the bit receiving portion of the key-hole opening. Hence said arm will prevent the turning of the key whenever it is desired that it shall have this function, according to the adjustment of the plate 3 and prevent the picking of the lock by means of a pair of pincers applied to the pin of the key.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

The combination with a door escutcheon provided with the usual key-hole opening, and a plate pivotally mounted on the inner side of said escutcheon to swing parallel with the face thereof, and formed with an edge

recess in alinement with the bit receiving portion of the key-hole opening, means for holding said plate in the following positions, to wit, with the wall of its recess in position to engage a key inserted in the key-hole, or in such a position that the solid portion back of said recess will entirely close said key-hole, and an arm secured to and projecting perpendicularly from the plate in transverse alinement with the bit-receiving portion of the key-hole opening and back of the recess, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

EDWARD L. MEDLER. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

GEORGE L. WYLLYS,
URSINUS S. BATEMAN.