N. PELLOW.

KEY GUARD.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 14, 1907.

899,801.

Patented Sept. 29, 1908.

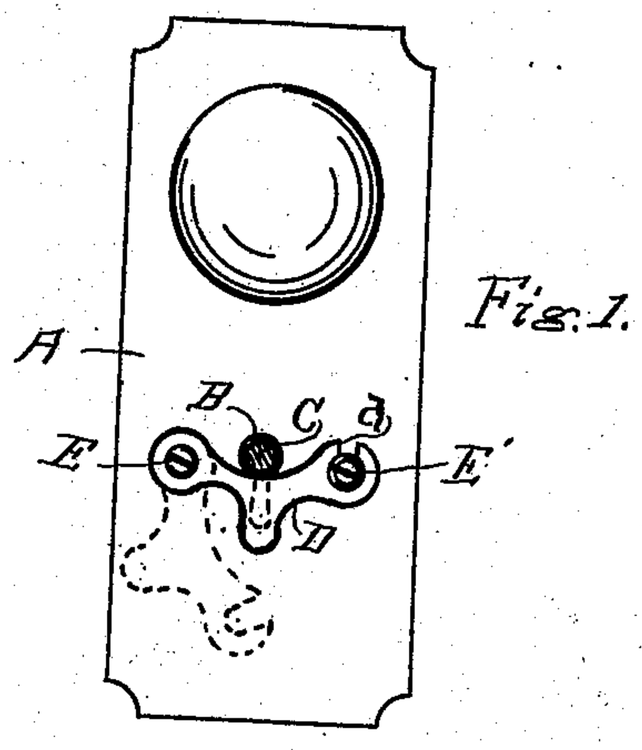


Fig. 1.

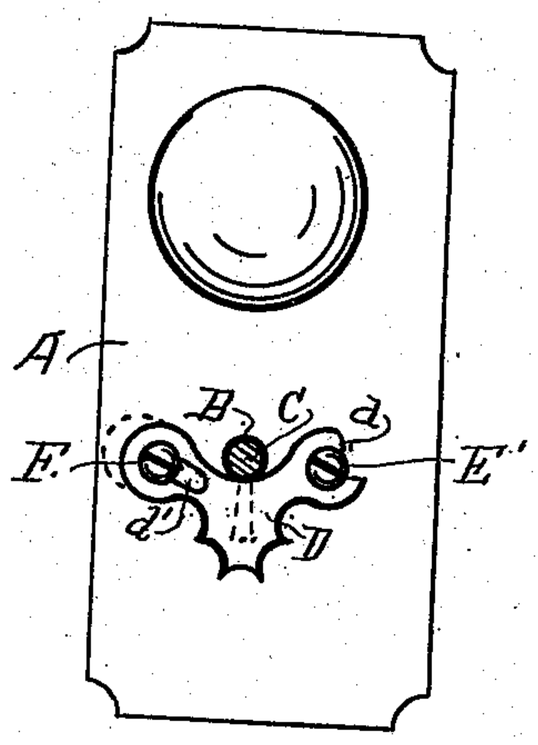


Fig. 2.

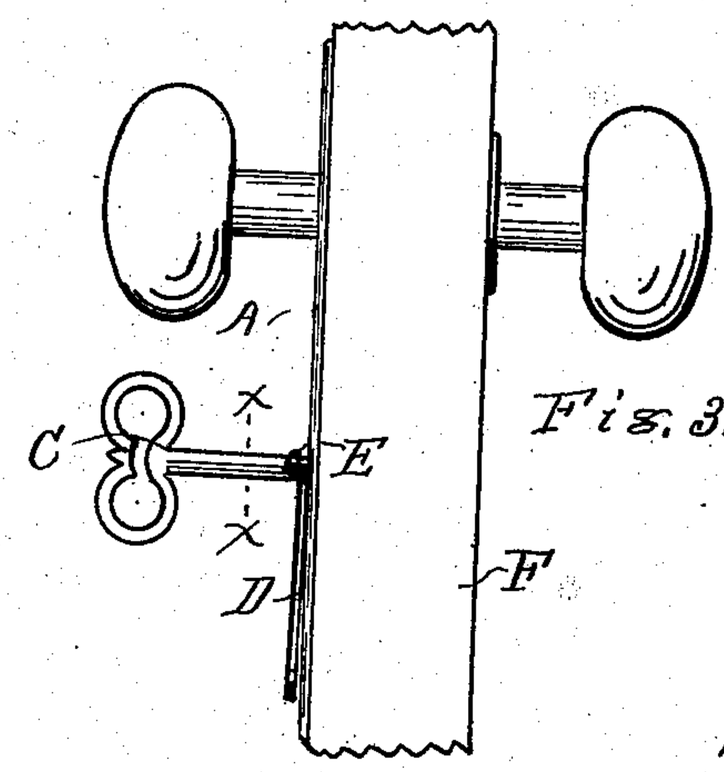


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## KEY-GUARD.

No. 899,801. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 29, 1908.

Application filed December 14, 1907. Serial No. 406,582.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NORMAN PELLOW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Guards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to appliances for so closing a key hole that the key inserted inside, cannot be removed from the outside of a door, and its objects are: first, to provide a key guard that may be readily attached to any form of lock plate; second, to provide a key guard that will be securely held to place when in position to hold the key into the keyhole, and, third, to so construct a key guard as to avert the danger of scratching or marring the lock plate or escutcheon that covers the surface of a door over the key hole. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is an elevation of a lock plate showing one form of my guard in place. Fig. 2 is the same showing a guard that must be slid endwise to properly attach it over the key hole, and, Fig. 3 is an edge elevation of a section of a door showing the knobs, key and key guard in place.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In Figs. 1 and 2 I have shown the key cut off on the line *x x* of Fig. 3 so that the lower portion of the key guard D may be left unobstructed to the view. A represents the lock plate. To apply this key guard I drill two holes through the plate A for the reception of the screws E and E′, which are passed through the plate and screwed into the door stile F, the screw E acting as a pivotal bearing and support for the key guard, and the screw E′ is designed to act as a temporary support for the free end of the guard D as follows: The key guard D is, preferably, made of spring metal and so bent or curved that the lower end will be held, normally, a little distance away from the lock plate A, as indicated in Fig. 3, and will require some pressure to bring it in contact with the surface of this plate. Being pivoted to the door on the screw E, it is provided with a slot *d* in the other end of sufficient size to pass over the body of the screw E′, the head of which is located near enough to the plate A to hold the end of the guard D safely to place by the friction of the spring metal bearing against the back surface of the screw head. In Fig. 1 this slot, *d*, is shown as cut into the upper edge of the end of the key guard. This is so arranged that the key guard may be simply pivoted upon the screw E and swung directly from this point to position to engage the screw head E′ and cover the lower portion of the key hole B, when the key C is in place, so that the tongue of the key cannot be made to pass out of the key hole.

In Fig. 2 I have shown the key guard D with the slot *d* opening horizontally, or nearly so, and when so formed it is necessary to form a slot *d′* adjacent to the screw E so that the key guard may be moved endwise before disengaging it from the screw E′. This form is, perhaps, more positive in its action as it cannot, by any mishap, drop down from contact with the screw E′ until it has been moved endwise, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, while the form shown in Fig. 1 might, by expert manipulation, especially if the tension of the guard against the screw head E′ is very weak, be made to drop from contact with the screw E′ so that the key might be removed, though it is designed that the tension of the guard against the head of the screws and the surface of the plate A will be so that there will be no danger of such action.

The key guard D should be held by the screw E so that it may be moved freely and without friction upon the plate A until it is in position to be pressed back of the screw head E′ so that there will be no danger of marring the surface of the plate when manipulating the guard, and the position of the end of the guard away from the surface of the plate averts all danger of marring it at this point.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. In combination with a door stile and a lock plate secured thereto and having a key hole through it, a key guard having a hole through one end and a slot in the other end and curved to throw the ends away from the lock plate, a screw passed through the hole in the key guard and screwed into the door stile, and a second screw secured in the door stile in position to engage the slot in key guard and hold the key guard to place by outward pressure against the head of the screw.

2. In combination with a door stile and a lock plate secured thereto and having a key

hole and screw holes through it, a key guard, having a slotted screw hole through one end and an open slot in the other end, a screw passing through the slotted screw hole and one of the holes in the lock plate and screwed into the door stile, and a screw passed through the other hole in the lock plate and screwed into the door stile in position to be made to engage the open slot in the key guard to secure the key guard over the lower portion of the key hole.

Signed at Grand Rapids Michigan December 9, 1907.

NORMAN PELLOW.

In presence of—
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BURT G. DECKER.