

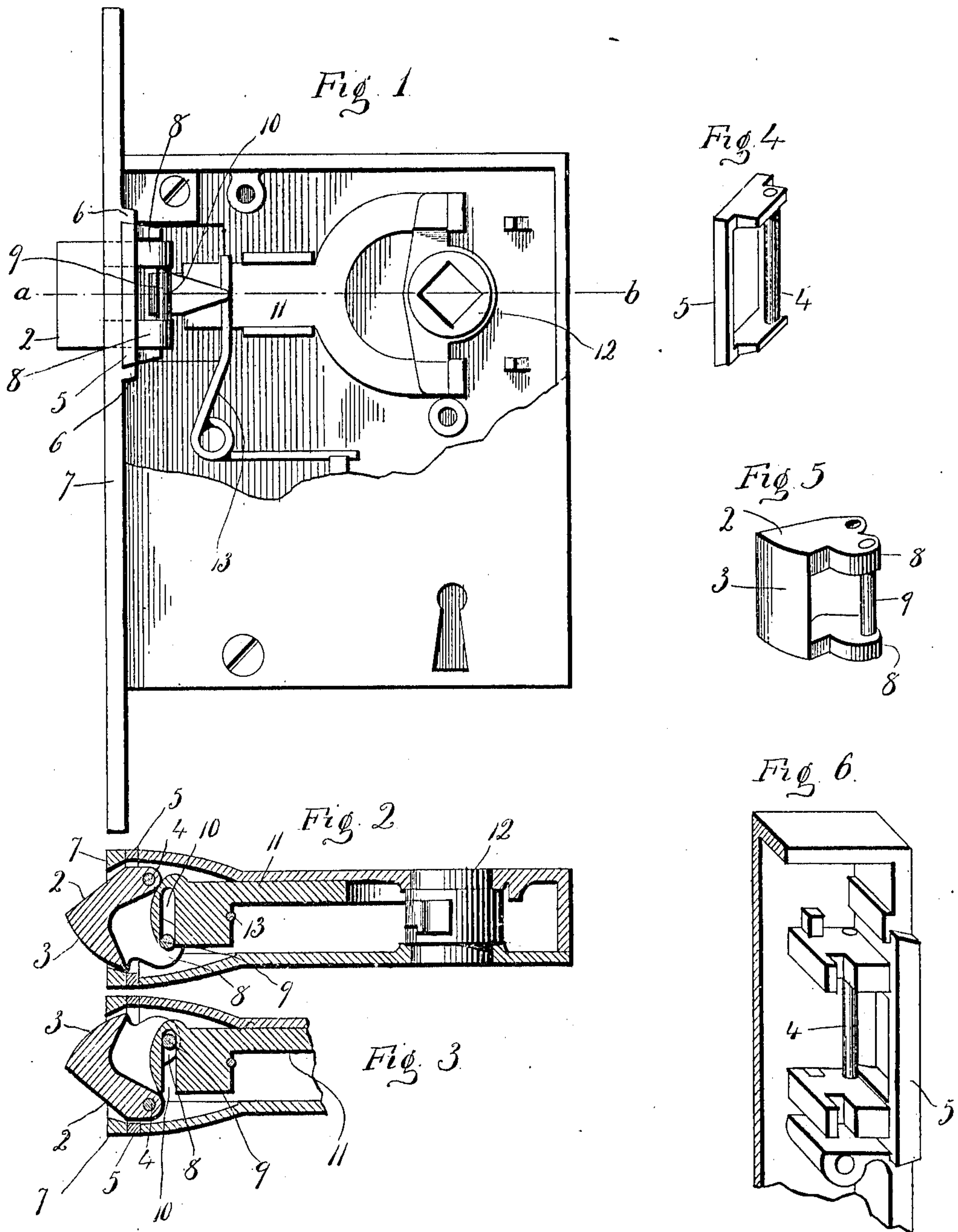
H. HOFFMAN.

LATCH.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 7, 1909.

947,488.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.



Witnesses  
C. J. Reed  
C. L. Reed

Inventor  
Henry Hoffman  
by Seymour Pearce  
Atty

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY HOFFMAN, OF SOUTH NORWALK, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE NORWALK LOCK CO., OF SOUTH NORWALK, CONNECTICUT. A CORPORATION.

## LATCH.

947,488.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.

Application filed July 7, 1909. Serial No. 506,283.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY HOFFMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Norwalk, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Latches; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the figures 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 side view of a mortise latch embodying my invention, a portion of the case broken away. Fig. 2 a sectional view on the line *a—b* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 a broken sectional view on the same line with the latch bolt reversed. Fig. 4 a perspective view of the latch bolt frame, detached. Fig. 5 a perspective view of the latch bolt, detached. Fig. 6 a broken perspective view illustrating my invention as applied to a rim latch.

This invention relates to an improvement in latches either of the mortise or rim type which are provided with a latch bolt which may be reversed so as to permit the latch to be used on either right or left hand doors.

The object of this invention is a simple arrangement of parts whereby the latch bolt may be readily reversed, and the invention consists in the construction hereinafter described and particularly recited in the claims.

The latch bolt 2 is of the knuckle anti-friction type having a rounded or cam surface 3 for contact with the keeper in closing the door. This latch bolt is mounted upon a pivot 4 in a frame 5 having beveled edges at opposite sides to engage with the beveled lugs 6 formed on the inner face of the front plate 7 of a mortise lock or in other words the frame is transversely movable with relation to the case. The latch bolt is cut away to form projections 8 through which a pin 9

extends, this pin being adapted to enter a notch 10 formed for it in the outer end of the latch plate 11 which is moved by a hub 12 in the usual manner, and which is thrown forward by a spring 13. When one side of the case is removed the frame 5 may be readily slipped out of place, turned over, and slipped back so as to reverse the bolt and change it from right to left, or vice versa.

In Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings, the invention is shown as applied to a mortise case; but the invention is equally applicable for rim cases, as shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings, in which case, however, the front wall is preferably cut away to receive the frame 5 so that the outer face of the frame 5 will be flush with the outer face of the case; but the arrangement of the latch bolt in the frame will be otherwise the same and the latch bolt will be operated in the usual manner.

I claim:—

1. In a latch, the combination with the case and latch plate, of a transversely movable frame mounted in the front face of said case, a latch bolt pivotally mounted in said frame and provided with a pin adapted to be detachably engaged by the said latch plate.

2. A latch comprising a casing, a longitudinally movable frame mounted in the front face of the case, a latch bolt pivotally mounted in said frame, said latch bolt formed with projections, a pin extending through said projections, a latch plate formed at its forward end with a notch to receive said pin, and means for moving the said latch plate.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:

HARRY W. HOFFMAN,  
COURTLANDT D. FERRIS.