

J. M. MUNN.
KEY-FASTENER.

No. 187,165.

Patented Feb. 6, 1877.

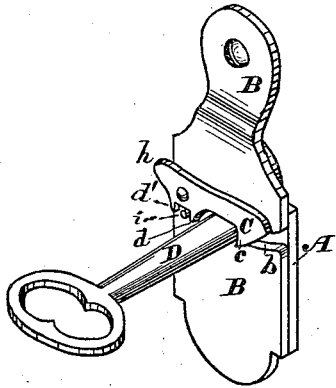


Fig. 1

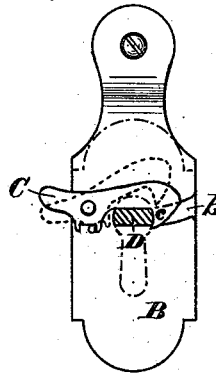


Fig. 2

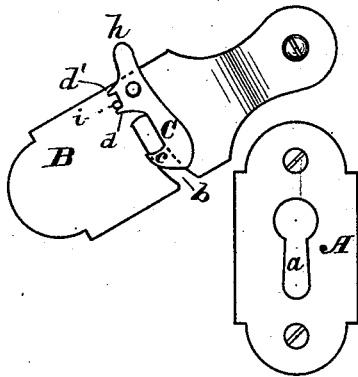


Fig. 3

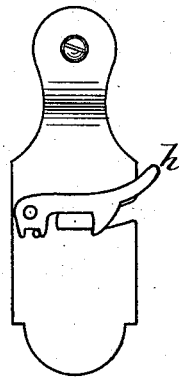


Fig. 4

Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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IMPROVEMENT IN KEY-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **187,165**, dated February 6, 1877; application filed January 17, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. MUNN, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Fasteners; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention relates to that class of key-fasteners in which a slotted drop-plate is provided with a device to prevent its being moved back off from the key; and the nature of my invention consists in a hook pivoted to the drop-plate, and provided with a projecting thumb-piece for raising the hook, and with two downward-projecting lips to act as stops against a pin on the drop-plate for limiting the movement of the hook, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved key-fastener. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detailed view thereof, and Fig. 4 shows a modification of the construction of the hook.

A represents the ordinary escutcheon for door-locks, having key-hole *a*. B is the drop-plate, pivoted at its upper end, either to the escutcheon A, or to the door above the escutcheon. In this drop-plate is a curved slot, *b*, extending from one edge inward for a suitable distance, said slot to embrace a flattened or angular portion of the key D, turned sidewise within the lock. Back of the inner end of the slot *b*, to the drop-plate B, is pivoted a dog or pawl, C, provided at its outer end with a hook, *c*, which falls over the flattened portion of the key, and thus prevents the drop-plate from being pushed back from the

outside, while said plate prevents the key from being turned by any nippers or other instrument. The dog or hook C is, in its lower edge, below the pivot, provided with two projecting lips or teats, *d d'*, and between said lips is a pin, *i*, projecting from the drop-plate. This pin and lips form stops to limit the movement of the dog or hook C, so that it will always be in position for work and cannot get out of order. By its own gravity the hook C falls, so that the lip *d* will be against the pin *i*, and the front beveled or inclined end of the hook will be in the same plane as the slot *b*, so that when the plate B drops down, said inclined end will strike the key-shank, and the hook rise and pass over the key, and after passing over the key it falls of its own weight again. The lip *d'*, coming in contact with the pin *i*, prevents the hook from being raised too far, but only sufficient to clear the key in pushing the plate to one side. The dog or hook C is further provided with a thumb-piece, *h*, which may be formed at its inner end, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, or it may be formed at the outer end, as shown in Fig. 4.

The entire dog or hook can be easily stamped out by suitable dies of a single piece, and the entire key-fastener may be made of any suitable material, and either plain or more or less ornamented, as desired.

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

In a key-fastener, the dog C, provided with the hook *c*, lips *d d'*, and thumb-piece *h*, all formed of one piece, in combination with the pivoted drop-plate B, provided with the slot *b* and pin *i*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 28th day of December, 1876.

JAMES M. MUNN.

Witnesses:

H. A. PLIMPTON,
B. M. MUNN.