J. M. KENNY.

Railway-Rail Joint.

No. 160,916. Patented March 16, 1875.

Fig. 1.

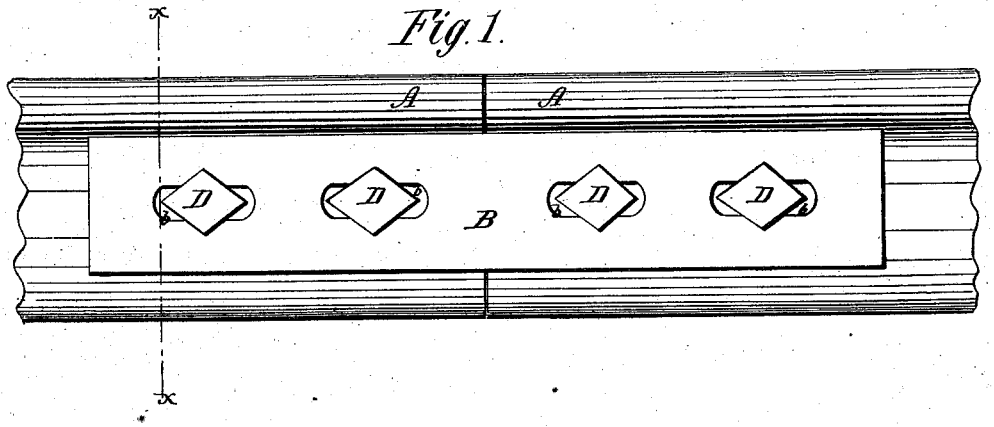
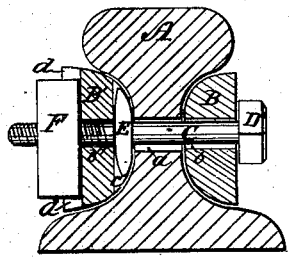


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH M. KENNY, OF BLAIRSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN RAILWAY-RAIL JOINTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **160,916**, dated March 16, 1875; application filed January 27, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH M. KENNY, of Blairsville, in the county of Indiana and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Combined Fish-Plate and Fastening for Railroad-Rails; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the railroad-fastening; Fig. 2, a transverse section through line *x x*.

This invention relates to certain improvements in fish-plates and fastening for railroad-rails; and consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the said plates and the clamping-bolts, as will first be fully described, and then pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing, A represents the two ends of adjoining railroad-rails, which are perforated in the center with longitudinal slots *a* for the insertion of the clamping-bolt, the said perforations being in the form of a slot instead of a circular hole, to admit of the expansion and contraction of the rails due to variations in temperature. B B′ are the fish-plates, which are also provided with slots *b b′*, plate B′ having around each slot *b′* spaces *c d*. C is the clamping-bolt, which is made with a diamond-shaped head, D, and a transverse locking-bit, E, the end of the bolt being screw-threaded, as usual, to receive a nut, F, which fits in the depression *d* on the outside of fish-plate B′. The bits E are passed through the slots *a* and *b* in a horizontal position and then turned, thus locking plate B to the ends of the rails. Plate B′ is then put on and the nuts F screwed upon the stems of the bolts until they will go no farther. They are then arranged with their sides conforming to the depression *d*, and the bolt turned by means of the head D until the devices are tightly locked together, the diamond-shaped head enabling the workman to ascertain when the bits E are in a position transverse to the slots, as they ought to be.

By means of this arrangement the devices are tightly locked together, the depression *d* preventing the turning of the nut, and the bits E still holding plate B to the rails in the event of the loosening of the nut.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

The combination of the bolt C, having the locking-bit E, with the plates B and B′, the latter having spaces *c* and *d*, and the nut F, substantially as and for the purpose described.

JOSEPH M. KENNY.

Witnesses:

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