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A.D. 1857 N° 1331.

Locks and other Fastenings.

(This Invention received Provisional Protection, but notice to proceed with the application for Letters Patent was not given within the time prescribed by the Act.)

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by Edwin Cotterill at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 12th May 1857.

I, EDWIN COTTERILL, of Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Manufacturer, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "A NEW OR IMPROVED METHOD OF PREVENTING THE PICKING OF ORDINARY LOCKS AND OTHER FASTENINGS," to be as follows:—

My said Invention consists of an instrument or apparatus to be inserted in the keyholes of locks and other such like fastenings. The said instrument
10 consists of two plates of metal jointed together, similar to an ordinary measuring rule. The edges of the plates presented to one another do not touch, and have notches therein, the said notches being opposite to one another; a square rod is situated between the two plates of metal, and a button slides upon the said rod. By turning the rod the button may either
15 be made to lie in the same plane as the plates of metal, the said button entering the notches in the edges of the plates, or the said button may be turned at right angles to the plates. When the button is in the former position the plates may be freely inserted into and withdrawn from a keyhole; but if when the plates are passed through the keyhole the rod be turned so as
20 to bring the button at right angles to the plane of the plates, the said plates can no longer be withdrawn from the keyhole. The button is adjusted on the

Cotterill's Improved Method of Preventing the Picking of Ordinary Locks, &c.

rod on which it slides to such a distance that when the plates are put to their full distance through the keyhole the button passes through to the other side of the door, and when turned prevents the withdrawal of the plates. A small lock is situated on the unjointed end of the plates and is connected with the rod, so that on turning the key of the lock the said rod is turned, and places 5 the button at right angles to the plates. In using the instrument, the button is first adjusted on the rod to the thickness of the door, the instrument inserted into the keyhole, and the key of the small lock turned. The instrument is thus fixed in the keyhole of the door lock, and can only be removed by the unlocking of the small lock. 10

My Invention is applicable to the securing of other fastenings than locks.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1857.