J. S. Birch,

Watch Key.

No. 70,787. Patented Nov. 12, 1867.

Fig 1.

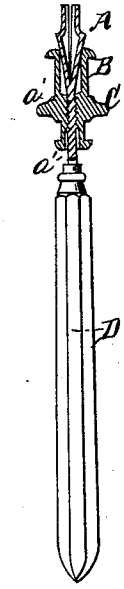

Fig 2.

Witnesses.
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J. S. BIRCH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 70,787, *dated November* 12, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN ADJUSTABLE WATCH-KEYS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, J. S. BIRCH, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Adjustable Watch-Key; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved watch-key, partly in section to show the construction.

Figure 2 is a top or end view of the same.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved key for watches, which may be so adjusted as to fit any watch, whether large or small; and it consists in slitting the barrel of the key diagonally, making the lower part of the barrel cone or pyramid-shaped; and in the combination of a thumb-nut and sleeve with the barrel of the key, the whole being constructed and arranged as hereinafter more fully described.

A is the barrel of the key, the base of which is made square in the ordinary manner. The barrel A is slit or divided longitudinally, said slit crossing the said bore diagonally, or from corner to corner, as shown in fig. 2. The lower part of the barrel A is made in the shape of an inverted cone or square pyramid, that is to say, it gradually decreases in size towards the shank or stem *a'*, so that, as the sleeve or slide B is moved up, the parts of the barrel A may be forced together, or towards each other, so that the barrel may be adjusted to wind the watch, whatever may be the size of its axle. Upon the shank or stem *a'* of the barrel A is formed a screw-thread, into which fits the screw-thread cut in the inner surface of the nut C. The slide or sleeve B, when the inclined part of the barrel A is made cone-shaped, may be rigidly attached to or formed solid with the nut C; but when the inclined part of said barrel is made square, or pyramid-shaped, the sleeve or slide B must be made separate, so as to slide or be pushed up the said part as the said nut is turned upon the stem or shank *a'*. The forward end of the barrel A must be made so small that, when the parts are drawn together by the sleeve or slide B, the said barrel will grasp the axle of the smallest watch. It will be observed that by slitting the barrel A diagonally, the said barrel grasps the axle at its corners, that is to say, in the most favorable position for the application of power. D is the handle of the key, which is attached to the shank or stem *a'*, and which may be made of any desired size, form, or material.

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

1. Slitting the barrel A of a watch-key diagonally, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. Forming the lower part of the barrel A cone or pyramid-shaped, that is to say, decreasing in size towards the shank or stem *a'*, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the sleeve or slide B and nut C, one or both, and whether made in one or two pieces, with the slit barrel A of the watch-key, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 15th day of August, 1867.

J. S. BIRCH.

Witnesses:

J. ALISON FRASER,

JAMES T. GRAHAM.