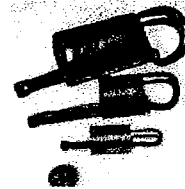


LOCKS & KEYS



The Newsletter for lock collectors

Issue 19

November 2002

Jack the lad, and his followers

"Locks & Keys" needs more subscribers. If you know any other collectors, please ask them to subscribe to their own copies!

"Locks & Keys" welcomes contributions, preferably with uncoloured illustrations on separate sheets. Unfortunately, colour photographs tend to be too dark to reproduce well. PC disks with files in MSWord7, MSWorks4.5, Write, Wordpad, or saved as .rtf can be used. Articles may also be emailed to the Editor — see below right.



This picture shows Jack Sheppard (1702-1724) in Newgate prison. It is reputedly contemporary. However, its accuracy might be questioned.

Sheppard was apprenticed into the family carpentry business in Stepney, east London, at the age of 16yrs. However, he soon became the archetypal 'idle apprentice'.

(Continued on page 11)

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Your Newsletter ...

My thanks to Trevor Dowson, Richard Hopkins, and Peter Hall, for much of the information in this issue, and more which I couldn't squeeze in. There are still some interesting press cuttings relating to prisons, locks, and locksmiths, so I might try to fit them into a later issue.

My thanks also to Tom Gordon for technical help, which is making production of the *Newsletter* easier. My photocopier was short-lived, though it might be revived. However, the scanner is working well, and I am getting better at putting in pictures, so I intend to include more in future. The problem of making them clear enough remains, however. Drawings are generally clearer, but are seldom available. A reader has offered to make drawings, and I might take up this offer in future.

One picture is worth ...

Another suggestion is that coloured pictures might be put on the Internet, at least for a while after each issue appears. This raises an interesting question. I have no short-term prospect of my own website, but there are two good USA collectors' sites. My dream of a British site will remain just that, as I have my time full with the *Newsletter* and cannot make a website on my own. Is there a need for a British slant in competition with the US collectors' sites? And, as I have such difficulty attracting subscribers, is there a need for a British lock collectors' newsletter? (I purpose to complete this year, however!)

If there is, Paul Prescott has offered to host *Newsletter* pictures on his own excellent site, and that might be worth exploring, in the short term..

A collectors' site, or newsletter, should be about more than just the locks, of course. Cleaning, conservation, storage, how to repair, search for information, and more. Anyone to run a British collectors' website?

Readers might also like to be reminded of the *West Coast Lock Collectors Newsletter*. The Editor is Don Jackson PO Box 272 Pleasanton California 94566 USA. Fax is 925-846-4022; doggyjack@attbi.com. Subscription is US \$16, other countries \$19. <http://www.wclca.org/>

The American Lock Collectors' Association's newsletter has become the

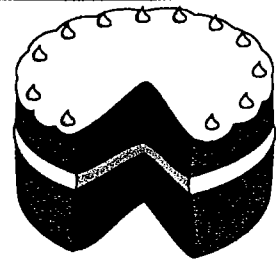
Journal of lock collecting

Contact David Rankl 13115 Millersburg Road, S.W. Massillon, Ohio 44647 USA
dlr41@aol.com
 Rates: US \$16, foreign \$30
<http://alca-online.org/>

Feedback

I have had some correspondence about Viking and Roman padlocks.

These are not quite as rare as might be thought, though they are often incomplete. I hope to gather together my information for an article in a later issue.



Feedback? what feedback?

So far, there has been little response about the *Newsletter*, though a few subscribers have given me some kind words. Others, however, just haven't renewed. That is the least informative comment. If the *Newsletter* is not providing what you seek in a newsletter for lock collectors, please tell me — perhaps I can do something about it. My own resources are limited, in both material, knowledge, and time. There are collectors who know much more about locks than me, and could share their knowledge through these pages.

There has been no response to my invitation to help me compile a reading list of books you would recommend as useful. It is now easy for anyone with Internet access to find book details. There are several free online public access library catalogues available:

<http://blpc.bl.uk>

is the British Library catalogue. Several university libraries, and the British Library, have combined their catalogues at:

<http://copac.ac.uk>

the Library of Congress catalog is at:

<http://loc.gov>

A leading Internet bookseller, mainly for book in print, but might also find out of print books, is:

amazon.com

Amazon also has good searching capabilities, and often has reader reviews.

<http://www.2ndhand.org.uk/cgi/books.cgi/>

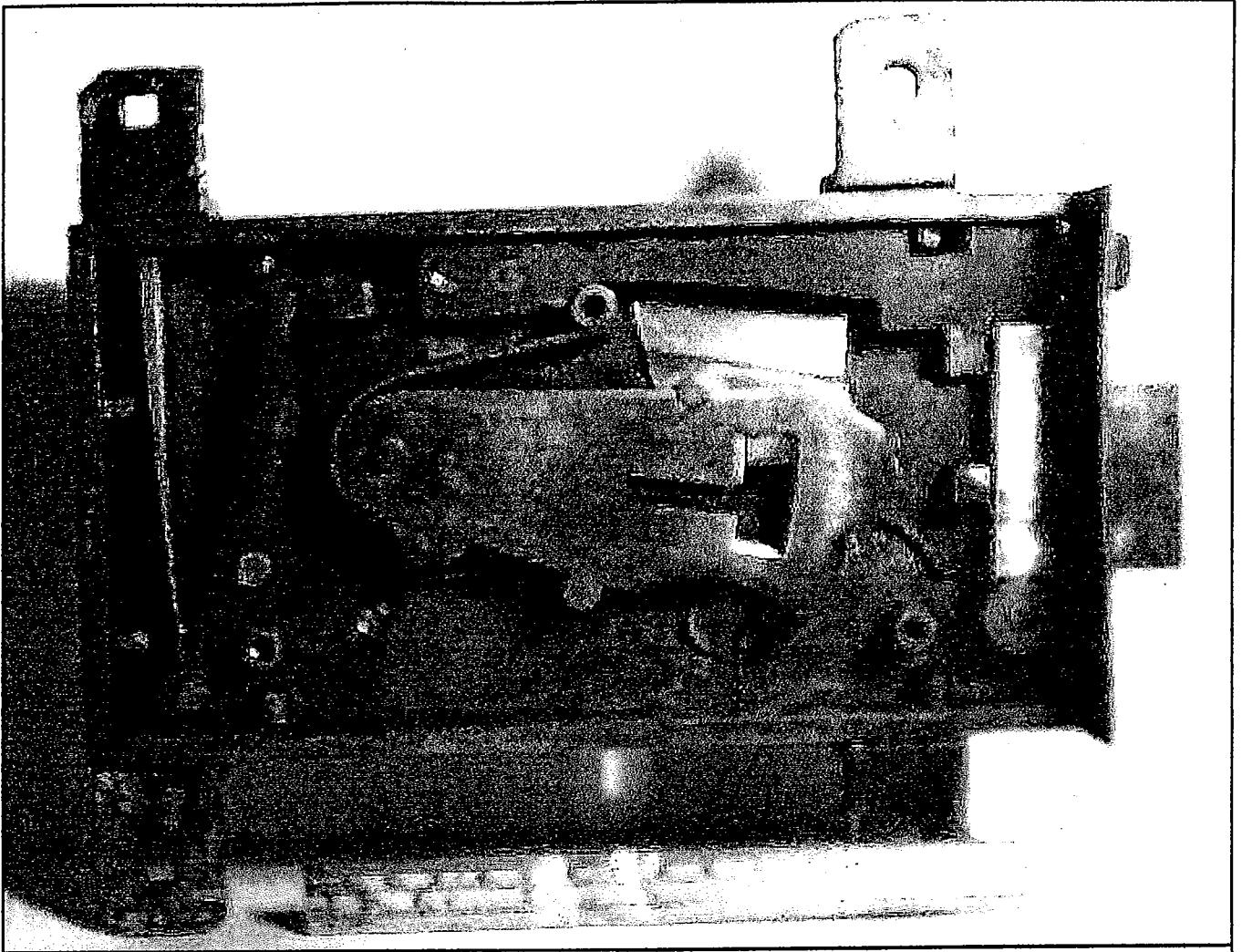
is a useful secondhand books finding site.



I would like to be able to include articles about particular locks, and lockmakers — but I need you to send them to me. Or at least the information so that I can write it for you.

Profiles of collectors, and collections, and your favourite lock, are all welcome. As are suggestions for articles you would like to see in the newsletter.

Pictures, and especially drawings, which generally reproduce more clearly, are always welcome.

Banged up in the slammer: prison locks

The usual method of making a self-locking lock is the springlatch. The bolt is bevelled, and supported by a spring. To enable a lever latch bolt to be pressed in by end pressure, and withdrawn by key, (or handle), there is a runner.

The greatest stress on the springbolt occurs immediately after closing. The door rebounds off the stop, and the flat back face of the springbolt hits the keep or staple. The supporting spring has to be strong enough to push out the bolt again quickly enough to hold the door as it rebounds open. A weak spring does not impede the closing of even a light, slow moving door, but might not be fast enough to hold a heavy or fast moving door. So the springing of the lock is a matter of nice judgement for the lock maker, having regard to the expected use of the springlatch. There are other possible solutions for this function, however.

Trigger action locks

One is the trigger action lock. This has a square head bolt, which becomes deadlocked when shot. The levers are placed directly on the bolt lath, without a runner being used. When the bolt is drawn in by the key it is

*Hobbs 5 lever cell lock, with trigger action and indicator.
(from c1870-)*

caught and held by a catch, usually sprung, and whose end projects through the lockcase. The levers do not fall; they have no pocket, and are usually endgated. On shutting the door with the bolt withdrawn, the 'trigger' meets the striking plate on the doorpost and is moved, thereby releasing the bolt. The bolt is then thrown out by a powerful spring. This is strong enough to throw the bolt before the door rebounds open. The levers immediately drop so that the bolt becomes deadlocked.

The use of trigger action cell door locks prompted the expressions 'banged up', and also 'the slammer', as euphemisms for prison.

Another feature usually found on cell locks is an indicator. This is often in the form of a T handle, sometimes with differently shaped ends, which indicates the state of the lock by the angle at which it rests. Other forms of indicator have also been used.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

The lock shown above is by Hobbs Hart & Co., and was introduced in the late 1870's. It was made in both hands, and for inward and outward opening doors. Its indicator is a coloured flag which moves in a window. The indicator can be seen just above the end of the levers.

It has 5 levers, and the key only withdraws the bolt. The knob is fixed. This lock was in use for many decades, and is well made.

Other cell locks were made by Gibbons, and Union. Sometimes police stations are closed or refurbished, and cell locks sometimes become available. Several prisons, including some military prisons, have also closed over the years. Some have been demolished, some have found other uses. The 'prison' used for some scenes of the TV comedy series 'Porridge' was an ex-military prison at St Albans. At the time it was a council highways depot, and is now the headquarters of a soft drinks company. Another source of locks is the closure and demolition of the old mental asylums. Those institutions also had cell locks on their padded

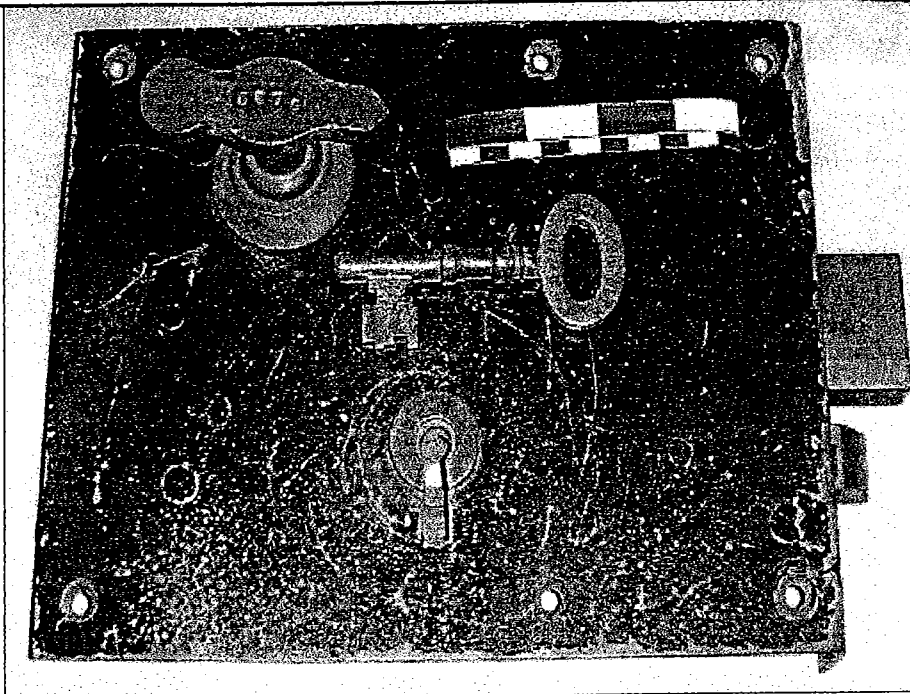
cells. The first such institution, Brookwood in Surrey, had a small display of the restraints which had been used in former years.

Other trigger action locks

Trigger action locks have also been made for drawers, mainly used for bank till drawers. A pin on a chain may be used when the drawer is open, to prevent the accidental release of the bolt.

Trigger action locks have been familiar to railway travellers for a century. They were used on carriage doors until replaced by the current powered sliding doors. Those trigger action locks were operated only by a handle, and were made by Kaye, of Leeds.

Incidentally, soon after WWII, Ingersoll Locks launched a cylinder rim automatic deadlock with a different mechanism. The trigger was mechanically linked to the main bolt, so that the faster the trigger was pushed in by the striking plate on the doorpost, the faster the main bolt was pushed out. This coped with light or heavy doors moving fast or slowly. A version of this lock is still in production.



Charles Smith (Birmingham) cell lock, from Guildford police station, c.1890

Charles Smith is a Birmingham company about which little is known. The key is marked CHAS SMITH DET. This is a 4 lever trigger action indicating lock, marked MALE 567G, with matching key. It came from No. 1 cell from the recently demolished Guildford police station, and was rescued from a skip.

The 'Pentonville Cell Lock'

Smith also made a version of the 'Pentonville Cell Lock' (see back page, bottom right). This has a different action from most other cell locks. Pentonville was a large prison, opened in 1842, and it soon became north London's local prison. It had a large number of cells, originally single, and

was copied by more than fifty other prisons.

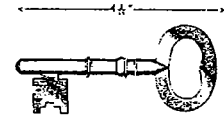
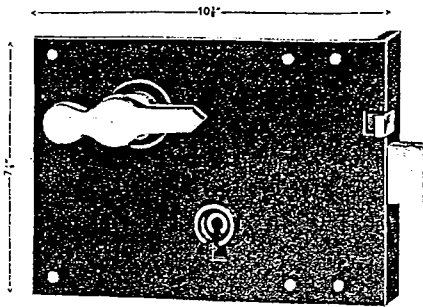
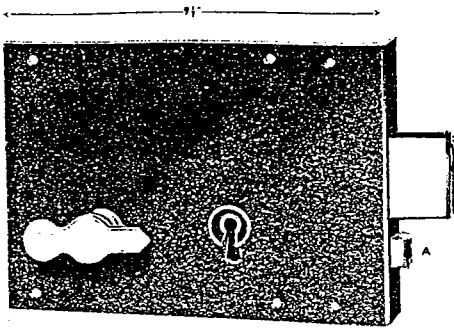
The 'Pentonville Cell Lock' is a warded lock with two locking tumblers. The bolt end is bevelled, and pushed in when the door closes. It is held in by a catch. The handle (which does not indicate) pivots on a short arm, and lifting it slightly allows the bolt to spring out a short throw. The key is needed to withdraw the bolt, or if the door is open, the bolt can be pushed in by end pressure.

With the door latched, the bolt can be shot out and deadlocked (usually twice) by key. This allows prisoners to go in and out, but they can be shut in by a touch on the handle. They can be double locked as necessary by key.

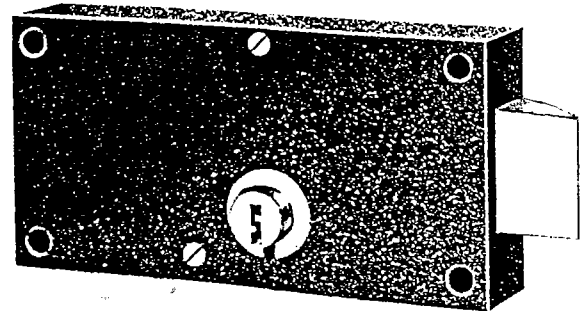
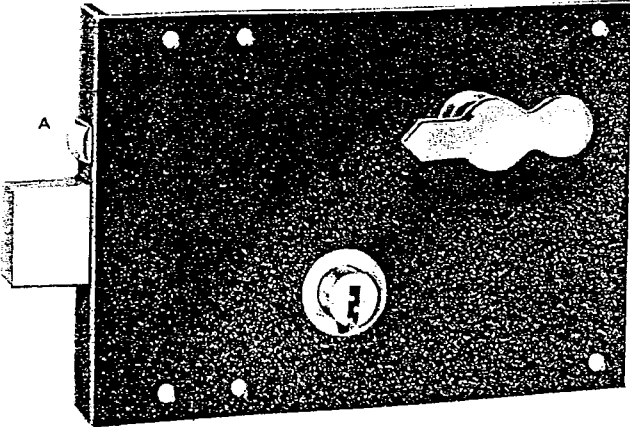
One tumbler works as usual on the top of the bolt lath, the other is pivoted out from the face of the bolt lath by the back edge of the key bit. The wards are simple, but this springs strong and robust. Many of these locks survived a long service.

[Richard Hopkins, Peter Hall]

HANDS REQUIRED IN ALL CASES, ALSO WHETHER TO OPEN IN OR OUT



KEY



L 2011 CELL LOCK

Size $9\frac{5}{8}'' \times 7'' \times 1\frac{5}{8}''$

L 2001 SPRING LOCK

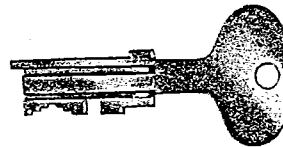
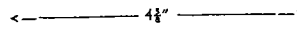
Size $8\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1\frac{1}{2}''$

(Hand required)

As soon as the release 'A' comes in contact with the door jamb the bolt is automatically released thereby locking the door. The gun-metal handle indicates when the bolt is in the open or closed positions. The handle works independently of the bolt, so that the door can only be opened by the use of the key.

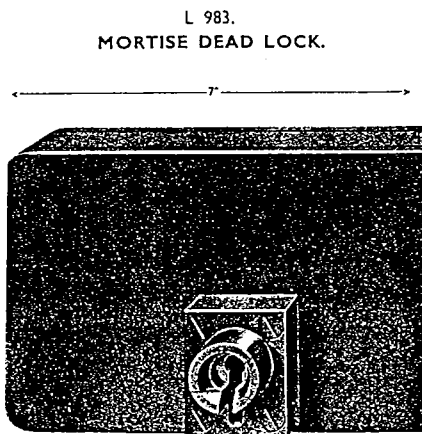
Note: L2000 Keyhole one side only (Hand required)

If required can be made to double lock by the key.

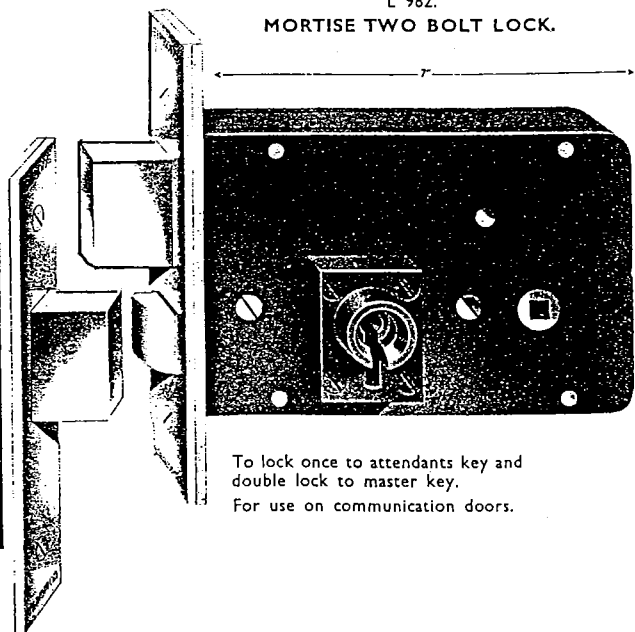


Key

L 982. MORTISE TWO BOLT LOCK.



L 983. MORTISE DEAD LOCK.



To lock once to attendants key and double lock to master key. For use on communication doors.

To lock once to attendants key and double lock to master key.

GIBBONS PRISON CELL & PASS LOCKS

Escapers all!

We have an ambivalent attitude to escapers. We generally approve of our POWs escaping, and have a grudging respect for enemy POWs escaping from us. It is their duty according to the laws of war. Some escapers have become national heroes.

Mr Winston Churchill's escape¹ advanced his political career considerably. Likewise, Lt Airey Neave, one of only 6 British POWs to make a home run from Colditz, advanced his postwar careers in law and politics.

Brig. Jock Hamilton-Baillie, another prisoner who had been in Colditz Castle, in east Germany, made a return visit in 2000, aged 81yrs. When they came to his old cell door, the embarrassed young guide had to admit that she could not open it, as the key had been lost. The ex-POW produced one he had made earlier, which still worked, and triumphantly opened the door! (The press photo is regrettably poor.)

The lock was a simple warded rimlock. Colditz prisoners had the run of the castle, because the old warded locks were insecure. The Germans did not know that warded keys could be skeletoned. However, they later fitted some Zeiss Ikon cylinder locks. These had pairs of pin tumblers arranged around the cylinder, in the manner of one of the early Yale locks, but smaller. The lock was called the 'cruciform lock', and is still made. A Dutch prisoner, a watchmaker in civvy street, made keys. His 'universal' key was a holder for various different bits, to match the various locks. Movement was even easier after a Gestapo search team had its set of keys stolen.

Escaping criminals

We generally disapprove of escaping criminals — although Alfie Hinds, who made 3 escapes and went on the run to protest his innocence, briefly became a popular hero². Comparatively few escapes actually involve locks; the spy George Blake, for example, kicked out an insecure window grille and then climbed over the wall on a rope provided by an accomplice outside³.

Apparently, few British criminals can pick locks. One who could was the experienced armed burglar David Martin. In 1982 he resisted arrest by shooting a policeman, and later escaped custody again. Martin had a set of lockpicks which fitted into a small cylindrical metal container, which could be concealed about the person and pass ordinary strip searches, and casual use of metal detectors on visitors. Such sets were made during WW2 for issue to British and American secret agents.

Escape from Pretoria

In 1979, 3 convicts, members of a terrorist organisation sympathetic to Communism, escaped from a prison in

Pretoria. Prisoners have plenty of time to observe the warders, and prison routine, and keys. The prisoners made wooden, and metal, keys in the prison workshop. They found some keys would open more than one door. They had 11 doors to open, and only had to break the last one.

Key-making for beginners

All the inner grilles of the cells had the same lock, and a wooden key was made. A crank made of a broom handle was used to reach the outer door lock of the cell, with much trial and error, taking 4 months. Warder left some keys in their locks, and impressions could be taken in soap. Some locks could be covertly removed during the daytime work or association periods, and keys gradually fitted by trial.

A broken piece of hacksaw blade left by a workman was useful. Files were borrowed from the workshop, and epoxy resin ordered for repairing broken mugs was used to assemble parts of keys. An Allen key made from a nail enabled key parts to be cured rapidly inside a light fitting. Files were hidden among the bristles of a broom.

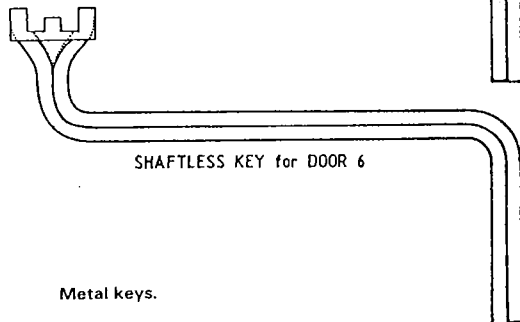
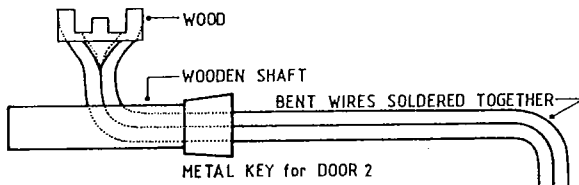
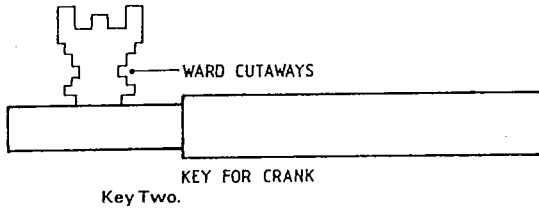
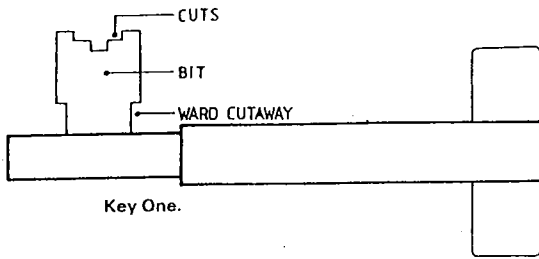
During the period of preparation, some completed keys were buried in the garden. Others were hidden in a jar of sugar, and later in a cupboard in the shower room. The cupboard was left unlocked during a repair and the prisoners removed the lock to make a key, then replaced the lock, unnoticed.

When the prisoners had found or made clothing to replace their uniforms, and made all necessary keys, they chose a night when a lazy warder was on duty. He was distracted away upstairs after the prisoners had left their cells and moved downstairs. His absence allowed the escapers to operate an electric door release situated in his guardroom. They made their way to the outer door without hindrance, but they had not been able to examine that. As none of their keys worked, they broke open the door with tools stolen from the prison workshop. Nobody heard their twenty minute struggle.

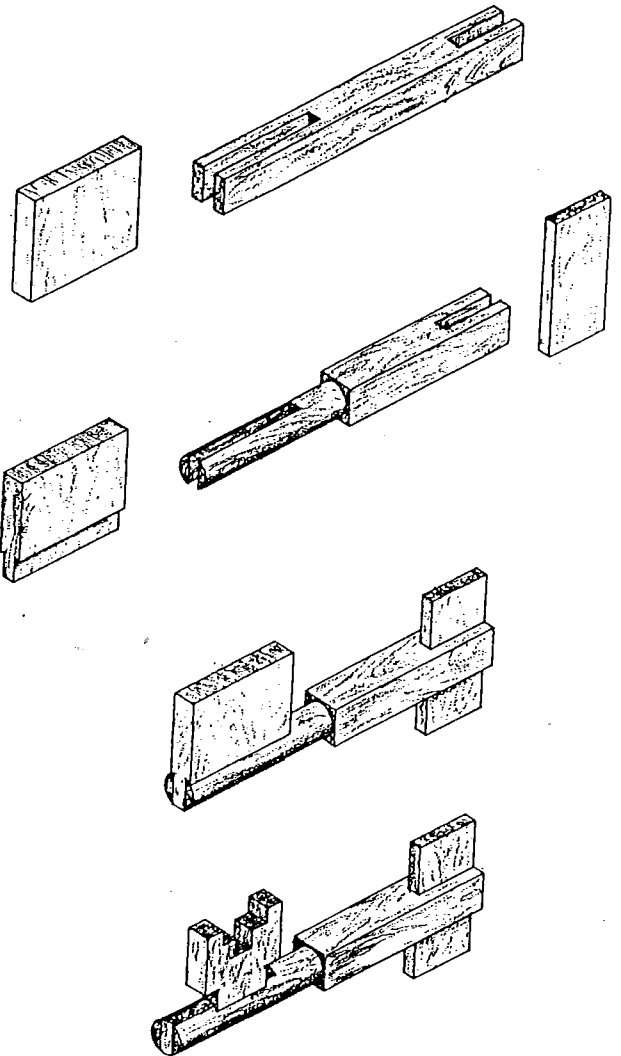
¹ Although a serving soldier, he was in South Africa on leave of absence as an accredited war correspondent. Lt Churchill was captured in action after having taken up arms, and so was legitimately a prisoner of war. His escape did not involve locks.

² Hinds (1917-91) was sentenced to eight years for leading a 1953 safeblowing at a London furniture factory. He never did obtain an Appeal. However, he sued for libel when the investigating officer published his memoirs. The libel court reviewed the evidence for Hinds' conviction, and concluded he was at least not the leader, and probably not involved in that burglary. He won damages equivalent to about 4 years' pay for a skilled man, by which time he was near the end of his sentence. HINDS, Alfred *Contempt of court*, Bodley Head 1966.

³ There were 3 accomplices, all criminals who had recently been released from prison. The first one was an Irish citizen, whose government would not extradite him to Britain. All three were soon known to the authorities. Even after the criminals published 2 books admitting their activities, the Government chose to avoid further embarrassment, by taking no action.

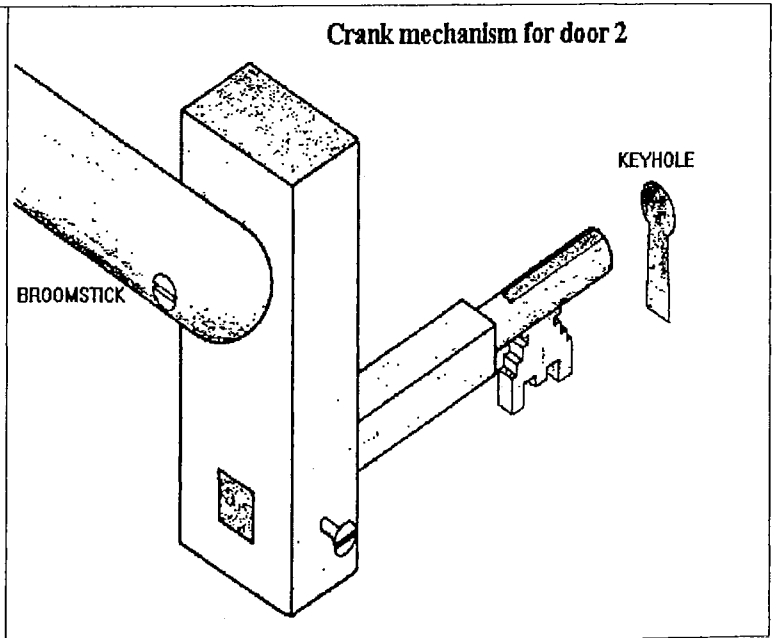
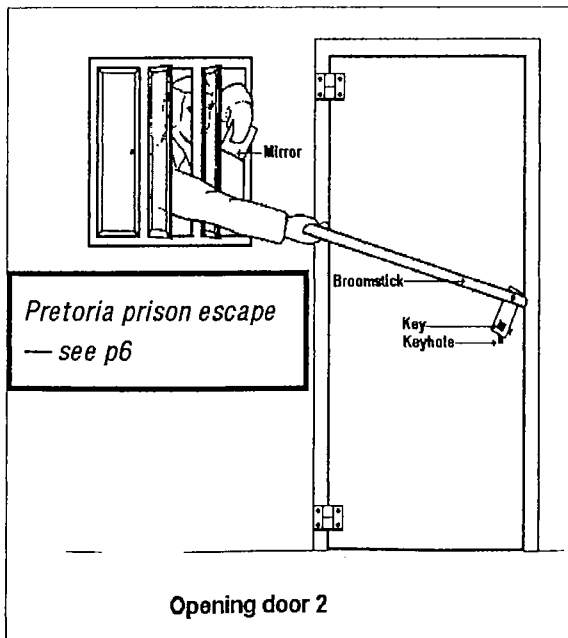


Metal keys.



Stages of making a wooden key.

Keys for escaping from Pretoria prison



Questions from readers

Write in to "Locks & Keys" with your questions about locks. Somebody will surely be able to supply answers. The Editor will be pleased to print a composite answer to questions. When replying, please mention the number of the question.



There are no questions in this issue.

For Sale

2 genuine **Customs seal padlocks**, available for legitimate sale (Customs padlocks are normally destroyed when withdrawn, and are not available for purchase). These are original working locks, with original keys:

- 5½" Tucker & Reeves padlock
- 4" Douglas patent lock made by Hobbs.

Details from *Colin Lewis* ☎01646 694 725

Lock videos. Several videos have been published by Tom Watson, and details are available from him. They describe, with close-ups, several important or interesting locks. Volume 3, for example, covers 15 locks, which include the Pauley prison lock, and 2 Chubb prison locks.

Tom Watson, "Lynthorpe" Main Road, RYTON, Tyne & Wear, NE40 3AQ, United Kingdom

☎+44(0)191 413 2217

NICHOLS, Alex R *Handcuffs and other restraints*, Stroud, Kingscourt Pubs, 199-

This is available from A R Nichols, The Boot Cottage, The Street, Kingscourt, Stroud, Glos. GL5 5DR, £3.50+postage.

Offered for sale by a British secondhand bookseller — buy now, there probably are not many copies of this magisterial account of a tool essential to locksmithing:

DISSTON, HENRY & SONS INC. *The file in history*. Philadelphia: Henry Disston & Sons Inc. 3 rd ed. n.d. [c.1921?] 20cm, 80pp, portrait, 300 illus., showing every conceivable type and pattern of file, rasp, &c. This book will tell you more about files than you wished to know. Christopher Baron, Altrincham, Cheshire, United Kingdom. \$60.49 BaronBook@aol.com ☎44(0)0161 980 1014.

Places of interest



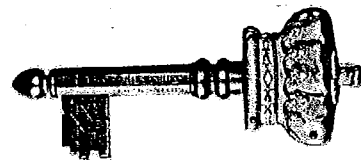
There are several ex-prisons and police stations which are now tourist attractions, and several have been noticed here in previous issues. There has been no further news about the Prison Service museum.

The Old Crown Court and Cells in Dorchester, is open briefly, in August. Private group bookings available all year. The Court Room is open most of the year; located within the council offices in High Street West, Dorchester ☎01305 252241.

Worth a visit anyway is the palace built for the Duke of Marlborough by order of Queen Anne. Blenheim Palace (Winston Churchill's childhood home) has an impressive Great Hall — 67' high!

The massive state entrance door has a magnificent large lock, copied from the lock originally on the gates of Warsaw. The matching key is equally large, with a coronet for a bow. The lock is in good working order, having been serviced a few

years ago by lock restorer *George Olifent*.



Key of Great Hall, Blenheim Palace, 1705

Not quite a place, but there is a project to film P R Reid's Colditz escape stories. Tom Cruise currently owns the rights, though there is no news of when filming might start. Cruise also owns the rights to another long-standing project. Major Jasper Maskelayne, originally a magician, worked on strategic camouflage in North Africa in WWII, as well as giving escape training to prospective POW's.

Special Engineering Products cell lock**Features include :**

Slamlock and deadbolt operation

Material

Optional stainless steel outer

Deadbolt material to customer specification

Power failure

Electric fail secure locking

Manual locking and override

Manually overridden lock can be reset electronically after power up

Sensing

Inductive sensors indicate status

Alarm when lock is forced open

Tamper switch indicates when lock is removed from housing

Keys

Eight lever manual lock, virtually impossible to pick

Master key options to specification

Override lever

Locks or retracts deadbolt during manual override

May be used to force open the slamlock

Unique male/female socket pattern

Female socket protected from tampering by latch

Handles

Single or both sides

Mounting options to specification

Surface or flush mount

Mounting holes from front or side

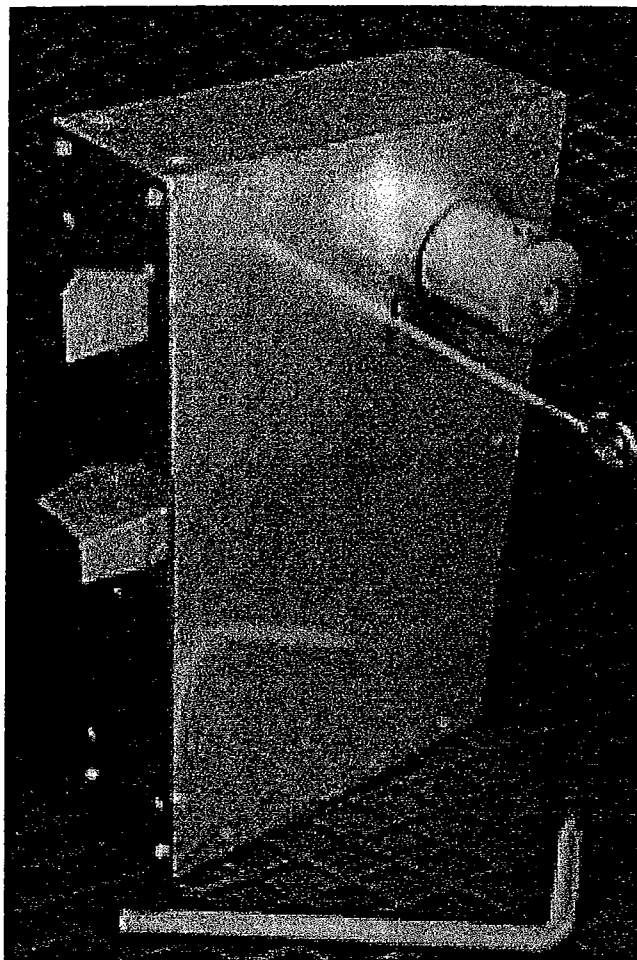
Dimensions

365 x 205 x 85mm

Current consumption

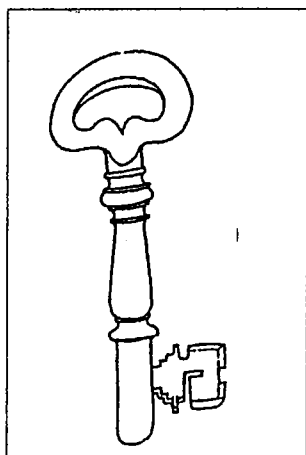
Full load: 1A @ 12VDC or 24VDC

[This is a modern South African product.]

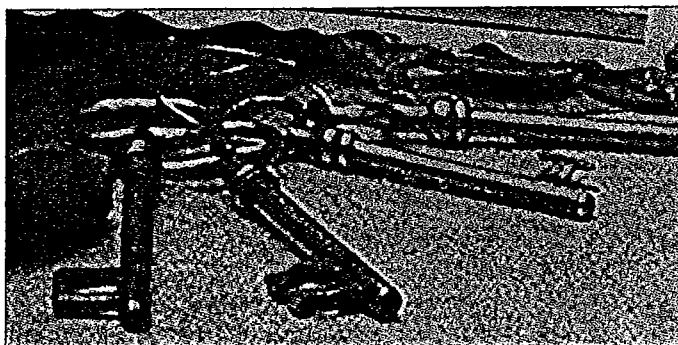


Special Engineering Products Prison Lock

Maximum Security SEP 365/205 MPL



19C iron jail key. Found in an antique shop, this is for a large, warded, single-sided lock with 1 tumbler. Nothing else known.



Brigadier Jock Hamilton-Baillie's Colditz keys. He stole 4 keys which were left in their locks. The German guards were apparently unaware of the potential for skeletoning warded keys, as seen here.

Hollywood is expected to make a film about Colditz, starring Tom Cruise.

MLA EXPO 2002

Product DevelopmentsBramah

The Queens Golden Jubilee is this year and to commemorate this Bramah are selling for one year only, to 31 May 2003, the following locks and keys with the commemorative and unique stampings on:

- Bramah C17 Rim Cylinder, stamped on Front ;
- Bramah MDD and MD Mortice Deadlocks, stamped on the Forend;
- Bramah Cab17 cut drawer lock, stamped on Rear;
- Bramah C37 keys, stamped on coin;
- Bramah C50 keys, stamped on coin;
- Bramah C63 keys stamped on coin.

Many people build and buy homes and wish to commemorate what they have done and these Bramah locks, which may be keyed alike at no charge represent something important and unique.

They will also have a have security locking arrangement.

The Retail Price for a complete front door set with 2 keys and using an Ingersoll RA71 Rim nightlatch would be £229.65 plus vat.

BRAMAH SECURITY EQUIPMENT LTD.
ESTABLISHED 1784

31 OLDBURY PLACE, LONDON W1M 3AP
TELEPHONE: SALES 0171-486 1739 ADMINISTRATION 0171-935 7147
FACSIMILE: 0171-935 2779

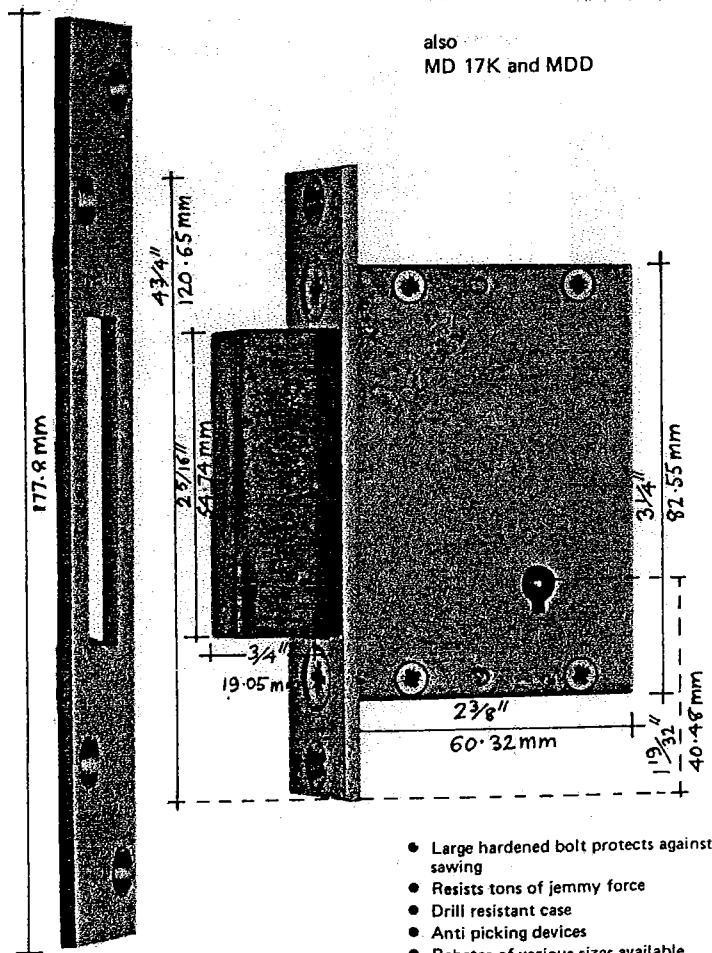


THE WORLD FAMOUS
BRAMAH KEY

Bramah MD27

Whilst you consider this unique opportunity for a specially marked Bramah lock and stainless steel key, remind yourself what the Bramah lock provides. Look at the size of that steel deadbolt. Notice the cylinders completely buried inside the steel case — the cylinders are separate and not opposite, and cannot be forced right through from one side of the lock to the other. Running a drill bit into the keyhole can destroy the cylinder, but will NOT open it.

- ◆ hardened bolt and outside plates
- ◆ exclusive, unique key
- ◆ combinations may be changed without discarding body
- ◆ option for lock to be contacted
- ◆ electric releases available
- ◆ available in: nickel; brass; BMA
- ◆ choice of keyhole escutcheons and finishes



- Large hardened bolt protects against sawing
- Resists tons of jemmy force
- Drill resistant case
- Anti picking devices
- Rebates of various sizes available
- Suitable for either hand of door

Jack the lad (Continued from page 1)

Literally: he was used as the model for a famous series of engravings by William Hogarth. Sheppard became a footpad, pickpocket, and burglar.

Thief-Taker General

Inevitably, he became involved with the 'thief-taker general', Jonathan Wild. Wild organised much of the major crime in London in the early 18th century. He fingered the crime, directed the criminal, and received the stolen property. Then Wild 'sold' it back to the owner through his 'Lost Property Office', for a 'reward'. Sometimes, Wild also added his own blackmail. Any criminal who did not obey Wild was betrayed to the authorities.

Sheppard the popular criminal

Sheppard became the most popular and notorious villain of the 18th century; in his day he was even better known than his contemporary, the highwayman Dick Turpin. Sheppard made four escapes from prison. His first was from Clerkenwell House of Correction (bridewell), which at the time specialised in unruly youths. (It later held other types, and was bombed by Fenian terrorists in 1867 in an unsuccessful attempt to release 2 Irish terrorists, killing 6 and injuring 50 persons nearby.)

Sheppard made this escape by filing his fetters and window bars. He escaped again from Newgate, going through six massive doors. He used a small crowbar and a file — there is no evidence he could pick locks, unlike a later cabinetmaker in Edinburgh. (William Brodie (1741-1788) was a city councillor, and Deacon of the Guild of Wrights. By night, he led a gang of burglars. Brodie became the model for R L Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. Deacon Brodie's lock picks are on show in Edinburgh.)

Prisoners in irons

Many early prisons were physically insecure buildings, hence the frequent need to put prisoners in irons, including the 'ball and chain'. This was an old cannonball chained to a fetter. Some prisoners were chained to the walls; Sheppard was 'stapled to the floor'. This actually meant his fetters were locked to a staple fixed to the floor. The artist of this picture has perhaps exaggerated the padlock, though some very weighty chains and locks were used in prisons. Examples were actually hung up as a deterrent on the outside wall of the Poultry Compter in the City of London.

Sheppard fell out with Wild, and did not escape after his fifth arrest. His hanging at Tyburn was attended by a crowd of two hundred thousand, (including a bevy of pretty girls in white dresses — early groupies?).

Sheppard and Wild: just the facts?

Sheppard and Wild's intertwined stories were told and retold endlessly from then on. Most accounts or reprints are based on an anonymous account by Daniel Defoe (who attended the execution with his publisher), and a novel by William Harrison Ainsworth. There were also broadsheets and *The Newgate Calendar*. The egregious Wild was himself soon trapped, convicted, and executed. Although criminal masterminds like him have since occurred on both sides of the Atlantic, there has been no one on quite his scale.

When Newgate was demolished in 1902, materials and fittings were auctioned. Doors sold for £3-10-0 to £20, fetters for £4-10-0

Old prisons relied on warded rimlocks much like ordinary house door locks,

only more massive. They were also usually single-sided. There were also often surface bolts locked with large padlocks. When Newgate was demolished in 1902, materials and fittings were auctioned. Doors sold for £3-10-0 to £20, fetters for £4-10-0 — not cheap. Mr Chubb presented a door from Newgate to John M Mossman for his Collection in New York.

Early in the 19th century, the new reform prisons began to be built. They were physically secure, though the earliest had quite simple cell locks. There is a mass-produced pattern of a heavy warded lock with a round bolt. This was extensively used during the 19th century, not only in prisons but also police stations. The lock is a one-sided rim deadlock with a pipe key. Numbers of these locks must have been removed as old prisons and police stations were closed and demolished. There were also grille-gate locks of large size, but still simply warded.



Heroic failure to escape

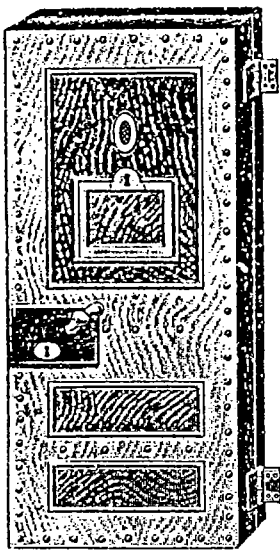
In 1981 a prisoner got out of Northeye Prison by hiding in a van full of vegetables. After an invigorating ride through the Sussex countryside the van turned a corner and came to a halt. When the van had been unloaded and the warders had all gone, the prisoner crawled out, to find he was now in Lewes prison.

PRISON CELL DOORS.

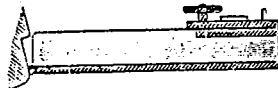
6-ft. 1-in. x 2-ft. 4-in. x 2½-in. thick.

Prepared from best red deal, with rebated frames of pitch pine, ¼½-in. x ¼½-in. Internal parts sheathed with Steel Plates, securely fastened with Bolts and Nuts.

Complete with lock No. 6495, Ration Trap, and Inspection Hole Fittings, £9 0s. 0d. If fitted with Iron Ration Trap and Frame, 9/6 extra.



Exterior View of Cell Door.



No. 6495.

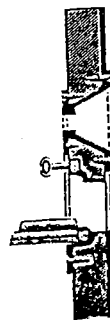


No. 6495.

No. 6495.—Cell Lock with Automatic Stud Action, as adopted by H.M. Commission of Prisons, (Home Office) and fixed at Wandsworth, Birmingham, Newgate, Wormwood Scrubbs, etc., etc.

The stud releases the bolt on closing door. The handle or key double shoots same. Key only opens.

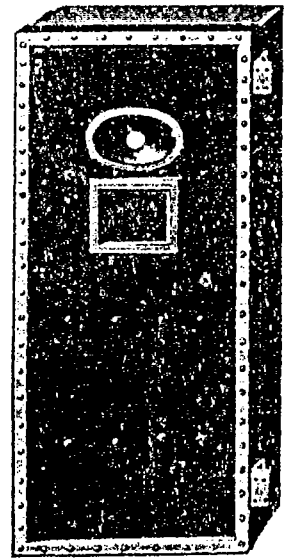
Price 20/- each.
Keys 2/6 ..



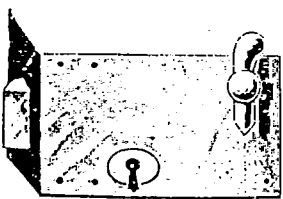
Section showing Inspection Hole and Ration Trap.

each.
Inspection Hole Fittings, 4/6
Iron Ration Apparatus 20/-

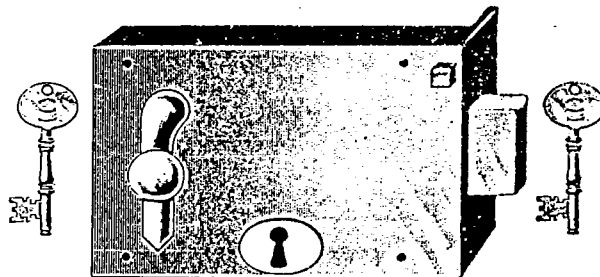
Fittings for wood Ration Traps, including Iron Frames, 2 pairs of centres, and Mortise Latch and Key, 1/973, 10/6.



Interior View of Cell Door.



No. 7058.



No. 7073.

No. 7073.—Pentonville Cell Lock, as used at various County Gaols, as Manchester, Portsmouth, Dartmoor, Portland, Northampton, Plymouth, Oxford, Agra, etc.

This Lock is used for doors opening in, and does not indicate. Handle keeps bolt in until released. Locks with Key.

Price 15/- each.
Keys 2/6 ..

GIBBONS' NEW CELL LOCK.

With small Key and Stud Action. Can be made Rim or Flush, Opens with Key and Double Locks by Master. Released by stud. Handle indicates.

No. 1408.—Price 25/- each.
Keys 2/6 ..

Unlocked. Locked. Double-Locked.

No. 7058.—Police Cell Lock, as adopted by H.M. Office of Works, and used in various Metropolitan and other Police Stations. This Lock is used for doors opening out.

Bevel Bolt. The handle draws back the bolt when not locked and also locks same, but the key is required to unlock it.

Price, 20/- each, Keys, 2/6 each.