

in the correct position, which is the case when the guiding rib 15 engages in this groove.

5 On the front end of the key is provided an inclined surface 26, the object of which is to lift the lugs 9 or 17 when the key is being introduced, and to effect the introduction into the cam grooves 23 and 24.

10 The combination hereinbefore described already yields a very good and simple lock, which is cheap to manufacture and easy to mount.

15 In a particularly advantageous form of construction, however, an additional protective member 27 is also provided, which is subject to the action of a spring 28. In the constructional example shown, the same consists of a U-shaped body, and 20 has a surface, namely the inclined surface 29, which is adapted to be engaged by the inclined surface 26 of the key. Upon the key being introduced into the locking cylinder the inclined surface 26 acts upon the inclined surface 29, and, when the key is completely inserted, the protective member 27 is drawn back into the opening position, that is to say, into the interior of the locking cylinder, against the 30 action of the spring 28, as will be seen from Figures 5 and 6. From Figure 7 it will be seen how this protective member normally protrudes from the locking cylinder 3 under the action of the spring 28 and secures the locking cylinder in the lock casing, so that even by shaking or knocking, whereby under some circumstances a certain ordering of the tumbler strips 8 might take place, the locking 40 cylinder always remains secured in the lock casing. A pin 30 is provided, which engages in a groove 31 in the protective member, and prevents the latter from dropping out of the locking cylinder.

45 In the case of the lock shown in Figure 14, a locking cylinder 3 is provided exactly in the form hereinbefore described. 32 denotes a locking bar. 33 and 34 are means for connecting the locking cylinder with the locking bar. The 50 parts 35, 36 and 37 form the lock casing. 38 is a locking pawl, which, under the action of a spring 39, snaps into suitable apertures in the locking bar 32 and holds the latter in the locking position or in a 55 retracted position.

60 With a lock of the present construction it is possible to keep the locking cylinder exceedingly short, and nevertheless to maintain great safety of the lock. There may for example be lodged as many as twenty tumblers or more upon a locking cylinder length of 1 centimetre.

65 A further advantage of the present construction consists in the fact that the

lateral cam grooves of the key, even when the lock has been in use for a long time, cannot become damaged or worn out, as is the case when the tumbler strips are subject to spring pressure. A failure of the lock on this ground therefore cannot occur. On the other hand this difficulty cannot arise by employing the supplementary protective member subject to spring action, because this is not moved by the lateral cam grooves but by the inclined front surface of the key. The key is not however liable to be damaged at this point, owing to its comparatively broad surface, and owing to the large bearing surface of the protective member thereon. The lock is of course not restricted to the constructional forms illustrated, but the essential part of this lock, namely the locking cylinder with all its parts, may be employed in locks of all kinds into which a rotatable locking cylinder can be fitted.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A lock containing a locking cylinder rotatable in a casing, with tumbler strips bearing directly upon one another without spring loading, which, upon the key being introduced into the locking cylinder, are retracted into the latter and arranged in their order, characterised by the feature that the tumbler strips are arranged in the locking cylinder beside the aperture provided for the key, and present lateral lugs for displacement by the key, which also prevent the tumbler strips falling out of the locking cylinder.

2. A lock as claimed in claim 1, characterised by the provision of two rows of tumbler strips.

3. A lock as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised by the provision of a supplementary spring-controlled protective member in the locking cylinder.

4. A lock as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, characterised by the fact that on the tumbler strips auxiliary lugs are provided, which prevent the tumbler strips from dropping out of the locking cylinder, while the main lugs only serve for the displacement of the tumbler strips by the key.

5. A lock as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised by the feature that in the longitudinal direction of the locking cylinder and in the interior thereof there is provided a guiding rib for the key, this guiding rib ensuring the insertion of the key in the correct position.

6. A lock as claimed in claim 3, characterised by the feature that the key, in addition to lateral cam grooves for the