

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FLASH-LIGHT ATTACHMENT FOR TRAVELING-BAGS.

1,320,574.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD E. ROBINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flash-Light Attachments for Traveling-Bags, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to flash light attachments for traveling bags, and more especially to an attachment to be used as a "bull's eye" light to facilitate progress in unlighted districts, as around country railroad stations and the like, and my object is to produce an attachment of this character by which it is feasible with a finger of the hand carrying the bag, to effect the flashing of the light, and change the direction of the same by simply pointing the bag in the desired direction.

A further object is to produce an attachment of this character which shall occupy but very small space in a traveling bag or the like, which can be made cheaply and economically installed in position, and which is yieldingly supported by the bag in such manner as to minimize danger of injury to the lamp in the event of rough contact with an extraneous object.

With these general objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel and useful features of construction and combinations of parts as hereinafter described and claimed; and in order that it may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1, is an end view of an ordinary hand bag equipped with a flash light attachment embodying the invention, the bag and a part of the equipment being broken away and sectioned respectively to disclose features of construction otherwise hidden.

Fig. 2, is an enlarged central vertical section of a part of a bag and equipment, with other parts broken away to disclose features otherwise hidden.

Fig. 3, is a longitudinal section taken substantially in the plane indicated by section line III-III of Fig. 2.

In the said drawing, 1 indicates a traveling hand bag or the like, and 2 the handle thereof. The bag is shown as provided with the customary angle iron frames 3 and 4 at opposite sides of the mouth or point of opening.

As customary in hand bags, a clamp strip 5 is employed to secure the lining 6 of the bag to the angle iron frames 3 and 4. The angle iron 3 is cut away or slotted as at 7, and the lining and clamp strip 5 secured to said angle iron, are likewise cut away to provide an opening 8 registering with opening 7, and projecting into said opening is the end of a spring contact 9, clamped firmly in place between insulation strips 10, by the frame 3 and strip 5, the latter being bent as shown in Fig. 3 to more firmly clamp the insulation strips and spring contact in place.

11 is a hollow housing secured to the outer side of the bag over the opening 7, and secured within said housing is a spring contact 12, having a rounded or cam lug 13 projecting through an opening in the housing, and adapted under the advance of a slide 14 mounted in the housing, to be forced inward until contact plate 12 makes contact with resilient contact plate 9.

An insulated wire 15 leads from contact plate 9 between the body of the bag and the lining thereof as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 2, and near the bottom of the bag said wire is brought through a hole or opening 6^a in the lining and is attached to a spring catch 16 secured in an upright position in a box 17 extending transversely of and upon the bottom of the bag near one end thereof. A similar spring catch 18 is secured in and near the opposite end of the box, and said catch is electrically connected by a wire 19 with a small lamp 20 of the flash light type. This lamp is fitted through a hole 21 in one of the end walls of the bag, and is provided with a flange 22 to bear against said wall around said opening, a clamp ring or nut 23 being secured to the lamp within the bag and adapted when screwed home to cooperate with flange 22 in clamping the lamp firmly in place. The said lamp is connected by a wire 24 to frame 3. A battery 25 provided with protruding opposite pole pieces 26 and 27, is adapted to be forced down into the box 17, the pole pieces repressing the catches 16, so that the battery shall be held reliably in place through the automatic engagement of the catches with said pole pieces.

Assuming that the bag is equipped with the attachment described, it will be apparent that by extending a finger of the hand from

which the bag is suspended by its handle, the slide 14 can be advanced and, through pressure on the rounded lug or cam 13, force the spring contact or switch 12 into
 5 engagement with contact 9, and thus complete an electric circuit through the lamp and effect the flashing of light therefrom, the circuit being from the switch to spring
 10 contact 9, wire 15, spring catch 16, the battery, wire 19, the lamp, wire 24 and frame 3 back to the switch. The reverse movement of the slide permits the switch 12 to return to its initial position and break the circuit.

It will be apparent that with a flash light
 15 attachment of this character, one may not only walk with greater safety and convenience in dark districts or places, such as around poorly lighted railway stations, but may utilize the lamp to produce light at
 20 other times, as when so loaded with packages that the use of an ordinary flash light would not be feasible.

It will be apparent that the mounting of a flash light in the end of a traveling bag
 25 not only possesses the advantages set forth but can be safely carried as described because of the yielding character of the mount or support, that is to say the end wall of the bag will yield in the event the lens of
 30 the lamp is brought forcibly against some hard object, the yielding support acting to cushion the shock or jar thus produced.

From the above description it will be apparent that I have produced a device possessing the features of advantage set forth
 35 in the statement of the object of the invention and that the same may be modified in

minor particulars without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. The combination with a traveling bag having an opening in one end and an opening in the frame at one side of its mouth, a contact plate secured to and insulated from said frame and projecting into said opening in the former, a housing connected to the frame and covering the said opening therein, a manually operable switch mounted on the housing and adapted for engagement with said contact plate, a battery in the bag electrically connected at one end to said contact plate, an electric flash lamp secured in the opening in the end of the bag, and conductors connecting said lamp in circuit with the frame of the bag and with the opposite pole of said battery from the pole connected to the said contact plate.

2. The combination with a traveling bag having an opening in one end and an opening in the frame of the bag near the handle thereof, a housing over the opening of the frame, a resilient switch in said housing, a slide for closing said switch, a contact plate carried by and insulated from the frame and projecting at one end into the opening thereof in the path of closing movement of said switch, an electric flash lamp in the opening of the bag, a battery in the latter, and conductors respectively connected to the said frame and contact plate and in circuit with the battery and lamp.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

RICHARD E. ROBINSON.