A. LARGMAN.

KEY CASE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 16, 1921.

1,403,087. Patented Jan. 10, 1922.

Fig. 1.

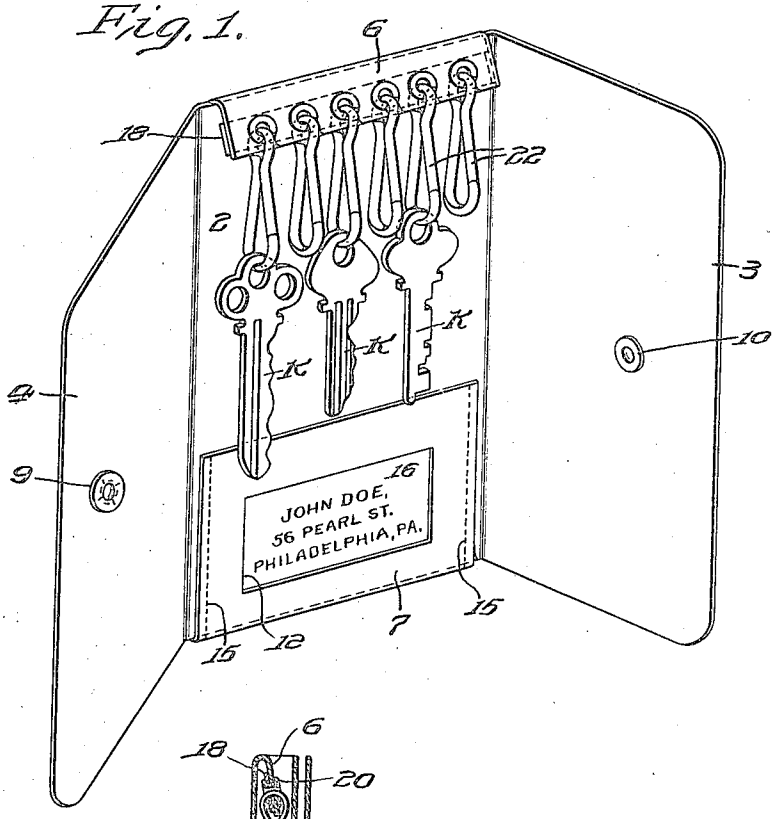


Fig. 2.

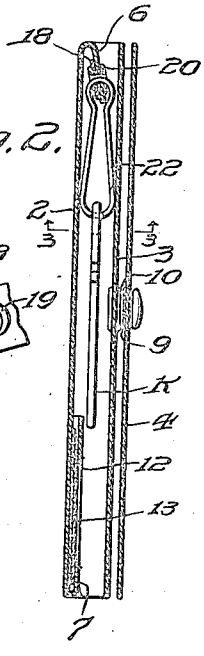


Fig. 3.

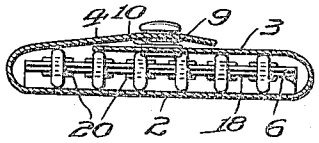
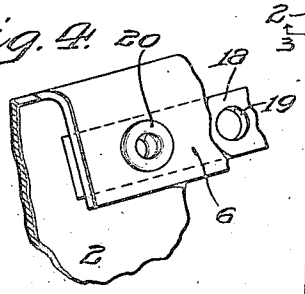


Fig. 4.



WITNESS

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KEY CASE.

1,403,087. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 10, 1922.

Application filed November 16, 1921. Serial No. 515,463.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM LARGMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key Cases, of which the following is a specification reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to key cases for enclosing a plurality of keys, the principal object of my invention being to provide a key case suitable for this purpose which is of simple form and construction, of neat and attractive appearance and from which any desired key may be readily selected for use.

A further object of my invention is to provide a key case of the general character aforesaid and embodying means for individually supporting the keys contained in the case in such position that each key will lie flat within the case when the latter is closed thereby decreasing the bulk of the case and enabling it to be conveniently carried in the pocket or in a lady's hand bag.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a key case embodying the foregoing features and having means for readily identifying the owner of the case, as well as to provide an improved, convenient and simplified form of key case which may be easily and cheaply manufactured and hence marketed at a low price.

My invention further includes all of the various other objects and novel features of construction and arrangement hereinafter more particularly described or claimed or which may appear from the drawing forming a part hereof.

In the said drawing I have illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, Fig. 1 being a perspective view of the key case with the side flaps open and showing several keys positioned on the key supporting means; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the case the side flaps being folded over to closed position, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section through the case substantially on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged detail view of certain parts of the case.

Referring more particularly to the drawing the key case shown therein preferably comprises a single piece of suitable, fairly flexible material such as leather, imitation leather or a suitable fabric so formed as to provide a body 2 having integral side flaps 3 and 4 and end flaps 6 and 7 each of these flaps respectively extending outwardly from its line of juncture with the generally rectangular body. The side flaps are of suitable width to enable them to be folded down over the face of the body in overlapping relation, means being provided for holding them in that position, said means conveniently consisting of a snap fastener having male and female members 9 and 10 respectively secured to the flaps.

The end flap 7 is preferably provided with a window opening 12 of suitable size and is folded back against the front face of the body 2 and permanently secured in such position by stitching 15 adjacent its side edges or in any other suitable way. Preferably a piece of celluloid or other transparent material 16 is positioned between the flap and the body to cover the window, the parts being so arranged that a card or slip of paper bearing the name and address of the owner may be slipped downwardly between the flap and the face of the body to a position to expose the writing on the card through the transparent material and thus form a convenient means of identifying the owner of the case.

The end flap 6, which may be conveniently termed the "upper" flap considering the case in the position shown in Fig. 1, while ordinarily extending for substantially the entire width of the body 2 is preferably relatively narrow, so that when folded in against the face of the body and along its line of juncture therewith, the flap will not extend very far below such line, and for the purpose of stiffening this flap and affording a firm support for the hooks or other key supporting members the flap is provided on its under face, that is, the face which lies adjacent the front of the body when the flap is folded in as shown in the drawing, with transversely extending stiffening means

preferably comprising a relatively narrow flat strip 18 of metal, celluloid or other suitable material the length of this member being conveniently substantially equal to the width of the flap. The member is provided with a plurality of longitudinally spaced holes 19 and the flap with a corresponding series of holes adapted to register therewith, the member being secured to the flap by suitable means, and preferably by a plurality of eyelets 20 one of which is inserted through each of the holes in the flap and the corresponding hole in the member and headed over at each end, thus securely affixing the member to the under side of the flap.

Preferably in each of the eyelets 20 is loosely positioned a key supporting element which may conveniently be in the form of a suitable snap hook 22 having an eye at one end for engagement in the eyelet and the other end being adapted to receive the eye of a key K when the tongue of the hook is depressed. In the form of the invention shown, the flap 6 is provided with six eyelets which are preferably positioned quite closely adjacent its lower edge and in each of these eyelets is loosely arranged one of the hooks 22 but of course if desired either a greater or lesser number of eyelets and hooks may be provided.

It will be observed that when the flap 6 is folded in as shown in the drawing and the case held in upright position, the hooks will depend from the flap in such manner that the keys attached thereto will tend to lie in a plane parallel to the body 2 and when the side flaps are folded over and buttoned down the keys will thereby to some extent be retained in such position. When the side flaps are opened any desired key may be readily selected and moved to a convenient position for use by reason of the loose attachment of the hooks to the flap, or if desired, the case may be turned to inverted position in which the weight of the keys will turn the flap 6 outwardly into a substantial prolongation of the body in which position also any desired key may be readily grasped prior to its insertion in a lock.

By the employment of the stiffening member I am enabled to construct the case of any desired material without running the risk of having the eyelets tear out of or be dislodged from the flap in case of careless usage or rough handling of the case; moreover, the employment of the strip is effective to cause the flap 6 to continuously remain in a single plane and to insure proper movement about its line of juncture with the body from folded to unfolded position while at the same time giving a firm and substantial support to the hooks with their attached keys which latter are frequently of considerable weight, while the eyelets are effective both for securing the flap and stiffening member together and for affording a suitable substantially non-wearable point of attachment for the hooks and insuring the desired looseness and freedom of movement thereof in substantially any direction with respect to the flap.

While I have described with considerable particularity a preferred embodiment of my invention I do not thereby desire or intend to limit myself to any precise details of construction or arrangement of parts as the same may be modified in minor particulars without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States:—

1. A key case comprising a body of flexible material having side flaps adapted to overlap across the face thereof, means for securing said flaps in overlapped position, an integral end flap, a stiffening member extending transversely of said flap, means for securing said stiffening member and said flap in fixed relation, and a plurality of key supporting means loosely engaging said securing means.

2. A key case comprising a body of flexible material having side flaps adapted to overlap across the face thereof, means for securing said flaps in overlapped position, an integral end flap, a stiffening member comprising a relatively narrow strip extending transversely of said flap adjacent its free edge, a plurality of eyelets extending through said flap and said member and operative to secure said flap and member in fixed relation, and a key supporting hook loosely positioned in each of said eyelets.

3. A key case comprising a body of flexible material having side flaps adapted to overlap across the face thereof, an end flap at one end of said body having a window opening said flap being turned inwardly against the face of said body and secured thereto along the marginal edges of the flap, a flap at the other end of the body, a stiffening member comprising a relatively narrow strip of stiff material extending transversely of the flap adjacent the free end thereof and having a plurality of spaced holes, said flap being provided with corresponding holes in registry therewith, an eyelet extending through each of the holes in the flap and the corresponding hole in the strip and headed over at each of its ends, and a key supporting hook loosely engaged in each of said eyelets.

4. A key case comprising a body of flexible material having side flaps adapted to overlap across the face thereof, an end flap at one end of the body having a window opening and a piece of transparent material

secured thereto, said flap being turned in against the face of the body and secured to the body adjacent the lateral edges of the flap, a flap at the other end of the body, a strip of relatively stiff material extending transversely of said flap, a plurality of eyelets in spaced relation extending through the flap and the strip, and a key supporting hook loosely engaged in each of said eyelets.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of November, 1921.

ABRAHAM LARGMAN.