March 18, 1924. 1,487,667

W. H. OMLER

WINDOW SCREEN LATCH

Filed Sept. 28, 1922

FIG. 1

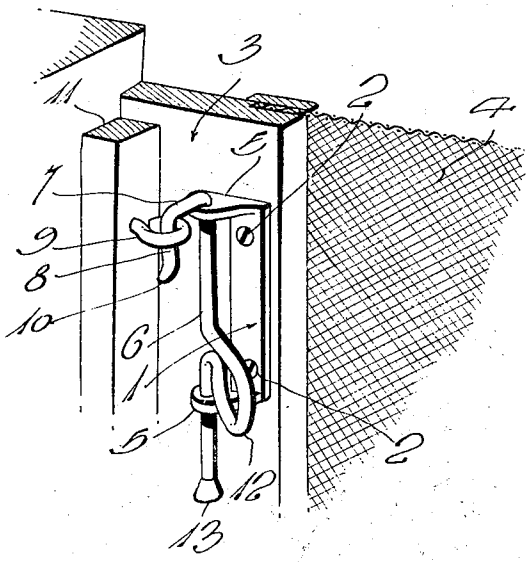
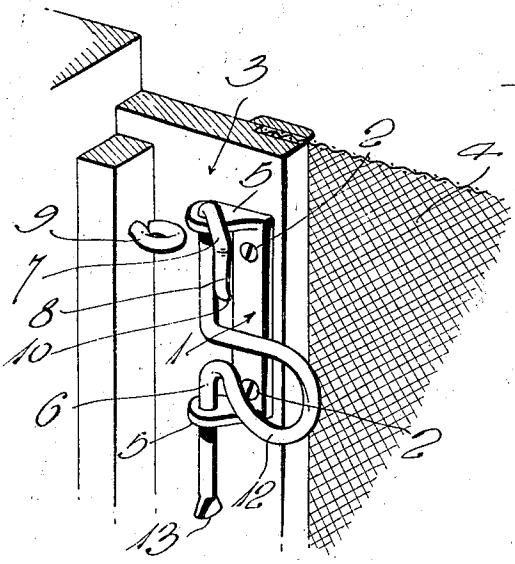


FIG. 2



Witness
H. Woodard

Inventor
W. H. OMLER

By H. B. Williamson & Co
Attorneys

Patented Mar. 18, 1924. 1,487,667

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WENDELL H. OMLER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

WINDOW-SCREEN LATCH.

Application filed September 28, 1922. Serial No. 591,133.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WENDELL H. OMLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Window-Screen Latches; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in latches and more particularly to those which are designed primarily for securing hinged window screens in closed position, the object being to provide an extremely simple and inexpensive device which will be effective in operation and will not interfere in any manner with proper movement of the window sashes.

An important feature of the present invention is the particular type of latch and mounting bracket which permits the latch to be mounted on the inner face of one of the vertical side bars of the screen so that the hook, with which it is provided, can be engaged with an eye on the adjacent inner face of the stop strip so that a direct pull is exerted on the screen when the hook is engaged with the eye to tightly bind the screen against the stop strip.

Another feature of the invention is the provision of the angularly disposed finger-grip which, when the latch is locked, is disposed midway between adjacent surfaces of the screen and stop strip to provide sufficient space between these surfaces to permit convenient grasping of the finger grip.

With the foregoing in view, the invention resides in the novel article hereinafter described and claimed, the description being supplemented by the accompanying drawing.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a latch constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the same in operative position.

Figure 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but illustrating the latch released.

In the drawing above briefly described, the numeral 1 designates an attaching bracket adapted to be secured by screws 2, to the inner face of one of the side-bars of the frame 3 of a hinged or other window screen 4, and in fact the invention may be used on numerous kinds of closures other than window screens. The bracket 2 is provided with a pair of vertically spaced bearing ears 5 and a one-piece wire shaft 6 is both slidably and rotatably received in alined openings in said ears. The upper end of this shaft is bent laterally outward as indicated at 7 and is then bent downwardly to provide a hook bill 8 for engagement with an eye or keeper 9 carried by the window frame or the like, the lower end of the bill being preferably directed obliquely outward from the shaft to provide a cam nose 10 which causes the screen frame 3 to be forcibly pulled inwardly against its stop strip 11, when the shaft 6 is forced downwardly to the position shown in Fig. 1. In this connection, it is to be pointed out that the bill of the hook is spaced a distance from the shaft which is less than the thickness of the stop strip so as to prevent it from projecting beyond the inner surface of the latter and interfering with the movement of the window sash.

Between the bearing ears 5, the shaft 6 is bowed into the form of a lateral loop 12 forming an operating handle or finger-grip disposed in a plane at an acute angle to the plane in which the portions 7 and 8 are located. By this angular relation, the handle 12 does not project into the path of the window sash when the latch is in operative position shown in Fig. 1. Also, the handle will be in convenient position to be operated for releasing or applying the latch. That is, it will be disposed midway between the screen and stop strip and sufficient space will be provided on either side thereof to permit convenient grasping.

While in some instances, the handle 12 might strike the upper bearing 5 to limit the upward movement of the shaft 6, I prefer to flatten the lower end of said shaft as indicated at 13, thereby forming a stop for co-action with the lower bearing 5 in limiting the upward movement.

While I have shown only one of the latches, it will be understood that any desired number may be employed and that if one is used on one vertical side of a closure and another on the other side, they will of course be manufactured in "rights" and "lefts."

Excellent results have been obtained from the details disclosed and they are therefore preferably followed, but within the scope of the invention as claimed, numerous minor changes may be made.

I claim:—

A fastener for a swinging screen or the like comprising a bearing bracket mounted on the inner face of one of the vertical side-pieces of the screen, a vertically disposed shaft journaled in the bearings of said bracket to permit sliding and rotary movement thereof, said shaft having a stop at its lower end to limit the upward sliding movement and having a portion of its upper end bent to extend at right angles to the inner face of the aforesaid side-pieces and said portion being then bent downwardly to extend in spaced parallelism to the body portion of the shaft, thus forming a hook for engagement with a keeper mounted on the inner face of the stop strip which the screen abuts, the bill of said hook being spaced a distance from said shaft less than the thickness of said strip, and the extremity of the bill being bent obliquely to form a cam nose to draw the screen into tight contact with said strip, the intermediate portion of said shaft being bent into a loop between its ends to form a finger-grip and the latter being bent at an angle to the hook so as to dispose it substantially midway between the aforesaid inner surfaces of the screen and stop strip to provide sufficient space on either side to permit quick gripping thereof when releasing the device.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

WENDELL H. OMLER.