April 14, 1925. 1,533,691

T. A. BOTH

SOCKET SHELL OR CASING

Filed July 29, 1920

Fig. 1

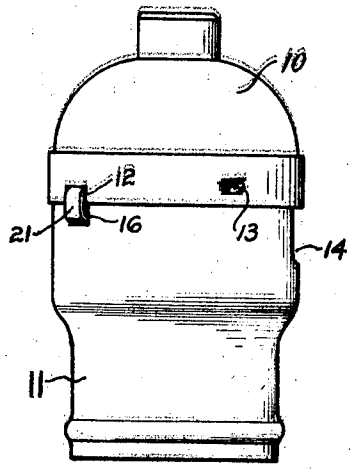


Fig. 2

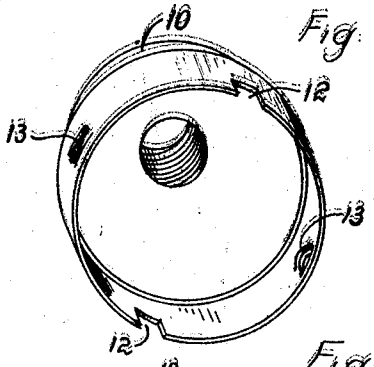


Fig. 3

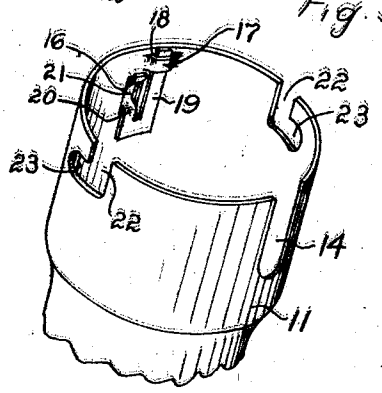


Fig. 4

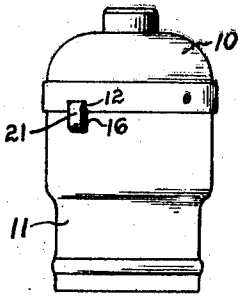


Fig. 5

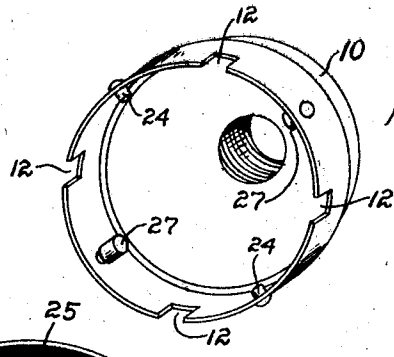
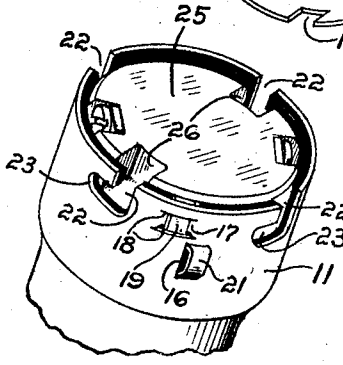


Fig. 6



WITNESSES:

Chester F. Hayden

INVENTOR

Jonjes A. Both

BY

A. M. Wooster

ATTORNEY

Patented Apr. 14, 1925. 1,533,691

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TONJES A. BOTH, OF STRATFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE CONNECTICUT ELECTRIC MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

SOCKET SHELL OR CASING.

Application filed July 29, 1920. Serial No. 399,751.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TONJES A. BOTH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Stratford, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Socket Shells or Casings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the class of metallic shells or casings for electric sockets and the like which comprise a cap portion and a body portion and which are adapted to be quickly and easily connected and disconnected and are further adapted to be locked in fixed relation with respect to each other when connected, and the object of the invention is to provide a novel connection between the cap and body portion of the shell.

With this object in view, I have devised a novel socket shell or casing which consists of a cap portion provided with notches and protuberances and a body portion provided with bayonet slots and a spring thumb latch, the protuberances of the cap being adapted, when the cap and body are connected, to engage the walls of the bayonet slots, and the spring thumb latch of the body portion being adapted to fit in one of the notches of the cap to insure the position of the protuberances in the bayonet slots.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification,

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a key socket shell in which the features of the invention are incorporated;

Fig. 2 a perspective view of the cap of the shell of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 a perspective view of the body of the shell of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 an elevation of a keyless socket shell in which the features of the invention are incorporated;

Fig. 5 a perspective view of the cap of the shell of Fig. 4, disclosing variant forms of protuberances; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the body of the shell of Fig. 4, showing the manner in which the keyless socket is cut away to accommodate one or more of the protuberances of the cap of Fig. 5.

10 denotes the cap and 11 the body of the shell or casing of the invention. Referring now to Figs. 2 and 3, which disclose a key socket shell, the cap is provided with notches 12 and with struck in projections 13. The notches, as well as the struck in projections are preferably located diametrically opposite each other, as shown. The body is cut away as indicated at 14 to make provision for the shank of the key, as will be understood, and is provided with bayonet slots which are likewise preferably located diametrically opposite each other. The body is also cut away to provide an opening 16 through which the spring thumb latch is adapted to project, and is struck in, as denoted at 17, to provide a slot 18 to receive a portion of a plate which is shaped as now to be described to provide the spring thumb latch.

The plate of the invention, shown more clearly in Fig. 3, consists of a U-shaped plate of metal. One arm of the U-shaped plate, denoted by 19, is straight and is of proper size to fit slot 18, while the other arm, denoted by 20, is bent substantially as shown to provide a spring thumb latch 21 which is of proper size to protrude through the opening, denoted by 16, in the body of the socket shell.

To assemble the cap and body with each other, the cap is moved over the body so that the struck in projections pass through the portions of the bayonet slots denoted by 22. The cap and body are next slightly turned with respect to each other until the struck in projections are in the offset portions, denoted by 23, of the bayonet slots and the spring thumb latch has sprung into one of the notches in the cap. It will be obvious that the cap and body will thus be locked to each other for the reason that the engagement of the spring thumb latch of the plate with the notch in the cap precludes the possibility of the projections of the cap becoming removed from the offset portions of the bayonet slots. When now it is desired to remove the cap, this can be done by first pressing the spring thumb latch inwardly until it is released from the notch and then turning the cap and body in a reverse direction with respect to each other until the projections have moved to portions 22 of the bayonet slots.

In Figs. 5 and 6 I have disclosed a keyless socket shell conforming to the features of the invention. The cap and body are the same as before, except that I have

shown modified forms of protuberances. 24 denotes lugs which are equivalents in the structure of the struck in projections of Fig. 2 and are adapted to function in similar manner. As shown more clearly in Fig. 6, the upper insulating block, denoted by 25, of the keyless socket is provided with cut away portions 26 that are adapted to receive a pin or pins 27 carried by the cap, which, as will be understood, are for the purpose of precluding the possibility of relative rotation of the shell and block with respect to each other. In the case of the socket of Figs. 2 and 3, the key performs an equivalent function. The spring thumb latch of Fig. 6 is adapted to engage a notch in the cap as before and the cap and body are connected and disconnected in precisely the same manner.

While I have shown and described the cap as provided with notches and protuberances and the body as provided with bayonet slots and a spring thumb latch, it will of course be obvious that the arrangement may be reversed.

What I desire to claim is:

1. A shell comprising two members one of which is adapted to be inserted in the other, one of said members being provided with an opening, the other member having slits and the wall between the slits projecting laterally, and a spring latch having a portion thereof inserted under said projecting wall and another portion being bowed with the curved portion of the bow projecting into said opening.

2. A shell comprising two members one of which is adapted to be inserted in the other, the outer member being provided with an opening, the inner member having slits and the wall between the slits projecting inwardly, and a spring latch having a portion thereof inserted under said projecting wall and another portion being bowed adjacent the end thereof with the curved portion of the bow projecting into said opening and the end adjacent said curved portion forming a stop to limit the outward movement of said bowed portion.

3. A shell comprising two members one of which is adapted to be inserted in the other, the outer member being provided with an opening, and the inner member having spaced slits and the wall between the slits projecting inwardly, and a U-shaped spring latch having one leg thereof inserted under said projecting wall and the other leg projecting into said opening.

4. A shell comprising two members adapted for telescoping engagement, the outer member being provided with a notch and the inner member provided with spaced slits and the wall between the slits projecting inwardly, and a U-shaped spring latch having one leg inserted under said projecting wall and the other leg bowed with the curved portion of the bow extending into the notch in the outer member.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

TONJES A. BOTH.