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B. N. COLON

WATCH LOCK

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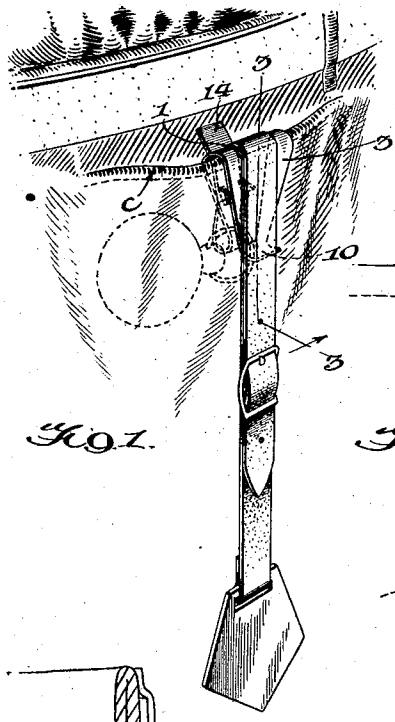


Fig. 1.

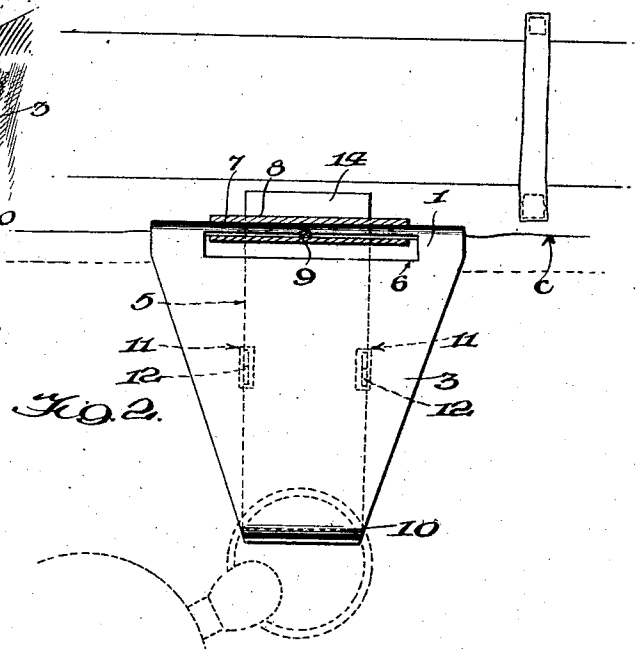


Fig. 2.

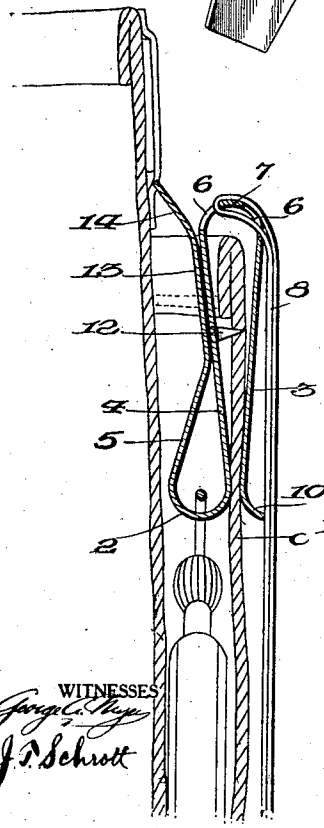


Fig. 3.

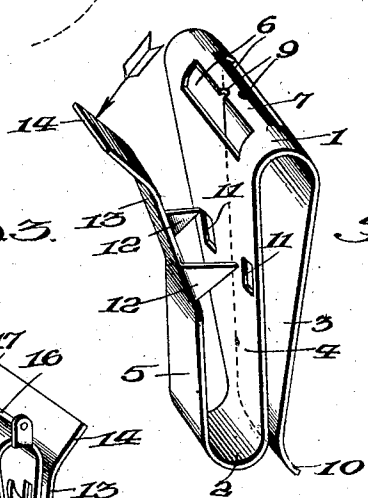


Fig. 4.

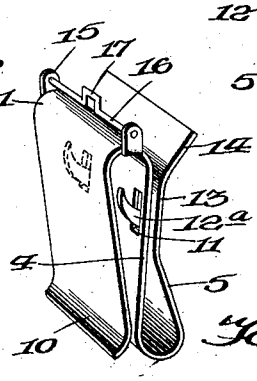


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES

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WATCH LOCK.

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This invention relates to improvements in devices for safely holding watches in the pockets of users, and an object of the invention is to provide such device, herein known as a watch lock, serving the double function of so gripping the cloth as to prevent pulling the watch out accidentally or otherwise without especially manipulating the lock, and of holding a watch fob in position.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the improved watch lock in use.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the watch lock, a portion of the fob being shown in section,

Figure 3 is a central vertical section taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, illustrating how the lock grips the cloth.

Figure 4 is a detail perspective view of the watch lock, the spring release being pushed away as in removing the lock from the pocket.

Figure 5 is a detail perspective view of a modification referred to later.

The foregoing object of the invention may be supplemented by a brief statement of the purpose of the invention. Persons who carry watches in the pockets of their clothing must exercise some care when stooping or bending, changing clothing, hanging up the particular piece that carries the watch, etc. in order that the watch may not slip out and fall upon the floor. A watch, loosely carried in the pocket, is also subject to theft, so that the use of a simple, yet effective lock will suggest itself as being of considerable value.

The lock, herein disclosed, does not dispense with the watch fob so often used, but also serves as a place of attachment or a mounting for the watch fob as well as the watch. In this respect the lock constitutes a connector between the watch and the fob.

In carrying out the invention use is made of a strip of material having the property of resiliency for a certain necessary gripping action. This strip of material is bent at 1 and 2 to form outer, intermediate and inner walls 3, 4 and 5, so named by virtue of the order in which they stand in reference to each other and in reference to the cloth C of the pocket when applied.

The bend 1 has openings or slots 6 cut therein, leaving a strip of metal 7 or bridge around which the fob 8 is looped as shown in Figures 1 and 3. Opposite edges of the bridge are indented at 9, providing for the attachment of a watch chain in the event that the use of a fob is not desirable.

It is observed that the lock is widest across the bend 1 where the bridge 7 occurs. From here the outer wall 3 tapers downwardly, terminating in a forwardly curled or bent lip 10 which facilitates application of the lock to the cloth C, mentioned before. From here (the bend 1) the intermediate wall 4 also tapers downwardly so that the width at the bend 2 is substantially the same as that of the lip 10. The width of the bend 2 is maintained throughout the inner wall 5 (see Fig. 2), the sides being substantially parallel.

The tapering shape of the intermediate wall 4 provides space for a pair of openings 11 into which the teeth 12 of the walls 5 extend when permitted to do so. The teeth 12 occur substantially at the base of a flat portion 13 which stands at an angle to the main portion of the inner wall 5. The wall 5 is finally bent to produce a finger piece 14 or, as it has been termed before, a spring release. The finger piece 14 is pressed inwardly, as suggested by the arrow in Figure 4, prior to lifting the watch from the pocket, the inward pressure upon the finger piece being necessary to disengage the teeth 12 from the openings 11 and from the cloth C which the teeth are supposed to have impaled.

Upon viewing the watch lock in a proper position it is observed that it has an S-shape although this shape is rather distorted. Being of such shape the watch lock has a pair of loops, the one occurring at the bend 1, the other at the bend 2. These loops are employed to respectively serve as mounts for the watch fob 8 and for the customary ring of a watch (Fig. 1). To this end the watch lock serves as a connector between the fob and the watch. The watch and fob are attached directly to the watch lock without requiring the use of intermediate chains, links, rings, etc., of any kind.

When the watch is suspended from the fob, that is to say when the fob is held up so as to suspend the watch, the whole forms a continuous, harmonious arrange-

ment. Similarly, when the lock is applied to the pocket (Fig. 3) the fob hangs in its natural position as does also the watch. In Figs. 1 and 2 the watch is shown as having taken a position at one side of the lock, but if the pocket is deep enough the watch will obviously hang down as suggested. The fob conceals much of the lock and the lock therefore does not present an unsightly or cumbersome appearance.

Attention is directed to Figure 5. This form is a modification of the watch lock in the foregoing description in that it is equipped with ears 15 at the lateral extremities of the bend 1, serving as a mount for a cross bar 16 which becomes the equivalent of the bridge 7. The cross bar has a slightly bent place 17 to which a watch chain is more readily applied, this bent place corresponding with the indentations 9 of the bridge 7.

In its other respects the modification in Figure 5 is identical with the main form of the invention with the one exception that the teeth 12^a are given an upward curve. They thus resemble claws, and when the teeth take this form there is no need of pressing back on the finger piece or spring release 14 when the lock is clamped in place upon the cloth C. The upward curve of the teeth will automatically push back the inner wall 5 as can readily be perceived. The teeth of the form in Figure 5 will also insure a stronger grip upon the cloth when an unauthorized attempt is made to pull out the watch without first pressing back on the finger piece 14.

The operation of the improved watch lock is readily understood. The fob 8 is applied to the bridge 7 at the loop or bend 1 and is permitted to hang down over the outer wall 3 as in Figs. 1 and 3. The fob hides much of the watch lock. The ring of the watch is applied to the bend or loop 2. The inner wall 5 is considerably narrower than the intermediate wall 4, it being remembered that the wall 4 becomes larger toward the loop 1, and in practice there will be no difficulty in getting the watch ring over the projection 12.

The natural tendency of the extremities 10 and 14 is to press toward the intermediate wall 4 (Fig. 3) the material of which the lock is made being resilient. The teeth 12 will therefore tend to project through the openings 11, and the lip 10 will tend to bind against the wall 4 in order to clamp or grip the cloth C when the lock is applied. In applying the lock the user grasps the fob 8 in a more or less customary manner and pushes back upon the finger piece 14 until the teeth 12 either leave the opening 11 or are retracted far enough to permit an unimpeded application of the forward portion of the lock. The finger piece 14 is then released, whereupon the teeth 12 project through the openings 11 and impale the cloth. Upon desiring to remove the watch the user again grasps the fob, presses back upon the finger piece 14 until the cloth is released by the teeth 12 whereupon the watch can be lifted out of the pocket.

The character of the material of which the watch lock may be made is subject to so much variation that no attempt at specifying examples seems warranted. The same is true of the shape and dimensions of the lock. The lock is stamped from one piece of material and then bent into the appropriate shape. In Figure 5 the use of the cross bar 15 involves an extra element, and the modified watch lock therefore requires an extra operation.

While the construction and arrangement of the improved watch lock is that of a generally preferred form, obviously modifications and changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the claims.

I claim:—

1. A watch lock comprising a body bent to form a plurality of confronting walls connected by loops and defining a pair of spaces one receiving the ring of a watch when applied to one of the loops, the other receiving the edge of a pocket and the other loop supporting a fob, and teeth projecting from one of the walls extending through openings in another of the walls and impaling the edge of a pocket in the last space, said teeth crossing the space occupied by the watch ring.

2. A watch lock comprising a body of resilient material bent in opposite directions to provide a plurality of confronting walls defining spaces to receive the ring of a watch and the edge of a pocket, the resiliency of the material urging the walls into contact with each other thereby tending to close said spaces and perform a clamping action, and a projection upon one of the walls being urged through openings in another of the walls by virtue of said resiliency and into impaling position in the edge of the pocket in one of said spaces, said projection crossing the space occupied by the watch ring and therefore constituting a closure.

3. A watch lock comprising a resilient body bent in opposite directions to provide outer, intermediate and inner walls connected by the loops which occur at the bends and defining spaces respectively to receive the ring of a watch and the edge of a pocket, a forward curl at the extremity of the outer wall facilitating introduction of the edge of the pocket, a plurality of projections upon the inner wall crossing the adjoining space and entering the other space through openings in the intermediate wall to impale the

edge of said pocket, and a finger piece formed on the extremity of the inner wall permitting bending of said wall to disengage said projections from the edge of the pocket prior to the removal of the watch lock.

4. A watch lock comprising a resilient body bent in opposite directions to form outer, intermediate and inner walls defining oppositely opening spaces respectively to receive the ring of a watch and edge of a pocket, the bend between the outer and intermediate walls having openings defining a bridge for the connection of a fob, a flat portion included in the inner wall being bent at an angle thereto to contact the intermediate wall, said flat portion having projecting teeth crossing the adjoining space and entering the other space through openings in the intermediate walls to impale the edge of the pocket, and a finger piece formed beyond the flat portion by further bending the inner wall receiving pressure with a consonant lifting motion upon the fob to disengage the teeth from the edge of the pocket prior to removing the watch lock.

5. A watch lock consisting of a strip of resilient material bent in opposite directions to form, outer, intermediate and inner walls, the bend between the outer and intermediate walls being widest and said walls tapering until a predetermined width at the extremity of the outer wall and the bend between the intermediate and inner walls is reached, said inner wall being substantially of the same width as said bend between the intermediate and inner walls, a bridge formed in said bend including the outer and intermediate walls by cutting openings in said bends, said bridge having indentations for receiving a watch chain, a flat portion and a finger piece included in said inner wall, and teeth projecting from said inner wall being arranged to enter openings in said intermediate wall.

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