April 14, 1925. 1,533,508

J. S. MILLER, JR

PROTECTOR FOR AUTOMOBILES

Filed June 13, 1923

FIG. I.

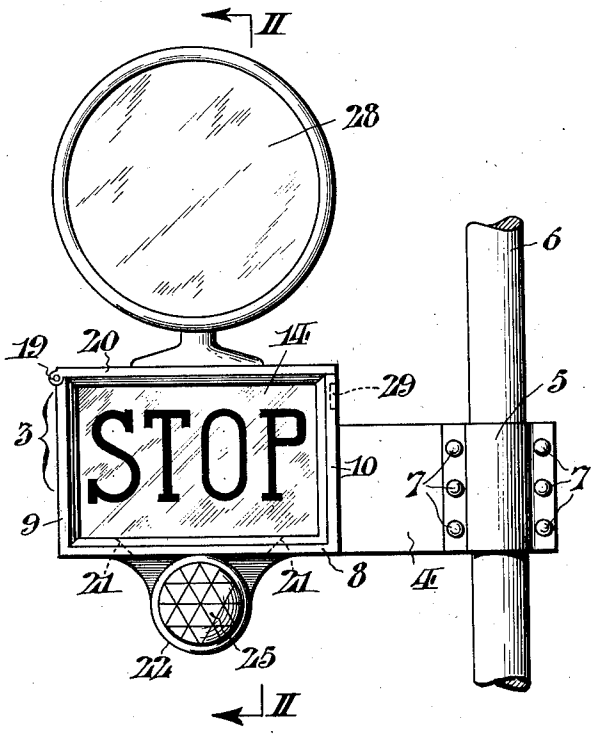
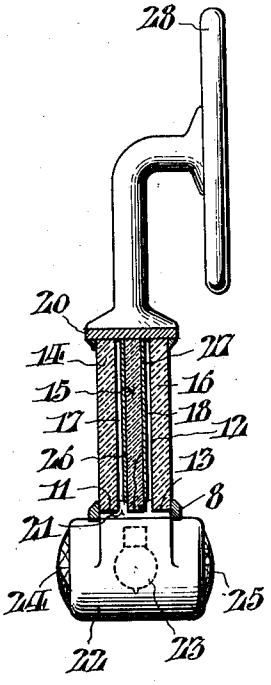


FIG. II.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN STROTHER MILLER, JR., OF RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY.

PROTECTOR FOR AUTOMOBILES.

Application filed June 13, 1923. Serial No. 645,097.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN STROTHER MILLER, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Rahway, county of Union, and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Protectors for Automobiles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to protection devices primarily devised for safeguarding movable property against unauthorized use or theft and it has more particular reference to theft signals or indicators for motor vehicles; the primary object being to provide a neat and attractive device for easy connection to an automobile wind shield and thereby visibly indicate when a vehicle is left unattended or is parked, whereby likelihood of theft is reduced to a minimum and illicit use promptly detected.

Another object of my invention is to provide a combination parking device and ownership identification, as well as license card holder, of simple and serviceable construction, the same being exceptionally advantageous and effective for the purposes had in view.

A further object is to provide a device of the character specified with which may be associated the usual mirror for viewing following traffic.

Other objects and attendant advantages will be apparent from the following description, from which it will be noted that my invention provides a neat, attractive, and useful combination parking light, traffic mirror and theft detector adaptable to many and diversified uses.

With the foregoing objects in view this invention consists essentially in the purposes as well as features of construction, combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter fully described and more specifically defined by the subjoined claims.

In the further disclosure of my invention reference is to be had to the accompanying sheet of drawings constituting a part of this specification and in which like designating characters distinguish the same parts in both views.

Figure I is a rear elevation of my novel protector for automobiles in applied position upon the wind-shield support, a fragmentary portion whereof is only shown; and,

Figure II is a sectional elevation of the same taken approximately on the line II—II in Figure I and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring more in detail to the drawings my novel protector for automobiles comprises a substantially rectangular casing or frame 3 made from appropriate durable material, and embracing an integral or securely attached extension 4 suitably shaped for co-operation with a clamping member 5 whereby the device is mounted on a wind shield support 6 by means of screws or their equivalent 7. The aforesaid casing or frame 3 comprises a base 8 and opposed verticals 9, 10, of a cross-section to provide spaced grooves or channels 11, 12, 13, respectively seating glass panes, 14, 15, and 16 with intervening spaces 17, 18 for purposes hereafter explained. Hinged at 19 to the vertical 9 is a top piece or member 20 which may be made of similar cross-section material to the base 8 and verticals 9, 10; or, it may be a flat section as shown, and said top piece or member 20 is arranged to be secured in closed position on the casing or frame 3 by means of a (Yale or other suitable) lock 29, set in the body of said frame 3.

Securely mounted beneath the aforesaid casing or frame 3 and in communication therewith by means of a slot or slots 21 in the base 8 is a casing 22 of appropriate design to give an attractive finish to the device and said casing houses a source of light such as a small electric incandescent lamp 23 in circuit with the ignition and other electric devices on an automobile in the well known manner. This casing 22 is also provided with front and rear lenses 24, 25 respectively of appropriate colors, whereby the device can be used as a parking lamp in addition to serving for an illuminating purpose hereafter fully explained.

Referring again to the glass panes 14, 15 and 16 the former and latter, or front and rear ones 14, 16 respectively, are of clear glass, whereas the intermediate one 15 has appropriately depicted thereon in clearly discernible manner the word "Stop," or other suitable caption to clearly signify if the car is moving that it has been stolen.

Furthermore it is to be particularly noted that the intervening spaces 17, 18 serve as receptacles for ownership and license cards 26, 27 or vice versa. One of said cards, 27

for example, could bear the license number on its face in large characters of a contrasting color so that when illuminated by the light rays passing through the aforesaid slot 21 it will be clearly discernible and pronounced. It is also to be particularly noted that the cards 26, 27 are not to be in contact with either the front or rear glasses 14, 16 respectively, so as to permit the light rays from the slot 21 to satisfactorily illuminate the front faces of said cards.

Suitably mounted on the top piece or member 20 is a mirror 28 adapted to give a clear view of following traffic, and said mirror 28 may be made adjustable in any of the well known ways and for obvious reasons, hence further description or explanation is deemed unnecessary.

From the foregoing description and an examination of the drawings it will be clearly apparent that when an automobile equipped with my device is parked or left unattended the owner or driver unlocks the lock 29, raises the top member 20, and removes his or her license card 27, and, or, owner's card 26, then relocks said lock 29. Now it will be obvious that the device projecting at right angles to the wind shield of a car and having clear glass front and back panes 14, 16 there will be afforded a distinctive signal to traffic officers that said car is left unattended. On the other hand it is to be understood that the presence of the license and, or, ownership cards 26, 27 in the device will be a pre-requisite regulation to afford notice that the car is not left unattended. Furthermore it will be apparent by virtue of its structure and location my novel device affords protection against illicit use and theft, as a thief would be compelled to operate in the open to pick the lock thus permitting him to place cards other than the rightful owners' or drivers' cards as against leisurely working over a transmission or steering head lock while seated in a car.

Modifications in the shape and minor details of construction will be apparent, therefore the right is hereby reserved to make all such variations as fairly fall within the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A protective device for automobiles comprising a frame of grooved cross-section material, a closure therefor, means for locking the closure, an extension from said frame adapted for a clamping fixture, spaced sight-glasses in the grooved frame, a stationary signal member intermediate the sight-glasses, said sight-glasses and signal member affording intervening spaces adapted to receive identification data, and means housed below the frames for illuminating the device.

2. A protective device for automobiles comprising a frame of grooved cross-section material, a movable closure therefor, means for locking the closure, an extension from said frame adapted for a clamping fixture, spaced sight-glasses in the grooved frame, a stationary signal member intermediate the sight-glasses, said sight-glasses and signal members affording intervening spaces adapted to receive identification matter, and a source of light encased below the frame with provisions for illuminating the identification matter or signal member.

3. A protective device for automobiles comprising a frame of grooved cross-section material, a movable closure therefor, means for locking the closure to the frame, a lateral extension from said frame adapted for a clamping fixture, spaced sight-glasses in the grooved frame, a signal member intermediate the sight-glasses, said sight-glasses and signal member affording intervening spaces adapted to receive identification matter, and a source of light housed within a casing below the frame for illuminating the device.

4. A protective device for automobiles comprising a frame of grooved cross-section material, a hinged closure therefor, means for locking the closure to the frame, a lateral extension from said frame adapted for a clamping fixture, spaced sight-glasses in the grooved frame, a signal member intermediate the sight-glasses, said sight-glasses and signal member providing intervening spaces adapted to receive identification and license cards, and a source of light housed below the frame for illuminating the signal member or the identification and license cards, and also affording parking notice.

5. A protective device for automobiles comprising a frame of grooved cross-section material, a hinged closure therefor, means for locking the closure to the frame, a lateral extension from said frame adapted for a clamping fixture, spaced sight-glasses in the grooved frame, a signal member intermediate the sight-glasses, said sight-glasses and signal member providing intervening spaces adapted to receive identification and license cards, a source of light housed within a casing below the frame for illuminating the signal member and affording parking notice and a mirror surmounting the aforesaid frame closure for reflecting following traffic.

6. In a device of the character described the combination of a grooved cross-section material frame having a movable closure, locking means for securing the closure to the frame, spaced sight lenses with an intervening signal member seated in the parallel grooves of the aforesaid frame, a removable identification card or cards intermediate the sight lenses and signal member, and means

housed below the frame for illuminating the device for the purposes specified.

7. In a device of the character described the combination of a grooved cross-section material frame having a hinged closure, locking means for securing the closure to the frame, sight lenses with an intervening signal member seated in the spaced grooves of the aforesaid frame, removable identification and license cards intermediate the sight lenses and signal member, a mirror surmounting the frame closure for viewing following traffic, and a source of light for illuminating the device for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name at Maurer, New Jersey, this 11th day of June, 1923.

JOHN STROTHER MILLER, JR.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM FRANCIS KERWIN,

MICHAEL PAUL ENNIS.