G. J. WELLS.

DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING TIMEPIECES.

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1,045,227.

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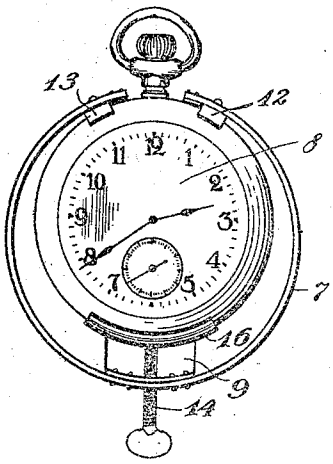

FIG. 1

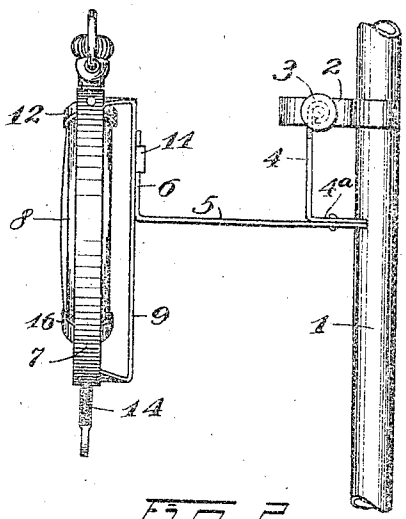

FIG. 2

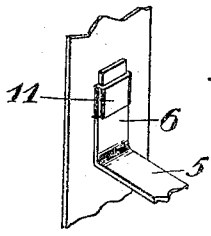

FIG. 4

FIG. 5

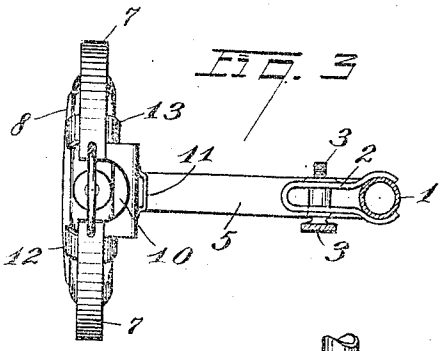

FIG. 3

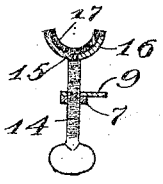

FIG. 6

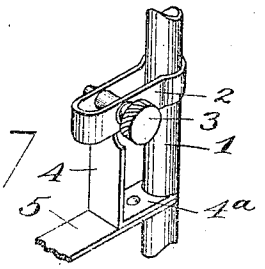

FIG. 7

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING TIMEPIECES.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE J. WELLS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Devices for Supporting Timepieces, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to devices for supporting time pieces, the same being designed for special use of motormen, and it has for its object the production of a device of the character stated, which shall be simple and economical in construction, which shall be adapted to accommodate any size of watch or other similar time piece, which shall securely hold the time piece in position, which shall support the holder flexibly, so that the time piece will not be jarred by the motion of the vehicle, and which shall permit of the ready detachment of the holder from its support, in order that both the time piece and the holder may be placed in the pocket without detaching the time piece from its holder.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a front view of the holder having a watch clamped therein; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the holder and the watch, and also of the bracket for supporting the same; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the structure shown in Fig. 2; and Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7 are views of details.

Taking up the description of the invention by the use of reference characters, 1 represents the air pipe for supplying air to the air-brakes of a street car. 2 is a clamp, the same being shown as formed of a single piece of metal bending back upon itself and having its ends curved to conform to the air pipe. The parallel portions of the clamp are perforated for the reception of a bolt or screw 3, one of the sides of the clamp being threaded for the reception of said screw, whereby, by turning the screw, the clamp may be tightened or loosened, as desired. While the part 1 is shown as a pipe, the clamp 2 may be attached to any similar device about the car in a suitable position for holding the time piece. Suspended upon the screw 3 between the sides of the bracket is a member 4, the same being turned about the screw at its upper end and being bent backwardly at substantially a right angle near its lower end, as shown at 4^a, the rear end of the member being adapted to rest against the pipe 1 and preferably being concaved so as to fit said pipe, as shown in Fig. 7. Secured to the part 4^a of the member 4 is a bracket arm 5, said arm being preferably formed of spring metal and having its outer end turned upwardly at 6, so as to form a substantially right angle with the main part of the bracket arm.

For holding the time piece in position, a curved metallic strip 7 is provided, the same forming a continuous circle, except at its upper portion, where the ends are spaced apart in order that the stem of the watch 8 may project therethrough. Secured to the inner side of the strip 7 at its lower part is a plate 9, the same extending outwardly to the rear of the strip and then being bent upwardly, substantially parallel with the plane of the said strip. At its upper end, the plate 9 is provided with a circularly-shaped notch 10, the plate being bent forwardly and being secured to the ends of the strip 7 on opposite sides of the notch 10, said notch also accommodating the stem of the time piece. The strip 7 and the plate 9 may be secured together in any suitable manner, as by the rivets shown. Near the upper end of the plate 9 the latter is provided with a pair of parallel transverse slits, and the material between the slits is forced outwardly at 11, so as to form an integral socket or loop into which the end 6 of the bracket arm may extend, the holder proper for the watch being secured to the bracket arm in this manner. If preferred, the loop 11 may be made of a separate piece and secured at its ends to the plate 9.

For holding the time piece securely in position, clamping members 12 and 13 are secured to the strip 7 adjacent its ends, said members being shown in Fig. 5 as being curved to conform to the edge of the time piece. At the lower part of the holder the strip 7 and the plate 9 are preferably screw-threaded for the reception of a thumb-screw 14, said screw being provided on its upper or inner end with a pin projection 15 which is adapted to be inserted through a per-

foration in the lower clamping member 16, said projection being riveted so as to hold the clamp to the pin and yet permit the pin to turn independently of the clamp. By this means the lower clamping member 16 may be adjusted in and out to accommodate time pieces of various sizes, the said member forcing the time piece upwardly into the clamping members 12 and 13. In order that the members may not mar the time piece, and also to insulate the latter, they are preferably lined with felt, rubber or other suitable material 17, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. Any other suitable means may be employed for securing the screw 14 and the clamping member 16 together.

From this description it will be readily understood that the holder is readily adapted to fit time pieces of various sizes, and is also adapted to securely hold the time pieces in position. At the same time, the flexible and elastic construction of the bracket arm 4 holds the time piece yieldingly, so that the jars of the vehicle will not interfere with its proper operation. When the motorman or other user of the device goes off duty, he can detach the time piece and its holder from the bracket, and can insert the said time piece and holder in his pocket without unclamping the time piece from the holder.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination with a flexible and elastic bracket arm, of a circularly-shaped strip having its ends spaced apart, a plate secured at one of its ends to the ends of said strip and at its opposite end to the central part of the strip, clamping members carried by said strip for holding the time piece in position, and means on the said plate for detachably engaging the bracket arm, whereby the time piece, the strip, the clamping members and the said plate may be removed from the bracket arm.

2. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination with a flexible and elastic bracket arm, of a circularly-shaped strip having its ends spaced apart, a plate secured at one of its ends to the ends of said strip and at its opposite end to the central part of the strip, clamping members carried by said strip for holding the time piece in position, means for adjusting one of said clamping members, and means on the said plate for detachably engaging the bracket arm, whereby the time piece, the strip, the clamping members and the said plate may be removed from the bracket arm.

3. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination with a flexible and elastic bracket arm, of means for detachably securing said bracket arm to a cylindrical member, a metallic strip that is bent into circular form with its ends spaced apart, a plate having a notch in one of its ends, said plate being attached on opposite sides of the said notch to the ends of the said strip, and the other end of the plate being secured to the said strip at points substantially opposite the said ends of the latter, clamping members secured to the strip adjacent its ends, said members being so shaped as to conform to the time piece, an adjusting screw threaded through the said strip at a point substantially opposite the said clamping members, a clamping member pivoted on the inner end of said screw, said latter clamping member being also shaped to conform to the time piece, and means on said plate for detachably connecting the latter to the bracket arm.

4. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination with a flexible and elastic bracket arm, of means for detachably securing said bracket arm to a cylindrical member, a metallic strip that is bent into circular form with its ends spaced apart, a plate having a notch in one of its ends, said plate being attached on opposite sides of the said notch to the ends of the said strip, and the other end of the plate being secured to the said strip at points substantially opposite the said ends of the strip, clamping members secured to the strip adjacent its ends, said members being so shaped as to conform to the time piece, an adjusting screw threaded through the said strip at a point substantially opposite the said clamping members, a clamping member pivoted on the inner end of said screw, said latter clamping member being also shaped to conform to the time piece, and a socket on said plate into which the end of the bracket arm is adapted to project.

5. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination, with a bracket, of a circular-shaped strip having its ends spaced apart, clamping members carried by said strip at points near the end thereof, an adjustable clamping member mounted upon the said strip at substantially the central portion thereof, and means for securing the circular strip to the bracket.

6. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination, with a bracket arm, of a circular-shaped strip having its ends spaced apart, clamping members mounted upon said strip near the ends thereof, a threaded opening in substantially the central portion of said strip, a member having screw-threaded engagement with the said strip and extending through said opening, a clamping member mounted upon the end of said member, and means for mounting the strip upon the bracket.

7. In a device for supporting time pieces, the combination, with a bracket, of a circular shaped strip having its ends spaced apart, clamping members mounted upon the

strip near the ends thereof, and an additional clamping member mounted on the ring at substantially the center portion thereof, a bracing member engaging the ring at its opposite ends, and a detachable connection between the said bracing member and the bracket.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE J. WELLS.

Witnesses:
S. E. FOUTS,
EDWARD STUMPF.