T. FAWCUS.

LOCKING DEVICE FOR LEVERS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 30, 1909.

990,852. Patented May 2, 1911.

Fig. 1.

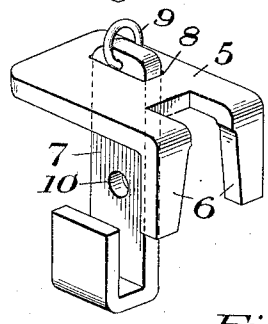


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

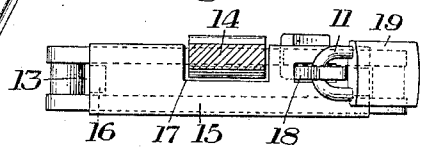


Fig. 4.

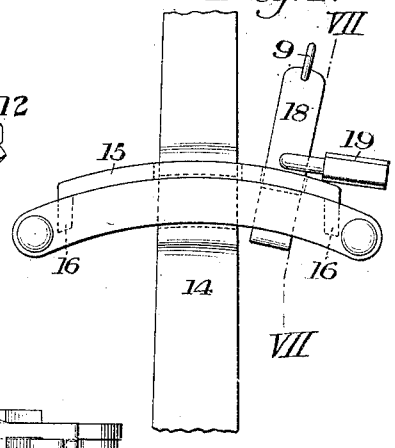


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

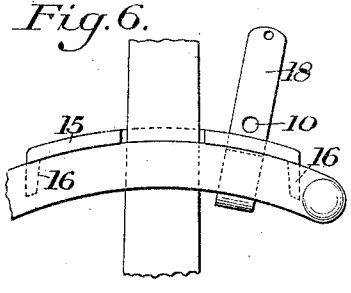
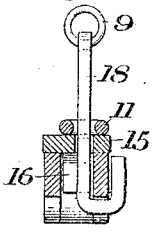


Fig. 7.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LOCKING DEVICE FOR LEVERS.

990,852. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 2, 1911.

Application filed September 30, 1909. Serial No. 520,272.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS FAWCUS, of Pittsburg, Allegheny county, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Locking Device for Levers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing one form of locking device in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the same applied to a lever; Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively a sectional plan and a side elevation showing a modified form of the lock; Figs. 5 and 6 are views similar to Figs. 3 and 4, showing another modification; Fig. 7 is a section on the line VII—VII of Fig. 4.

My invention has relation to means for locking levers and has been more particularly designed to provide a simple, convenient and effective device for locking the controlling levers of automobiles, so that such levers can not be operated by unauthorized persons.

The nature of my invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which I have shown several forms thereof, and which will now be described, it being premised, however, that the invention is susceptible of other modifications, without departing from the spirit and scope as defined in the appended claims.

Referring first to the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the numeral 2 designates the guiding segment for a lever 3, which may be the lever which controls the gearing of an automobile. The segment is provided at its upper end with the H-shaped slot 4, in which the lever is adapted to work. When the lever is in its non-running position, it is within the short connecting arm of the slot, as shown in Fig. 2. In its running positions, it is moved into one or the other of the long arms of the slot and backwardly or forwardly therein, according to the direction and speed of the automobile. 5 is a lock plate, having a forked downwardly turned end portion 6, which is designed to engage the lever 3 in the manner shown in Fig. 2, with one prong of the fork extending downwardly into each of the long arms of the slot 4. 7 is a hook member, whose shank passes loosely through an opening 8, in the plate 5. This shank is provided at its upper end with a lifting ring 9, which also serves the purpose of preventing the shank from passing entirely through the opening 8. Instead of this ring, the upper end of the shank may, however, be provided with any suitable projection which will serve both as a stop and as a lifting means. The shank of the hook member is also provided with an opening 10, to receive the hasp 11 of a padlock 12 of any suitable or well known character. The hook of the hook member is engaged with the lower edge of one of the side bars of the slot 4, and the shank is drawn upwardly through the opening 8 in the plate 5, sufficiently to permit the insertion of the hasp of the padlock, as shown in Fig. 2. It will be seen that the hook and padlock will prevent the lock being removed or disengaged from the lever, and that the lock plate will efficiently prevent the lever being moved out of its non-running position.

In Figs. 3 and 4, I show my invention applied to a lever guide which has a single straight slot 13 for the lever 14, one of the side bars of the slot passing through the lever and acting as a guide therefor. In this form, the lock plate 15 is provided with the depending end portions 16, which extend downwardly into the slot and also has a lateral slot or recess 17, adapted to embrace the lever in the manner shown in Fig. 3. 18 is a hooked securing member which is passed upwardly through a slot in the plate 15, in the same manner as the hook member shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and is held by the padlock 19.

The form shown in Figs. 5 and 6 is applicable to a lever guide in which the lever moves between the side bars of the guide. The locking device is the same, however, as that shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

My invention provides a locking device which is simple in its construction, which can be manufactured and sold at a low cost and which can be quickly applied to and removed from the lever to be locked.

It will be obvious that various other forms of locking plates embodying the essential features of my invention may be provided, the exact form of this plate depending upon the character of the lever to be locked and the form and construction of the lever guide.

I claim:

1. The combination with a slotted lever

guide and a lever arranged to move therein, of a locking member having portions adapted to extend within the slot of the guide, said member having a slot or opening therethrough and also having a portion to engage the lever and bar its movement, another member having a shank portion to extend through the slot or opening of the first member and having means at its lower end to engage the guide and hold the member against upward movement, and a locking device to engage the last named member above the first member, substantially as described.

2. A locking device for levers, comprising a lock plate adapted to seat upon the top of a slotted lever guide, and having downward projections to enter the slot of the guide, a member having a bent portion at its lower end to engage the lower edge of the lever guide and having an upwardly extending portion adapted to slide through an opening in the lock plate, and means for locking said plate and member relatively to each other, substantially as described.

3. A locking device for automobile levers, comprising a locking member adapted to engage a slotted lever guide and form a bar to the movement of the lever to be locked, said member having a substantially vertical opening therethrough, a retaining device having a bent lower portion arranged to engage the under side of the lever guide and a shank portion adapted to pass through the said opening in the locking member, said shank having means for the engagement therewith of a padlock above the locking member, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand.

THOS. FAWCUS.

Witnesses:
GEO. B. BLEMING,
R. A. BALDERSON.