(No Model.)

C. P. REILLY.

PROTECTOR FOR ELECTRIC LAMP SOCKETS.

No. 382,110. Patented May 1, 1888.

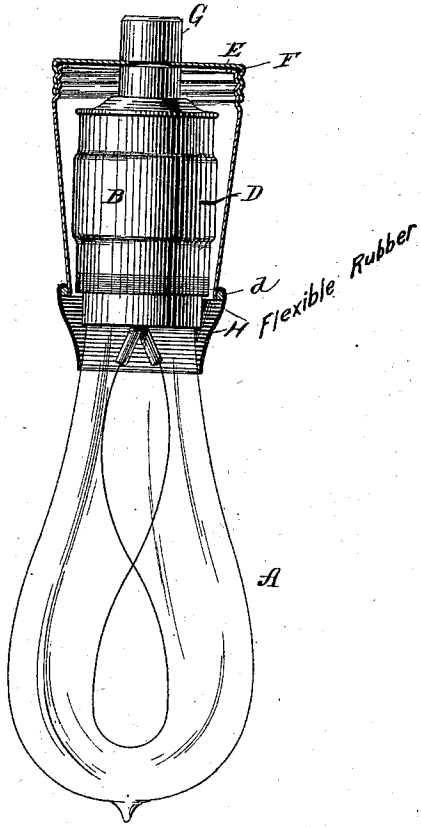


Fig. 1.

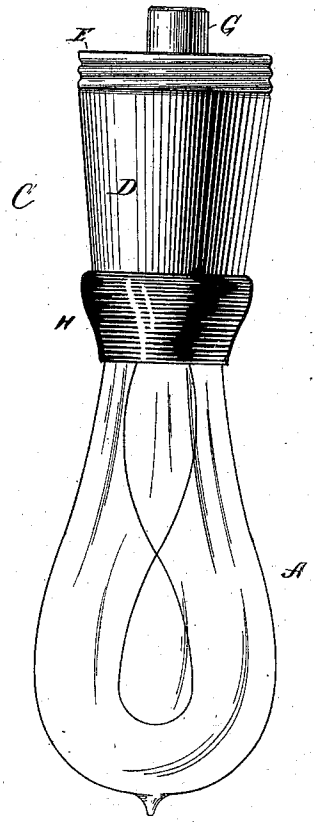


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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PROTECTOR FOR ELECTRIC-LAMP SOCKETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 382,110, dated May 1, 1888.

Application filed March 3, 1888. Serial No. 266,023. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER P. REILLY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Protectors for Electric-Lamp Sockets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

In the use of electric incandescent lamps, especially in the open air and in places where steam is employed, great difficulty is experienced in protecting the lamp-sockets from the effects of atmospheric moisture or steam, as the case may be. The effect of the moisture is to injure the insulation or to effect a short circuit between the conducting parts within the socket.

I am aware that attempts have been made to obviate this difficulty by placing over the usual lamp a supplementary glass globe, and making moisture-tight connections between such globes and the fixture to which the lamp is attached. This construction is expensive, and at the same time it causes a diminution in the lighting-power of the lamps, owing to the presence of the supplementary globe acting, to some extent, as an obstruction to the passage of the light-rays from the filaments.

The object of the present invention is to provide means for protecting incandescent-lamp sockets without offering any obstruction to the light, or diminishing in any way the lighting-power of such lamps. The means by which I accomplish these results are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows an incandescent lamp with my improvement attached, the improvement being shown in section. Fig. 2 is an elevation of my invention applied to a lamp.

In the drawings, A is an incandescent lamp, which may be of any desired type, and B is a lamp-socket, the particular construction of which is also immaterial. The drawings show a keyless socket, and my invention will usually be applied to that kind of a socket.

C represents my improvement. It consists of a box or casing, D, surrounding the lamp-socket. This casing is formed into or provided with a screw at the top, which engages with a corresponding screw on a cap, E, as shown. I prefer to make the cap and casing of sheet metal, and to plate them externally with a non-oxidizable metal. These, however, are matters of detail. Between the cap and the body of the casing is placed a rubber gasket, F, thus making a moisture-tight joint between the parts. The socket is screwed to a neck or coupling, G, which is adapted to be attached to a fixture provided for such purposes. At the lower end of the casing D is a small bead, *d*. Connection is made between the casing and the lamp-socket by means of a rubber sleeve, H, as is clearly shown in the drawings.

When it is desired to put up a lamp with my improvement attached, the cap and gasket are first run onto the screw part of the coupling, and the socket is screwed into place. Afterward the casing is screwed to the cap and the lamp is attached to the socket, and the sleeve is drawn up over the bead. Of course the way in which these acts are performed can be varied at convenience. For example, a socket and casing may both be screwed into place at once, and the lamp may be put in place, if desired, before this coupling takes place, the sleeve being also previously adjusted.

It is evident that this arrangement provides simple means for securing a moisture-tight covering around the lamp-socket. It also renders the parts easily accessible, and is simple in construction, and inexpensive.

Having now described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A covering for electric-lamp sockets, which consists of a cap and casing partially surrounding the socket and secured together by a moisture-tight joint, in combination with a rubber sleeve connecting the casing and the lamp-globe and making tight joints with each.

2. A covering for electric-lamp sockets, which consists of a cap and a casing partially surrounding the socket and making moisture-

tight joints with each other, the said casing being provided with a bead at its outer end, in combination with a soft-rubber sleeve, forming a tight joint with the lamp-globe, and adapted to fit over the bead, as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHRISTOPHER P. REILLY.

Witnesses:
AUGUSTUS MERRITT,
G. H. STOCKBRIDGE.