

J. D. HOUCK.
 KEY HOLDING CHAIN.
 APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1912.

1,042,918.

Patented Oct. 29, 1912.

Fig. 1.

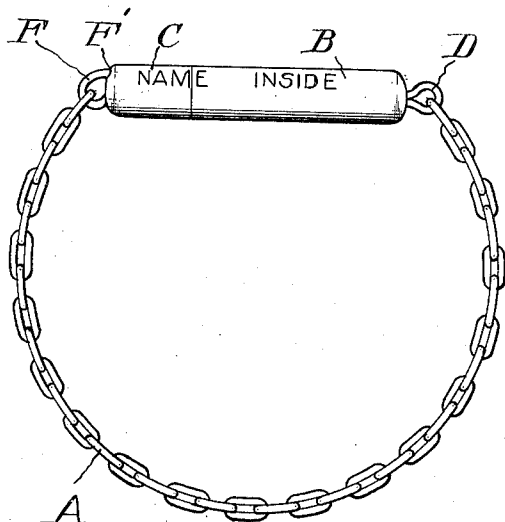


Fig. 2.

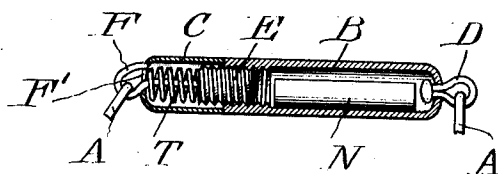


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

Anton H. Belt
J. W. Sherwood

INVENTOR

John D. Houck
By Franklin D. Hoyt
 Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. HOUCK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

KEY-HOLDING CHAIN.

1,042,918.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 29, 1912.

Application filed January 22, 1912. Serial No. 672,674.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. HOUCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Holding Chains; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in key holding chains and the object in view is to produce a simple and efficient device of this nature, embodying various details of construction, combinations and arrangements of parts which will be hereinafter fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

I illustrate my invention in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my key holding chain showing the parts assembled. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of an identification sleeve mounted within one of the barrel sections.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates a link chain, and B and C designate two hollow cylindrical barrel sections, each apertured at its outer end. An eye D is swiveled in the aperture at the end of the section B to which one end of the chain is fastened, and E is a screw which telescopes within the section C and has a hook F mounted therein with a shank portion fastened thereto and which shank portion extends through the aperture or slot F' in which the hook is adapted to be normally seated when the two barrel sections are held together. The section B has integral threads adapted to receive said screw, forming means whereby the two parts may be screwed together, the hook catching in the slot at the end serving to anchor the screw while the barrel section B is screwed tightly against the section C. Said hook is adapted to engage the other end of the chain when the parts are assembled and be held to the hook in the manner shown and described.

A spring T is mounted upon the shank portion of the hook and interposed between

the end of the screw and the inner end of the section C and tends normally to hold the hook within the slot in the end of the barrel section C when the barrel sections are separated.

In order to identify the key chain, in the event of its becoming lost, I provide a sleeve, designated by letter N, which is open and cylindrical ended and adapted to fit within the barrel portion B and in which the name of the owner of the chain may be rolled up and inserted therein. If desired, wording, as shown in the drawings, may appear upon the outer circumference of each of the barrel sections, designating that within may be found an identification card.

In assembling the parts, one end of the chain is connected to the swiveled eye D. The screw with the wire, which is afterward bent to form a hook, has the coiled spring placed over said wire, after which the wire and screw are inserted in the barrel section C, the wire passing through the slot F', after which a hook F is formed in the wire, thus preventing the screw being withdrawn from the barrel section C. The coiled spring normally under tension will tend to hold the end of the hook in the slot F'. In order to connect the chain with the hook F, the latter may be withdrawn under tension of the spring from the slot a sufficient distance to allow the link to be caught over the hook, after which the spring will draw the hook back and retain the end of the chain. The identification member N is inserted in the barrel portion B, after which the two barrel sections may be screwed together in the manner shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

What I claim to be new is:—

1. A key chain comprising two separable barrel sections, an eye swiveled to one of said sections, a chain fastened to said eye, a screw mounted in the other section and adapted to engage integral threads upon the section to which the eye is swiveled, a hook fastened to said screw and passing through a slot in the other section and adapted to be attached to one end of the chain, and a spring interposed between the inner end of the screw and the adjacent inner end of the section through which said hook passes, as set forth.

2. A key chain comprising two separable barrel sections, one having a perforation in the end in which an eye is swiveled, the other provided with a slot in its end, a chain

fastened to said eye, a screw having interior threaded connection with the section to which the eye is swiveled, a hook having a shank portion fixed to said screw and extending through said slot and adapted to be
5 attached to the other end of said chain, a coiled spring mounted upon the shank portion of the hook and adapted to hold the hook in said slot, the marginal edges of
10 which are designed to prevent the hook

from rotating independent of the slotted barrel section when the two sections are detached from each other, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses. 15

JOHN D. HOUCK.

Witnesses:

JAMES A. DONNELLY,
WIRT D. ROBERTS.