D. N. STEVENSON,

GANG VALVE LOCK FOR GAS RANGES, &c.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 21, 1916.

1,244,790. Patented Oct. 30, 1917.

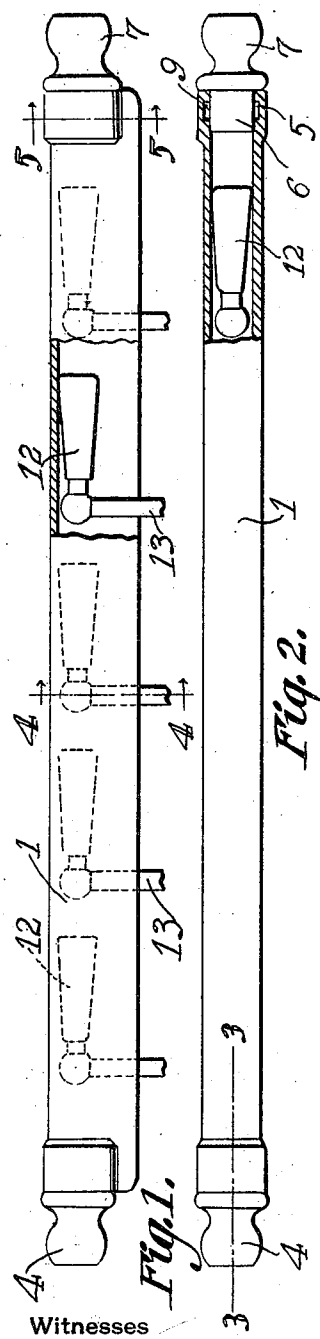


Fig. 1.

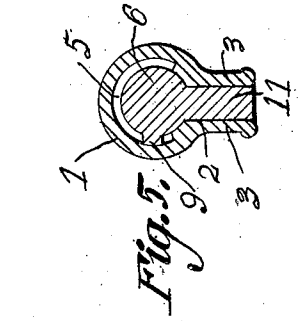


Fig. 5.

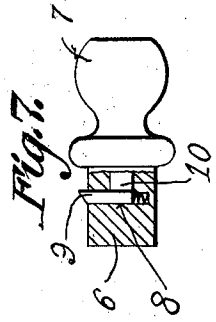


Fig. 7.

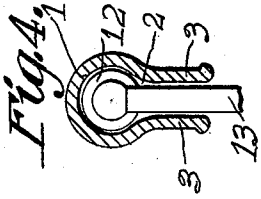


Fig. 4.

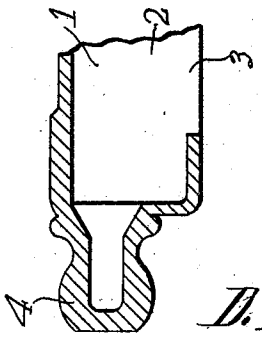


Fig. 3.

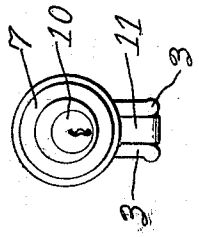


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID N. STEVENSON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

GANG-VALVE LOCK FOR GAS-RANGES, &c.

1,244,790. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 30, 1917.

Application filed October 21, 1916. Serial No. 126,975.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID N. STEVENSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Gang-Valve Lock for Gas-Ranges, &c., of which the following is a specification.

The present invention is a device designed for use as a gang valve lock for gas ranges, etc., and it is the object of the invention to provide a novel and improved yet exceedingly simple, inexpensive, practical and efficient device applicable to the valve handles of a gas range or the like for holding the valves closed, thereby preventing the gas valves of the range being opened by a tenant or other person who is tardy in paying his expenses, and furthermore the valves cannot be accidentally turned on, or opened by children intentionally or accidentally while playing when the device is in position.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, can be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device as applied, a portion thereof being broken away.

Fig. 2 is a front view of the device as applied, a portion thereof being shown in section.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional detail taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Figs. 4 and 5 are cross sections on the respective section lines 4—4 and 5—5 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is an end view of the device showing the retaining plug.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation of said plug, partly in section.

The device includes an elongated body 1 which may be cast or otherwise manufactured, and which is of tubular form being provided at one side with a longitudinal slot 2 and longitudinal outstanding lips 3 along the edges of said slot. The body 1 is thus of substantially U-shaped cross section with its connecting portion enlarged. One end of the body 1 is closed and provided with an ornamental knob 4 and the other end of the body is open. The body is provided with an inner transverse arcuate groove 5 adjacent to its open end and opposite the slot 2.

A retaining plug 6 is adapted to fit within the open end of the body 1 and has a knob 7 for manipulating it and to match the knob 4 at the remote end of the body when the plug 6 is slipped into the open end thereof. The plug 6 has a diametrical guide slot 8 in which a spring pressed latch 9 is slidable, the projecting end of said latch being beveled in order that when the plug 6 is introduced in the body 1 the latch will be pressed into the plug 6 within the outline thereof and when the plug is forced home, the latch bolt will be projected or snapped into engagement with the groove or recess 5 whereby to hold the plug in place. The plug 6 and its knob 7 have fitted therein a key barrel 10 for the introduction of a proper key for retracting the latch 9 which cannot be released otherwise, thus preventing the removal of the plug 6 without the use of the key, and thereby preventing the removal of the device from the valve handles by an unauthorized person. The plug 6 has a radial lug 11 which moves between the lips 3 when the plug is inserted into the end of the body, thereby to prevent the plug being turned within the body 1.

In applying the device to the radial handles 12 carried by the stems 13 of a gang of valves of the gas range or the like, when said handles are turned to close the valves, so that the handles all project in the same direction or are in alinement, body or shield 1 is moved lengthwise over the handles, the slot 2 and lips 3 accompanying the valve stems 13. The plug 6 is then inserted into the open end of the body 1 thereby preventing the removal of the body or shield unless the plug is removed by means of a suitable key. Since the body or shield 1 incloses the handles 12 it prevents said handles from being turned and it is therefore impossible for the valves to be opened accidentally or intentionally when the device is applied. The device must be moved longitudinally out of engagement as well as into engagement with the handles 12, and the body 1 cannot be pulled off of the handles 12 away from the stems 13, since the handles 12 cannot pass

through the slot 2. The lips 3 materially add to the protection of the handles 12 by rendering access thereto difficult if not impossible by way of the slot 2. To remove the device, the latch 9 is first retracted by a proper key and the plug 6 withdrawn which enables the body 1 to be pulled lengthwise off of the handles 12 thereby again permitting of the operation of the valves. The device can be quickly applied and removed without requiring tools of any sort, or screws, wire or other kindred holding or retaining means.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. A gang valve lock for gas ranges and the like, embodying an elongated member constructed to receive and surround a series of handles and having one end open so that it can be moved longitudinally over the handles in succession, said member having a slot for the stems of said handles extending longitudinally from said open end of said member, and means for retaining said member upon the handles.

2. A gang valve lock for gas ranges and the like, embodying a tubular member having one end open and adapted to be moved longitudinally over a series of valve handles in succession, said member having a longitudinal slot extending from said open end to receive the valve stems in succession, and means engageable with said tubular member for retaining it upon the handles.

3. A gang valve lock for gas ranges and the like, embodying a tubular member having an open end and a longitudinal slot and adapted to be moved longitudinally onto a series of valve handles, and a retaining plug insertible into the open end of said member.

4. A gang valve lock for gas ranges and the like, embodying a tubular member having an open end and a longitudinal slot and adapted to be moved longitudinally onto a series of valve handles, a retaining plug insertible into the open end of said member and key controlled means for holding said plug in place.

5. A gang valve lock for gas ranges and the like, embodying a tubular member having an open end and a longitudinal slot and adapted to be moved longitudinally onto a series of valve handles, a retaining plug insertible into the open end of said member, and key controlled means carried by the plug and engageable with said member to hold the plug therein.

6. A gang valve lock for gas ranges and the like, embodying a tubular member having an open end and a longitudinal slot and adapted to be slipped over a series of valve handles, a plug insertible in the open end of said member and having a radial lug to move into said slot, said member having an inner socket adjacent to its open end, and a latch carried by the plug engageable in said socket.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

DAVID N. STEVENSON.

Witnesses:

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WILLIAM RODNEY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."