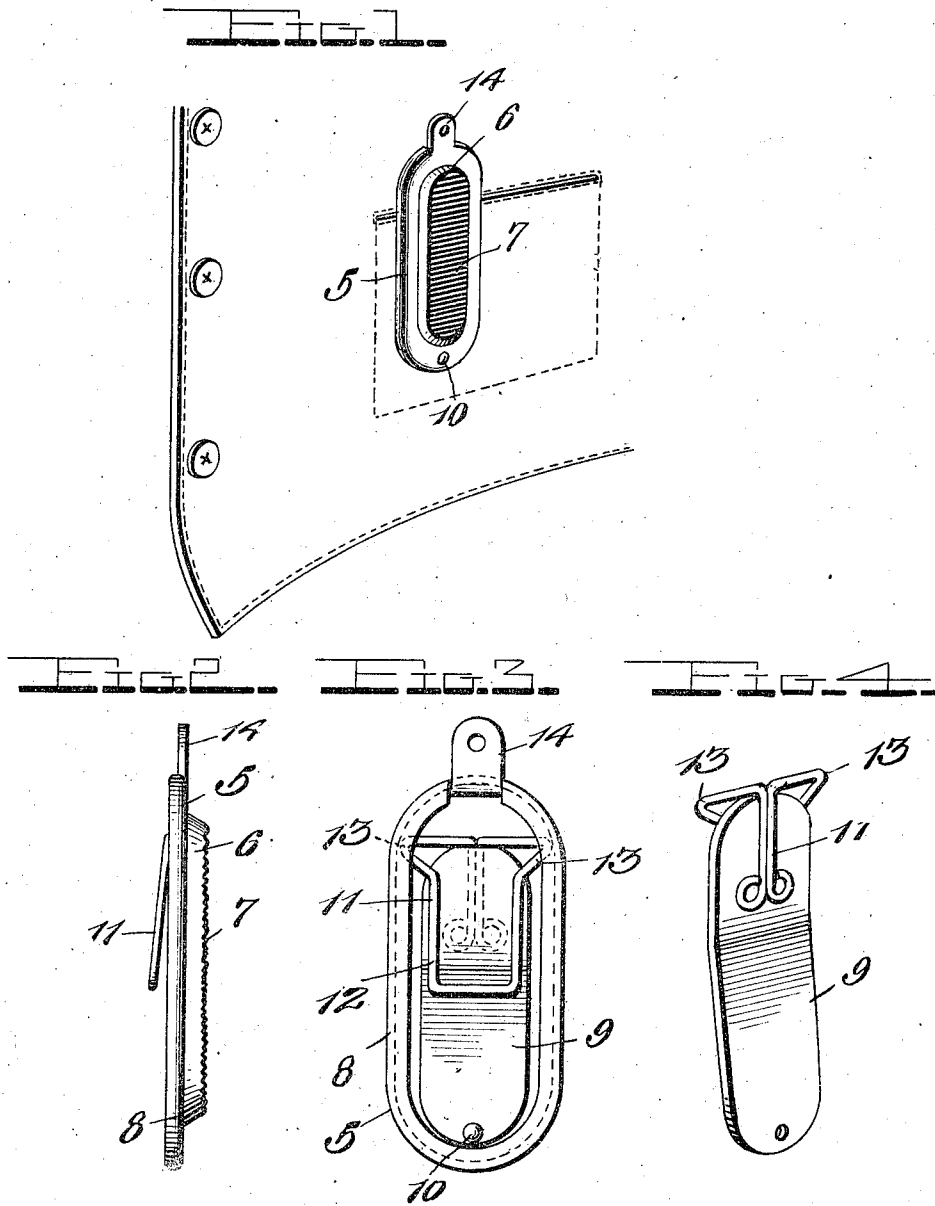


E. M. BROWN.
MATCH SCRATCHER.
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1,015,666.

Patented Jan. 23, 1912.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELLIS M. BROWN, OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA.

MATCH-SCRATCHER.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 23, 1912.

1,015,666.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLIS M. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Roanoke, in the county of Roanoke and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Scratchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to improvements in match scratchers and has for its object to provide a simple and efficient device of this character which may be readily attached to the coat pocket, cigar case, hat band, belt or any other desired place, where the same will be found of the greatest convenience.

A further object of the invention is to provide new and novel spring holding means mounted upon the scratching plate which will securely retain the plate in position and prevent its accidental loss.

20 A further object of the invention resides in the provision of a device of the above character which may be inexpensively manufactured, and is strong and durable in practical use.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

30 Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating one manner of applying the device; Fig. 2 is an edge view; Fig. 3 is a rear elevation; and Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the spring holding plate removed.

Referring in detail to the drawing 5 designates a sheet metal plate which as shown is substantially of rectangular form, though not necessarily so, and has its central portion bulged or struck outwardly as indicated at 6, the face of said latter portion being ribbed or corrugated as indicated at 7 to provide a roughened surface with which the heads of the matches are adapted to be frictionally engaged. The edge of the sheet metal plate 5 is rounded or bent inwardly as indicated at 8 to provide a suitable groove therein for a purpose which will hereinafter appear.

35 A spring metal plate 9 is arranged upon the inner face of the scratcher plate 5, the edges of said spring plate engaging upon that portion of the plate 5 which surrounds

the raised or outwardly struck portion 7 thereof. This spring plate is rigidly fixed at one of its ends to the end of the plate 5 as indicated at 10, the other end of the plate 9 being free. To this free end of said plate a spring clip 11 is attached, said clip being formed from a length of wire bent into substantially rectangular shape as indicated at 12 and having its ends brought together and longitudinally extended within the rectangular portion of the wire. These engaging end portions of the wire are disposed upon one face of the spring plate 9 and are fixed thereto at their extremities, the rectangular portion of said wire being disposed upon the opposite face of the plate. The corners 13 of the spring clip 11 which are disposed beyond the end of the spring plate 9 are adapted to engage under the turned-over edge 8 of the plate 5 as shown in Fig. 3. It will be noted from reference to Fig. 2 that the rectangular portion 12 of the spring clip is normally inclined with relation to the plane of the plate 9 and is slightly spaced therefrom at the inner end of the clip. The plate 9 is normally disposed in parallel relation to the plate 5 and it will thus be obvious that when the part to which the device is to be attached is disposed between the free end of the rectangular portion of the spring clip and the plate to which it is secured, that the pressure upon the clip will tend to bow the spring plate 9 owing to the fact that the corners 13 of the spring clip are engaged under the edges of the plate 5 thereby retaining the free end of the spring plate in proper relation to the plate 5 while at the same time permitting of its movement toward the corrugated face 7 of said plate. In this manner the spring action of both the plate 9 and the clip 11 are utilized for the retention of the device upon the article to which it is attached.

From the above description the use of my improved match scratcher will be obvious. In Fig. 1 I have shown the same applied to the pocket of a vest, in which instance, the upper edge of the vest pocket is inserted between the free end of the rectangular portion 12 of the wire clip 11 and the plate 9 and the device is then forced downwardly so that the material of the pocket is securely clamped between the clip and the plate. In this manner the device is held in convenient position for use at all times and

does not materially interfere with the insertion of the finger into the pocket. A small eye 14 is preferably formed upon one end of the plate 5 for the attachment thereto of a watch chain so that the device can be worn as a charm. This latter feature, however, is of minor importance and may be eliminated if desired.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have devised a very simple and efficient match scratcher which may be easily and quickly attached to any article of the wearer's apparel, and is securely retained in position against liability of its loss. The device is also extremely simple, durable in construction and can be manufactured at very small cost.

While I have shown and described the preferred construction and arrangement of the various parts, it will be understood that the device is susceptible of considerable modification without departing from the essential feature or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. A device of the character described comprising a body plate having a friction surface, a spring plate secured to the body plate at one end, a spring clip engaged upon the free end of said spring plate, said plate and clip normally lying upon one face of the body plate, and means formed upon the body plate engaging said clip to prevent outward movement of the free end of the spring plate while permitting of its inward movement.

2. A device of the character described comprising a body plate having a friction surface, the edges of said plate being inwardly turned to form a groove, a spring plate secured to the body plate at one end, and attaching means carried on the free end

of said spring plate engaging in the grooves of the body plate to prevent outward movement of the spring plate with relation to said body plate but permitting of its inward movement relative thereto.

3. A device of the character described comprising a body plate having a friction surface, the edges of said plate being inwardly turned to form a groove, a spring plate secured to the body plate at one end, a resilient clip arranged upon the free end of said spring plate and having portions movably engaged in the groove of the body plate to prevent outward movement of the free end of said spring plate under the tension of said clip while permitting of the inward movement thereof.

4. A device of the character described comprising a body plate having a friction surface, the edges of said plate being inwardly turned to form a groove, a spring plate arranged upon one face of said body plate and fixed to the same at one end, said spring plate and body plate being normally disposed in parallel planes, a resilient clip arranged upon the unattached end of said spring plate and having a portion inclined with relation thereto between which and said plate the object to which the device is attached is adapted to be inserted, said clip having portions movably disposed in the groove of said body plate whereby outward movement of the free end of the spring plate with relation to the body plate is prevented under the spring tension of said clip while the inward movement of the free end of the spring plate is permitted.

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

ELLIS M. BROWN.

Witnesses:

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B. A. McILHANY.