

F. W. COLEMAN.
Key-Holder.

No. 165,794.

Patented July 20, 1875.

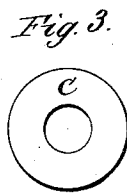
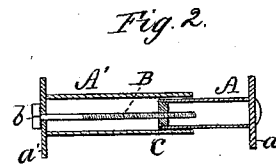
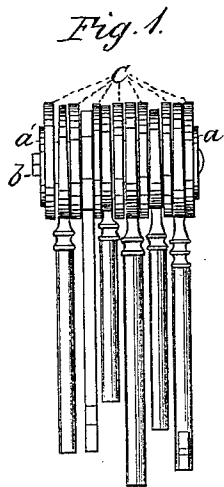


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRANCIS W. COLEMAN, OF RODNEY, MISSISSIPPI.

IMPROVEMENT IN KEY-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **165,794**, dated July 20, 1875; application filed July 10, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS W. COLEMAN, of Rodney, in the county of Jefferson and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and Improved Key-Holder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the key-holder with keys attached; Fig. 2, a sectional view of the core with end caps, showing method of attaching the sections of the same; Fig. 3, detail of the alternating disks; Fig. 4, transverse sections of modification of the core to prevent the parts from turning upon each other.

The object of this invention is to provide a device for holding keys in the bunch, which is intended as a substitute for the ordinary key-ring. It consists in a sectional core or shaft having end caps and a central screw-threaded stem passing through the said core to hold the two sections together. Upon the core the keys are placed with alternating disks of leather, felt, or other pliant material, and the whole tightened by means of the screw-threaded stem. By means of this arrangement the keys are held in a more compact and convenient form, all jingling prevented, the scratching of the furniture from the dangling keys avoided, and a better leverage for turning the key afforded.

In the drawing, A A' represent the two sections of the core provided with end caps *a a'*. The said cores are hollow, and A is made smaller than A', so as to slide into the latter after the manner of a telescope. B is a screw-threaded detachable stem, having a head, *b*, which stem passes through and holds the two sections of the core together, the screw-threaded end of the same engaging with a female thread, *c*, in the end of section A, and the head *b* with the end cap *a'* of section A'. C are washers

or disks, of leather, rubber, felt, or other pliant material, which are interposed between the bows of the keys and alternate with them all. When the stem B is screwed up the disks are compressed between the bows of the keys and the entire bunch of keys maintained rigid.

Whenever a door or drawer is to be open, the proper key is extended at right angles to the rest, and the balance are held rigidly together, so that they do not dangle against the varnished surface and scar the same. The compact manner in which the keys are held, moreover, affords a leverage which facilitates the turning of the key in the lock. In carrying the keys in the pocket, also, there is no jingling, and the bunch may be withdrawn without becoming tangled in the other contents of the pocket.

In manufacturing my improved key-holder I may make the sections of the core oval or polygonal, or use any other method of preventing the sections from turning upon each other and coming apart.

I do not confine myself, moreover, to a sectional core, but prefer the same in use, as that form permits of a better adjustment to large or small bunches of keys.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A key-holder, consisting of a core with end caps combined with disks of pliant material arranged to alternate with the bows of the keys, substantially as described.

2. The sections A A' of the core, having end caps *a a'*, in combination with the screw-threaded stem B and the disks C, arranged to alternate with the bows of the keys, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

F. W. COLEMAN.

Witnesses:

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CHAS. A. PETTIT.