No. 698,233. Patented Apr. 22, 1902.

W. T. THOMAS.

ROSETTE.

(Application filed Dec. 26, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

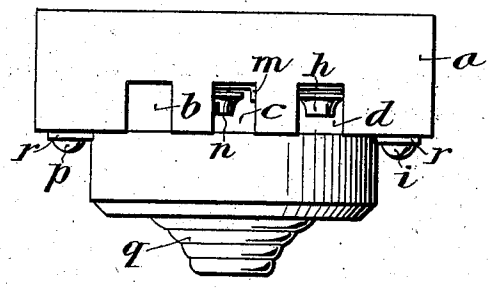


FIG. 2.

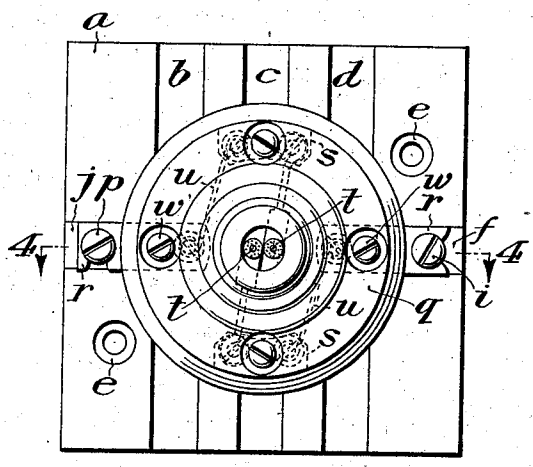


FIG. 3.

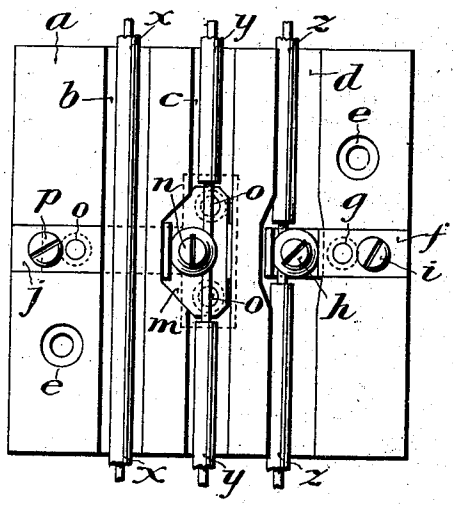
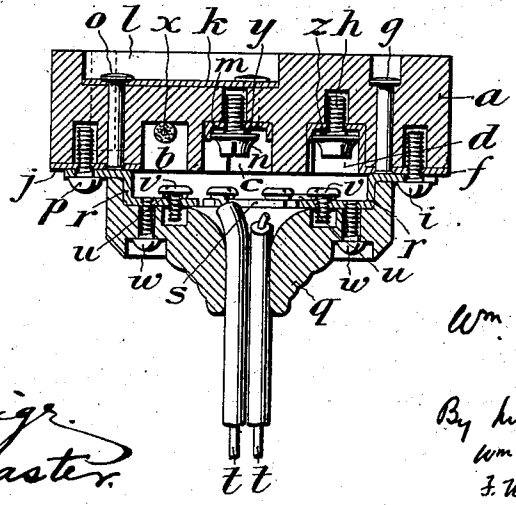


FIG. 4.



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ROSETTE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 698,233, dated April 22, 1902.

Application filed December 26, 1901. Serial No. 87,275. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rosettes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the class of devices known as rosettes, which as is well known, in addition to constituting junction boxes, so to speak, in which are effected the necessary connections between the line or circuit wires, and branch wires in circuit with drop electric lights or other devices, incidentally serve to support in the circuits of said branch wires, fuses which protect said branch circuits from excess of current.

In the use of what is now well known as the three wire system, in which three line wires, which may be designated as x, y, z, respectively, are employed, the wires of certain of the pairs of branch wires are, in making the connection with said line wires, placed in circuit with wires x and y, respectively, while the wires of certain others of the pairs of branch wires are placed in circuit with wires y and z respectively.

It is the object of my invention to provide a rosette of such construction that the three line wires may be snugly and neatly boxed or inclosed in it,—and also that connection between a pair of branch wires and either the wires x and y or y and z respectively, of the line wires, may be effected at will.

In the accompanying drawings,

Figure 1 is a view in edge elevation of a rosette embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a plan of the same.

Figure 3 is a plan of the base block.

Figure 4 is a sectional elevation on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

In the drawings,

a is the base block having the three grooves or open channels b, c, d, extending in parallelism through its top face, and the openings e, through which screws may be inserted for the attachment of the block to a molding or wall.

f is a conducting plate, one portion of which in the form illustrated rests in a suitable recess or seat in the face of the block a between the groove d and the adjacent edge of the block, being secured in position by a screw g,—and the other portion of which extends down into and across the bottom of said groove d, as shown especially in Figures 3 and 4.

h is a binding screw entered through that portion of the plate f which lies in the groove d, and i is a screw entered in that portion of said plate exterior to said groove.

That portion of the plate f which is in the groove d, in conjunction with the screw h, constitutes what may be termed a contact device for making electrical connection with a wire passing through said groove.

j is a conducting plate resting in a suitable recess or seat in the face of the block, between the groove b and the adjacent edge of the block.

k is a conducting plate resting in a suitable recess l in the rear face of the block, and extending from a point opposite the plate j, as far as the region opposite or beneath the groove c.

Said plate k is preferably provided, beneath the groove c, with lateral extensions in parallelism with said groove, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 3.

m is a conducting plate arranged in the bottom of the groove c, in which plate is entered a binding screw n.

To allow of the employment of a plate m and screw n, of adequate size, the groove c may be, as shown, slightly widened at its central portion.

The plate m in conjunction with the screw n constitutes what may be termed a contact device for making electrical connection with a wire passing through the groove c.

The screws electrically connect the plate k with the plates j and m respectively. p is a screw entered in the plate j.

In connection with a base plate of the described construction, a cap plate of any usual form may be employed.

The cap plate q shown in the drawings is, with the parts it carries, of well known form. Said cap plate is provided with the two counterpart contact plates r, having projecting ends adapted to engage with the screws i, p,

to detachably secure the cap to the base plate and establish electrical connection between said plates *r* and the plates *f j*.

Said cap plate is (as shown in dotted lines in Figure 2) also provided with the two usual terminals *s* with which the branch wires *t* are respectively connected, and with fuses *u* extending from the respective terminals *s* to the respective plates *r* to which said fuses are connected by means of the binding screws *v*. The plates *r* are secured to the cap by screws or rivets *w*.

The operation of my improved rosette will be readily understood:

When the base block *a* is mounted in suitable relation with respect to a wall or molding, the three line wires *x*, *y*, *z*, extending respectively through the respective grooves *b*, *c*, *d*. Of said line wires, *x* and *z* are, respectively, the ordinary positive and negative wires, and the wire *y* is what may be termed the third or neutral wire.

In making connection between the branch wires *t* of drop lights or kindred devices, and said line wires, it may be desired to connect certain of the pairs of branch wires with the line wires *y*, *z*, and certain other of the branch wires with the line wires *x*, *y*.

When the parts and wires are in the position illustrated in the drawings, the line wire extending through the groove *d* will, through the plate *f*, screw *i*, plate *r*, fuse, and plate *s*, be in electrical connection with one of the branch wires *t*, and the line wire extending through the groove or channel *c* will, through the plates *m*, *k*, *j*, screws or rivets *o*, screw *p*, plate *r*, fuse *u*, and plate *s*, be in circuit with the other of the said two branch wires. The branch wires *t* are thus in circuit with the line wires *y z*. The line wire extending through the channel *b* will not be in circuit with either of the branch wires, but will simply extend idly, so to speak, through the rosette.

When it is desired to establish the connection between the branch wires *t* and the line wires *x y* the position of the base block may be reversed, with the result that the channel *d* (instead of the channel *b*) will receive the wire *x*, the channel *b* (instead of the channel *d*) will receive the wire *z*; the channel *c* will, of course, in either arrangement still receive the wire *y*.

In this reversed position, the wire *x* makes electrical connection with the plate *f*—and the wire *y* makes electrical connection with the plates *m k j* and the result, of course, is that said wires *x*, *y*, are placed in circuit with the branch wires, and the wire *z* extends unconnected through the channel *b*.

Manifestly my invention provides a very simple, easily manufactured, and economical arrangement, by which pairs of branch wires may be connected to selected pairs of a group of three line wires, such means involving the minimum of departure in mechanical construction from the forms of rosettes well known in the art.

My improved rosette is of neat finish and appearance, and operates to retain the line wires boxed and secured in the respective channels, thus obviating the necessity for one of said wires to extend outside.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a rosette, in combination, a cap having an aperture for branch wires for drop lights or the like, terminals carried on said cap, with which said branch wires are respectively in circuit, a base block having terminals adapted to make contact with the terminals of the cap plate, three grooves or channels formed in said base block and adapted to receive line wires, two of said grooves having contact devices adapted to make electrical connection with wires passing through said grooves, said contact devices being in circuit with the respective terminals of the base block.

2. In a rosette, in combination, a cap having an aperture for branch wires for drop lights or the like, terminals carried on said cap, with which said branch wires are respectively in circuit, a base block having terminals adapted to make contact with the terminals of the cap plate, three grooves formed in said base block and adapted to receive three line wires the central and one of the side grooves having each a contact device adapted to make electrical connection with a wire passing through the groove in which said contact device is situated, said contact devices being in circuit with the respective terminals of the base block.

3. In a rosette, in combination, a cap having an aperture for branch wires for a drop light or the like, terminals carried on said cap with which said branch wires are respectively in circuit, a base block having terminals situated respectively on its opposite edge portions and adapted to make electrical connection with the terminals of the cap plate, three grooves or channels formed in said base block and adapted to receive three line wires, a contact device arranged in one of the side grooves and in circuit with one of the terminals of the base block, a second contact device located in the central groove, a conducting plate mounted on the rear portion of the block, and conducting connections uniting the contact device in the central groove, and the second of the terminals of the base plate, with said conducting plate, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have hereunto signed my name this 19th day of December, A. D. 1901.

WILLIAM T. THOMAS.

In presence of—

S. SALOME BROOKE,

THOS. K. LANCASTER.