(No Model.)

J. H. HOWARD.

HOOK OR CROTCH FOR TELEPHONE RECEIVERS.

No. 459,213. Patented Sept. 8, 1891.

FIG. 1.

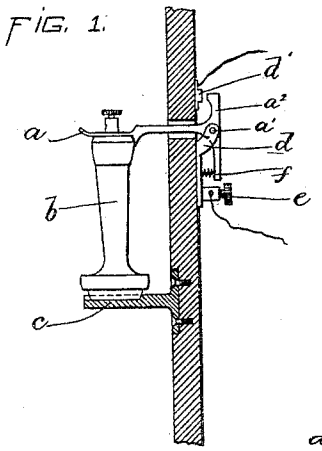
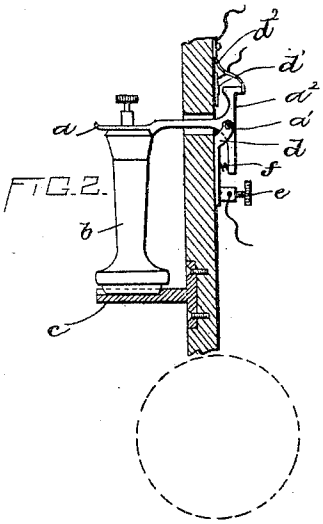


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES:
A. D. Harrison.
Ewing W. Hamlen

INVENTOR:
J. H. Howard
by Wright Brown Quinby & Atty.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. HOWARD, OF MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

HOOK OR CROTCH FOR TELEPHONE-RECEIVERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 459,213, dated September 8, 1891.

Application filed March 3, 1891. Serial No. 383,629. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. HOWARD, of Medford, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hooks or Crotches for Telephone-Receivers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide an improved support for the receiver of a telephone when the same is not in use; and it consists in the improved hook adapted to break the circuit and prevent the current traveling through the receiver when the same is placed at rest, which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a side view of my improved support, and Fig. 2 is a similar view showing an additional contact.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in both the figures.

In the drawings, *a* represents a hook or crotch of the usual form. When the telephone-receiver *b* is not in use, it is placed upon the shelf *c*, its upper end being introduced under the hook and forcing the same slightly upward. The hook is pivoted at *a'* to a fixed support *d* within the box, provided with a terminal *e* for the attachment of one of the circuit-wires. The inner end of the hook is provided with the cross-piece a^2, one end of which projects over a fixed contact-piece *d'*, to which the other circuit-wire is suitably connected, the other end of said cross-piece extending over the fixed bracket *d*. A spring *f* is introduced between the lower end of the cross-piece a^2 and the bracket *d*, said spring acting to hold the forward ends of the hook-arms *a a* in their depressed position and to hold the outer end of the cross-piece a^2 in contact with the piece *d'*, thus completing the circuit. When the receiver *b* is not in use, its upper end is inserted under the arms *a a* of the hook, and the same are moved upwardly until the lower end of the receiver rests upon the shelf *c*, as shown in Fig. 1, thus moving the upper end of the cross-piece a^2 away from the contact-piece *d'* and breaking the circuit at that point. When the receiver is again removed from its shelf *c*, the spring *f* again presses the cross-bar a^2 against the contact-piece *d'*, thus completing the circuit. As shown in Fig. 2, a second contact may be arranged behind the upper end of the lever or the cross-piece a^2, as at d^2, to which may be connected a wire of a second circuit, which would be cut out when the receiver is removed.

I claim—

In a telephone-receiver hook or crotch, the combination of the main arm *a*, having the cross-piece a^2, the bracket *d*, to which said main arm *a* is pivoted, the contact-piece *d'*, the spring *f*, normally holding the said cross-piece in electrical connection with said contact-piece *d'*, and the shelf *c*, upon which the receiver is supported when displacing the cross-piece a^2 from contact with the contact-piece *d'*, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 14th day of February, A. D. 1891.

JAMES H. HOWARD.

Witnesses:

EWING W. HAMLEN,

C. F. BROWN.