G. DÄHNE.

KEY IDENTIFYING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 22, 1915.

1,219,706.

Patented Mar. 20, 1917.

Fig. 1.

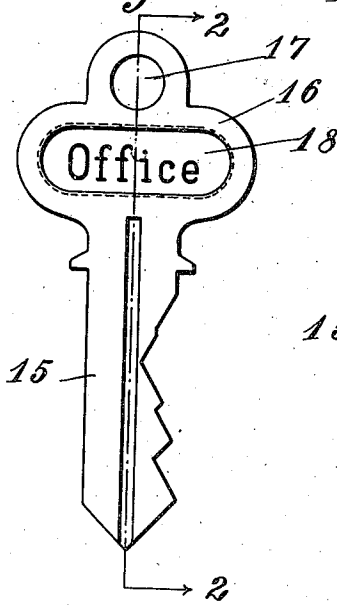


Fig. 2.

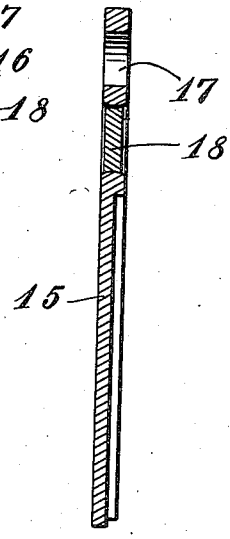


Fig. 3.

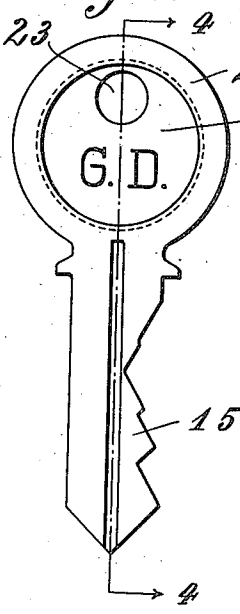


Fig. 4.

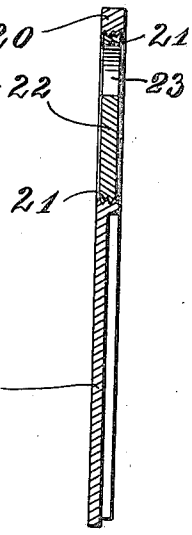


Fig. 5.

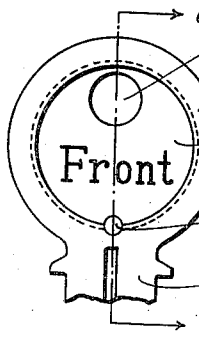


Fig. 6.

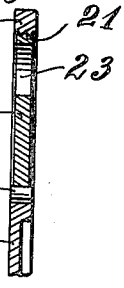


Fig. 11.

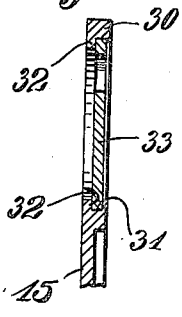


Fig. 7.

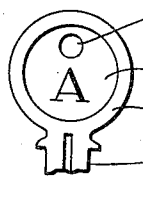


Fig. 8.

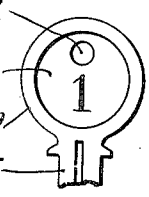
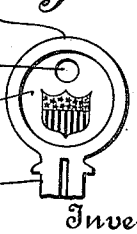


Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.



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Gustav Dähne
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By his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV DÄHNE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

KEY-IDENTIFYING DEVICE.

1,219,706. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 20, 1917.

Application filed December 22, 1915. Serial No. 68,160.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAV DÄHNE, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and resident of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Identifying Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in means for identifying keys, particularly those of a flat type, such as are used in connection with cylinder locks, and the object of the invention is to provide means whereby each key may be distinguished from others of a similar type when disposed upon a ring so that there may be no difficulty in selecting the proper key to be used.

This object is attained by the novel arrangement of parts hereinafter described and shown in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification and in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a key showing an application of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section of the same, taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a similar side elevation of a key, having a different form of head and containing a modification of the identifying means.

Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the same, taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a fragmental side view of a key, showing a further adaptation of the identifying means.

Fig. 6 is a vertical transverse view of the same, taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Figs. 7, 8, 9, and 10 are side views, illustrating different markings which can be applied to the identifying device and

Fig. 11 is a sectional view similar to that shown in Fig. 6 but showing a further modification.

In the drawings, the numeral 15 indicates the stem of the key to be inserted within a lock, the head 16 in some cases being of the tre-foil pattern, containing a perforation 17 by which the key is attached to a ring or other support.

An oblong opening is formed through the key head, in which is inserted a plate 18 having its slightly concave edges adapted to be pressed tightly into engagement with the wall of the opening and be held therein.

The plate 18 is preferably of thinner section than that of the key so as to lighten the weight and also to avoid being forced out of position by making forcible contact with other objects. Both sides of the plate may bear inscriptions, such as are indicated, relating to the door or doors to which the key is fitted, in order that the proper key may be positively distinguished and used, which is frequently not the case where a number of keys substantially alike are carried.

In Fig. 3 an adaptation is shown in which the head of the key 20 is circular; in this pattern a round opening 21 is made, provided with screw threads receptive of a circular disk or plate 22, in which may be formed the key ring perforation 23, relatively close to its edge and also bearing such device or inscription as may be desired to identify the key.

In this style the plate is screwed tightly into the head of the key, although obviously a shoulder or flange might be used to prevent the disk from being entered too far into the head, the same also tending to prevent the disk from becoming loose.

In Fig. 5 a similar threaded disk is inserted in the head of the key, the same being provided with a key ring opening 23 and a hole for the locking pin 25 drilled preferably through the inserted plate and a part of the key head, the pin being tightly driven in to prevent the disk 22 from loosening.

A slightly different style of holding means is shown in Fig. 11 in which a central circular opening 31 is formed through the key head 30, the opening being afterward counterbored or otherwise operated upon to produce an interior annular flange 32, the exterior side of which is in the plane of the key head surface.

Against the inner surface of the flange is pressed the identifying plate 33, fitted to the opening, and, if it be required, the edge surrounding the opening may be slightly upset, positively holding the plate in place; as in the other forms a hole 24 is formed in the plate for the key ring.

The views shown in Figs. 7 to 10 inclusive, are of keys having stems 15, formed with the heads 30, having openings in which are contained the panels 33 provided with perforations 34 for attachment to keep rings or the like; these views illustrate some of the different markings which may be employed and it will be evident from the same

that a simple device is disclosed which will unfailingly serve to distinguish or identify any particular key in a group.

It is further noticeable that the entire expense of the device is negligible, as the openings to receive the plates may be made at the time of blanking the keys, while the plates themselves consist merely of flat blanks, cheaply made by well known mechanical processes.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In combination with a key having a transverse opening passing entirely through the head portion thereof, of a plate suited to be secured in said opening, said plate having inscribed flat surfaces upon each side.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination with a head of a key having an interior opening formed therethrough, of a plate removably engaged therein, and means formed with the head of said key for holding said plate rigidly in position said plate having surfaces bearing identification marks.

3. In a device of the class described, the combination with a flat key having an enlarged head containing an open passage way therethrough, of a panel suited to be received in the passage-way visible from both sides of said key, and means for maintaining said panel in position therein, the panel being of lesser thickness than the head of the key and having surfaces bearing identification marks.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, this 8th day of December A. D. 1915.

GUSTAV DÄHNE.

Witnesses:
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LULU A. KOHLMANN.