M. CASTHOLM.

KEY HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 9, 1911.

1,038,722. Patented Sept. 17, 1912.

Fig. 4.

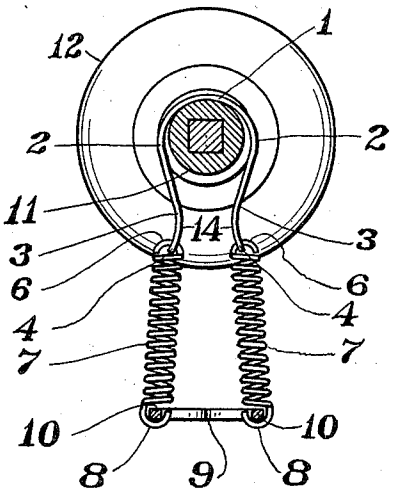


Fig. 3.

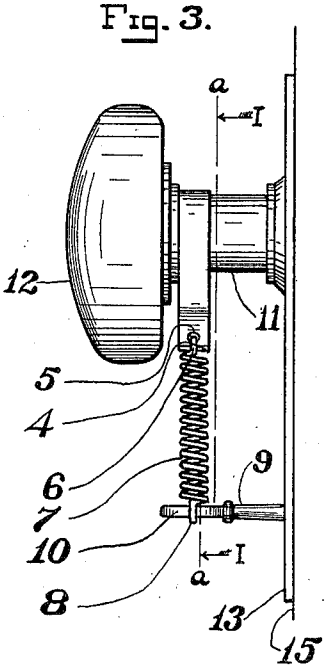


Fig. 1.

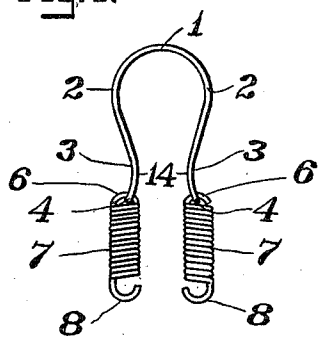
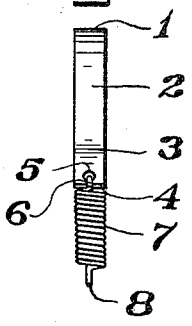


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILO CASTHOLM, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

KEY-HOLDER.

1,038,722. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 17, 1912.

Application filed December 9, 1911. Serial No. 664,882.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILO CASTHOLM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The invention relates to a universal key holder that can be carried easily as the usual key, and applied to the key of an ordinary door, to prevent the key from being turned and pushed out of the lock from the opposite side of the door.

Door locks are constructed with an extending shank to which is secured a knob. It is essential that key holders be portably attachable to the shank which connects the lock and knob, and attachment to the key without adjustable mechanism is very desirable, so that persons with no mechanical skill may easily attach the holder to the knob-shank and key. It is not desirable to permanently attach a key holder to the door or lock, for the reason that it would mar the interior of the room, and then owners of doors and locks rarely have sufficient interest to provide attachments of this character. A universal key holder that can be carried in the pocket or about the clothing of a person and instantly attached to the key to prevent it from being turned, is more valuable because the holder may be procured by the user and not necessarily by the owner of the door.

The present invention seeks to provide a key holder that may be carried in the pocket or about the clothing of a person, and instantly attached to the shank connecting the lock and knob of an ordinary door, and the two extremities attached to the opposite sides of the key, to positively prevent the key from being turned in the lock.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the features of construction, combinations, shapes and arrangements of parts hereinafter set forth, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and more especially designated in the annexed claims.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a view in elevation of the improved key holder. Fig. 2 is a view in elevation of Fig. 1, at a horizontal right angle thereto. Fig. 3 illustrates an application of the improved key holder to a portion of a lock and key. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of Fig. 3 on line *a*—*a*, looking in the direction of arrows I—I.

The yoke 1 is constructed of spring metal, forming an arc from 2 to 2, practically straight from 2 to 3, with reverse arcs from 3 to 4, and holes 5—5 to receive the end coil 6 of the springs 7. The opening of the yoke 1 is smaller at 14 than at 2, while the ends 4 are farther apart than the sides at 14. This allows the yoke to be easily seated on the shank 11 and to grip the shank. The gripping of the shank 11 by the yoke 1 will prevent the latter from being too easily unseated.

The springs 7 are wound of spring wire and the ends of the end coils 6 are turned to form a short hook to engage yoke 1 at 5, while a portion of the end coils 8 are turned to form a hook to engage the sides 10 of the key 9. Springs 7 are in normal position in Figs. 1 and 2, and stretched in tension to engage the sides 10 of the key 9, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. These springs are sufficiently stiff when stretched as shown, to hold the key rigid against any ordinary force that may be applied to turn the key.

It is obvious that the springs 7 in tension, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4 will resist any ordinary force that may be applied to the key to turn it, and that if the key cannot be turned the lock can not be unlocked, provided it had been locked before the springs 7 were connected to the key.

The key holder is applied by placing the ends 4 against the shank 11 and pressing on the opposite end of the yoke 1. Owing to the shank being round and the yoke being made of spring metal, the ends 4 will separate sufficiently to allow the sides 14 to slip over the shank until the arc 2—2 is seated. As the yoke is seated the arc 2—2 will bear on the shank 11 and sides 14 will close and grip the shank. The springs 7 are then expanded by pulling down the lower ends and the coils 8 are hooked under the sides 10 of the key 9. When it is desired to unlock the lock the springs 7 are unhooked from the key sides 10 and the yoke 1 is preferably removed from the shank 11.

The key holder is of chief importance as a universal, portable or pocket key holder, but may also be employed as a permanent fixture on the lock. It is obvious that changes in the details as set forth may be made with-

out departure from the essentials of the invention.

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

1. In a key holder, the combination of a yoke closed at one end and open at the other end, said yoke constructed to slip longitudinally over the knob shank of a door lock in an approximately transverse direction to the axis of said shank, and a coil spring attached to each end of said yoke and constructed to engage the opposite sides of a key while expanded in tension.

2. In a key holder, the combination of a flat metal yoke closed at one end and open at the other end, said yoke constructed to slip longitudinally over the knob shank of a door lock in an approximately transverse direction to the axis of said shank, and a coil spring attached to each end of said yoke and constructed to engage the opposite sides of a key while expanded in tension.

3. In a key holder the combination of a flat metal yoke closed at one end and open at the other end, said yoke constructed to slip longitudinally over the knob shank of a door lock in an approximately transverse direction to the axis of said shank, and a coil spring attached to each end of said yoke and constructed to engage the opposite sides of a key while expanded in tension.

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

MILO CASTHOLM.

Witnesses:
THOS. H. LIEBENROOD,
MARVIN B. DAVIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."

Correction in Letters Patent No. 1,038,722.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 1,038,722, granted September 17, 1912, upon the application of Milo Castholm, of Kansas City, Missouri, for an improvement in "Key-Holders," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction as follows: Page 2, line 25, after the word "flat" insert the word *spring;* and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 17th day of December, A. D., 1912.

[SEAL.]

C. C. BILLINGS,

Acting Commissioner of Patents.