C. A. PAINTER, JR. & J. P. McKINNEY, JR.

AUTOMOBILE DOOR LATCH.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 16, 1916.

1,249,472. Patented Dec. 11, 1917.

FIG. 1

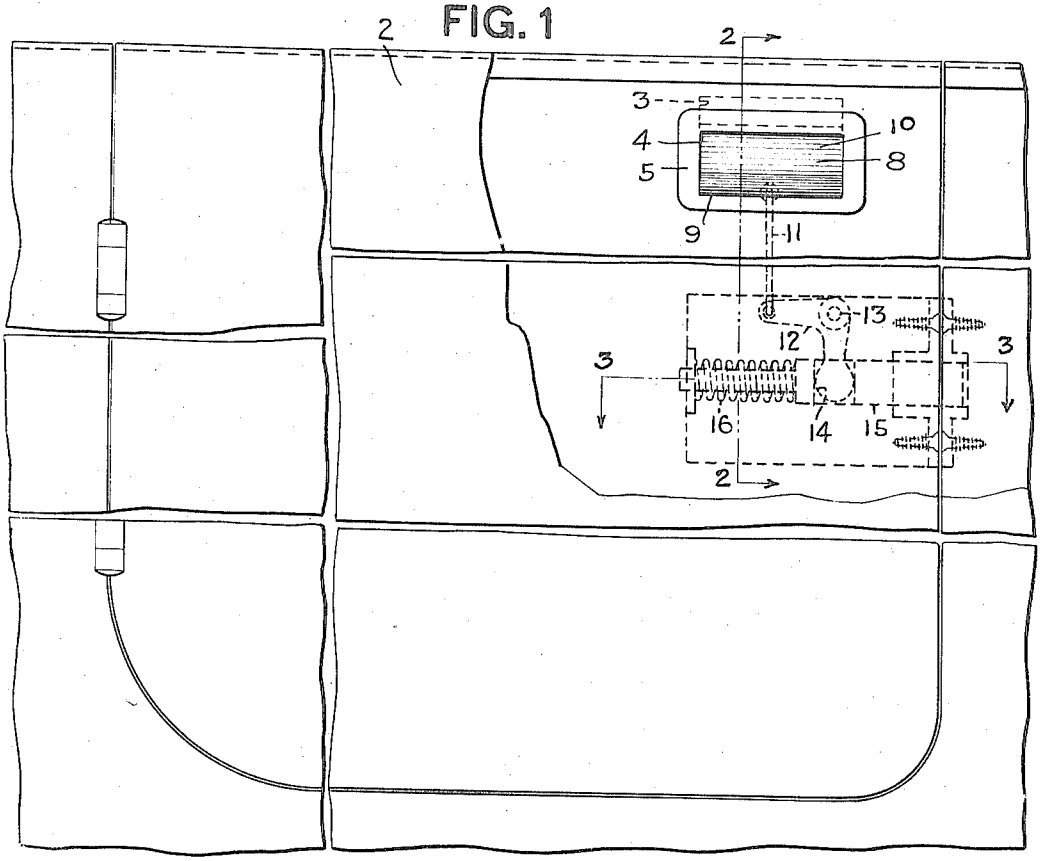



FIG. 2

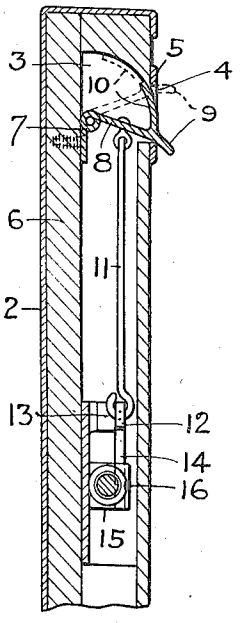
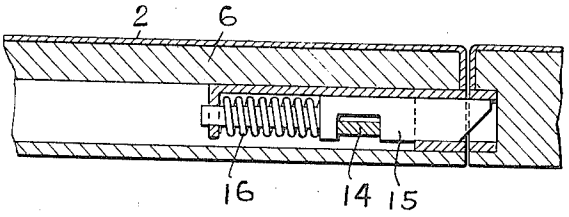



FIG. 3




INVENTOR

Charles A. Painter Jr.
and James P. McKinney Jr.
By Ray Patterson Dyer & Co.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. PAINTER, JR., AND JAMES P. McKINNEY, JR., OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA.

## AUTOMOBILE-DOOR LATCH.

1,249,472. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 11, 1917.

Application filed October 16, 1916. Serial No. 125,917.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, CHARLES A. PAINTER, Jr., and JAMES P. McKINNEY, Jr., citizens of the United States, residents of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Automobile-Door Latches; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Our invention relates to latches for automobile doors.

The object of our invention is to provide a latch of this character which is simple in construction, composed of few parts not liable to get out of order, and one which will not in any way deface or mar the appearance of the door.

In the accompanying drawing, we have illustrated our invention in which Figure 1 is an inner face view of a door showing our invention applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2, Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

In the drawing, the numeral 2 designates the door of an automobile, said door having the recessed portion 3 adjacent to the upper edge of the door with the opening 4 leading to said recess, and surrounded by the slotted plate 5.

Within the recess 3 and secured to the outer wall 6 of the door, is the hinged-plate 7, which carries the hinged swinging member or lever 8. This member 8 has the projecting portion 9, which extends outside the opening 4 beyond the plate 5, said projection forming the portion which is engaged by the finger or hand in opening the door. The hinged member 8 has the rearwardly-extending, curved portion 10, which forms a shutter for the opening 4 when the latch is in closed position, as shown in full lines, Figs. 1 and 2.

A rod 11 is connected to the hinged-member 8, said rod being connected at its lower end to the bell-crank 12, pivoted at 13. The arm 14 of this bell-crank engages the bolt 15, said bolt by reason of the spring 16 being normally shot or in locked position.

When it is desired to open the door, the operator with his finger or thumb pushes up the hinged-member 8 by engaging the extending portion 9 and as he lifts the hinged member, the curved shutter 10 moves upwardly in the arc of a circle, as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 2, and as said hinged member moves upwardly, the rod 10 acts through the bell-crank 12 to move back the latch by compressing the spring 16. When the door is closed, the spring brings the hinged member back to its normal position, and the shutter 10 closes the opening leading to the recess 3.

By our invention, we provide a very simple and efficient latch-operating device, which is composed of few parts, consequently not liable to get out of order, while at the same time, the shutter 10 by closing the opening 4 gives a finish to the door, and there are no openings for the accumulation of dirt or the entrance of water, which might cause the rusting of the parts and render more difficult their operation.

What we claim is:

1. The combination of an automobile door having a recess formed therein adjacent to and below the upper edge thereof, and a latch device comprising a lever hinged at its rear end to the rear wall of the recess and having its forward end extending out through the opening of said recess to a point beyond the face of the door to form a liftable finger piece, a bolt, and means connected to said lever intermediate the ends thereof for operating said bolt.

2. The combination of an automobile door having a recess formed therein adjacent to and below the upper edge thereof, and a latch device comprising a lever hinged at its rear end to the rear wall of the recess and having its forward end extending out through the opening of said recess to a point beyond the face of the door to form a liftable finger piece, an upwardly extending shutter on said lever adapted to close the opening to said recess, a bolt, and means connected to said lever intermediate the ends thereof for operating said bolt.

In testimony whereof, we the said CHARLES A. PAINTER, Jr., and JAMES P. McKINNEY, Jr., have hereunto set our hands.

CHARLES A. PAINTER, JR.
JAMES P. McKINNEY, JR.

Witnesses:
JOHN F. WILL,
J. R. KELLER.