Nov. 1, 1927. 1,647,140

G. B. LUDY

LOCKING OPEN LINK

Original Filed Jan. 27, 1923

Fig. 1.

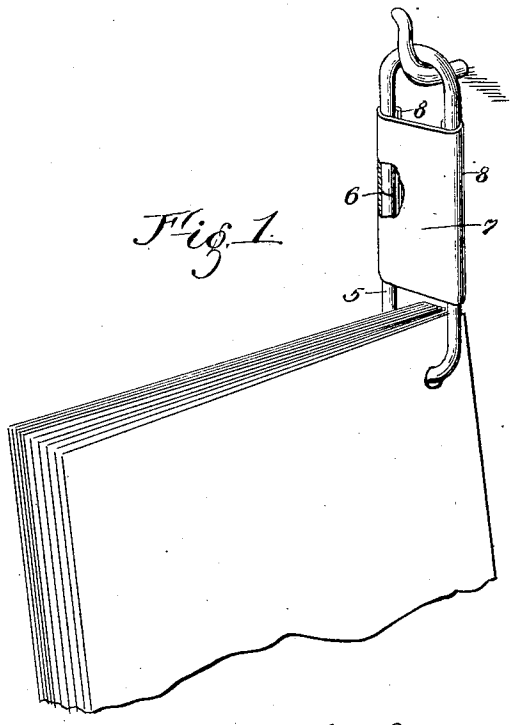


Fig. 2.

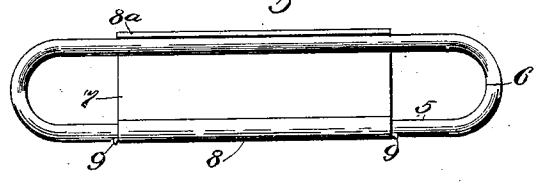
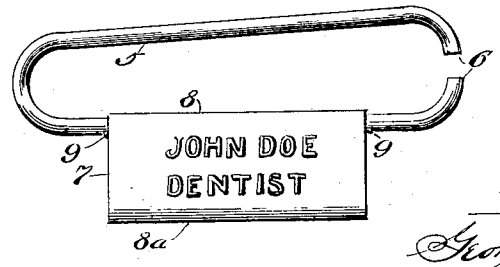


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE B. LUDY, OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

LOCKING OPEN LINK.

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This invention relates to links that may be easily opened to attach a connecting part, and then may be locked in closed position.

The invention is fully disclosed in the description and claims following, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective, showing the improved link as used for hanging up a book, or the like. Fig. 2 shows a slightly modified form of link, as seen from the locking side. Fig. 3 shows the same unlocked.

The device, which is very simple, embodies a long link 5, open at 6, and made with parallel sides as shown. Preferably the link should be made of suitable elastic material, so that when unlocked it will spring open, as shown in Fig. 3. The link is closed and locked by a retaining plate 7, having side flanges 8 which embrace enough of the sides of the link to prevent its slipping off when in position. In the type of link shown in Fig. 1 the link is closed by sliding the plate on it endwise until the plate engages both legs of the link at the broken side. In the case of the form shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the plate is hinged on one side of the link between stops 9, and the other side is provided with a slightly hooked flange 8^a. The link is readily opened by slipping this side of the plate off the link sidewise, and in case the spread of the link at the open end is not too great, the link may be closed and locked by snapping the parts together, that is to say, reversing the position of the plate, as seen in Fig. 3, and pressing it and the free limb of the link together.

The link is adapted to many useful purposes, as for example to serve as a hanger for a telephone directory; for a key-ring; for connecting packages by their wrapping cords, et cetera.

The plate affords a considerable plane surface, which may carry the owner's name, and serve to advertise his business, or designate his place of residence.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A link having one open end and parallel sides, one side being shouldered to limit end-slip thereon, and a locking-plate having hooked side flanges to embrace the sides of the link, and hold it in closed position.

2. A link formed of elastic material, with straight sides and one normally open end, a locking-plate permanently attached to one side of the link, and having a hooked side flange to engage the opposite side of the link, and shoulders to prevent end movement of the plate on the link.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GEORGE B. LUDY.