N. L. THOMAS.

KEY HOOK.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 26, 1906.

928,006. Patented July 13, 1909.

Fig. 1.

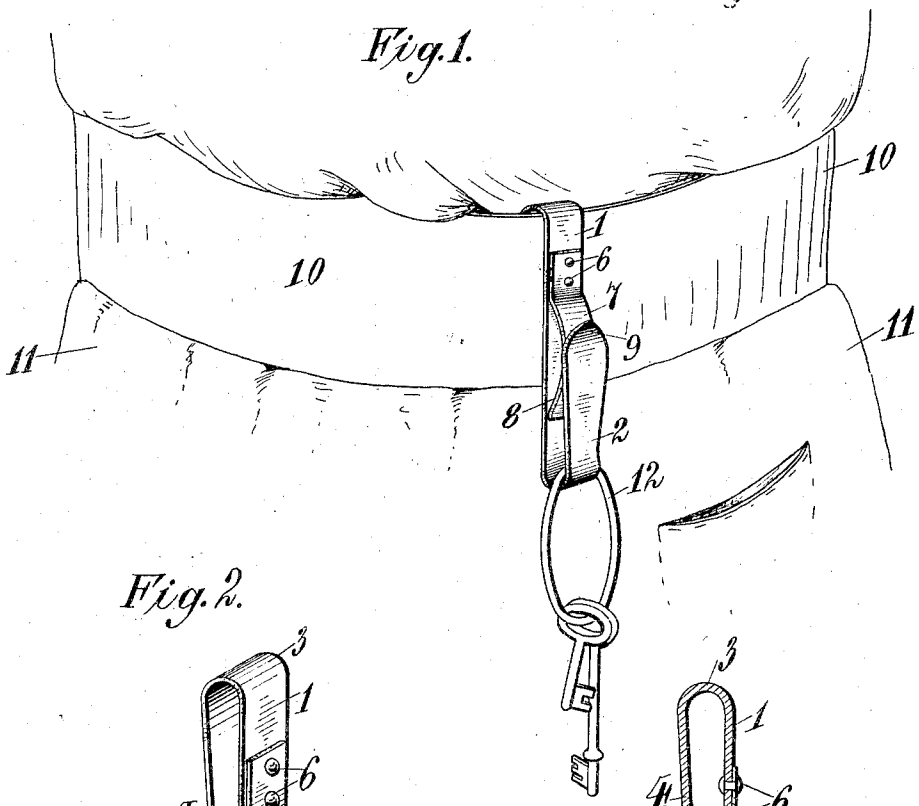


Fig. 2.

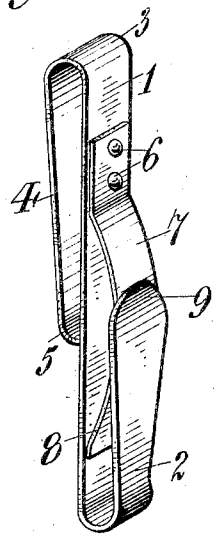
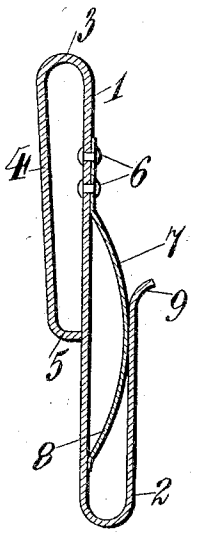


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
George Schwarz.
Jesse Simon

Inventor
Nicholas L Thomas

By Attorney
Wm Desmond

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICHOLAS L. THOMAS, OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

KEY-HOOK.

No. 928,006. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 13, 1909.

Application filed July 26, 1906. Serial No. 327,822.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NICHOLAS L. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chattanooga, in the State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Key-Hooks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

The invention relates to key hooks and has for its object to provide a device whereby a key or a number of keys upon a suitable key ring may be supported on the outside of a garment so as to permit the engagement or disengagement of the keys to the hook to be readily made and thus prevent injury to the pocket of the garment.

A further object of the invention is to provide a key hook with means to hold the keys securely against engagement and also with means to fasten the key hook firmly to the garment so as to prevent accidental displacement thereof.

Having these and other objects in view the invention consists in the new and novel features of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a key hook embodying the invention in position on a garment. Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of a key hook embodying the invention detached from the garment. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same.

The key hook comprises a body portion 1 and a hook portion 2 which may be formed by bending the body portion upon itself. The opposite end 3 of the body portion is bent over to form a clamping member 4 which is provided with a lip 5 that clamps the garment and prevents accidental displacement of the hook. Preferably the body portion and the hook and clamping portions are formed integral from a single piece of spring metal, but they may be formed of separate pieces of metal secured together if desired.

Suitably secured to the body portion by rivets 6 or other suitable means at or near the upper end of the device is a spring 7 which extends within the hook portion of the device and the free end 8 of which rests against and is movable upon the body portion. Preferably the spring is of the same width as the hook and bears against the same. Consequently it is necessary to depress the spring in order to attach the key or the ring 12 holding the keys to the hook and after the key or ring has once passed the spring will expand and engage the hook and thereby prevent disengagement of the key or ring. The free end 9 of the hook is curved laterally as shown in the drawings so as to permit the ready attachment of the key or ring thereto.

In order to attach the device to a garment the clamping lip is sprung outward sufficiently to permit the edge of the garment, such as the waist band 10 of the trousers 11, to be inserted between said lip and the body portion of the device. In case a belt is worn it is obvious that the device may be attached to the belt or, if preferable, attached both to the belt and the garment by springing the clamping lip sufficiently to allow both the belt and the garment to enter between same and the body portion of the device. Preferably the clamping lip is arranged below the center of the device so as to provide a large bearing surface and also to resist the downward pull of the keys which may be attached to the hook.

After the device has been attached to the garment the key or the key ring may be inserted between the hook and the spring and forced downward which will depress the spring and permit the key or the ring to enter the hook. When it is desired to remove the key or the ring it is held in the hand and an outward pressure is exerted with the thumb against the top of the hook which will cause same to spring outwardly, thus releasing the tension of the spring and permitting the key or the ring to be withdrawn.

I claim as my invention:

A key hook comprising a body portion, a hook portion and a clamping member arranged parallel with each other, said clamping member being provided with a lip arranged at right angles thereto and adapted to engage the inner side of a garment, and a spring formed from a separate piece of metal secured by one end to the upper part

of the body portion and having its free end in contact with and movable on the lower part of said body portion and its central part bowed outward to engage the upper part of the hook portion, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

NICHOLAS L. THOMAS.

Witnesses:
CHAS. W. BIESE,
W. D. SUTTON.