

(No Model.)

W. SCOTT.
REGISTER KEY RING.

No. 376,453.

Patented Jan. 17, 1888.

Fig. 1.

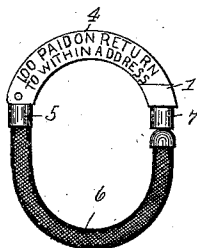


Fig. 2.

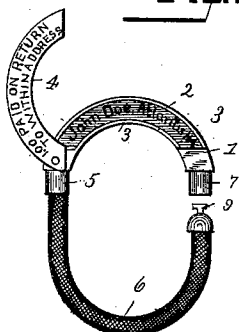


Fig. 3.

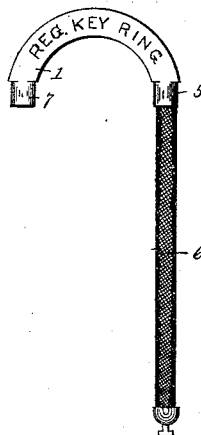


Fig. 4.



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REGISTER KEY-RING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,453, dated January 17, 1888.

Application filed November 14, 1887. Serial No. 255,147. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER SCOTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Register Key-Rings; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has for its object to produce a key-ring which may be readily connected and disconnected to add or remove keys, which shall be flexible, so that the keys will lie compactly in the pocket, and which shall, furthermore, be provided with a covered recess to receive a card or label bearing an address at which a reward will be paid on return of the keys if lost. With these ends in view I have devised the novel construction, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, numbers being used to denote the several parts.

Figure 1 is an elevation illustrating my improved key-ring in operative position; Fig. 2, a similar view, the ends being detached and the cover turned off from the holder to show the label or card; Fig. 3, an elevation of the reverse side, the ends being detached; and Fig. 4, an edge view of the inner side of the key-ring opened out.

1 denotes a case, which may be either cast or struck up from sheet metal. The interior of this case is sunken, as shown in Fig. 2, to adapt it to receive a label, 2, the latter being held in place by flanges 3 at the edges of the depressed portion.

4 denotes a cover for the label-holder, preferably pivoted at one end and adapted to form with the case, when closed, a portion of the ring which carries the keys. At one end of the case is a socket, 5, in which one end of a flexible chain or cord, 6, is secured. This chain is preferably made of braided wire, as shown in the drawings, so that while perfectly flexible and adapted to yield with the keys it is capable of resisting a much greater strain than can ever be brought to bear upon it. At the opposite end of the case is a socket, 7, the bottom of which is provided with a slot, 8, lying

at an angle to the plane of the case, as clearly shown in Fig. 4. At the free end of the chain is a T-shaped catch, 9, which is adapted to engage the slot in socket 7.

To attach or detach the ends of the chain, it is simply necessary to turn catch 9 backward sufficiently to permit it to be withdrawn from socket 7. In attaching the ends, as soon as the catch is placed within the socket and released, the resiliency of the chain turns the catch at an angle to the slot, so that it cannot be withdrawn until the chain and catch are twisted backward. Any other style of catch may of course be adopted, if preferred.

It should be noted that the card or label is held within the case, so that it is thoroughly protected, that it may readily be changed at any time, and that the case is so shaped as to form a portion of the key-ring itself. I thus avoid special work in making individual rings, thereby greatly reducing the cost of production, and also avoid the use of independent key-checks, which add to the mass carried in the pocket and are far from ornamental.

It is of course well understood that with the key-checks ordinarily in use either a special name or number must be impressed in each check. This I wholly avoid.

My improved key-rings may be made by the ten thousand and all exactly alike. In making them any preferred inscription may be placed upon the cover and case—for instance, upon the back of the case the words "Reg. key-ring" may be placed, and upon the cover "\$1.00 paid on return to within address," or any other inscription that may be preferred. The address is placed upon a slip of paper or card cut to fit within the flanges of the case, and of course cannot be removed while the cover is over it. A very good size and style for small bunches of keys is that shown in the drawings.

It will be seen that the case will slip freely through the rings of the keys, the cover being held against the possibility of opening by the keys themselves. In case the owner of the keys should prefer for any reason not to place his own address within the holder, the address of his bank or any business house with which he is acquainted may be placed there instead.

It will of course be understood that the de-

tails of construction may be varied greatly without departing from the principles of my invention.

I claim—

- 5 1. A key-ring consisting of a case forming a label-holder, a cover therefor, a flexible chain connected to one end of the case, and connections at the opposite ends of the chain and case, whereby the chain may be connected
10 or disconnected in changing keys.

2. A key-ring consisting of a case depressed on its inner side to form a label-holder, a cover therefor, a socket having a T-shaped slot at one end of the case and a chain attached

to the other end, and having at its free end a catch adapted to engage said slot. 15

3. The case, a pivoted cover therefor, and an independent label within said case, in combination with a flexible chain attached to one end of the case, and having at its free end a catch adapted to engage the other end of the case. 20

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

WALTER SCOTT.

Witnesses:

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B. E. LEE.