Oct. 4, 1938. R. H. CURTIS ET AL 2,132,287

HANDLE LOCK GUARD

Filed April 1, 1938

Fig. 1.

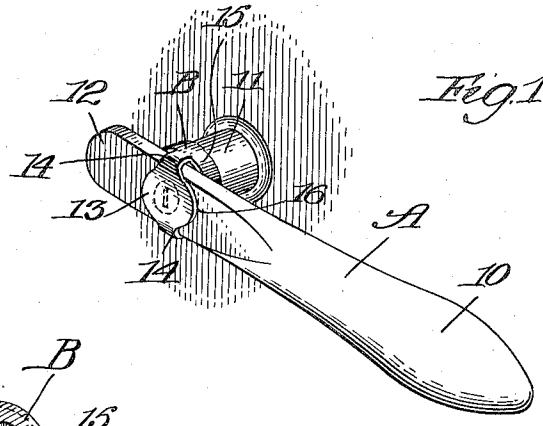


Fig. 2.

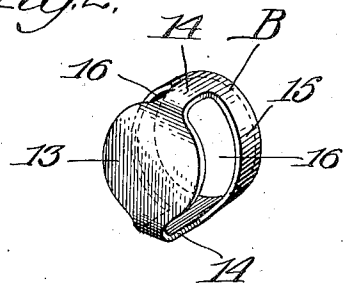


Fig. 3.

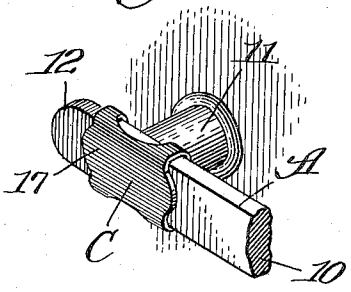


Fig. 4.

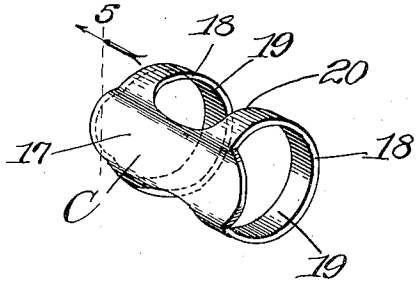
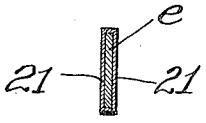


Fig. 5.



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HANDLE LOCK GUARD

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2 Claims. (Cl. 70—455)

This invention relates to a handle lock guard, and more particularly to a guard for preventing water or moisture from entering the keylock of a handle such as is employed ordinarily with automobile doors. The invention obviously is applicable to other uses.

In the washing of automobiles, it is quite common for water to pass into the interior of the keyhole of a handle lock and not only tend to rust the inner parts but also, in the winter time, the water freezes and prevents the operator from being able to open the door. In prior practice, it has been common to apply adhesive tapes, etc., to the door handle, but such means has been found unsatisfactory because of the tendency of the adhesive to cling to the keyhole and for portions thereof to be pressed into the keylocking parts, making it extremely difficult to operate the lock.

An object of the present invention is to provide simple means for excluding moisture, such means being reusable and having no tendency to introduce foreign material into the keyhole. A further object is to provide simple means which, under tension, adapts itself readily to the irregularities of the handle and forms a waterproof covering for the keyhole thereof, such means serving as a protection against water when the car is being washed and also against rain, etc. A further object is to provide an elastic member which may be readily applied to a handle to provide a guard for the keyhole thereof, the elastic material being provided with means whereby it is prevented from clinging or sticking too tightly to the handle while at the same time being water-repellent. Other specific objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is illustrated in a preferred embodiment, by the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a handle equipped with a guard embodying our invention; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the guard separate from the handle; Fig. 3, a broken perspective view of the handle equipped with a modified form of guard; Fig. 4, a perspective view of the guard illustrated in Fig. 3; and Fig. 5, a sectional view of a modified form of the invention, the section being taken as indicated at line 5 of Fig. 4.

In the illustration given in Figs. 1 and 2, the automobile handle A is shown equipped with a guard B.

The handle A may be of any suitable type or construction. In the illustration given, it is shown provided with a long handle portion 10, a shaft portion 11, and a handle extension 12. In some models of handles, the extension 12 is entirely omitted. The omission of the extension 12 does not affect the application of the guard B.

The guard B is provided with a guard surface portion 13 equipped with straps 14 which are shown as diametrically opposed, the straps being connected to an elastic band 15.

In the illustration given, the guard B is formed entirely of elastic material. If desired, however, the portion 13 may be formed of a non-elastic waterproof material.

In the form illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, it will be observed that there are relatively wide slots 16 on opposite sides of the guard member B through which the handle may be extended.

In the application of the guard B to the handle A, the long portion 10 of the handle is extended through the ring 15 and then through one of the slots 16. The extension 12, if there is one, is then passed through the opposite slot 16. Whether there be an extension 12 or not, the ring 15 tightly engages the handle shaft 11 and locks the guard portion 13 against removal, the handle extension 10 serving also as a means for confining the band 15 in position.

In the illustration given in Figs. 3 and 4, the guard C is equipped with a central guard portion 17 and with two ring-like end portions 18, the end portions having apertures 19 therein for receiving the handle portions. Between the end rings 11, the guard member C is cut away to form a relatively wide recess or opening 20.

In the application of the member C to the handle A, the long portion 10 of the handle is first extended through the opening C and thence through one of the aperture members 18. The other aperture member 18 is then drawn over the extension 12 of the handle, as shown more clearly in Fig. 3. It will be observed that in the operation just described, the central portion 17 of the guard is stretched so as to fully and tightly cover the portion of the handle provided with a keyhole. The tight fit causes the guard portion to cling to the minute irregularities of the handle surface and thus provide tight edges which prevent water from passing thereunder.

In the modification shown in Fig. 5, the rubber or elastic member C is dipped in wax or other suitable material to form surfacing layers 21 thereon. The wax serves a double function, it waterproofs the guard member making it repellent to moisture while at the same time it prevents the elastic member from sticking to the handle. Furthermore, it is found that the coat-

ing of wax permits the guard to be slid more easily along the handle sides into position and likewise to be removed more easily, the wax presenting a more yielding and slippery surface than the elastic.

The material of the guard has been given for illustration as rubber. It will be understood, however, that other elastic materials may be employed and, if desired, a non-elastic guard portion may be equipped with elastic extensions or retaining portions.

The guard is preferably colored or tinted in pastel colors or other colors so that the same may match the car or the hardware used, thus rendering them inconspicuous. The handle guards may be used not only when the car is being cleaned but at other times to prevent rain or moisture from any source from entering the keyhole and rusting, etc., the locking parts.

The guard or shield member B or C may be provided, if desired, with written matter, such as advertisements, etc., or other printed matter or designs.

The new product is extremely simple and yet effective for excluding water while at the same time providing no foreign particles which might be pressed into the keylock. It may be reused in the cleaning operation of many cars. If used regularly on a single car, the elastic guard permits the operator to unlock the car without removing the guard, it being simply necessary to draw the side flap of the guard portion **13**, as shown more clearly in Fig. 1, to one side when the key is inserted.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible, in view of the prior art.

We claim:

1. A guard for a keylock-equipped handle comprising a resilient tubular body having a web portion adapted to extend over the keylock, said body having also a pair of oppositely disposed openings and a third opening opposite said web portion.

2. A guard for a keylock-equipped handle comprising a resilient tubular body having an imperforate web portion adapted to extend over the keylock, said body having also a pair of oppositely disposed openings and a third opening opposite said web portion.

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