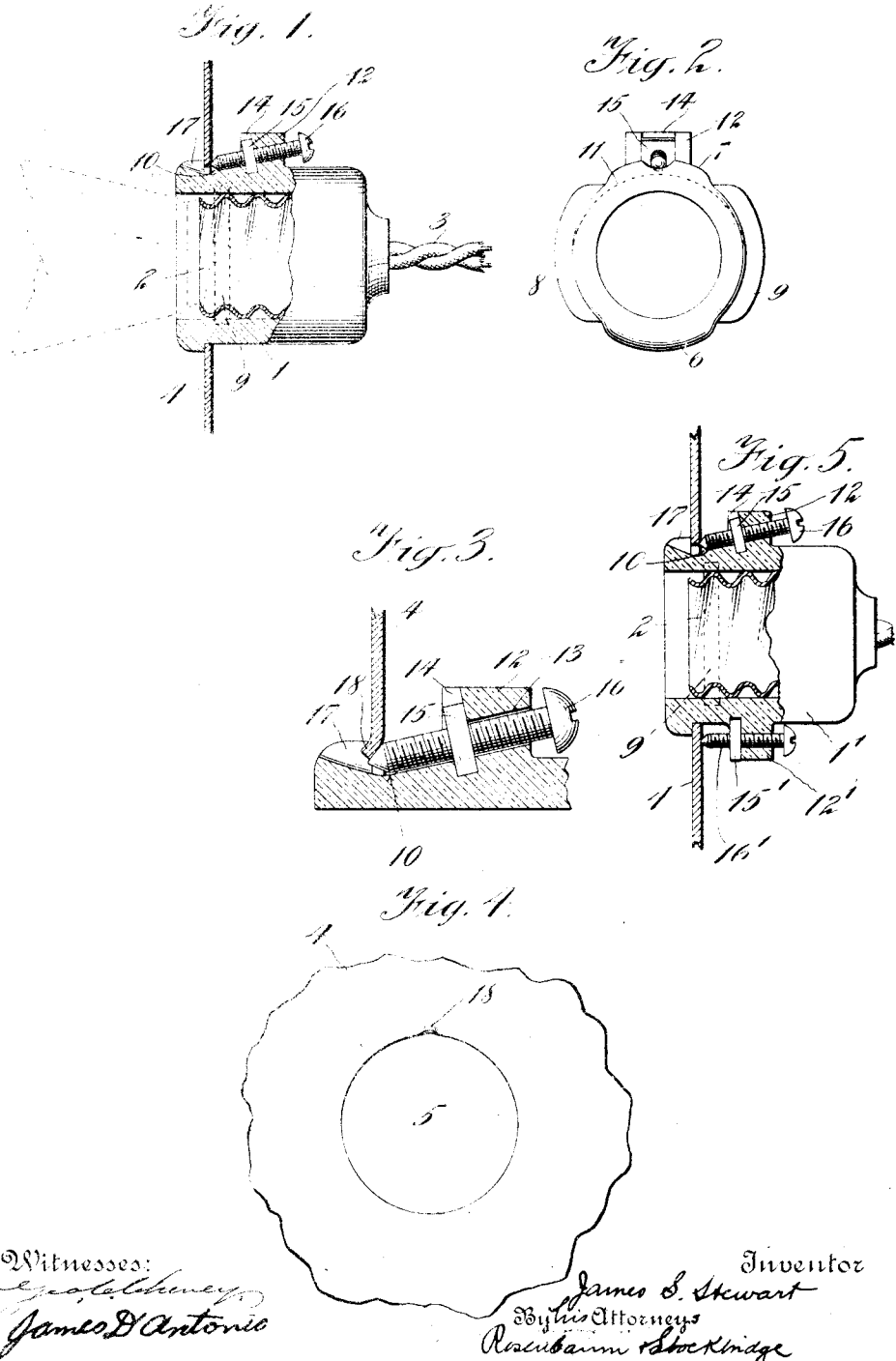


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SIGN RECEPTACLE.

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SIGN-RECEPTACLE.

1,186,953.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES S. STEWART, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the borough of Manhattan and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sign-Receptacles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to lamp sockets or receptacles adapted for use in electric signs.

The object of the invention is to provide a socket of simple and cheap construction which can be readily and quickly secured in place in the orifice in the face of the sign and in such a manner as to prevent rotation of the socket when the lamp is screwed in place.

The invention consists of the details of construction hereinafter particularly described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, of the improved receptacle fitted into the face plate of the sign. Fig. 2 is a front view of the receptacle. Fig. 3 is a sectional detail; Fig. 4 is a view of a portion of the face plate of the sign showing one of the openings for the reception of the receptacle; and Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing a modified form of my device.

The receptacle consists primarily of a cylindrical porcelain body 1, containing the usual threaded sleeve 2, into which the base of the lamp is screwed. In the bottom of the threaded sleeve there is the usual center contact and from these two parts the electric conductors 3 lead out of the back of the porcelain body 1.

4 represents the face plate of an electric sign usually consisting of sheet metal and having circular orifices 5 therein arranged in straight and curved lines to represent letters, figures or characters in the usual manner. Each of these orifices 5 is to receive one of the lamp receptacles, the receptacle to be inserted therethrough from the back and the means for securely holding the receptacle in this position constitute the present invention. This means comprises two segmental flanges 6 and 7 extending laterally from the front edge of the cylinder 1 and each occupying something less than 90° of the circumference of the cylinder. The diameter of cylinder 1 makes a close fit with the orifice 5 in the sign plate and these flanges 6 and

7 increase the diameter of the cylinder 1 at opposite points so as to prevent the receptacle from being forced backward through the orifice 5 after it is once seated therein. In a transverse plane immediately back of the plane of the flanges 6 and 7 are two other flanges 8 and 9 of about the same circumferential length and arranged opposite each other on a diameter at right angles to the arrangement of the flanges 6 and 7. These flanges 8 and 9 rest against the rear side of the face plate 4 and prevent the receptacle from being forced forward through the same, so that when the receptacle is properly in place the face plate 4 is confined between the two sets of flanges.

In order to be able to readily insert the receptacle in place, a groove 10 is formed in the outer surface of the cylinder 1 immediately behind the flange 7, which groove is deepest opposite the middle point of said flange and gradually gets shallower as indicated by the dotted line 11 to the right and left until finally it merges into the cylindrical surface of the porcelain body at points beyond the extremities of flange 7. This groove, which in effect undercuts the flange 7, receives one edge of the opening 5 in the face plate after it has been passed over and behind the flange 7, thus permitting the opposite edge of the said opening to pass over the edge of flange 6. When this has been accomplished, a slight lateral movement of the receptacle will carry the edge of flange 6 over the edge of opening 5 in the face plate, as seen in Fig. 1, while the opposite edge of said opening will move out of the groove 10, but will still remain behind the edge of flange 7. In this position the receptacle cannot be forced backward through the opening 5 in the face plate, and since in bringing the receptacle to this position the flanges 8 and 9 are at the same time brought against the rear of the face plate, the receptacle is prevented from moving forward through the opening in the face plate. To prevent rotary movement of the receptacle when the lamps are screwed in place and at the same time to insure that the receptacle will not move laterally in the opening 5 and thus become unseated, I provide on the outer wall of the cylinder 1 an integral lug 12 through which is a longitudinal hole 13 inclined to the axis of the cylinder and having on its forward

face a square or hexagonal socket 14, in which is deposited a nut 15. Through the hole 13 and nut 15 a screw 16 passes, the end of which is preferably pointed and can be driven laterally into the groove 10 and against the edge of the opening 5 in the face plate. The lug 12 and screw 16 are located so as to be opposite the middle of the flange 7, and the flange is provided with a notch 17 at its middle point, into which the point of the screw may project. By turning the screw in the usual manner while the nut is held stationary by its socket, the point of the screw in bearing against the edge of the face plate will force the receptacle over until its cylindrical wall on the opposite side bears firmly against the opposite edge of opening 5 and the flange 6 overlaps said edge. At the same time the pressure of the point of the screw against the edge of the opening 5 in the face plate will up-set the metal of said face plate as seen in Figs. 3 and 4, and will force the same into the notch 17 in flange 7, and so long as the screw remains against the edge of the face plate this up-set portion thereof, indicated by 18, will constitute a key which will prevent the rotary movement of the socket when a lamp is screwed into or out of the same. If the screw is withdrawn, the supporting pressure against the up-set portion 18 is removed and by exercising a little force, the cylinder 1 can be slightly rotated to carry the notch out of line with the point 18 and then by tilting the receptacle and pushing it laterally so as to bring the edge of the opening 5 again into the groove 10 it can be readily removed from the face plate.

It will be observed that this receptacle is effectively locked in position by merely setting up with a screw-driver, the one screw 16; a great saving of time being thereby effected in the mounting of receptacles in these signs.

In Fig. 5 I have illustrated a slight modification of my device wherein the construction is substantially the same as that shown in Fig. 1, except that an additional lug 12' is provided preferably upon the side of the porcelain body opposite the lug 12. The screw 16' which is screwed through lug 12 may however be directed normal to the surface of the plate 4. A nut 15' is preferably provided also in connection with this screw, corresponding to nut 15 above described.

In this form of device the body 1' is clamped firmly to the plate 4 by the additional engagement of screw 16' with said plate; but I find in practice that the clamping arrangement shown in Fig. 1 is usually quite sufficient for most purposes.

Having described my invention, what I claim, is:

1. The combination with a face plate provided with a circular opening, of a lamp re-

ceptacle having a cylindrical body and provided at opposite sides of its forward edge with lateral segmental flanges adapted to be inserted through said opening from the rear and also having an external circumferentially directed groove immediately behind one of said flanges adapted to receive the edge of the face plate surrounding the opening during the insertion of the flanges through said opening, said cylindrical body of the receptacle substantially filling the opening in the face plate when fitted therein, and means for preventing the rotation of said cylindrical body in said opening of the face plate.

2. The combination of a face plate provided with a circular opening, of a lamp receptacle having a cylindrical body and provided at opposite sides of its forward edge with lateral segmental flanges adapted to be inserted through said opening from the rear and also having a circumferentially directed groove immediately behind one of said flanges adapted to receive the edge of the face plate surrounding the opening during the insertion of said flanges through said opening, said cylindrical body substantially filling said circular opening in the face plate when fitted therein, and a screw carried by the receptacle and directed between the edge of the opening in the face plate and the wall of the receptacle, for the purpose set forth.

3. In an electric sign, a face plate having a circular opening, a lamp receptacle positioned in said opening and adapted to be inserted therein from the rear, a flange on said receptacle positioned forwardly of the front face of said face plate, said flange having a notch and a screw carried by said receptacle, the point of which is directed toward said notch and is adapted to engage the edge surrounding the circular opening in the face plate.

4. A lamp receptacle comprising a cylindrical body having segmental lateral flanges at opposite points around its front edge adapted to be inserted through a circular opening in a face plate from the rear thereof and also having a circumferentially directed groove in said body immediately behind one of said flanges adapted to receive the edge of the face plate surrounding said opening during the insertion of the flanges through the opening, and a screw carried by said receptacle arranged to enter said groove in a direction transverse thereto whereby it is adapted to engage the edge surrounding the circular opening in the face plate.

5. A lamp receptacle comprising a cylindrical body having around its forward edge two lateral segmental flanges adapted to be inserted through a circular opening in a face plate from the rear, one of which flanges is provided with a notch and the cylindrical exterior of the receptacle being provided

with a circumferentially directed groove immediately behind said notched flange, said groove being adapted to receive the edge of the face plate surrounding the opening while the flanges are being inserted there-through, and a screw carried by the receptacle and arranged in line with said notch adapted to enter said groove in a direction transverse thereto, said screw being also

adapted to engage the edge of the face plate 10 surrounding the opening therein.

In witness whereof, I subscribe my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES S. STEWART.

Witnesses:

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WILLIAM C. LARY.