July 20, 1926. 1,593,254

O. W. GUTHE

KEY RING

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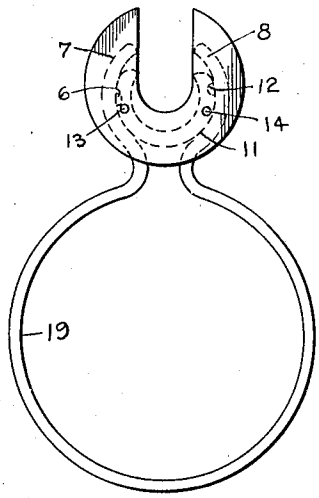


Fig. 1

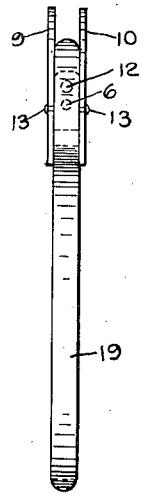


Fig. 2

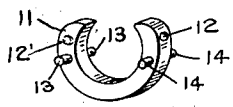


Fig. 3

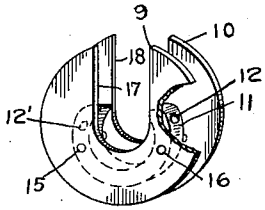


Fig. 4

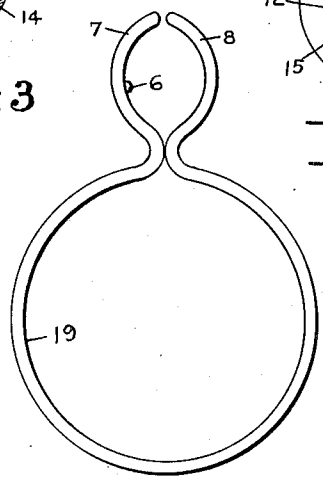


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLUF W. GUTHE, OF PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY.

KEY RING.

Application filed July 5, 1923. Serial No. 649,456.

My invention relates to improvements in key rings or locking holders for keys and similar articles such as may be attached at the end of a chain in any usual or convenient manner.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, I have illustrated in Fig. 1 in side elevation a suitable form of key ring embodying an application of my invention. Fig. 2 is an end view looking from right to left thereat. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail of part of the locking head, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of the locking head assembled, parts being broken away. Fig. 5 is a plan of the key ring and head jaws thereof.

The main part of the key ring comprises preferably a wire-like structure bent substantially as shown in Fig. 5 with a small enlargement such as 6 upon the inside of preferably one jaw as hereinafter referred to. The head adapted to rotate within the jaws 7—8 of the ring proper comprises two outer members 9—10 secured upon an inner substantially crescent shaped member 11 shown to advantage in Fig. 3. This inner member may be stamped out of sheet metal and may be provided with recesses such as 12—12′ to receive the enlargement 6 previously referred to. 13—14 indicate pins adapted to pass through holes such as 15—16 in the side members 9—10 between which the crescent like member 11 is secured by said pins or rivets or other suitable members as shown. The outer members 9—10 are cut away as indicated at 17—18 to allow for the introduction of keys or other suitable objects to be secured upon the ring 19.

When open the device is in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2 with the opening of the head pointing outwardly as shown. The head of the key is placed within said opening, and the opening is turned one hundred and eighty degrees, thereby causing the enlargement 6 to pass out of the recess 12′ slightly expanding the jaws 7—8, until the recess 12 engages the enlargement 6, thereby retaining the head in its inverted position and locking the key within the ring 19, it being understood that the side members 9—10 being of larger diameter than the crescent like member 11, provide a peripheral channel or groove within which the jaws 7—8 are seated by virtue of the resiliency or spring like quality of the ring 19, so that if desired the ring 19 can be opened sufficiently to completely remove the head shown in Fig. 4, although this would not ordinarily be required and is not intended to be done except by the application of considerable force.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the ring comprises four parts, the first being the wire-like structure formed out of an integral piece of resilient material, the two sides 9—10 of the member which may be stamped out of sheet metal, and the crescent-like interior member thereof which may also be stamped, making four parts in all, simply and cheaply formed and comprising when fabricated a convenient, practical, durable, and desirable form of locking device or ring for carrying the keys or similar objects.

Of course it will be understood that various modifications may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

I claim:

In a device of the class described, a ring having adjacent ends terminating in a pair of jaws substantially circular and in a plane substantially parallel with said ring, a rotatable member adapted to be secured in said jaws, said rotatable member having an opening to receive a key, and means in combination with said member and said ring for retaining said member in said jaws in either of two positions substantially one hundred and eighty degrees apart, said means comprising an enlargement in one of said jaws and depressions substantially diametrically opposite and within said member, either of said impressions adapted to be engaged by said enlargement.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

OLUF W. GUTHE.