(No Model.)

S. C. WATTS.

SAFEGUARD FOR WATCHES.

No. 355,576. Patented Jan. 4, 1887.

Fig. 1.

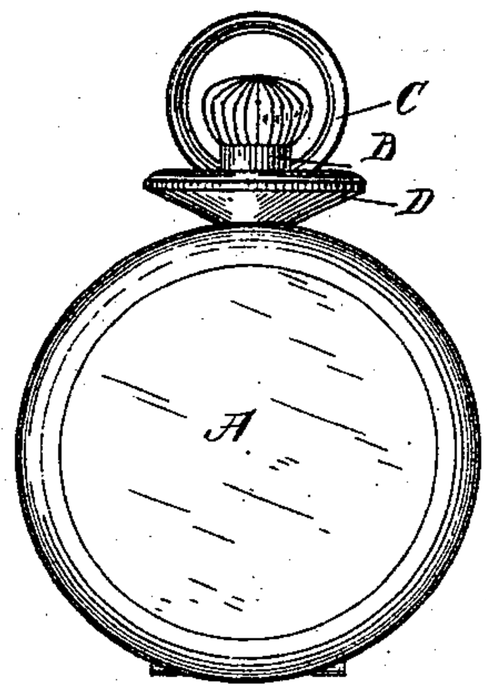


Fig. 2.

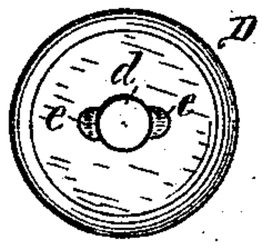
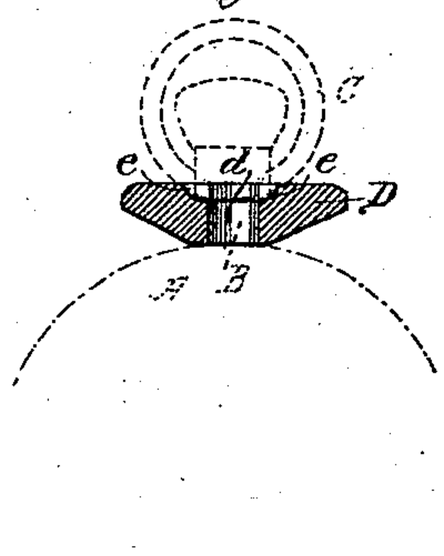


Fig. 3.



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SAFEGUARD FOR WATCHES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,576, dated January 4, 1887.

Application filed October 5, 1886. Serial No. 215,415. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL C. WATTS, of the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safeguards for Watches, of which the following is such a full, clear, concise, and exact description as will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide protection against theft by the picking of a watch from one's pocket; and to this end the invention consists of a device made of rubber or other suitable material, so that it is adapted to be placed over the ring of a watch, and by frictional contact with the pocket render the extraction of the watch therefrom a difficult matter to any one other than the person who carries the same, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a watch to which my improved safeguard is applied. Fig. 2 is a top view of the safeguard; and Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the same, and showing by dotted lines its relation to the stem and ring of the watch.

In these drawings, A represents the watch; B, the stem of the same; C, the ring, to which a chain may be attached, and D the safeguard.

In practice I prefer to make the safeguard of rubber, owing to its elastic and frictional nature; but any other suitable material may be used.

In the drawings the form of this safeguard is shown as being circular, which form I deem the best; but the shape is not an essential feature of my invention, inasmuch as other forms will answer the purpose.

The safeguard D is made with an aperture, *d*, through the center of a size to fit snugly around the stem of the watch, and if made of rubber this aperture can be stretched sufficiently to pass over the ring C, and when the rubber has contracted it will be firmly secured to the stem. If other material—as, for instance, leather—be used, it may be necessary to make a slit at each side of the aperture *d* to permit of its passage over the ring.

To prevent turning and consequent looseness on the stem, I make the safeguard slightly thicker than the distance on the stem from the ring to the watch, and form recesses *e e* on the upper face at opposite sides of the aperture *d*, and these recesses receive the lower part of the ring at each side of the stem. This makes the safeguard more rigid and strengthens its hold upon the sides of the pocket by preventing an incline or tipping of one side up and the other down. I also sometimes make corrugations around the outer edge or periphery of the same, or emboss it, in order to give several surfaces to come in contact with the sides of the pocket, and thus prevent slipping in case there should be such a tendency.

This safeguard is made to taper toward the watch-case, so that its form is that of an inverted frustum of a cone, thus giving strength and rigidity to the same and preventing the edges from turning or folding back when subjected to the resistance of the sides of the pocket by any pulling or jerking for the purpose of extracting the watch therefrom.

When a watch is provided with this safeguard and is placed in one's vest-pocket, any pulling upon the chain will be met with a resistance by the contact of the rubber with the cloth of the pocket, and as the pulling draws the watch toward the corner of the pocket the safeguards will take a firmer hold upon the cloth, thus rendering it impossible to draw the same out without severe jerking, and this of necessity will attract the attention of the person whose watch it is in ample time to save his property. On the other hand, the person who carries the watch can easily take the same out of his pocket by simply separating the cloth at the opening into the pocket, and no inconvenience will be experienced from its use.

I am aware that safety attachments for watches have heretofore been made of a thin plate or ring of rubber having scalloped edges and a thickened middle projection of less diameter than the plate or ring; but such form differs from my invention, in that I do not make scalloped edges, and I provide protection against the folding of the safeguard by the tapering of the base, which at the same time prevents interference with the opening of the

case, and otherwise construct it as hereinbefore described.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A safeguard for watches, consisting of an elastic button or disk having an aperture to permit of its passage over the ring of the watch, and its upper surface provided with recesses extending outwardly on opposite sides of said aperture, the under surface being made to taper toward the watch, whereby it is strengthened and adapted to be rigidly secured upon the watch, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

SAMUEL C. WATTS.

Witnesses:
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