

(No Model.)

E. McEVoy.  
CUT-OUT BLOCK.

No. 364,721.

Patented June 14, 1887.

FIG. 2.

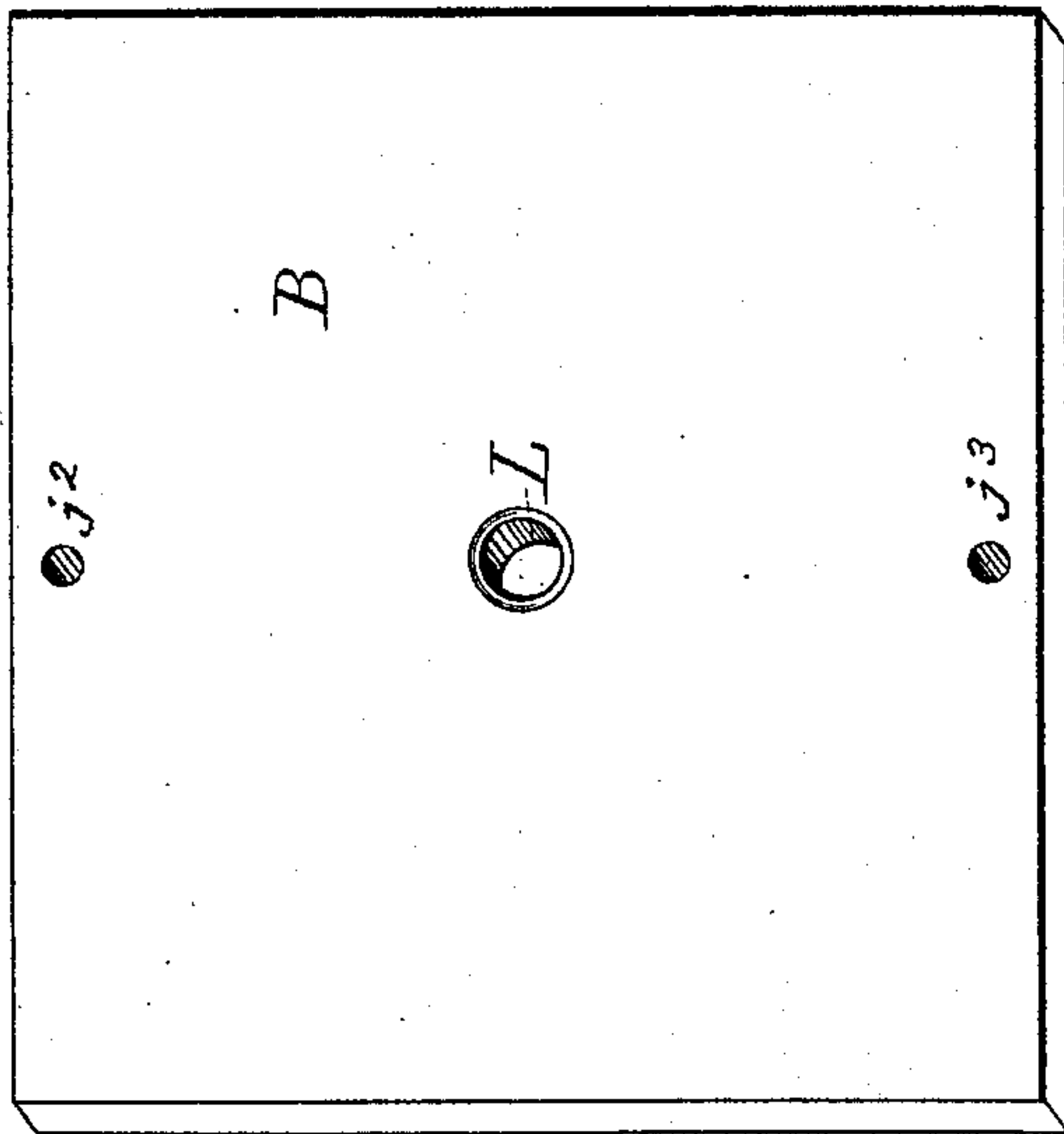
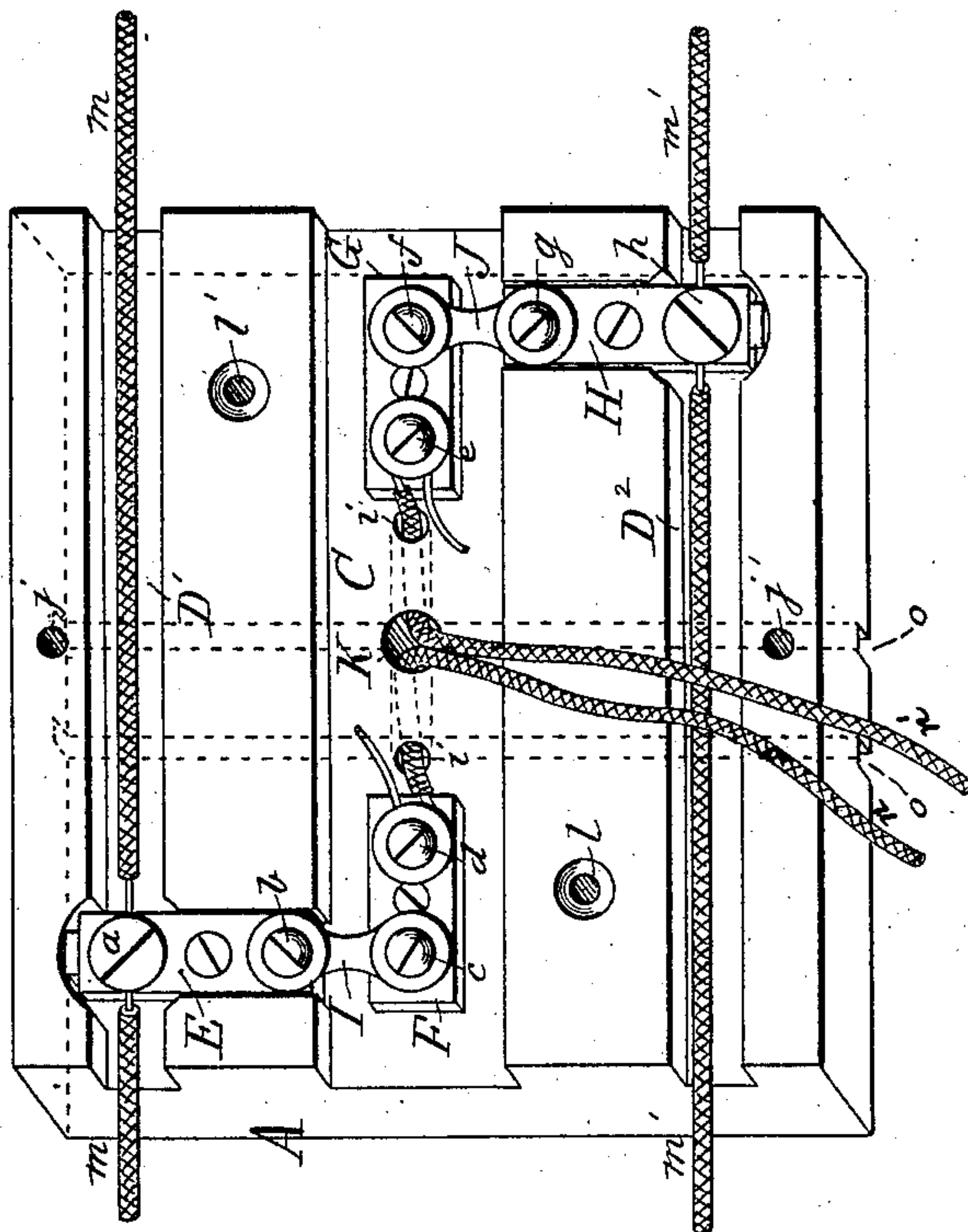


FIG. 1.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CUT-OUT BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 364,721, dated June 14, 1887.

Application filed August 27, 1886. Serial No. 211,979. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD McEVOY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cut-Out Blocks; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings annexed to and forming part of the same, furnishes a full and clear description of the invention, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and operate the same.

My invention relates to illumination by electricity. Its objects are to provide in one and the same device a holder or carrier for the main supply-wires, a support for the tap-wires, a means of tapping the main wires and establishing connection between them and the tap-wires, and a means of automatically breaking said connection when the main wires become overheated or are so injured as to threaten the destruction of the tap-wires. These objects are secured by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement when open. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the detachable cover of the same.

In the said drawings, A is a wooden tap-block and wire-support. B is a wooden detachable cover for the same.

C is a broad elongated channel in the center of the block A.

D' and D<sup>2</sup> are narrow elongated channels on either side of the channel C.

E is a narrow flat plate made of good conducting metal, secured to the block A and extending from the channel D' to the channel C, at a right angle to the same.

F and G are narrow flat plates made of good conducting metal, secured to the block A, one near each end of the channel C and parallel with said channel.

H is a narrow flat plate made of good conducting metal, secured to the block A and extending from the channel D<sup>2</sup> to the channel C, at a right angle to the same.

I and J are narrow flat arms, made of a fusible metal possessing the quality of good conduction, one of which connects the plates E and F and the other the plates G and H.

K is a perforation midway between the ends

and sides of the channel C, which extends through the center of the block A.

L is a perforation which extends through the center of the cover B.

a and b are set-screws in the plate E. c and d are set-screws in the plate F. e and f are set-screws in the plate G. g and h are set-screws in the plate H.

i and i' are small perforations on either side of the perforation K, which also extend through the block A.

j, j', j<sup>2</sup>, and j<sup>3</sup> are small apertures in the block A and cover B, to receive screws for attaching and holding the cover B to the block A.

l l' are orifices in the block A, to receive screws to hold the block to the ceiling or other desired support.

m m' are the main supply-wires.

n n' are the tap-wires.

o o are narrow channels in the upper surface of the cut-out block A.

Similar letters denote corresponding parts in the several views.

My invention, constructed as shown and described, and having its several parts, exclusive of the supply and tap wires, arranged and connected as shown and described, is applied to use in the following manner:

The cover B is removed and the tap-wires n n' are together passed up through the perforation K, and their respective ends are passed down through the perforations i and i' and connected to the plates F and G by the set-screws d and e, the insulating material being removed from said wires sufficiently to allow said wires to come in contact with said plates when the screws d and e are set in place. The block A is then secured to the ceiling or other support, and the set-screws a and h are removed from the plates E and H, and the main supply-wires m m' are directed into and through the channels D' and D<sup>2</sup>, over and upon the plates E and H. The insulating material which incloses the wires m and m' is removed sufficiently to permit of said plates and wires being brought in contact by the pressure of the set-screws a and h, and said screws are set in place in their respective plates. The tap-wires are next passed through the perforation L in the cover B, said cover is secured to the block A, and said tap-wires are then connected to the lamp in the usual manner. The flow of



the electric current being established, its course is from the main wire *m*, through the plate E, arm I, plate F, and tap-wire *n*, to the lamp, and from the main wire *m'*, through the plate

5 H, arm J, plate G, and tap-wire *n'*, to the lamp.

If at any time the intensity of the electric current is so excessive as to overheat the wires, or if the same become otherwise injured so as to endanger and threaten the destruction of the tap-wires, the excessive heat fuses and melts the arms I and J, breaks the connection between the wires *m m'* and *n n'*, and the danger of the destruction of the lamp tap-wires is averted. The block A may then be readily

15 opened and the damaged parts be repaired or renewed.

By my invention I secure an effective tapping of the main supply-wires and relieve the latter of the weight of the tap-wires, the arrangement of said last-named wires being such that they are held and supported by the tap-block itself. The employment of the fusible arms which connect the plates E and F and G and H insures an automatic cut-off of the electric fluid from the tap-wires the instant the

25 main wires become overheated. Having thus described my invention, its construction and manner of operation, I do not claim, broadly, a block for connecting tap-

wires by set-screws to the main wires; nor do I claim the invention of the easily-melted connecting-arms I and J; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a tap-block or cut-out block for the wires of electric lamps, combined with the main supply-wires *m* and *m'* and the tap-wires *n* and *n'* of an electric circuit having the plates E, F, G, and H, arms I and J, set-screws *a, b, c, d, e, f, g,* and *h,* and provided with the triple channels C, D', and D<sup>2</sup> and the cross-channels K, *i,* and *i'*, substantially as and for the purposes shown, and as described.

2. The combination of the main supply-wires *m* and *m'* and tap-wires *n* and *n'* with a box, A, provided with triple longitudinal channels C, D', and D<sup>2</sup>, plates E, F, G, and H, fusible arms I and J, set-screws *a, b, c, d, e, f, g,* and *h,* and cross-perforated channels K, *i,* and *i'*, as shown and described, whereby the combined result of a fusible and adjustable tap-connection, together with an improved support for pendent lamp-wires, is effected.

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Witnesses:

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