

(No Model.)

H. C. WIRT.
INCANDESCENT LAMP SOCKET.

No. 560,667.

Patented May 26, 1896.

FIG. 1.

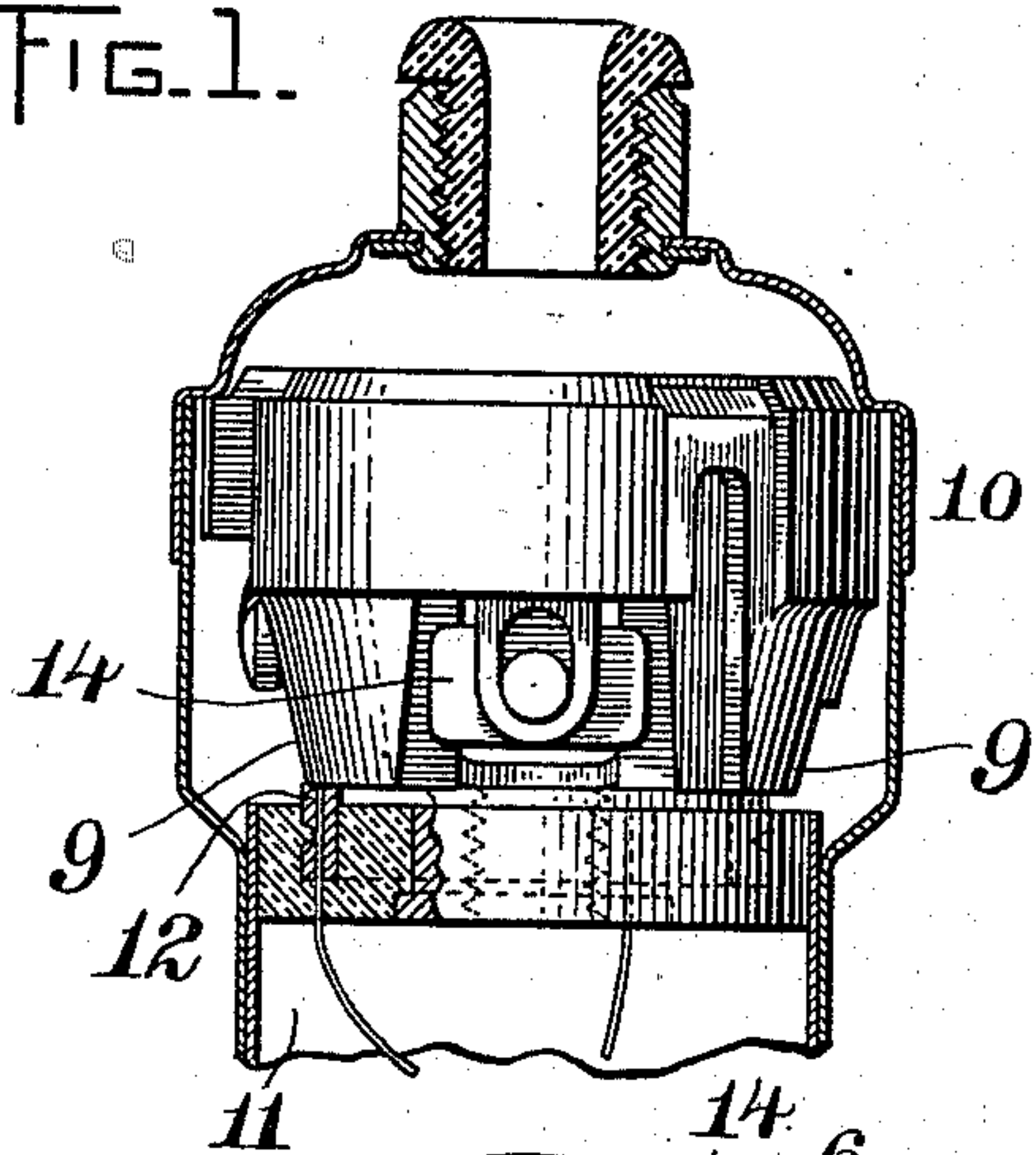


FIG. 2.

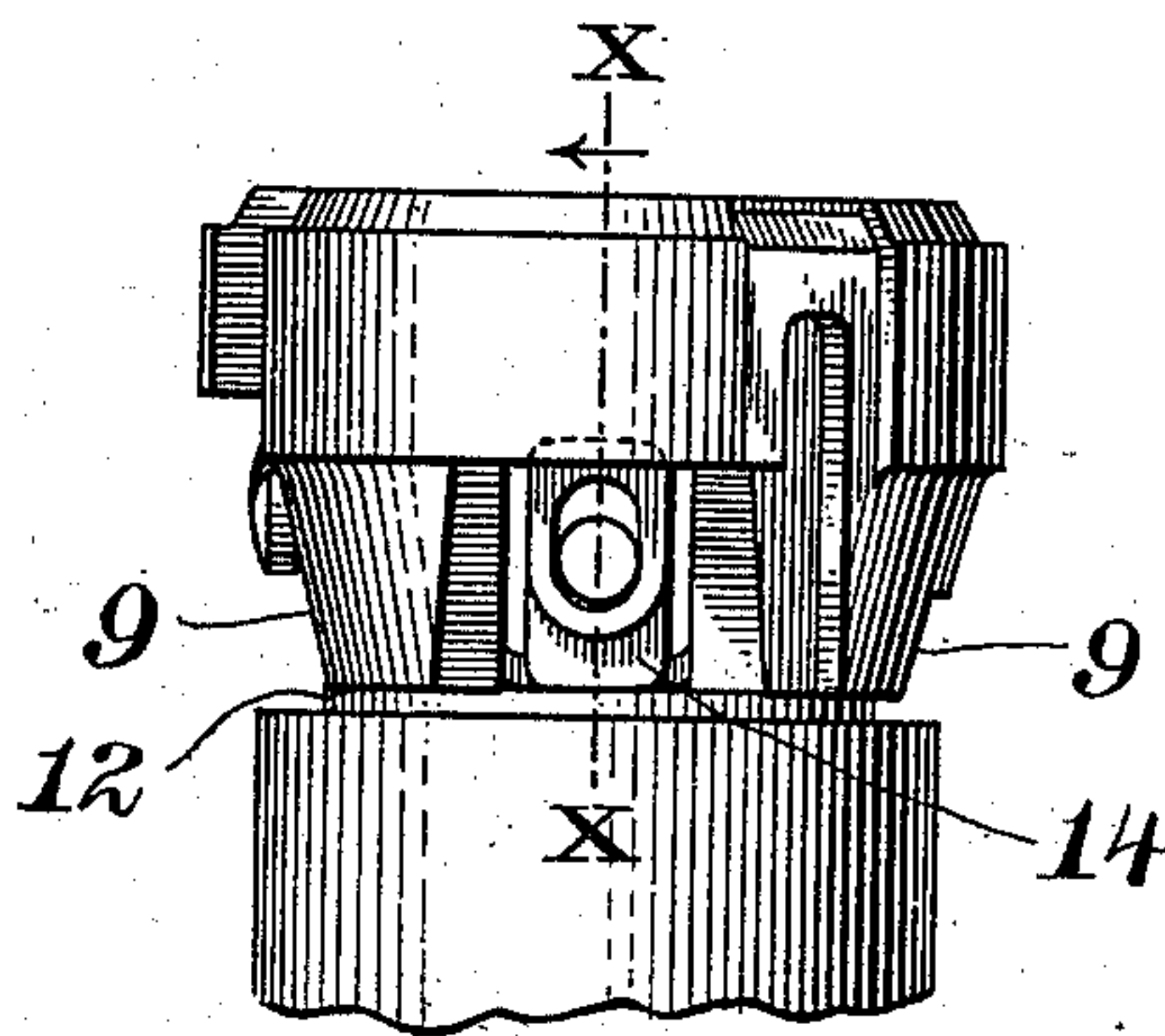


FIG. 3.

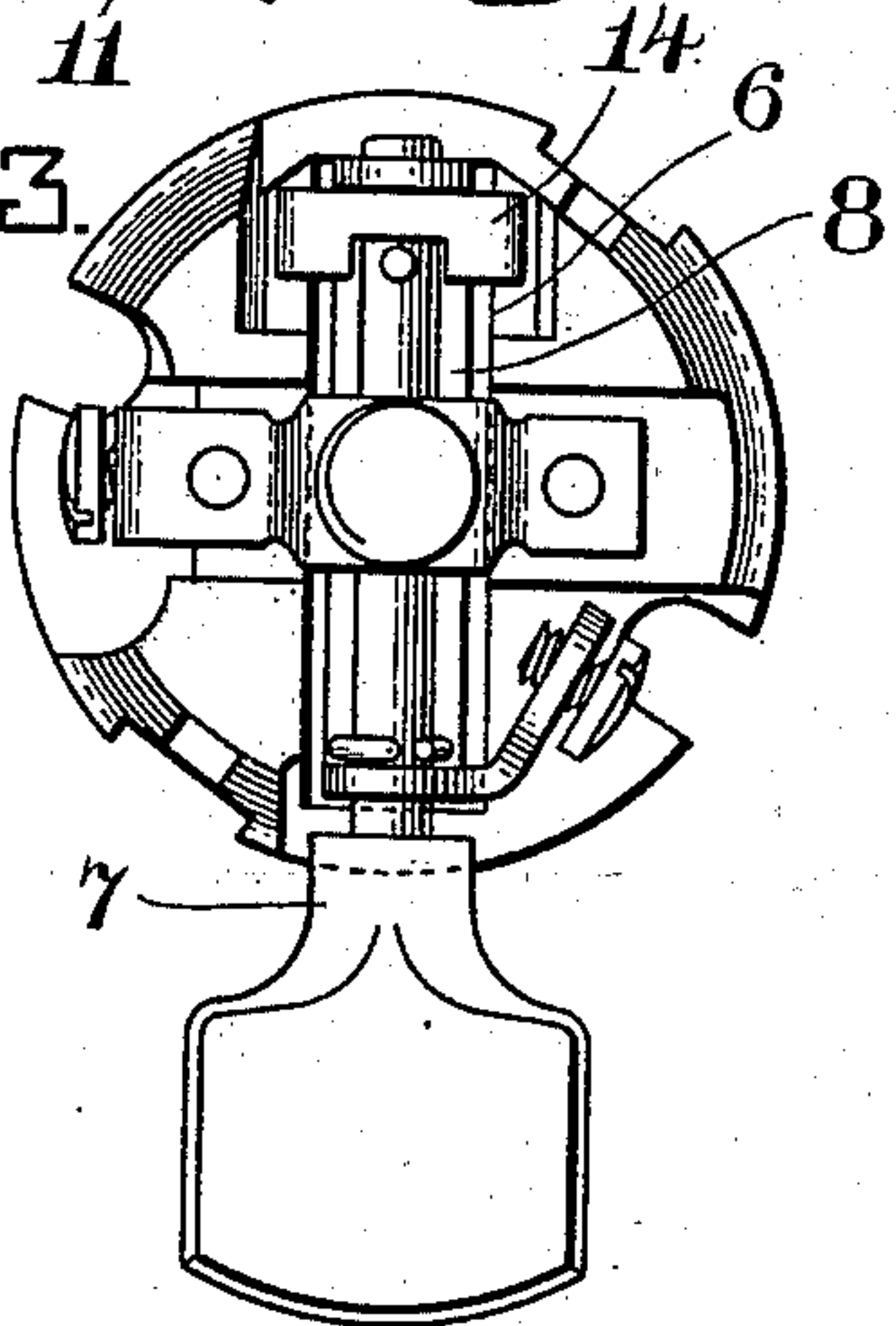


FIG. 4.

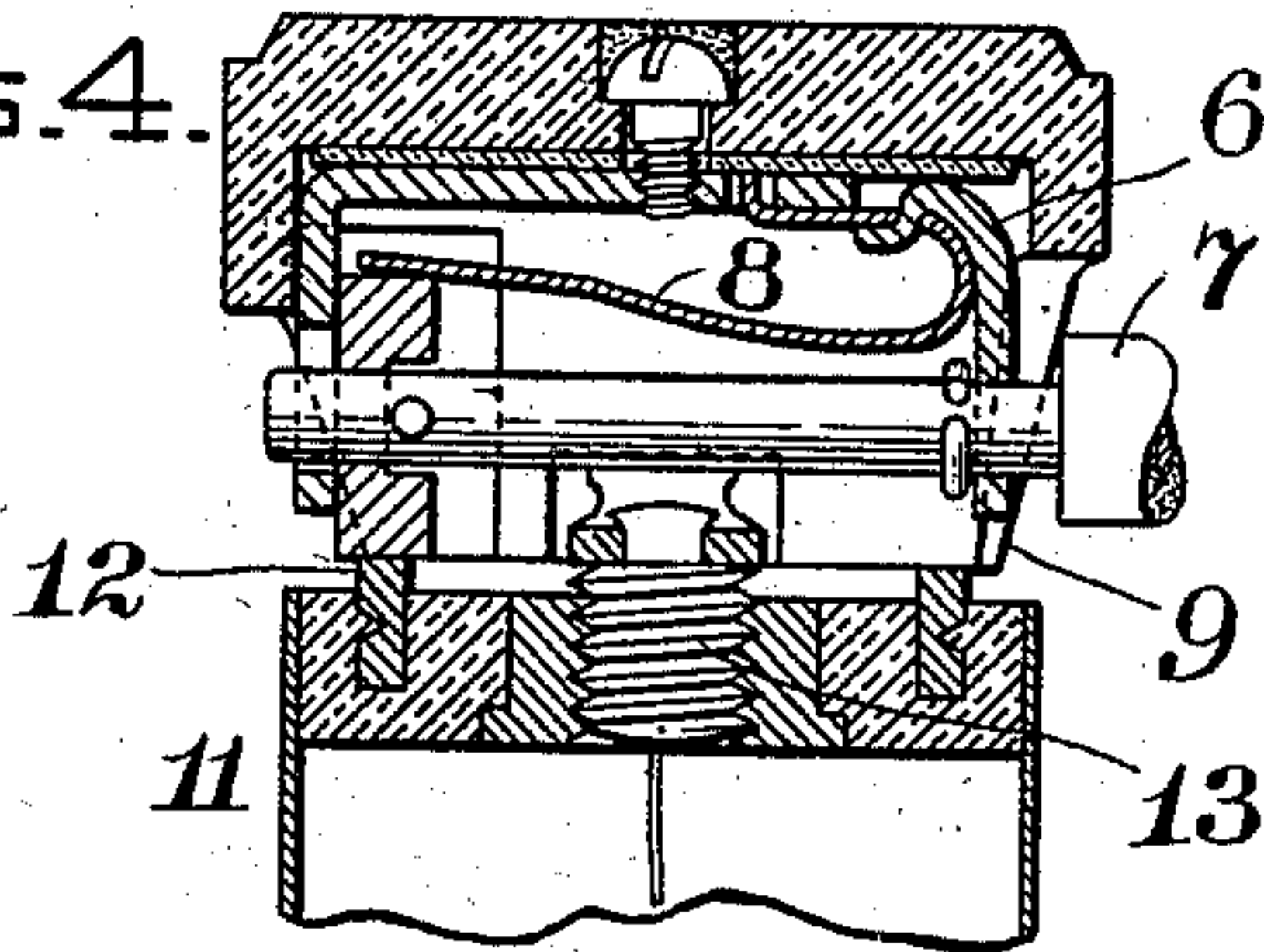
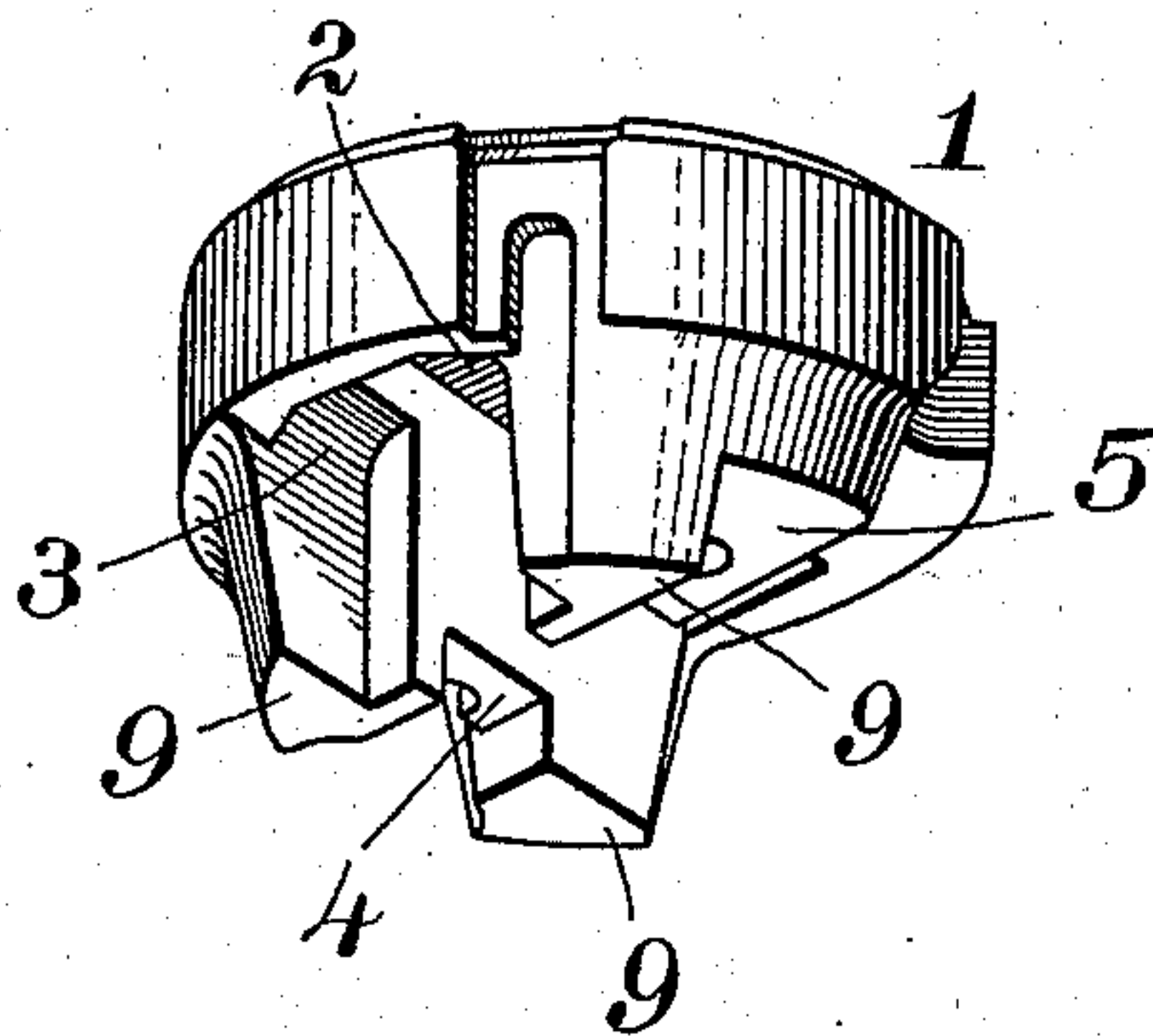


FIG. 5.



WITNESSES.

A. H. Abell,
A. J. MacDonald.

INVENTOR.

Herbert C. Wirt
By Geo. P. Hargrett
Att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT C. WIRT, OF SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, OF NEW YORK.

INCANDESCENT-LAMP SOCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 560,667, dated May 26, 1896.

Application filed February 17, 1896. Serial No. 579,520. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT C. WIRT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Schenectady, in the county of Schenectady and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Incandescent-Lamp Sockets, (Case No. 356,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to incandescent-lamp sockets, and has special reference to the base thereof formed of molded insulating material.

The object of the invention is to provide a molded base of insulating material for incandescent lamps, said base being so constructed as to insure the proper operation of the contact-piece of the key, and to locate it at such a distance from the contact on the lamp that the electrical connection will be properly made and broken.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a molded base for an incandescent-lamp socket, a portion of the shell and the incandescent lamp in section, and other parts of the socket. Fig. 2 is a view in elevation of the base and key and a portion of the incandescent lamp. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the base and key. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the base, key, and a portion of the incandescent lamp on the line *xx*, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of an incandescent-lamp base constructed according to this invention.

1 indicates a molded base for incandescent-lamp sockets, formed of porcelain or other insulating material in accordance with this invention. The base 1 is formed with suitable recesses and shoulder portions 2 3 4 5, &c., in which are located the key-frame 6, key 7, and its spring 8, and embodying the projections or pillars 9, which are an essential feature of this invention, as hereinafter explained. The base 1 and its key are shown as inclosed in a suitable shell 10, and in conjunction therewith, the end 11 of an incandescent lamp, having the contact-ring 12 abutting against the ends of the projections or pillars 9. The end 11 of the incandescent lamp is shown as connected to the base 1 by being screwed to a screw-threaded projection 13 on the key-frame 6.

Now the object of this invention has refer-

ence to this fact that it is essential that the contact of the key should be located at such a distance from the contacting part of the lamp as to permit the contact-piece of the key to properly operate and form a proper electrical connection, and this is effected by having the contact-block 14 at a proper distance from the contact portion of the lamp.

As incandescent lamps of different manufacture vary in their construction, so far as the means for connecting them with the base are concerned, and it is desired to utilize the base constructed in accordance with this invention with incandescent lamps of different manufacture, provision is made, as hereinbefore set forth, to always locate the contact-piece of the key at the proper distance from the contact of an incandescent lamp, so as to insure its proper operation and the proper distance between it and the contact of the lamp. In other words, the connection between the lamp and the base may not always be such as to bring the contact portion of the lamp at the right distance from the contact 14 of the key, and to compensate for this some means must be provided so as always to bring the contact-block 14 at the proper distance from the contact portion of the lamp. This is accomplished in this invention by providing the base 1 with projections or pillars. These pillars 9 are of a similar and standard length—that is, of such a length relatively to the contact-block 14 in its open position, as shown in Fig. 1, and the distance of the block 14 in this position from a plane extending along the outer end of the projections 9 as to avoid the holding of an arc when the current is turned off between the block 14 and the contact-ring 12. In other words, the projections 9 will be of such a length relatively to the distance of the contact-block 14 in its open position from the contact-ring 12 that the projections 9 abutting against the contact-ring 12 will provide sufficient space between the ring 12 and block 14 to admit of the proper operation of the latter, insuring the electrical connection.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A molded base for incandescent-lamp sockets, formed with a central transverse re-

cess or open portion, extending from top to bottom and clear across the base, to receive the key-frame, its shaft, key and spring, and projections adapted to abut against the contact portion of an incandescent lamp and having their ends lying in the same plane at such a distance from the key when the latter is in place in the base as to insure electrical connection; in combination with a key-frame, its shaft, spring and key, the several parts thereof being located below the ends of said projections, and the key being located within one end of said transverse opening, as herein set forth.

2. A molded base for incandescent-lamp sockets, formed with pillars of a similar or standard length, and with a central transverse recess or open portion, extending from top to bottom and clear across the base, and shouldered portions to receive the key-frame, key and its spring, and of such depth with reference to the pillars as to insure the electrical connection of the key with the contact of an incandescent lamp; in combination with said key-frame, key and spring, and a central electrical connection for securing the

base to the lamp, mounted in said base below the ends of said pillars and projecting beyond the latter, as herein set forth.

3. A molded base for incandescent-lamp sockets formed with pillars of equal and standard length and with a central transverse recess and shouldered portions to receive the key-frame, key and its spring, said key-frame, key and its spring located in said base in such a position relative to the length of the pillars as to insure the operation of the key and electrical connection of the contacts, and a central screw mounted in said base and adapted to secure said base to the incandescent lamp; in combination with an incandescent lamp having a central screw-threaded socket for engagement with said screw, and a contact-ring against which the ends of the pillars abut, as herein set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of February, 1896.

HERBERT C. WIRT.

Witnesses:

B. B. HULL,

GENEVIEVE HAYNES.