

No. 740,248.

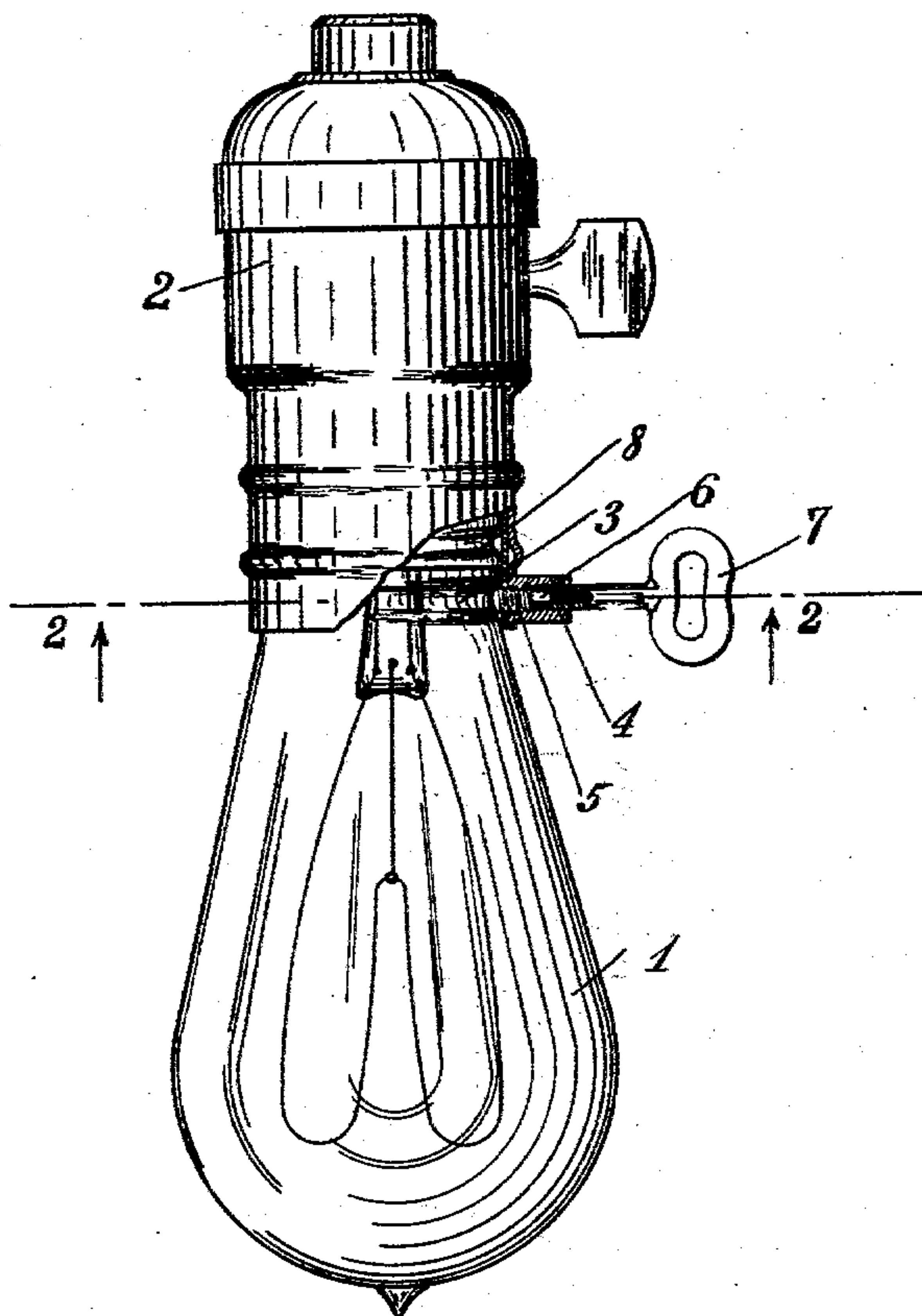
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C. W. DABB & C. E. MACDUFFEE.  
MEANS FOR LOCKING INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULBS.

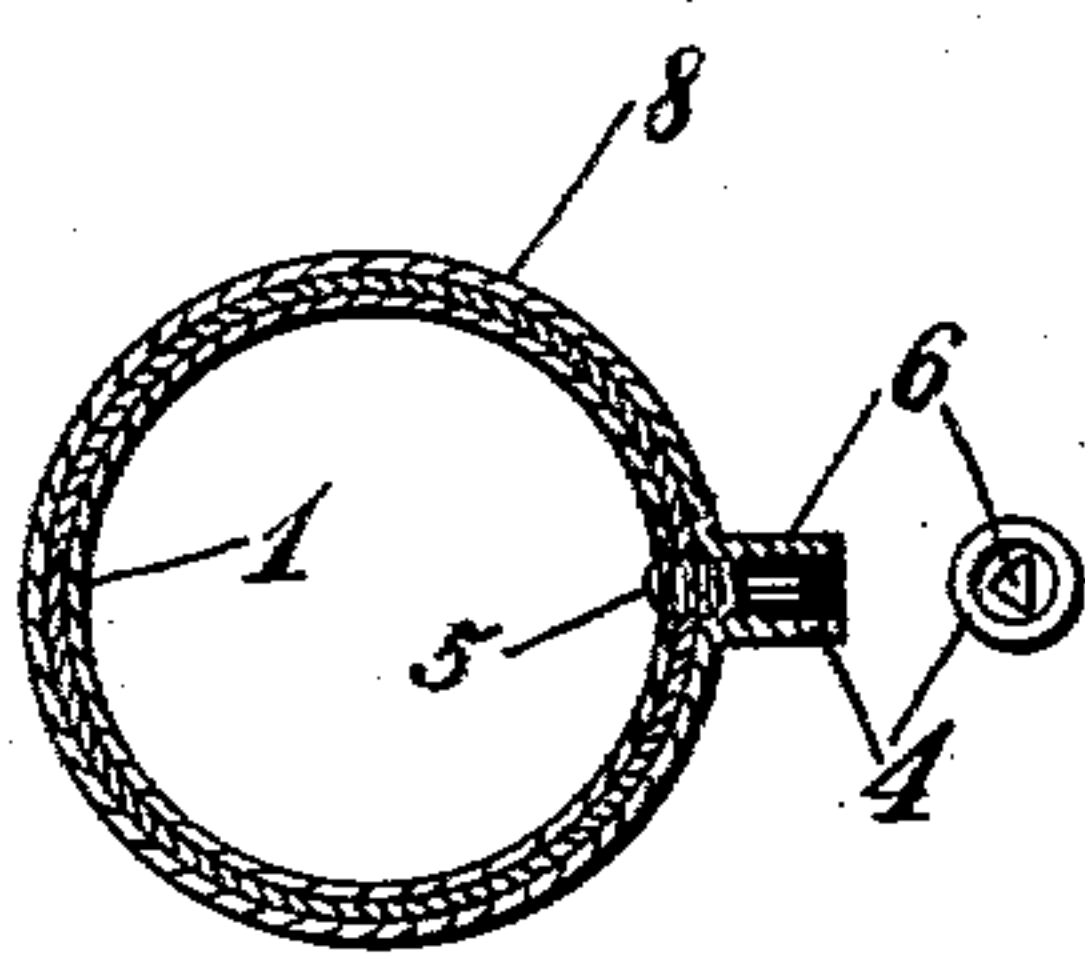
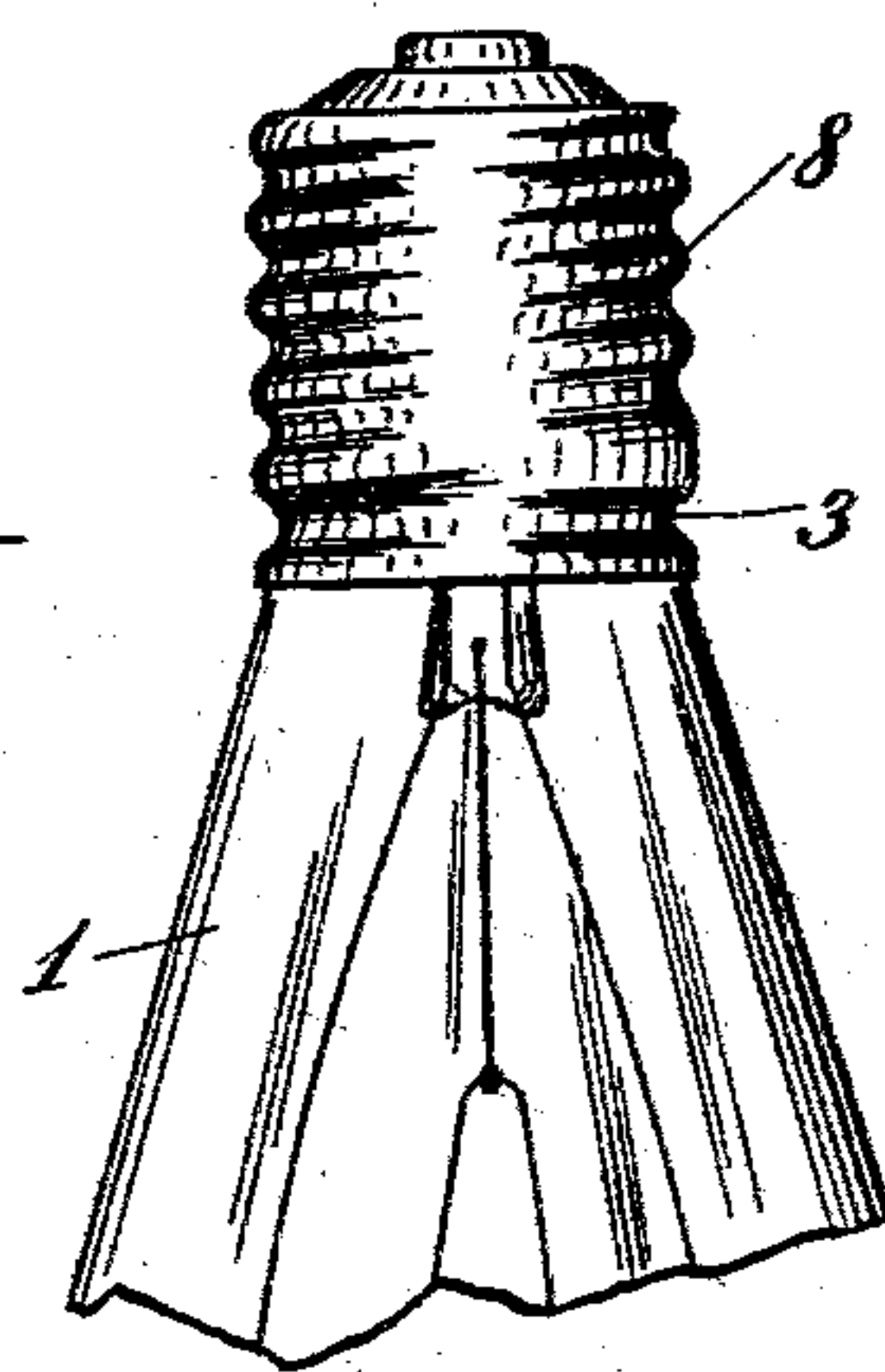
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1903.

NO MODEL.

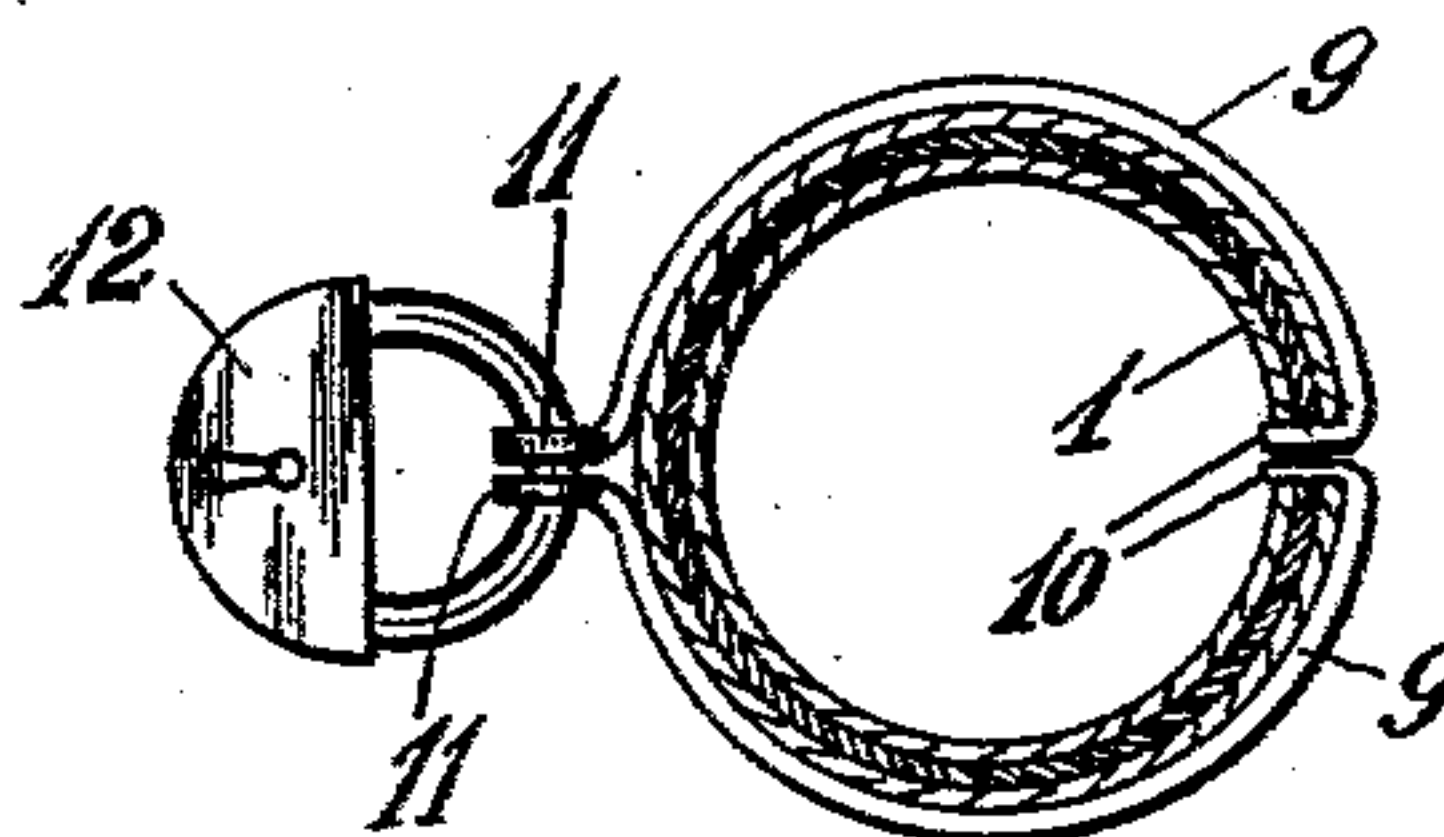
*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 3*



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 4*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## MEANS FOR LOCKING INCANDESCENT-LIGHT BULBS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 740,248, dated September 29, 1903.

Application filed February 19, 1903. Serial No. 144,040. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, CHARLES W. DABB and CHESTER E. MACDUFFEE, citizens of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Locking Incandescent-Light Bulbs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention relates to means for locking incandescent-light bulbs in the sockets, so as to prevent unauthorized removal either for the purpose of substituting lights of a greater power or for the purpose of carrying the bulbs away entirely.

In hotels particularly great trouble is caused and much additional expense entailed by the carrying away of small portable articles of furnishing. Extra expense in the cost of lighting has been entailed by the substitution of a light of a greater candle-power for the ordinary light.

As ordinarily constructed incandescent-light bulbs are either screwed into a threaded socket or are attached to the socket by a bayonet-joint. This permits them to be easily removed and carried away.

Our invention has for its object the attachment of the bulbs to the sockets in such a manner that they cannot be removed without breakage by unauthorized persons. In order to remove bulbs provided with our invention, special appliances will be necessary which the ordinary guest at the hotel does not have. We have shown two ways of locking bulbs in their sockets—one by means of a screw which is turned by a special key and the other by means of a padlock which must be opened by a special key.

We will now more particularly describe our invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a partial cross-section showing our invention applied to a screw-threaded lamp-socket. Fig. 2 on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1 shows the bulb located in position. Fig. 3 shows a threaded bulb having the locking-groove in the ferrule instead of being blown in the glass, as in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents a modified construction, wherein we use a split ring, which is fastened together by a padlock.

Numeral 1 represents an ordinary incan-

descent-light bulb, and 2 its socket. In the upper part of the bulb, near the neck, we form a groove 3. To the lower end of the socket we attach a lug 4, which is internally screw-threaded and has a locking-screw 5, having an irregularly-shaped head 6, which is adapted to be engaged by the key 7. It will be obvious that the bulb will be fastened in the socket when the screw 5 is in engagement with the groove 3, thereby preventing the bulb from being removed unless by breakage or by withdrawing the screw. The key is removable and is intended to be used only by persons authorized to attend to the lights.

In Fig. 3 we have shown the groove 3 in the lower end of the ferrule 8, which is generally fastened to the bulb by means of plaster-of-paris. In other respects the operation is the same as in Fig. 1, where the groove is blown into the glass. In Fig. 4 we have shown a modified locking mechanism comprising two semicircular rings 9, having the intumed ends or hooks 10 and eyes 11. In this form the socket merely has a hole through it in such a place that it will register with the groove in the bulb. The hooks 10 are inserted through the hole in the socket and then the eyes are brought together and locked by the padlock.

We do not desire to be limited to the precise construction we have shown, nor is it essential that the locking device be located at the lower end of the lamp-socket, as it might be equally effective if located at such a place as to register with a groove in any other portion of the bulb. We also do not desire to be limited to any specific locking device, as many ways of securing our object will occur to a skilled mechanic.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A locking device for lamp-bulbs, comprising a socket having a hole therein, a bulb having a groove adapted to register with said hole, a pin adapted to project through said hole into said groove and means for locking said pin to said socket, substantially as described.

2. A locking device for lamp-bulbs, comprising a socket having a hole therein, a bulb having a groove adapted to register with said hole and a locking device passing through said hole from the outside and adapted to



project into said groove, said locking device being incapable of removal without special appliances, substantially as described.

3. A locking device for lamp-bulbs, comprising a socket having a hole therein, a bulb having a groove adapted to register with said hole, a split ring comprising two portions each having an inwardly-projecting end and an eye, and a lock for binding the bulb, socket and ring together, substantially as described.

4. A locking device for lamp-bulbs, comprising a socket having a hole therein, a bulb

having a groove adapted to register with said hole, a locking-ring having a projection adapted to project through said hole into said groove, and means for locking said ring to said socket, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES W. DABB.

CHESTER E. MACDUFFEE.

Witnesses:

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