No. 782,521. PATENTED FEB. 14, 1905.

E. V. PHILLIPPS.

WATCH PROTECTOR.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 17, 1904.

Fig. 1

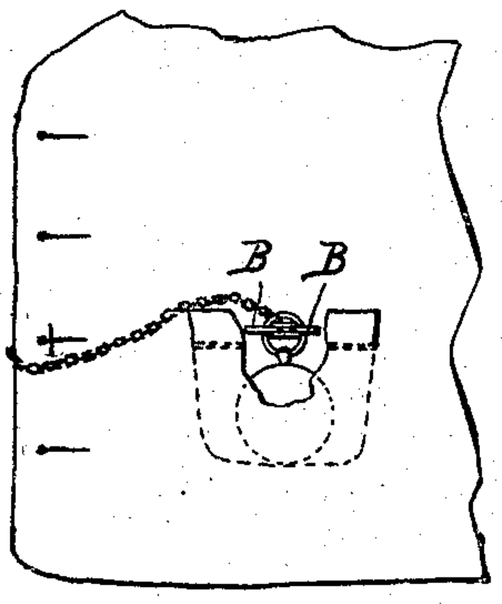


Fig. 2.

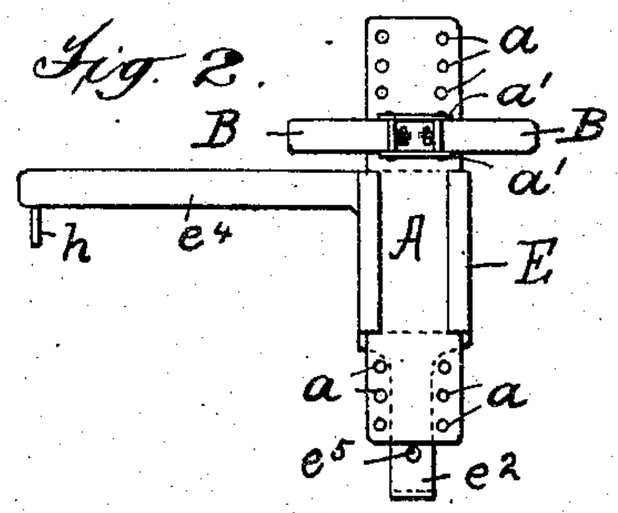


Fig 3

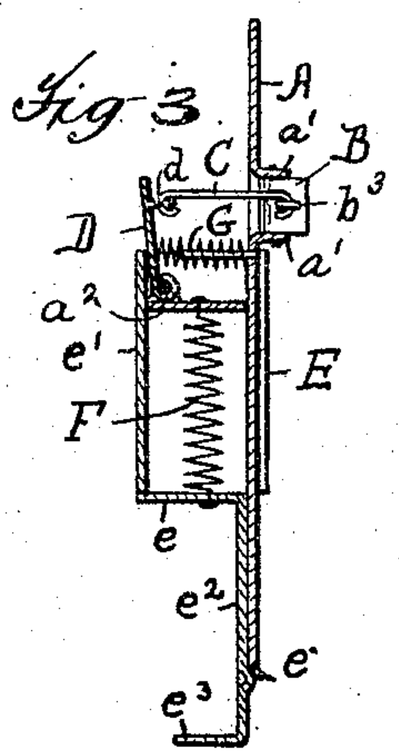


Fig 4.

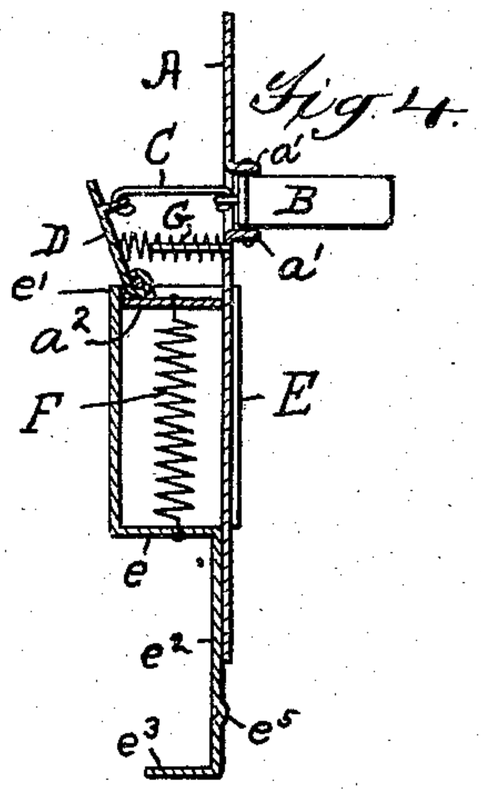


Fig. 5.

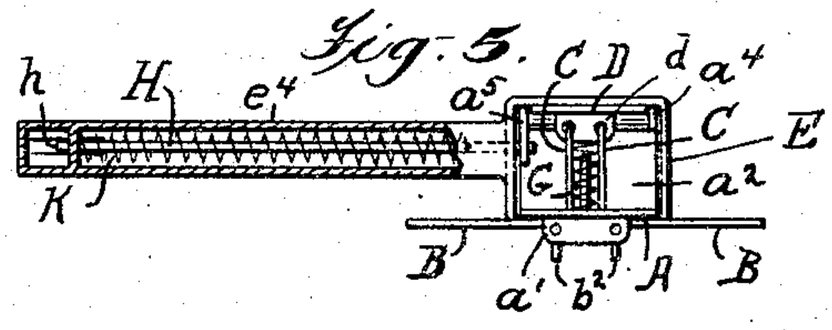


Fig 6.

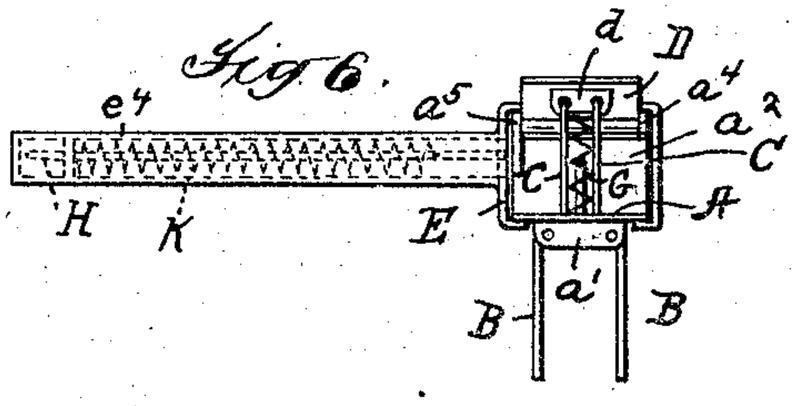


Fig. 7.

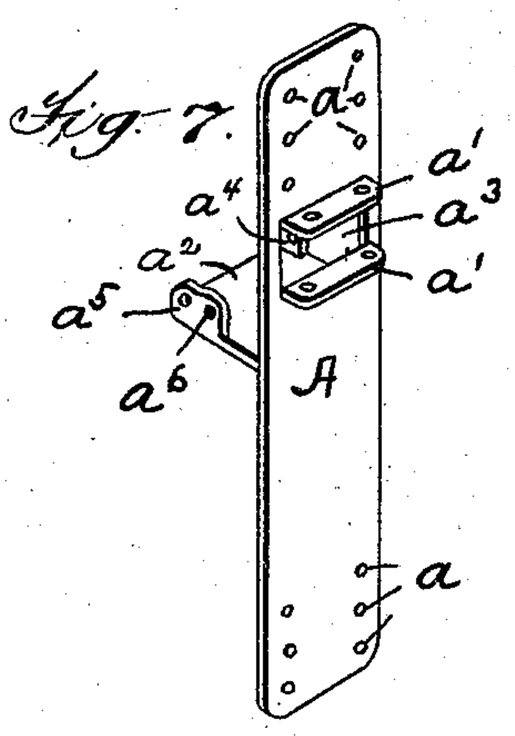


Fig. 8.

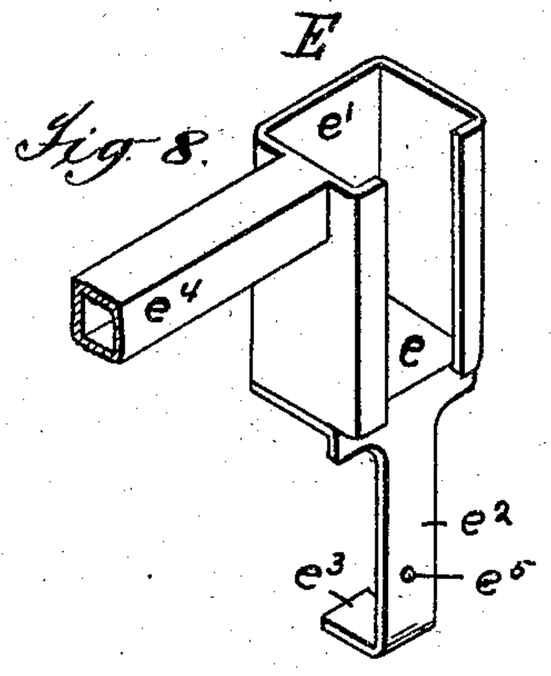
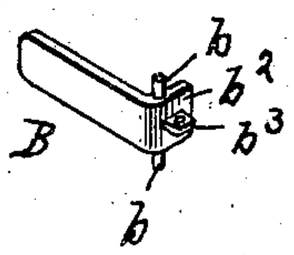


Fig. 9.



Witnesses
Geo. H. Fitch.
Mabelle F. Lake

Inventor
Edwin V. Phillipps.
By his Attorney
Edith J. Griswold

No. 782,521. Patented February 14, 1905.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN V. PHILLIPPS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO EDWARD F. PHILLIPPS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

WATCH-PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 782,521, dated February 14, 1905.

Application filed September 17, 1904. Serial No. 224,911.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN V. PHILLIPPS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, borough of Brooklyn, Kings county, State of New York, have invented Improvements in Watch-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is for a device for protecting watches from theft, and has for its object to provide such a device with positive locking means adapted to be easily operated by a person wearing the watch, but inaccessible to a person attempting to take the watch without the wearer's knowledge. As my improved device is to be secured to a garment, any grasp of the watch or chain would cause such a pull upon the garment as to notify the person using the device that a thief was at hand.

My watch-protector is adapted to be so attached to the garment of the wearer that a portion of the device is on one side of the goods of the garment and another portion passes through an opening in the goods to the other side. The portion on the outer side of the goods forms the watch-holder, and while the device may be applied to various garments by way of example I have illustrated in Figure 1 the device as applied to a vest, the watch-holder portion being passed from the inner side of the vest through the material of the rear portion of the watch-pocket, so that the holder is within the watch-pocket and the locking mechanism on the inner side of the vest.

In the accompanying drawings, Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic view of a portion of a vest, showing a piece of the front part of the watch-pocket torn away to illustrate that part of the protector that is within the watch-pocket. Fig. 2 is a front view of the complete device apart from the garment. Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal section of the device looking toward Fig. 2 from the right, but drawn to a larger scale for clear showing. Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the parts in the normal locked position. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, showing the parts in the unlocked position. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the device with the parts as shown in Fig. 3, a portion of this view, Fig. 5, being broken away to illustrate a detail. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the device with the parts as shown in Fig. 4. Figs. 7, 8, and 9 are perspective views of three separate parts of the device.

I do not limit my invention to the specific construction of the device shown and specifically described herein, as various modifications and changes may be made in material, form, and arrangement without departing from the main ideas set forth in the claims hereto appended.

The device specifically illustrated in the drawings comprises a plate A, which may be of any desirable material, but preferably of metal, and provided with means for attaching it to a garment, such as holes a, by which it may be sewed to the garment. This plate A has two forward projections a' a' and a rearward projection a^2. Between the forward projections a' a' is an opening a^3, and the parts a' a' may readily be struck out from plate A, formed from the material that would be cut away for the opening. The part a^2 may be secured to the plate A by soldering and is provided with upright lugs a^4 a^5 at its rear ends for purposes hereinafter explained.

Arms or wings B B (shown separately in Fig. 9) are provided with pivot-pins b, journaled in the projections a' a', whereby these wings B may be brought together, as shown in Figs. 4 and 6, to readily slip the ring of a watch over them, and the wings can be spread out, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 5, to retain the watch. These pivoted wings B B forming the watch-holder are the only portions of the device projecting entirely through the goods of the garment to the front portion thereof. It will be evident, therefore, that this part of the device may be made ornamental or of fine metal and be worn in places not necessarily within a pocket or other covered place. Preferably these wings B B are made to assume the watch-retaining position shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 5 automatically. As herein shown, this is accomplished as follows: The wings B B are provided with portions b^2, Fig. 9, bent at right angles to the wings proper, and small rods C C connect the wings B B to a leaf D, pivoted in the lugs a^4 a^5 of the part a^2 of plate A.

The rods C C are conveniently formed of stiff wire bent at the ends through openings in lugs b^3 on the wings B and through openings in a forward projection d on the leaf D. This permits freedom of motion at the joints between the rods C C and wings B B and leaf D, while making the motion of the wings B B dependent upon the position of the leaf D.

A sliding piece E (shown separately in Fig. 8) is placed over a portion of the plate A, as shown clearly in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, and is normally maintained in the relative position shown in Fig. 3 by the retractile spring F, secured at one end to the part a^2 and at the other end to the plate e of the sliding piece. In this position of the parts the wall e' of the box-like portion of the sliding piece E has pushed the leaf D into an upright position against the action of the spring G. This forces the rods C forward, which turns the wings B B into the normal position shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 5, and it will readily be seen that the wings cannot be moved from this watch-retaining position so long as the leaf D is held upright by the sliding piece E. The sliding piece E is provided with a downwardly-projecting portion e^2, preferably bent at the lower end e^3 to form a convenient operating part to draw the sliding piece downward. When this sliding piece is pulled downward against the action of the spring F, the leaf D is released from the action of the wall e^2, and the compression-spring G is allowed to act between the plate A and the leaf D to force the leaf backward, and in consequence through the rods C C turn the wings B B on their pivots in the position shown in Figs. 4 and 6, when the watch may be readily slipped onto the wing-holder or removed therefrom. The retractile spring F is made sufficiently stronger than the compression-spring G to positively return the parts to the position shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 5 when the sliding piece is released.

If the device is applied to a vest, it will be understood that by putting the fingers up under the lower edge of the vest the operating-handle e^3 can easily be reached. However, as a thief might possibly accomplish this and grab the watch at the same time I provide a lock for the sliding piece. This lock consists of a bolt or rod H, having a bend h for operation at one end and the other end passing through a hole in the sliding piece E into the box-like upper portion and into the hole a^6 in lug a^5, Figs. 5, 6, and 7. Preferably the rod is inclosed in a casing e^4 in one with or soldered to the sliding piece E. A compression-spring K normally forces the rod H into the hole a^6 to lock the device; but when the rod is pulled out, as shown in Fig. 6, then the sliding piece is free to be pulled downward. To prevent the sliding piece E being pulled too far upward by the spring F, a protruding portion e^5 may be made in the part e^2, that will come against the lower edge of the plate A, Fig. 3, and stop the upward motion of the sliding piece when the locking bolt or rod H comes into line with the hole a^6.

When it is desired to take the watch from the holder, the person inserts the thumb through the front opening of the vest and pulls on the rod H to unlock the sliding piece, while the fingers of the same hand may grasp the watch. At the same time the other hand is used to pull down the slide e^3 and release the wings B B, when the watch can readily be slipped off the wing-holder. A pickpocket attempting to loosen a watch from this holder would have to stand about directly in front of the wearer of the watch, use both hands and in two directions underneath the wearer's vest. This would practically render it impossible for a thief to release the holder without the knowledge of the wearer.

I claim as my invention—

1. A watch-protector to be secured to a garment, said protector comprising a watch-holder, a device normally preventing release of said holder, and a lock for said device.

2. A watch-protector, comprising a watch-holder, means for automatically locking the holder to retain the watch, and two operating parts for releasing the holder, said parts being inaccessible for operation by one hand.

3. A watch-protector to be secured to a garment, said protector comprising a watch-holder, a device normally preventing release of said holder, and a lock for said device, said device and said lock being inaccessible for operation by one hand.

4. A watch-protector, comprising a watch-holder, a spring-actuated device for automatically placing the holder in the watch-retaining position, and a lock for said device.

5. A watch-protector, comprising a watch-holder, a spring-actuated device for automatically placing the holder in the watch-retaining position, and a spring-actuated bolt adapted to automatically lock the said device when it is in the watch-retaining position.

6. A watch-protector, comprising a holder consisting of pivoted wings adapted to be drawn together for moving the watch on or off the holder, means for automatically forcing the wings apart and locking them in the watch-retaining position.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWIN V. PHILLIPPS.

Witnesses:
DOMINICK B. BUTTLING,
JOHN RAINEY.