

No. 840,168.

PATENTED JAN. 1, 1907.

F. C. STEVENSON.  
CHECK FOR SAFE KEEPING OF ARTICLES.  
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 12, 1905.

Fig. 1.

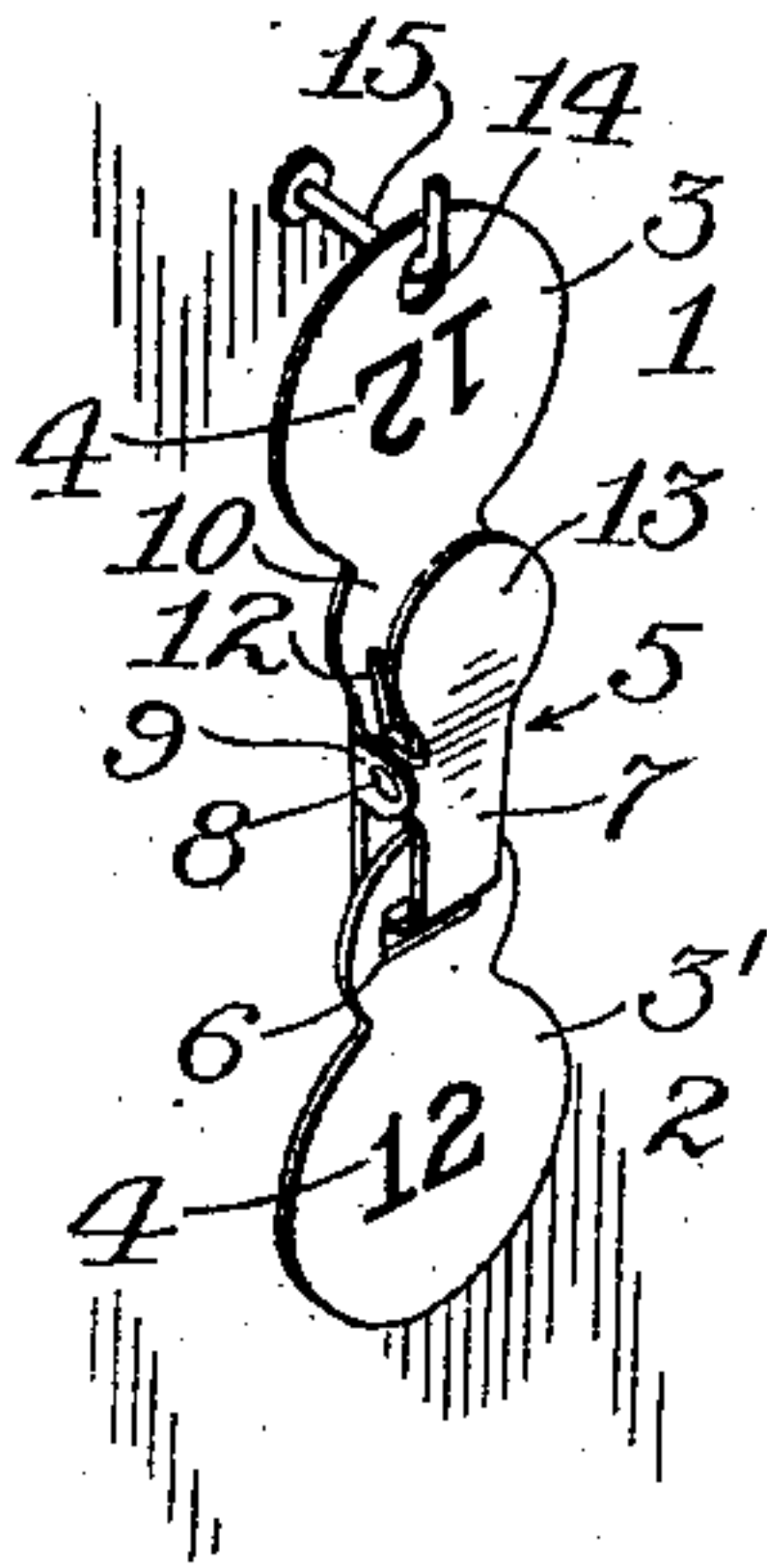


Fig. 2.

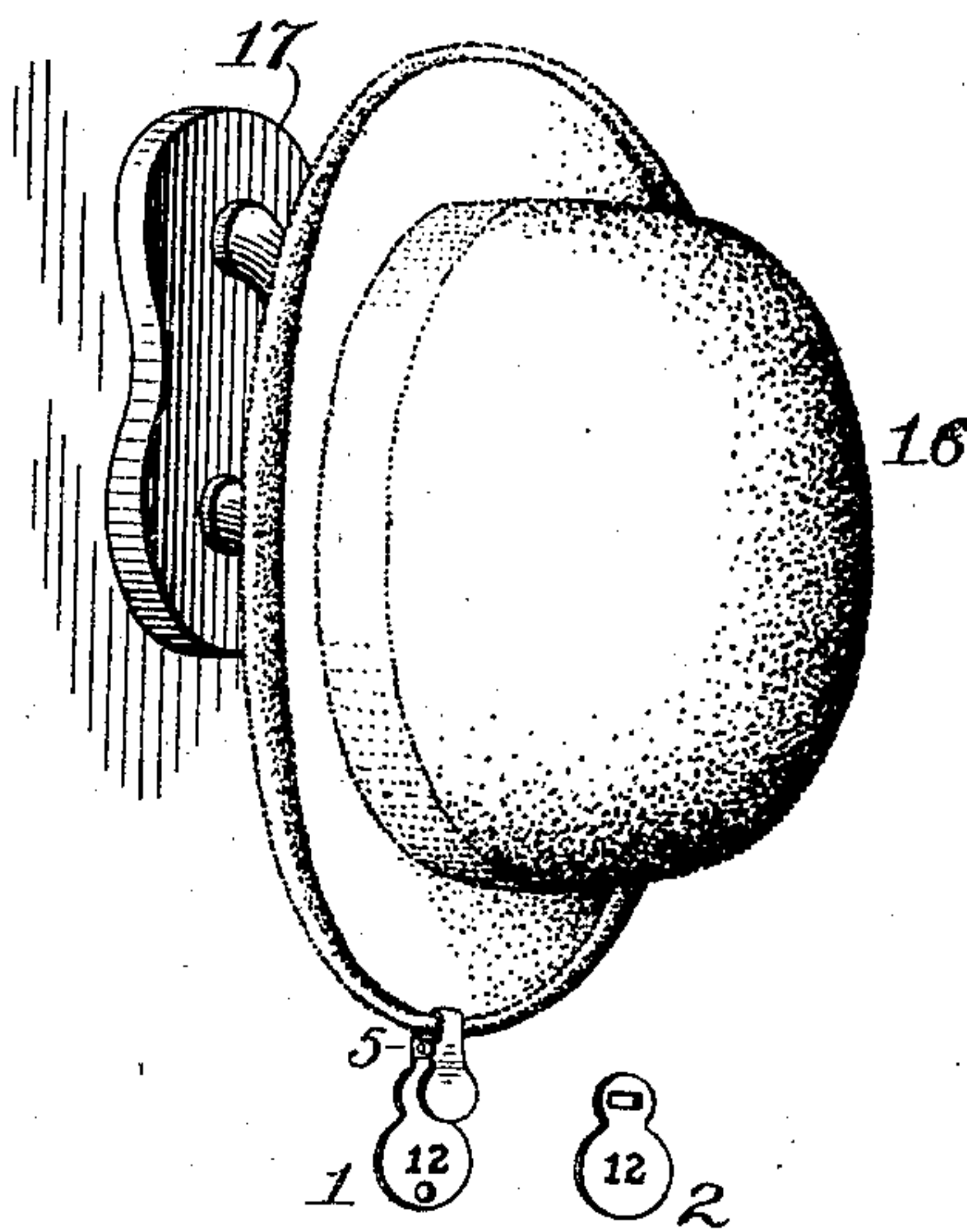
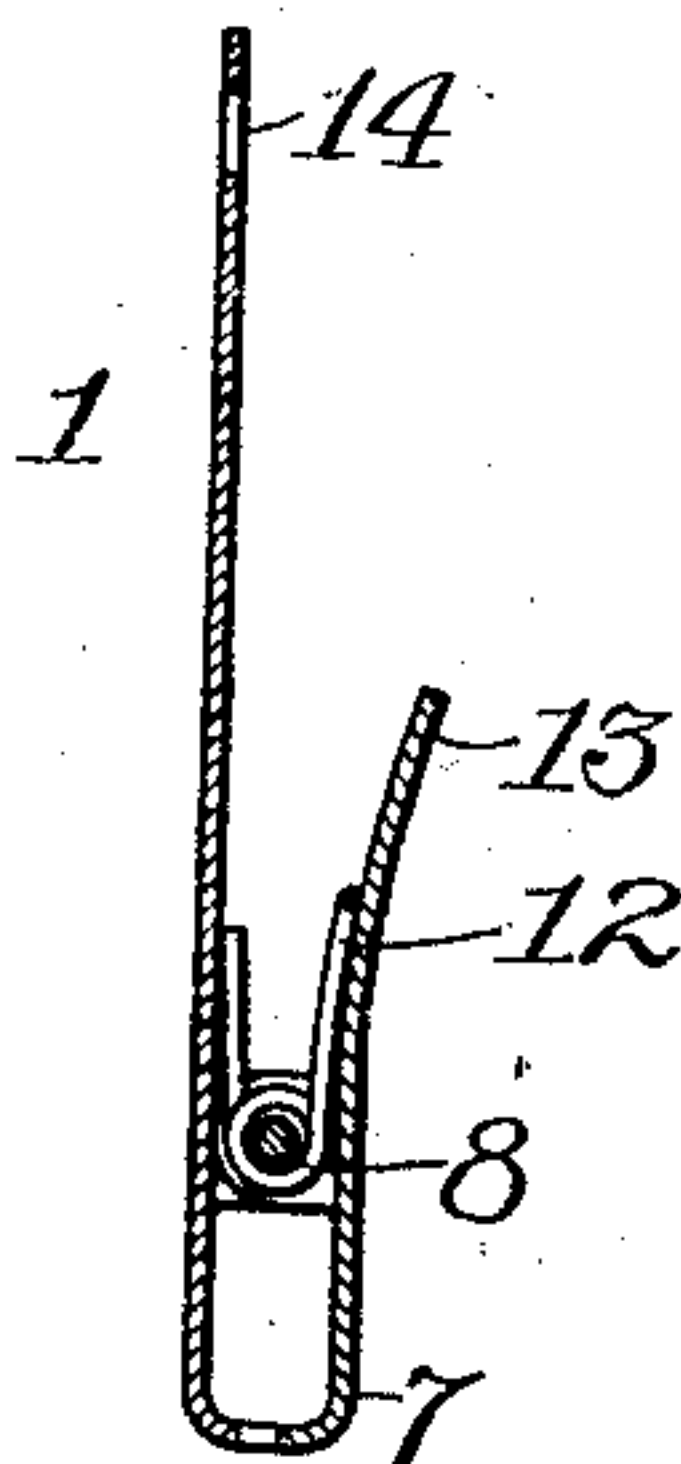


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:  
Frank A. Graham  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED CLARK STEVENSON, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO MOYE W. STEPHENS AND MILO HENRY SMITH, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

## CHECK FOR SAFE KEEPING OF ARTICLES.

No. 840,168.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 1, 1907.

Application filed January 12, 1905. Serial No. 240,700.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRED CLARK STEVENSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Checks for Safe Keeping of Articles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a check device for identification of personal property left with a custodian at a hotel or package-checking depot; and its principal object is to provide a device which will be cheap and convenient and which can be readily and easily marked with numerals or characters for identification purposes.

My invention also includes an identification check or fastener member which can readily and instantaneously be attached to or be detached from any article of wearing-apparel, grip, &c., and at the same time provide a smooth flat surface upon which an identification number or character may be readily and easily stamped by means of a die or other suitable means.

In providing a checking device of the character described I have produced blank spaces whereby the person supplying the checking devices to the hotel or parcel-storing depot can readily supply checks with any suitable number or symbol marked thereon that may be required.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the check device comprising two connected tablet members suspended on a suitable support. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the members of the check device separated and one of them appended to the property checked. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the check member which is adapted for attachment to the property.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, the check device is composed of two members 1 2, flat throughout, each of which comprises a tablet portion 3 3', which may have suitable marks or characters 4, said marks or characters being identical or correspondent on the two members, being, for example, identical numerals. These members 1 2 are herein termed, respectively, the "fastener" member and the "check" member, as the first embodies the

fastener for securing said member to the article to be checked and the other member is the identification-check given to the owner of the article and is the check by which such article is called for and delivered.

The member 1 is provided with means for detachably engaging the member 2 to connect the two members together. For this purpose the member 1 may have a spring clip or clamp fastener 5, whose jaws are adapted to enter and engage in a slot or opening 6 in the member 2. Said spring clip or clamp fastener may be of any suitable form—for example, a lever 7, pivoted at 8 on lugs 9, turned up from the edges of an extension 10 of member 1, the said extension and lever 7 carrying the respective jaws of the clip or clamp.

A spring 12, engaging between the said lever and the part 10, serves to press the jaws together. At the end remote from the jaws the lever 7 has a thumb-piece 13 to enable convenient operation thereof in opening the jaws. The tablet portion 3 of member 1 may have an opening 14 to enable the said member, with or without the member 2 appended thereon, to be hung on a suitable support—for example, on a hook 15, as shown in Fig. 1. The two members may thus be kept associated with or attached to one another, and when an article or piece of property is to be checked the members are separated by releasing the fastener 5 from the member 2, and said fastener 5 may then be extended over and clamped upon the article to be checked. Thus in Fig. 2 the fastener member 1 is shown as attached by its fastener 5 to the rim of a hat, (indicated at 16,) which in turn is hung on a suitable support, (indicated at 17.) The check member 2, which has been detached, is handed to the owner of the property to be kept by him until he claims the property.

The tablet portion 3 of the fastening member 1 is a continuation of the extension 10 and is in the same plane, while the check member 2 is also flat throughout and provided with the opening 6, through which the upturned end of the body 1 is inserted to attach the two members together when not used to identify any article. Thus it will be seen that the two members will lie flat upon any surface upon which it is desired to place them



when marking the numbers or characters upon them by means of a die. It is to be observed that the two members are thus adapted to be laid flat upon an ordinary surface, such as an anvil or like instrument, without the aid of any other holding device or disconnecting them from each other, thus materially cheapening and facilitating the manufacture of the checking device, as well as presenting to view in the plainest manner the numbers or characters placed thereupon.

It is thus seen that I provide a fastener member containing means for readily engaging the rim of a hat, the lapel of a coat, an umbrella, the strap of a suit-case, and even the finest textile fabrics without danger of injury thereof and that the device particularly recommends itself because of extreme simplicity and efficiency, saving time and labor in attaching and detaching.

What I claim is—

A check device comprising a fastener member comprising a flat base portion having upturned flanges or ears and an upturned

end forming a gripping-jaw, a spring-actuated portion pivotally mounted on said flanges or ears and having a forwardly-extending end provided with a downward-turned end forming a gripping-jaw cooperating with said first-named jaw and with a rearwardly-extending portion, said flat base portion extended in the same plane to form a solid integral flat extended portion adapted to receive a number or identification-mark and provided with a perforation at its rear end by which the fastener member may be suspended, in combination with a check member in flat form to receive a corresponding number or identification-mark and also provided with a perforation adapted to receive said gripping-jaws.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, at Los Angeles, California, this 30th day of December, 1904.

FRED CLARK STEVENSON.

In presence of—

A. P. KNIGHT,

JULIA TOWNSEND.