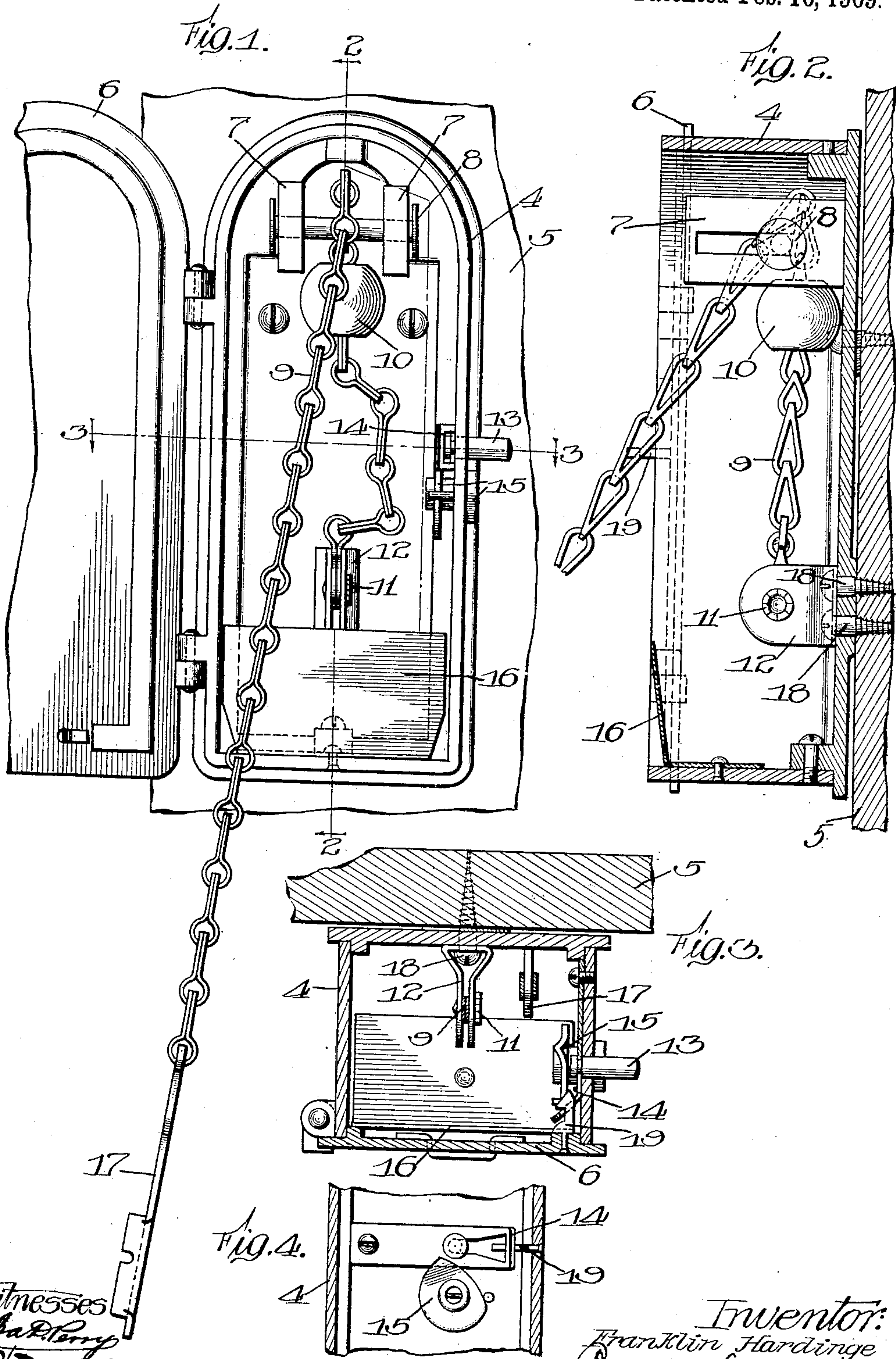


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 RECEPTACLE FOR KEYS FOR WATCHMEN'S CLOCKS.
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FRANKLIN HARDINGE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

RECEPTACLE FOR KEYS FOR WATCHMEN'S CLOCKS.

No. 912,312.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN HARDINGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Receptacles for Keys for Watchmen's Clocks, (Case 8,) of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to produce an improved means for securing and housing keys in desired locations for use with recording clocks usually employed by watchmen.

My invention relates to that class of watchmen's clocks commonly carried by the watchmen in their rounds and adapted to carry means for receiving records made by suitable cooperating keys permanently secured at different points in the watchmen's beats.

My invention consists in providing a means for securing a box or housing in a desired location and in sealing the securing or supporting means to prevent removal of the box and by the act of sealing to secure a key to the box in such a manner that neither the key can be taken away from the box nor the box taken from its support without breaking the seal or some other part of the structure.

In my invention I secure the key to the seal by a chain of such construction as to prevent the taking away of the key without cutting or breaking the chain, which may be hardened if desired, and the use of the key is facilitated by providing a length of chain sufficient to readily reach the clock carried by the watchman. In order to prevent the chain interfering with the door of the box when the key is replaced, I secure a weight to the chain and lead the chain over a guide in the upper part of the box, as a result of which when the chain is slack the weight drops to the bottom of the box and prevents the chain hanging down between the door and the front of the box. I also provide a spring wall across the lower part of the front of the box to retain the chain and key, this wall also serving to open the door when the catch is released.

The several drawings illustrating my invention are as follows:

Figure 1 is a front view of the box with

the door open and the key taken therefrom for use; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken along the line 2—2 in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view taken along the line 3—3 in Fig. 1, and in this view the door is shown as closed; Fig. 4 is a detail view of the lock mechanism employed in connection with the door.

Referring to the drawings, the box 4 is adapted to be supported from the wall or similar supporting means 5 by screws extending through the back of the box from the inside into such supporting means. The screws 18 used to attach the box at the lower portion thereof are first inserted through the clip 12 and then through the back of the box 4 and into the support 5, after which the clip 12 is closed together over the heads of the screws 18 and a rivet 11 is passed through the ends of the clip 12 and also through the end link of the chain 9, by which the rivet or seal 11 serves to hold the clip over the heads of the screws 18 and also to rigidly secure the chain 9 to such clip. The chain 9 is led over a guide or roller 8 supported by brackets 7 from the rear of the box, and has attached to its outer end a key 17 adapted to suitably operate the clock carried by the watchman, which is not shown in this connection, as it forms no part of this invention. A weight 10 is secured to the chain 9 between the roller 8 and the clip 12, which serves to draw the chain over the roller when the key is replaced in the box and to thus prevent the slack of the chain hanging out between the front of the box and the door 6 when it is attempted to close such door. The chain, as shown in the drawings and which I prefer to use in this connection, is of the type known as safety chain, which prevents the removal of the key except by cutting the chain or breaking some part of the supporting structure. The door 6 has secured thereto a catch 19 adapted to cooperate with a spring latch 14 engaged by a push pin 13. A spring wall 16 is located across the lower part of the front of the box to prevent the chain and key from dropping out in the way of the door when they are contained in the box, and this spring wall 16 is so conformed as to press against the door 6 when it is closed, as a result of which when the pin 13 is pushed inward the latch 14 is disengaged from the catch 19 and the spring wall 16 opens the door 6. A lock 15 is provided which when rotated by means of any suit-

able key is moved into the path of the push pin 13 in such a manner as to prevent such pin being pushed inward and therefore prevents disengagement of the catch 19 and the spring latch 14. By properly proportioning the box 4, guide 8, chain 9 and weight 10, it is apparent that the weight 10 may be made to cause the return of the key 17 when it is released by the user, whether he assists in its return to the box or not.

While I have shown my invention in the embodiment herein described, I do not limit myself to the exact detailed construction disclosed, but claim any equivalent construction that will suggest itself to those skilled in the art.

What I claim is:

1. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, a guide in the upper part of the receptacle for the chain, a weight secured to the chain between such guide and the end of the chain secured to the inside of the receptacle for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, means within the receptacle for supporting it as desired, and means for sealing such supporting means and for securing thereto one end of the chain.

2. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, a guide in the upper part of the receptacle for the chain, a weight secured to the chain between the said guide and the end of the chain secured to the inside of the receptacle for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, and sealing means for securing one end of such chain to the inside of the receptacle.

3. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, a guide in the upper part of the receptacle for the chain, a weight secured to the chain between such guide and the end of the chain secured to the inside of the receptacle for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle.

4. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, and a weight secured to the chain for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle.

5. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, means for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, means inside of the receptacle

for supporting it as desired, and means for sealing such supporting means and securing thereto one end of the chain.

6. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, means for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, and sealing means for securing one end of such chain to the inside of the receptacle.

7. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain secured to the key and to the inside of the receptacle, and means for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle.

8. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain for securing the key to the inside of the receptacle, means for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, means for supporting the receptacle as desired, means for sealing such supporting means and securing thereto one end of the chain, and a wall for retaining the chain in the receptacle when open, such wall adapted to open the door of the receptacle when such door is released.

9. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain for securing the key to the inside of the receptacle, means for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, sealing means for securing one end of such chain to the inside of the receptacle, and a wall for retaining the chain in the receptacle when open, such wall adapted to open the door of the receptacle when such door is released.

10. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain for securing the key to the inside of the receptacle, means for taking up the slack when the key is returned to the receptacle, and a wall for retaining the chain in the receptacle when open, such wall adapted to open the door of the receptacle when such door is released.

11. In combination with a receptacle for containing a key adapted to operate a watchman's clock, a chain for securing the key to the inside of the receptacle, a wall for retaining the chain in the receptacle when open, and a door for the receptacle, such wall adapted to open the door when the latter is released.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 31st day of December, A. D. 1907.

FRANKLIN HARDINGE.

Witnesses:

MATILDA GRUSSINGER,
WILLIAM BAUMANN.