G. B. THOMAS.

CAM FOR LAMP SOCKET KEYS.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 18, 1907.

913,584. **Patented Feb. 23, 1909.**

Fig. 1.

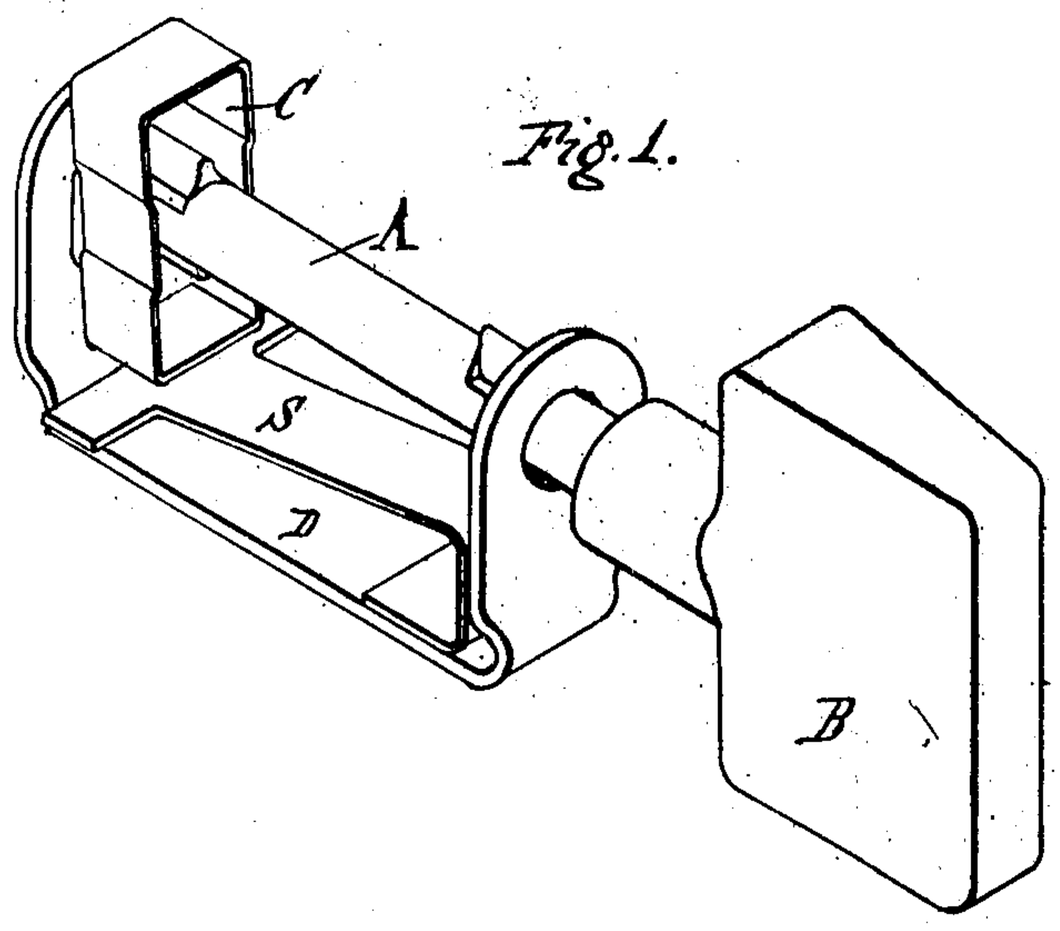


Fig. 2.

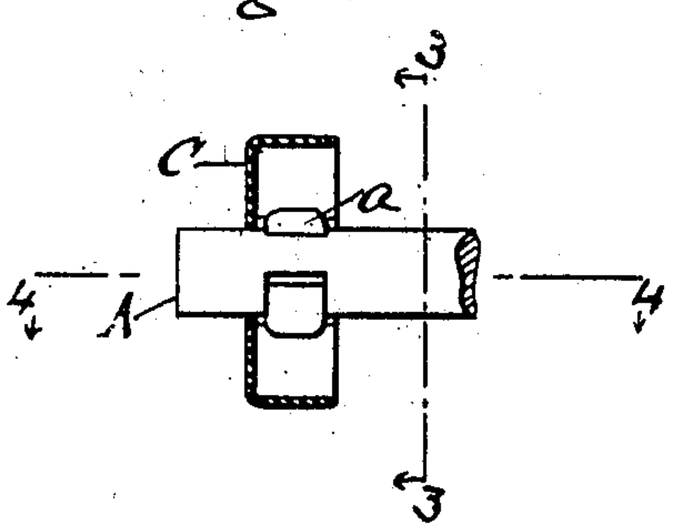


Fig. 3.

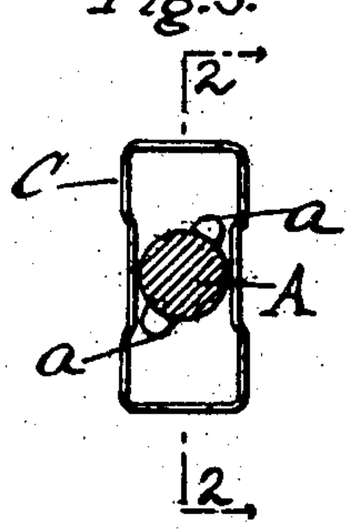
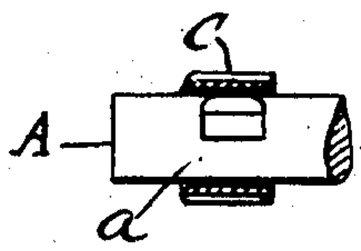


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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GEORGE B. THOMAS, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE BRYANT ELECTRIC COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

CAM FOR LAMP-SOCKET KEYS.

No. 913,584. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 23, 1909.

Application filed December 18, 1907. Serial No. 407,073.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield, in the State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Cam for Lamp-Socket Keys, of which the following is a specification.

In the keys or switches of electric incandescent lamp sockets, receptacles, or the like, a rotary cam piece is commonly used to control the making and breaking of the electric circuit. Heretofore this cam piece has been made of a piece stamped or punched from a metal bar, but in practice it is found that unless the temper of the bar is just right, the cam is liable to break. I avoid this difficulty and at the same time make the construction cheaper by constructing the cam of a drawn sheet metal cup.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a perspective view of a lamp socket key provided with my improvement; Figs. 2, 3 and 4 are sections on the lines 2—2, Fig. 3, 3—3 and 4—4, Fig. 2 respectively with the spindle A however shown in full.

A is the rotary spindle provided with the usual thumb piece B, and turning in bearings in the yoke D, which latter carries a bent spring S, acting at its free end upon the tumbler or cam C, carried by the spindle A. This cam, when in the position shown in Fig. 1, makes electrical connection between the yoke D and the threaded lamp shell, the latter not being shown. When turned to a position at right angles to that shown, the circuit is broken in the usual manner.

As shown in the drawing, I form the cam C by drawing it up into a cup shape out of sheet metal. The outline of the cup is oblong, (Figs. 1 and 3), but contracted at the center, where the spindle A passes through it and through a hole in the bottom of the cup, (Fig. 2). On that part of the spindle which lies within the cup are formed two opposite projections *a*, *a*, and the contracted part of the cup is of such relative size that the spindle can turn independently of the cup within it to a limited extent to provide the required amount of lost motion, but the projections *a* then come into contact with the side walls of the cup to turn the cam.

A cam piece thus drawn up into cup shape has been found to be very strong, not liable to break, and yet cheap to manufacture, and the side walls of the cup provide the necessary strips for the projections on the spindle to turn the cam with lost motion.

I claim as my invention—

The combination of the key spindle of a lamp socket having projections with a cup shaped cam of sheet metal drawn up into oblong outline and having indented sides between which the portion of the spindle bearing said projections is located, substantially as described.

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

GEORGE B. THOMAS.

Witnesses:
G. W. GOODRIDGE,
H. W. GOLDSBOROUGH.