H. R. SARGENT.

INCANDESCENT LAMP SOCKET.

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954,823.

Patented Apr. 12, 1910.

Fig. 1.

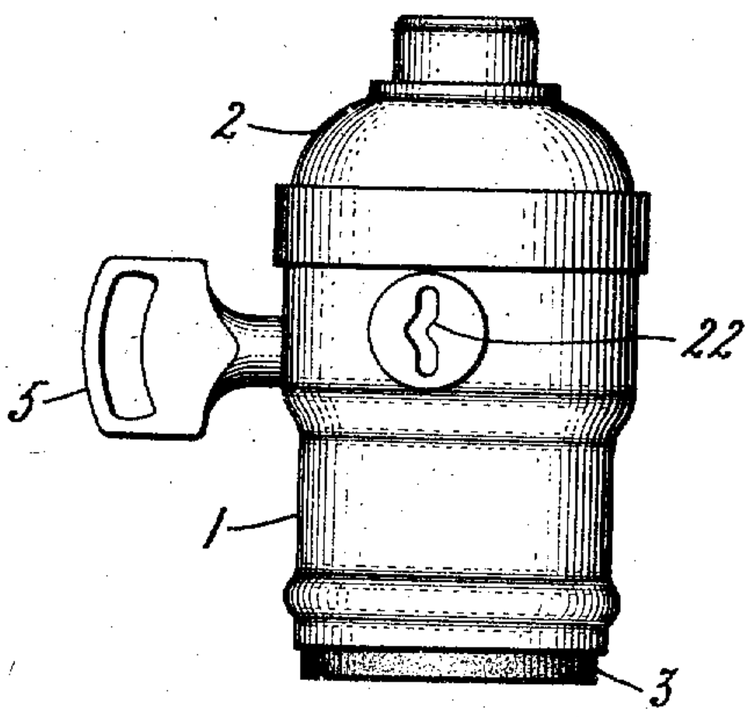


Fig. 2.

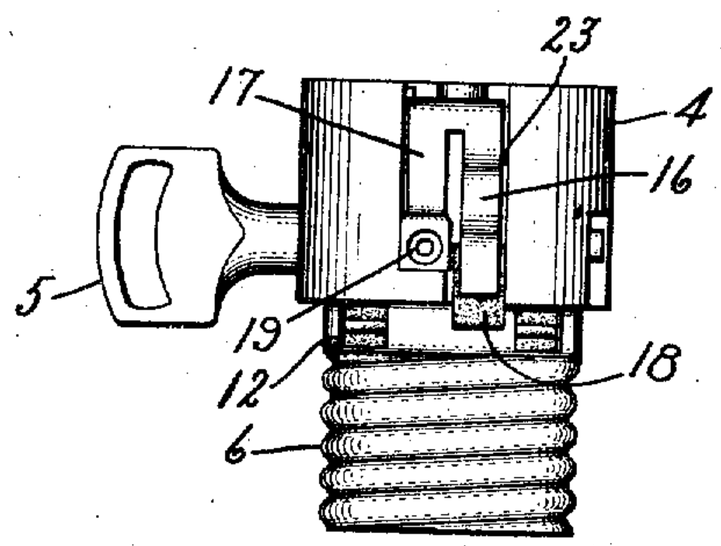


Fig. 3.

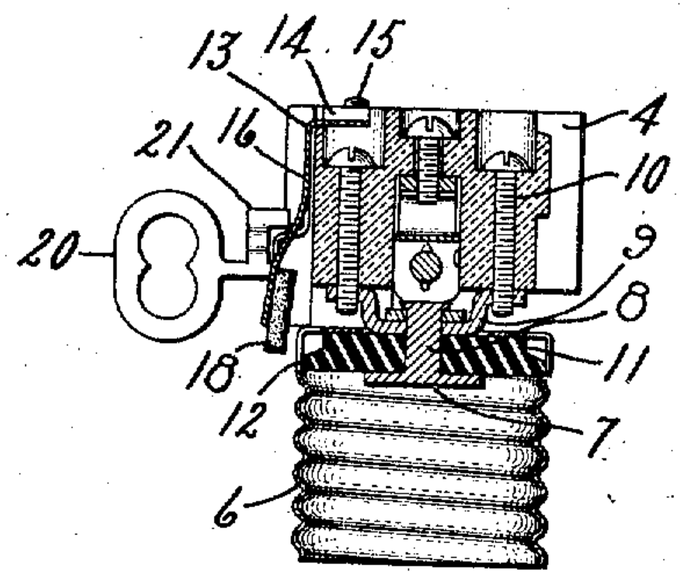
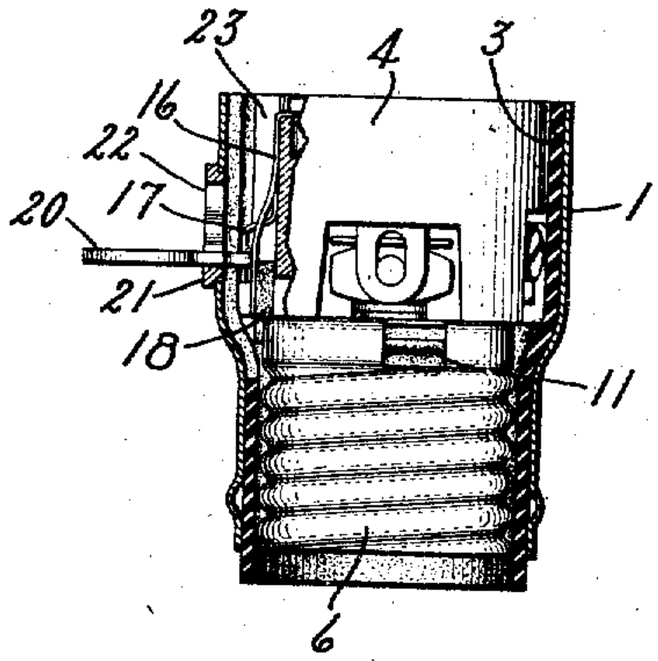


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD R. SARGENT, OF SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

INCANDESCENT-LAMP SOCKET.

954,823. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 12, 1910.

Application filed August 20, 1908. Serial No. 449,442.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD R. SARGENT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Schenectady, county of Schenectady, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Incandescent-Lamp Sockets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to sockets for incandescent electric lamps, and its object is to simplify the construction and lessen the cost of manufacture of a socket of that class in which the lamp holding member, such as the screw-threaded shell contact, is swiveled so as to turn freely and prevent the lamp from being removed unless said shell is locked.

Such sockets have been patented heretofore and the present invention consists simply in an improvement of the locking device by means of which an authorized person can temporarily lock the swiveled shell when a lamp is to be removed or inserted.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a lamp socket embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a side elevation with the outer shell or casing removed; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section, showing the swiveled contact unlocked; and Fig. 4 is a sectional side elevation showing said contact locked.

The socket comprises the usual shell 1 and cap 2 with the insulating lining 3, porcelain base 4, key 5, screw threaded shell contact 6, and insulated center contact 7. The latter has a shank 8 mounted to rotate freely in a bridge 9 secured to the base by screws 10. The flanged head 7 of the center contact clamps a disk 11 of insulating material against the bottom of the shell contact 6 and also against the bridge 9—the center of the shell bottom being cut away so that it is not in contact with the bridge. The peripheral portion of the shell bottom bears against the base 4. This construction enables the shell to rotate with the center contact and concentric therewith, without any lost motion endwise.

The corner of the shell contact, where its wall and bottom meet, has several radial shoulders formed by notches 12 cut in it, and coöperating with said notches is a spring latch, consisting of a strip of resilient metal having a flange 13 at one end secured to the base 4, preferably by a nut 14, engaging with a screw 15 which is secured in said base.

The resilient strip has two parallel fingers 16, 17, the former inclining away from the base and carrying a small block 18 of insulation adapted to engage with the shoulders of a notch 12, and the other having an indentation 19 to receive the barrel of a key 20. The ward 21 of said key is shaped to fit the keyhole 22 in the shell 1 and is adapted to bear upon the outer surface of the finger 16. Since said finger is free to move in a plane radial to the base 4, and stands normally outside of the shell socket as shown in Fig. 3, the action of the key 20 when turned on its radial axis, is to slide its ward 21 along the inclined outer surface of the finger and press it radially inward until the block 18 enters a notch 12 and thereby locks the shell contact 6 or in case no notch is opposite the finger it will be arrested by the periphery and deflected so as to snap into a notch upon angular movement of the contact shell. When thus locked, a lamp can be screwed into said contact or removed therefrom. But when the key is turned back and pulled out, the finger 16 springs outwardly and unlocks the shell contact, so that any atempt to unscrew a lamp only results in rotating said contact. This mode of constructing the locking device is simple and inexpensive, and it is easily assembled upon the base 4, being housed in a suitable recess 23 in the side thereof and prevented from moving sidewise by the side walls of the recess.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is,

1. A lamp socket comprising a rotatable screw-threaded contact provided with a radial shoulder, and a radially movable spring latch adapted to engage said shoulder, said latch comprising a resilient strip secured at one end to the base of said socket and extending lengthwise thereof.

2. A lamp socket comprising a rotatable screw-threaded contact provided with a radial shoulder, and a radially movable spring latch adapted to engage said shoulder, said latch comprising a resilient strip secured at one end to the base of said socket and extending lengthwise thereof, and inclining outwardly therefrom.

3. A lamp socket comprising a rotatable screw-threaded contact provided with radial shoulders, a spring latch adapted to engage with said shoulders and normally in-

clined outwardly from the base of said socket, and a rotatable key having a ward adapted to engage with said inclined latch and force it radially inward.

4. A lamp socket comprising a base provided with a side recess, a rotatable screw-threaded contact shell provided with a radial shoulder, and a spring latch mounted in the recess of the base and adapted to engage the shoulder of the contact shell.

5. A lamp socket comprising a rotatable screw-threaded contact shell, and a resilient strip secured at one end to the base of said socket and having two fingers, one serving as a spring latch for said shell and the other affording a bearing for a key which operates said latch.

6. A lamp socket comprising a rotatable screw-threaded contact shell provided with radial shoulders, a spring finger adapted to engage with said shoulders, and a key having a ward adapted to slide along said finger and force it into engagement with a shoulder.

7. A lamp socket comprising a rotatable screw-threaded contact shell provided with radial shoulders, a radially movable outwardly inclined spring finger secured at one end to the base of said socket and adapted to engage with said shoulders, and a key rotatable on a radial axis and having a ward adapted to slide along said finger.

8. A lamp socket comprising a suitable base, a rotatable screw-threaded contact shell provided with radial shoulders, and a resilient strip having at one end a flange secured to said base, and comprising two parallel fingers, one having an indentation, and the other free to be forced radially inward to engage with any one of said shoulders.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of August, 1908.

HOWARD R. SARGENT.

Witnesses:

BENJAMIN B. HULL,

HELEN ORFORD.