

C. H. ALLEN.
SAFETY FOB ATTACHMENT.
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984,339.

Patented Feb. 14, 1911.

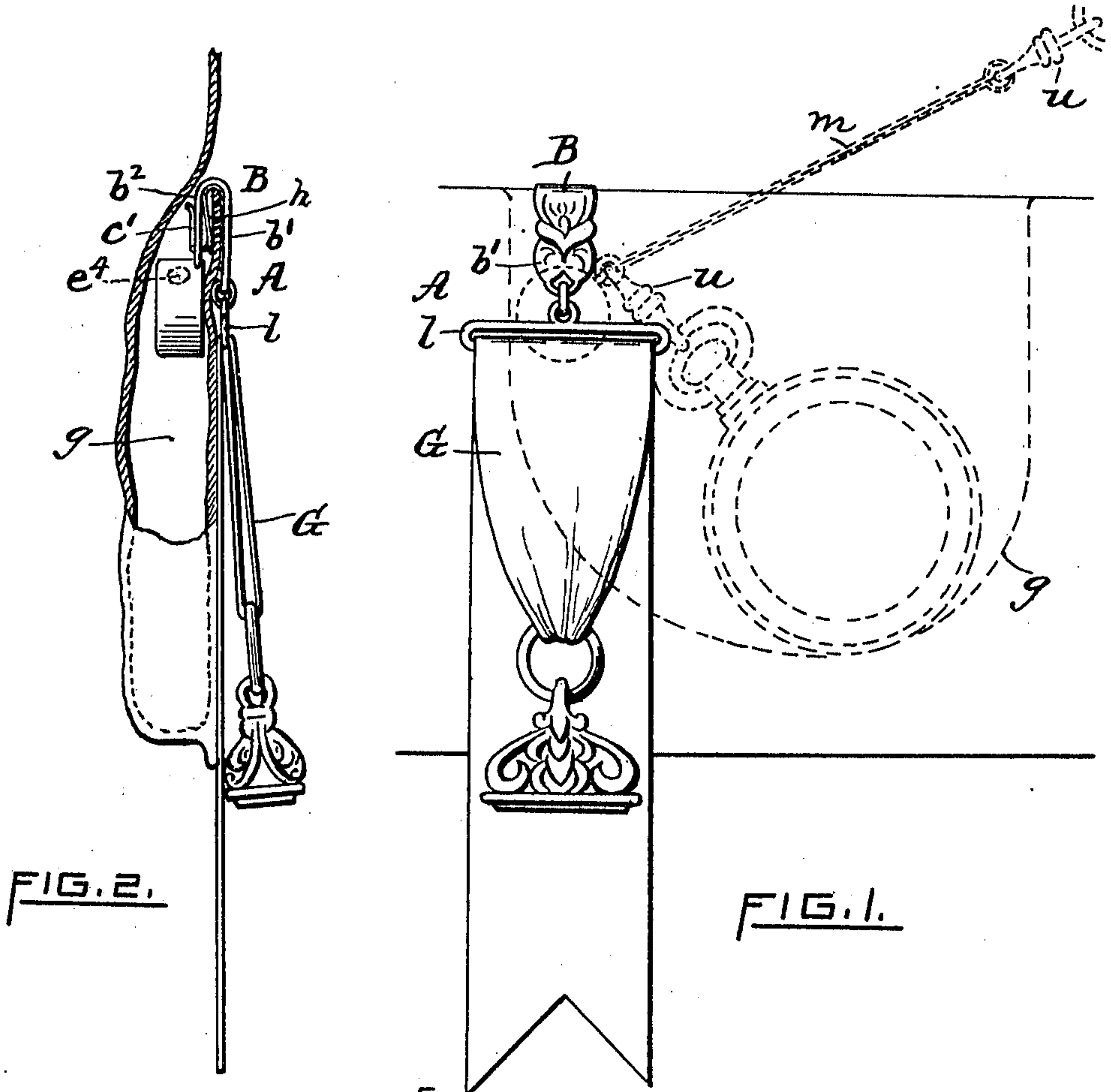
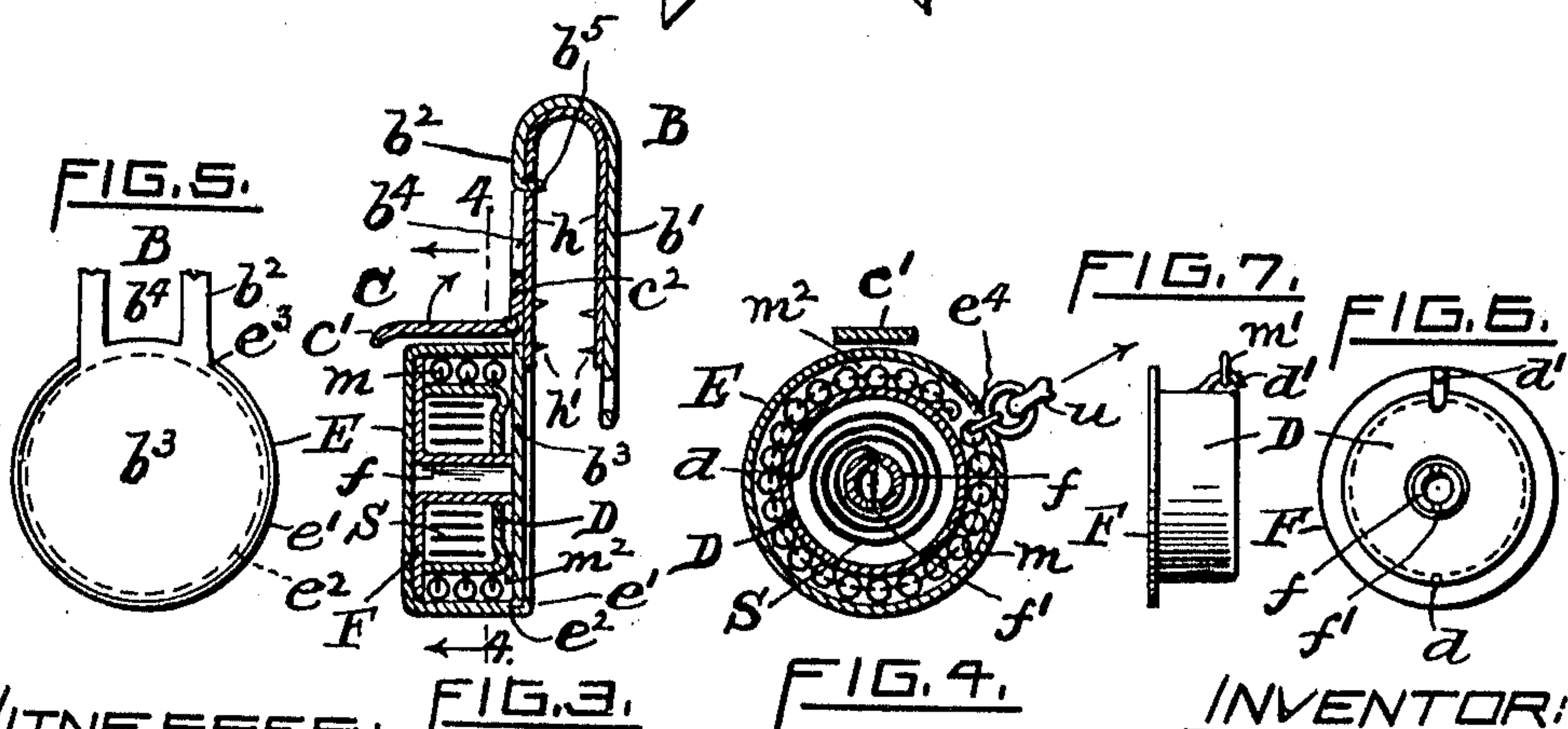


FIG. 2.

FIG. 1.



WITNESSES:

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SAFETY FOB ATTACHMENT.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. ALLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Attleboro, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety Fob Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in safety-fob attachments of the class provided each with a short chain or flexible connection arranged to be secured to a watch and also adapted to be detachably secured to the watch-pocket of the wearer; and it consists in the novel features of construction and combination, all as more fully hereinafter set forth and claimed.

The object I have in view is to produce a safety-fob attachment in which the objections and disadvantages inherent in devices of this general character, are wholly eliminated. To that end the main holder or clip member has a casing fixed at its inner end containing a small, revoluble, spring-retracted drum, having a fob-chain connected to the latter and wound thereon, the other, or swivel-end of the chain extending outward through the casing. The action of the spring serves to maintain the swivel-end of the chain in normal contact with the casing and also to automatically rewind the chain upon the drum concurrently with the act of returning the watch into the pocket. In order to consult the watch, the user simply removes it from his pocket, the movement at the same time causing the light, spring-resisted drum to rotate rearwardly and permit the chain to unwind therefrom to its limit. The reaction of the spring causes the drum to rotate in a contrary direction and rewind the chain thereon, as first stated.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of a safety-fob attachment embodying my improvement, said figure also showing the device attached to a watch lying in the watch-pocket portion of a garment, as in use. Fig. 2 is a corresponding edge view of the same, in partial section. Fig. 3 is a vertical or longitudinal sectional view, in enlarged scale, taken through the center of the main attaching member, or clip, and the revoluble chain-carrying drum. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 represents a front elevation of the drum-casing, showing the lower por-

tion of the clip positioned therein. Fig. 6 is an end elevation of the drum and its supporting member; and Fig. 7 is a corresponding side elevation of the same.

It may be stated briefly that A, in the drawings, designates the article complete, the same comprising the improved bent clip or clasp member B, the casing E secured to it, the chain-carrying, spring-retracting drum D revolubly mounted in the casing, and a fob, as G, attached to a looped bar l , linked to and suspended from the front arm of the member B.

The clip member B is bent to an inverted U-shape, the lower end of the front arm b^1 is adapted to be linked to the usual bar member l , from which depends a fob proper, as G. The rear arm, b^2 , extends downward substantially parallel with arm b^1 and terminates in the enlarged thin disk-like part b^3 , Fig. 5. An opening b^4 is pierced through arm b^2 , a portion of the stock being bent inward to form the lug b^5 . A thin sheet metal spring h conforms to the inner face of the arms and is held in position by said lug—see Fig. 3. The lower proximate faces of the spring are provided with spurs h^1 . An angle-lever C, formed of arms c^1 and c^2 , is pivoted to the back of member b^2 , its short arm c^2 lying in the opening b^4 and being in normal contact with the adjacent back face of the spring h , all as clearly shown.

E designates a shallow, cup-shaped, cylindrical casing, having formed in its front end a narrow inner circular shoulder e^2 and a rim e^1 , the rim being cut away at e^3 , Fig. 5, to receive the corresponding part b^2 of the clip. It will be seen that the said disk part b^3 of the latter forms a cap or cover for the casing, the shoulder e^2 and intumed or beaded edge e^1 serving to secure it in position—see Fig. 3. A flanged disk F, having a tubular central hub f , is located in and secured to the bottom of the casing. The hub has a longitudinal slit f^1 , Figs. 4 and 6, to receive therein the inner end of a light spiral spring S, the end of the outer convolution being secured in a slit d cut in the rim of the spring-inclosing drum member D, revolubly mounted on said stationary hub f .

As thus constructed, an annular space m^2 is produced between the adjacent walls of the casing and drum, adapted to contain a predetermined length of chain m . The chain is wound around the drum in a plu-

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rality of coils or helices, one end, m^1 of the chain, being attached to a spur d^1 (Figs. 6 and 7) formed in the front end of the drum's rim. The spur is subsequently bent down-
5 ward, thus securing the chain to the drum. The other or free end of the chain m extends through a suitably located opening e^4 formed in the side wall of the casing and is or may be attached to the usual swivel u of a watch-
10 chain.

The manner of operation of my improved safety and fob-chain attachment A is substantially as follows: The clip member B is first positioned and then secured to the up-
15 per edge, say of a watch-pocket g by swinging the arm c^1 of the lever C upward to deflect spring h , as shown in Fig. 2, the inner or rear arm of the clip then extending into the pocket, followed by attaching a watch
20 to the swivel u of the chain m . The action of the spring S normally maintains the chain in the protected wound and concealed position indicated. In order to consult the watch, the user simply pulls it slightly while
25 withdrawing it from the pocket, the movement being limited by the length of the

chain—see corresponding position indicated in Fig. 1. Upon returning the watch to the pocket, the spring acts to automatically re-
wind the chain upon the drum until arrested 30 by the swivel or ring.

I claim as my invention:

In a device of the character described, the combination of a cup-shaped casing, a spring-pressed drum revolvably mounted 35 therein, a chain attached to and wound upon the drum's periphery, an end of the chain extending through the casing, a cap or cover member secured to and closing the front end of the casing, said cap having an extension 40 integral therewith bent to a U-shape form whose free end is adapted to support a fob, and a spring-pressed lever pivotally mounted in said extension arranged in coöperation 45 with the latter to form a clasp.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES H. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

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ANNIE A. WHEELER.