(No Model.)

G. C. H. FOSTER.

INCANDESCENT LAMP SOCKET.

No. 489,158. Patented Jan. 3, 1893.

Fig. 1.

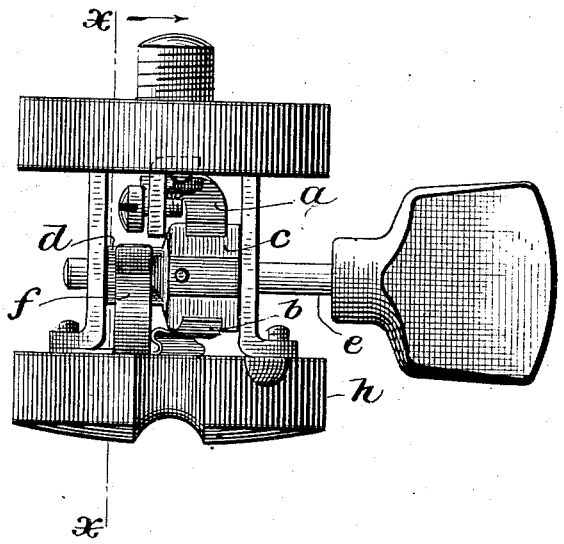


Fig. 2.

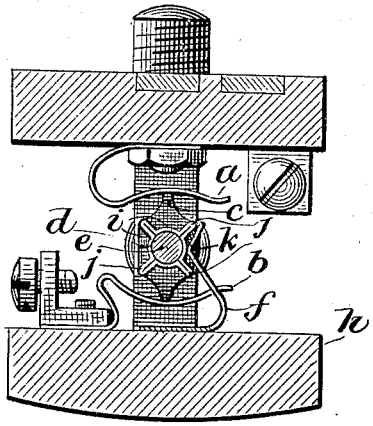
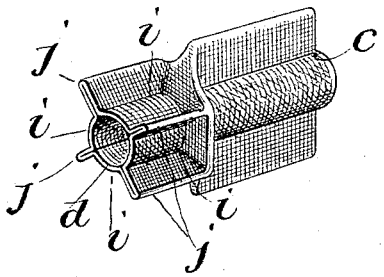


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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GEORGE C. H. FOSTER, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE CROWN ELECTRIC MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

INCANDESCENT-LAMP SOCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 489,158, dated January 3, 1893.

Application filed February 8, 1892. Renewed December 5, 1892. Serial No. 454,142. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. H. FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sockets for Incandescent Lights; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in sockets for incandescent lights, but more particularly refers to the controller block and the spring co-operating therewith whereby the switch cam is caused to properly perform its functions.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1, is an elevation of a socket equipped with my improvement—Fig. 2, a section at the line *x*, *x*, of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3, a detail perspective of the cam and block.

Similar letters denote like parts in the several figures.

The present invention has nothing whatever to do with any part of the socket save the switch cam and controller block, and I will therefore not enter into any description of the other parts of the socket, but will merely say that the upper and lower contact springs *a*, *b*, with which the cam engages are arranged and constructed as in any ordinary socket.

c is the cam and *d* the controller block preferably formed integral from sheet metal, as shown at Fig. 3. The cam and block are secured on the usual stem *e*, and a spring *f* secured to the insulating disk *h* acts against said block. There is nothing peculiar and novel in the cam itself, but in the construction of the block it will be observed that the sides instead of being flat are generally concaved as shown at *i*, so that said block really comprises a central body having four equidistant wings *j* extending radially and circumferentially therefrom. The spring *f* has a knuckle *k* which co-operates with the block after the manner of a pawl and ratchet. It will of course be readily seen that when, by the turning of the block, one of the wings *j* has passed beyond the knuckle *k* in the spring, said knuckle will immediately spring inward within the concavity *i* thereby efficiently bringing and locking the block in proper position.

In order to make myself clearly understood, it might be proper to say, that, in devices of this description, there is a decided objection to a rectangular block, for the reason that when the spring is forced back by the block the angular contact point of the latter can be lowered for a full eighth of an inch below a horizontal plane before the spring will recover itself, thereby contributing toward imperfect contact between the cam and upper and lower springs *a*, *b*, and causing the formation of arcs. This, in fact, happens very frequently, since the stem can be turned far enough to accomplish, to all appearances, the result aimed at, and still cause imperfect contact and formation of arcs.

I claim—

1. In a socket for incandescent lights, the controller block stamped out of sheet metal and bent up into form consisting of a central body having four equidistant wings extending radially therefrom in combination with a resilient knuckle adapted to co-operate with said wings to lock the block in position, substantially as set forth.

2. In a socket for incandescent lights, a controller block stamped out of sheet metal and consisting of a central circular portion, having four equidistant wings extending radially and circumferentially therefrom in combination with a resilient knuckle adapted to co-operate with said wings to lock the block in position, substantially as set forth.

3. In an incandescent lamp socket a cam for switching the current and a controller block integral therewith all of one piece of sheet metal stamped out and bent up into form, said controller block consisting of a central circular portion having four equidistant wings extending radially and circumferentially therefrom, substantially as set forth.

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

GEORGE C. H. FOSTER.

Witnesses:
F. W. SMITH, Jr.,
J. S. FINCH.