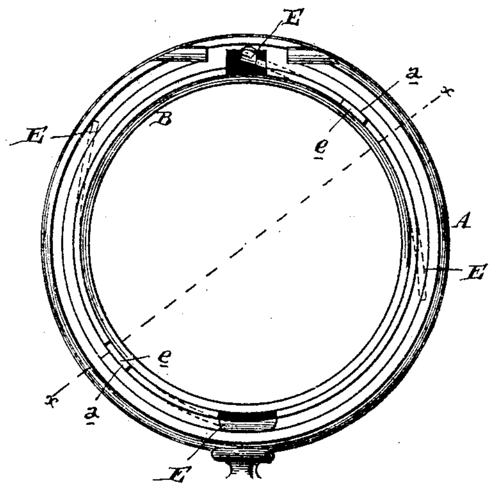
(No Model.)

W. FOWLER.

WATCH CASE SPRING.

No. 345,226. Patented July 6, 1886.

FIG. 1



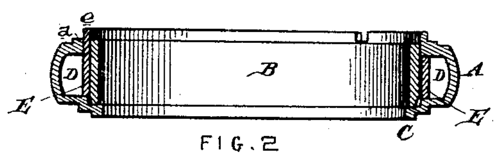


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

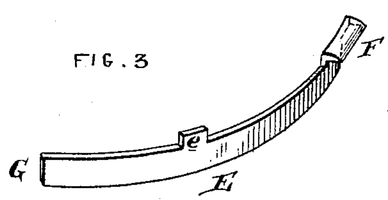
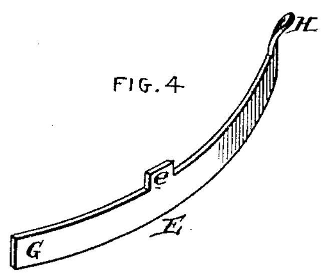


FIG. 4



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Ernest Howard Hunter
E. M. Breckinreed

Inventor
William Fowler
By his atty

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM FOWLER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO THE KEYSTONE WATCH CASE COMPANY.

WATCH-CASE SPRING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,226, dated July 6, 1886.

Application filed March 10, 1886. Serial No. 194,699. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM FOWLER, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Watch-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to watch-cases; and it consists in certain improvements, all of which are fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, which form part thereof.

Heretofore the case and snap springs of watches have been especially made to be attached to the center of the watch-case by screws to secure them and prevent longitudinal movement. Such constructions are expensive, first, because a special form or shape of spring-body is required, and, second, the method of its attachment is time-consuming, and therefore costly.

The object of my invention is to provide such a construction of spring and the watch-case center for its reception that the insertion of the usual dust bushing or ring securely holds the case and snap springs in position without the use of screws or any additional fastenings. My improved construction also enables a cheap form of spring to be used.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a watch-case embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of same on line *x x*. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the snap-spring, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of the case-spring.

A is the watch-case center, and is made of the ordinary shape. The dust ring or bushing B rests upon the lower face of the center at C in the usual way, and forms the annular space D for the reception of the springs. Upon one of the faces of the center, and at the inner edge thereof, I provide notches *a*, for the reception of the lugs or extensions *e* of the springs E. The springs E are substantially alike, excepting that the end of one is provided with an extension, H, to press against the case to open the lid, while the other is provided with a snap, F, to hold the lid shut. These springs are preferably formed of stamped sheet metal and of less curvature than that of the case. When these springs are inserted in the center, they rest within the space D, and their heel ends G press outward upon the center, forming one place of support, while the lugs *e* fit into the notches *a* and prevent any possibility of longitudinal movement, and also form a second place of support. After these springs have been placed within the center and fitted to the notches the bushing or dust-ring is inserted, and the springs are thereby firmly locked in position. This construction is extremely cheap, and at the same time effective and durable.

It is evident that more than one projection *e* might be used, if desired; or the springs might be made cast or mechanically formed in any other manner.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A watch-case center having its face provided with a notch, in combination with a case or snap spring having an extension or lug to fit into said notch in the center to prevent longitudinal movement, and a dust ring or bushing fitting within the center and retaining the spring and its lug in position, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. A watch-case center having its face provided with a notch, in combination with a case or snap spring made of thin flat spring metal, and having an extension or lug to fit into said notch in the center to prevent longitudinal movement, and a dust ring or bushing fitting within the center and retaining the spring and its lug in position, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. The combination of the center A, having notches *a*, with the dust ring or bushing B, adapted to fit down into the case, and springs E, having lugs or extensions *e*, to fit into the notches *a*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. A watch case or snap spring formed of flat spring metal of less curvature than the curvature of the watch-case center, and having upon one of its edges an extension, *e*, arranged in the same plane with the body of the spring, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

WILLIAM FOWLER.

Witnesses:
OTTO NOLLA,
JOHN C. GALLEN.