April 24, 1945. B. R. THIELE 2,374,629

STRAP HANDLE HOLDER

Filed Nov. 16, 1942

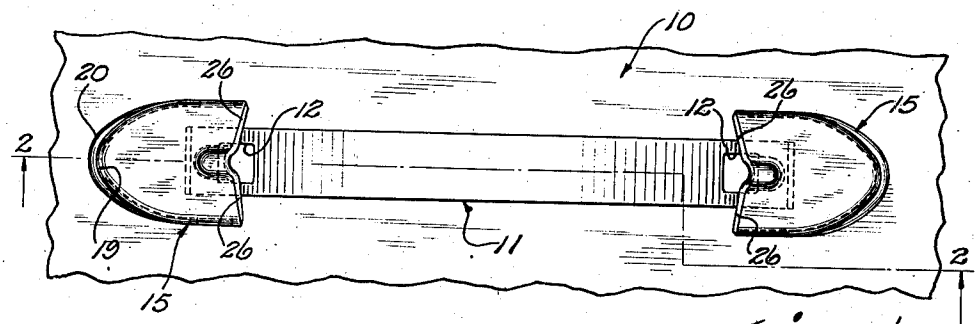


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

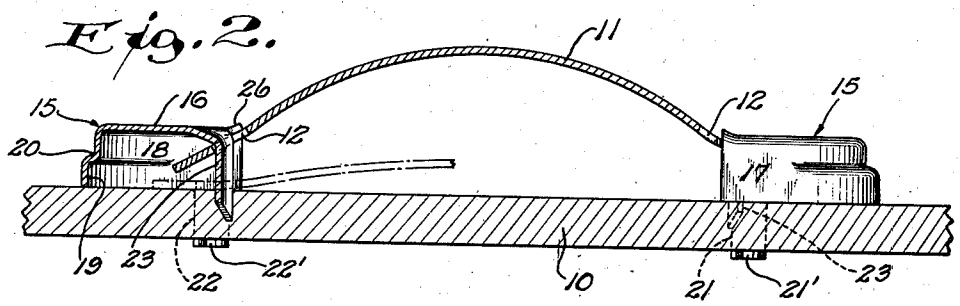


Fig. 3.

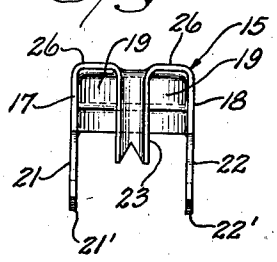
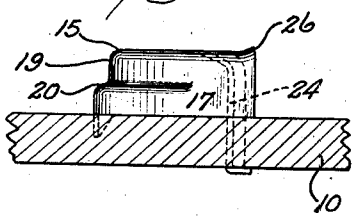


Fig. 4.



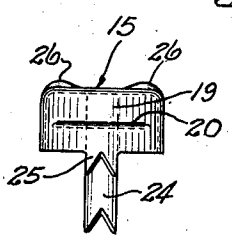


Fig. 5.

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STRAP HANDLE HOLDER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 190—58)

This invention relates to an improvement in strap handle holders for use with suit cases, traveling bags, or with boxes or receptacles of various kinds.

Strap handles of the type with which the holder embodying the present invention is adapted to be used consist of a flexible strap of leather, or other suitable material, which is provided adjacent its ends with longitudinal slots. The holders, combined with the ends of the strap, are attached to the box or receptacle, and have combined guide and stop posts which extend through the slots at the end of the strap, thereby permitting the strap to flatten down against the receptacle or box, when not in use, and to be pulled up into an arch or bowed formation when it is to be gripped for the purpose of carrying or lifting the box or receptacle.

The object of the present invention is to provide a strap handle holder of this character, which is of extremely simple construction although attractive and highly ornamental in appearance and adapted to be combined, in a highly advantageous manner, with the receptacle and with the strap.

In carrying out the present invention each strap handle holder is constituted of a single piece, shell-like sheet metal stamping, having integral prongs for attaching it to the box or receptacle, and having an integral prong combined therewith and constituted to function in a most effective manner as a combined guide and stop post for its end of the strap.

Other objects and advantages reside in certain novel features of the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, and in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view showing a fragment of a box or receptacle equipped with a strap handle and strap handle holders embodying the present invention;

Figure 2 is a view in vertical cross section taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Figure 3 is a view in end elevation of one of the strap handle holders shown in Figures 1 and 2;

Figure 4 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in vertical cross section showing a modified type of strap handle holder embodying the present invention; and

Figure 5 is a view in end elevation looking toward the left hand end of Figure 4.

Referring to the drawing, the numeral 10 designates the fragment of a box or receptacle. A strap handle 11 is combined with the receptacle and consists of a piece of leather or other flexible material having slots 12 adjacent its ends. The strap handle holders embodying the present invention are designated generally at 15. They are of identical construction and one is provided for each end of the strap handle.

Each strap handle holder 15 comprises a single piece, shell-like sheet metal stamping, which is formed up so as to include a top wall 16 and a downwardly extending peripheral wall integral with the side edges of the top wall and with one end edge thereof, so that the peripheral wall provides side walls 17 and 18, and an end wall 19. The end of the holder opposite the end of the wall 19 is open. The closed end of the sheet metal stamping is provided with a stepped formation 20 to strengthen and stiffen the structure and enhance its ornamental appearance.

The description so far is applicable to both forms of the invention. Moreover, in both forms of the invention, each holder is prong-attached to the box or receptacle. The two forms of the invention, however, differ in the arrangement and number of the prongs.

In the form of the invention shown in Figures 1 to 3, inclusive, penetrating prongs 21 and 22 are integrally formed with the lower edges of the side walls 17 and 18 adjacent to but spaced from the open end of the shell. The lower ends of these prongs 21 and 22 have bifurcated pointed formations designated at 21' and 22'. In the assembly the prongs 21 and 22 are driven through the wall of the box or receptacle to which they are attached and then clenched over, as illustrated in Figure 2. In addition to the prongs 21 and 22 each holder 15 is provided with a prong 23 which is formed integral with the edge of the top wall 16 at the open end of the holder. The prong 23 has its lower end provided with an inverted V-shaped notch which forms two points with vertical outer edges and throughout its extent it is of concavo-convex formation in horizontal cross section. The double pointed prong 23, upon being inserted in the box or receptacle (usually made of wood) has a tendency to compress the fibres of the wood in the notch, and by reason of the vertical outer edges prevents the fibres from being spread apart, thereby eliminating splitting the wood. The prong is of such length that its lower end is driven into the material of the box or receptacle but it need not pass entirely through the same. By so con-

stituting the prong **23**, and by disposing it vertically and at the center of the open end of the holder, it is adapted to function as a combination guide post and stop since in the assembly it passes through the slot **12** at the adjacent end of the strap **11**.

In the form of the invention shown in Figures 4 and 5, the prongs **21** and **22** are omitted, and the prong formation corresponding to the prong **23**, but designated at **24** in Figures 4 and 5, is made longer so that it may pass entirely through the wall of the box or receptacle and be clenched over. In addition to this prong **22**, a short locating prong or projection **25** is provided on the lower edge of the end wall **19** of the shell-like stem.

Moreover, in both forms of the invention, the edges of the top at the open end of the stamping, and on the opposite sides of the combination stop and guide post, are upwardly curled, as indicated at **26**, so as to provide smooth guides along which the strap may slide without danger of roughing its surface or scuffing it up.

The concavo-convex or curved cross sectional formation of the prongs **23** and **24** better adapt them for coaction with the slotted ends of the strap. Moreover, this cross section or formation of these prongs adapts them to be driven into the wood, or other material, with less liability of splitting the same. In the form of the invention shown in Figure 3, it will be noted that the prongs **21** and **22** are flat in cross section and that their greater dimension lies parallel to the grain of the wood so that they may be readily driven through the wood without splitting the same.

While I have shown and described several constructions in which the invention may be advantageously embodied, it is to be understood that the constructions shown have been selected merely for the purpose of illustration or example, and that various changes in the size, shape, and arrangement of the parts may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

I claim:

A strap handle holder comprising a shell-like metal stamping having a top wall and oppositely related side walls, a flat penetrating prong substantially parallel with and formed from each of said side walls, and a strap-engaging prong depending from said top wall and positioned between said first-mentioned prongs and substantially in alinement therewith, said strap-engaging prong being of concavo-convex formation in horizontal cross section, the surface of said prong being substantially transverse to the surfaces of said penetrating prongs, the end of said strap-engaging prong being provided with an inverted V-shaped notch forming two penetrating points with vertical outer edges.

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