Nov. 10, 1925. 1,560,739

F. E. STARR

DEVICE FOR SEPARATING THE INNER AND OUTER PARTS OF DOUBLE COLLARS FOR SHIRTS

Filed June 30, 1924

Fig.1

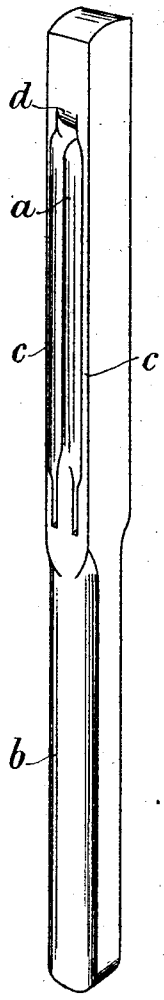


Fig.2

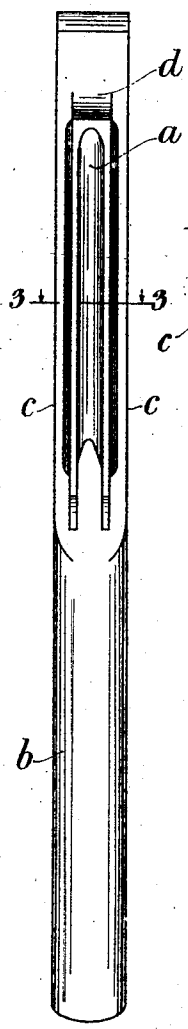


Fig.3

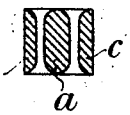
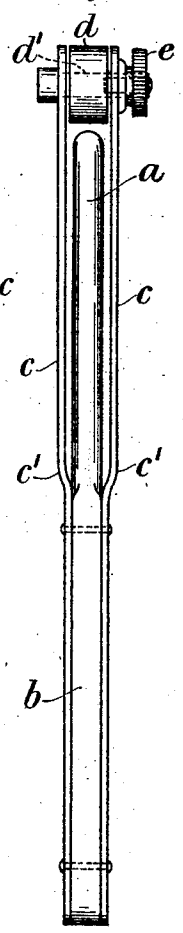


Fig.4



INVENTOR
FRANK E. STARR
By Coulmin & Coulmin

ATTORNEYS

Patented Nov. 10, 1925. 1,560,739

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK ELPHINSTONE STARR, OF SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA, ASSIGNOR TO MEAKERS LIMITED, OF LONDON, ENGLAND, AND ARTHUR ROBERT MARKS, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

DEVICE FOR SEPARATING THE INNER AND OUTER PARTS OF DOUBLE COLLARS FOR SHIRTS.

Application filed June 30, 1924. Serial No. 723,318.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK ELPHINSTONE STARR, of Norwood, 34 England Avenue, Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, have invented certain new and useful Devices for Separating the Inner and Outer Parts of Double Collars for Shirts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to devices for use with shirt collars of folded or double form which are stiffened for use and generally adapted to receive a tie or similar article of dress. It is often found in practice that after such collars have been returned from a laundry the outer and inner portions thereof either adhere to each other or are so close to each other as to prevent free movement of the tie or similar article of dress when arranged between such portions and after the collar has been secured in position, for example, to a neck band of a shirt.

The device according to this invention enables the collar to be so treated after being returned from the laundry as to permit of free movement of the tie or similar article of dress between the outer and inner portions thereof after the collar has been secured in position, the device serving to separate the outer and inner portions of the collar from each other or space them apart throughout the length thereof and at the same time to hold them against appreciable displacement, the outer and inner portions being thus spaced from each other for their entire width except at or in close proximity to the junction of such portions at which they are practically unaffected, the somewhat sharp rounded upper wearing edge of the collar being retained. To this end stated broadly the device comprises three approximately parallel members the inner or intermediate member being capable of arrangement between the said outer and inner portions of the collar which are respectively disposed between such intermediate member and the outer members on the opposite sides thereof, these outer members virtually forming a closed space for the reception of the intermediate member. When thus arranged relatively to the collar the aforesaid outer and inner portions are separated or spaced apart in the manner previously described by moving the device lengthwise of the collar from one end to the other end thereof. Therefore, stated more particularly, the device consists of a structure comprising a frame-like member having a substantially longitudinal opening; a rigid member located centrally within said opening, said member extending from one end of said frame-like member towards, but stopping short of, the other end thereof, whereby an inverted U-like slot obtains between the said two members and constitutes a closed space for the traverse of the folds and top of the collar with the rigid member interposed in separating relation between the folds; and a handle at an end of said frame-like member.

In order that the said invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into effect the same will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view;

Fig. 2 an elevation and

Fig. 3 a cross section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2 of one construction of the device according to this invention.

Fig. 4 is a similar view to Fig. 2 of an alternative construction.

The construction shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 is adapted to be made of wood or composition capable of being fashioned from the solid or made of celluloid or similar material capable of being moulded or pressed to the shape required, the intermediate member *a* being of greater width than thickness and of less thickness than a handle portion *b* which is of approximately the same width as the member *a* the free end of the intermediate member being gradually reduced in thickness and rounded off at its terminal end as well as being provided with curved corners between such terminal and the side edges as shown in the drawings. The shape in cross section of the intermediate member as particularly shown in Fig. 3 is such that the said side edges are of approximately semi-circular

form and the surfaces thereof are of slightly curved shape in order to enable the member to be passed between the said outer and inner portions of the collar with a minimum amount of friction. The sides of the handle portion are continued as the outside members *c* which extend on each side of the intermediate member *a* and terminate with a spacing piece *d* disposed a comparatively short distance from the free end of the intermediate member and closing the space between the outside members at the end opposite to that of the handle portion *b*. Thus constructed a U-shaped space or slot is provided between the intermediate member and the outside members and the spacing piece, the U-shaped space or slot being capable of receiving one end of a double collar with the intermediate member between the outer and inner portions thereof and permitting the collar to be passed lengthwise through the space or slot for separating the outer and inner portions sufficiently to enable a tie to be freely moved lengthwise of the collar after it has been secured in position to the neck band of the shirt.

In the alternative construction illustrated in Fig. 4 the intermediate member *a* and handle portion *b* integral therewith are approximately of the same thickness throughout and the outside members *c* are bent transversely as at *c'* about the middle of the length thereof for providing the space on each side of the intermediate member *a* whilst the spacing piece *d* is in the form of a roller mounted on a pin *d'* extending through the ends of the outside member *c*, the pin *d'* being formed with a screw threaded portion for receiving a milled headed nut *e* whereby the space between the outside members *c* and the intermediate member *a* may be adjusted the outside member *c* tending to spring outwardly in opposition to the pressure exerted by the nut *e*.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A device for separating the inner and outer portions of shirt-collars of the folded or double kind consisting of a structure comprising a frame having a longitudinal opening intervening between two parallel side walls; a rigid member positioned centrally within said opening and parallel with the walls thereof, said member extending from one end of said frame towards, but stopping short of, the other end thereof, whereby a divided inverted U-slot obtains between the said two members and constitutes a closed space for the traverse of the folds and top of the collar with the rigid member interposed in separating relation between the folds; and a handle at an end of said frame.

2. A device for separating the inner and outer portions of shirt-collars of the folded or double kind, comprising a handle portion, a rigid separating member directly associated with the handle portion and adapted to be inserted between the inner and outer portions at one end of the collar and to be passed from thence to the other end of the collar to space the said inner and outer portions apart throughout the length of the collar, two outside members associated at one end with the handle portion and arranged one on each side of, and substantially parallel with the separating member, and a spacing member connecting the outer ends of the two outside members beyond the end of the separating member to form a U-shaped space for the passage of the collar.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

FRANK ELPHINSTONE STARR.