Dec. 8, 1942. B. B. MANASTER 2,304,464

COLLAR STAY

Filed April 21, 1941

Fig. 1.

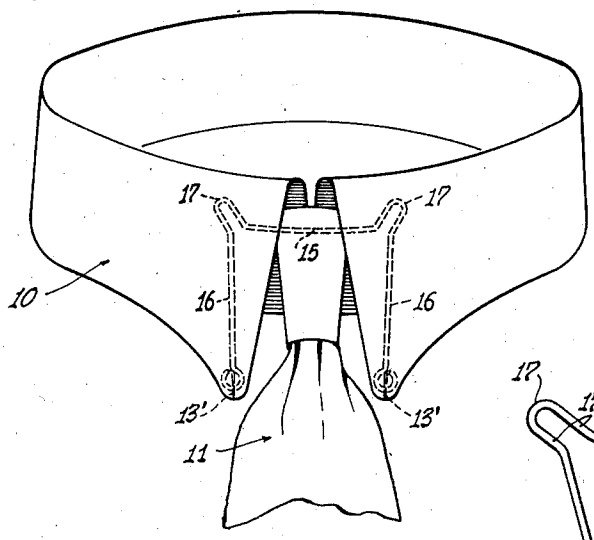


Fig. 6.

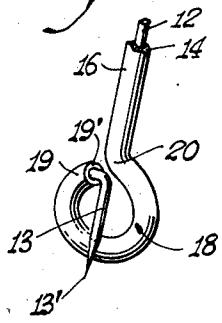


Fig. 2.

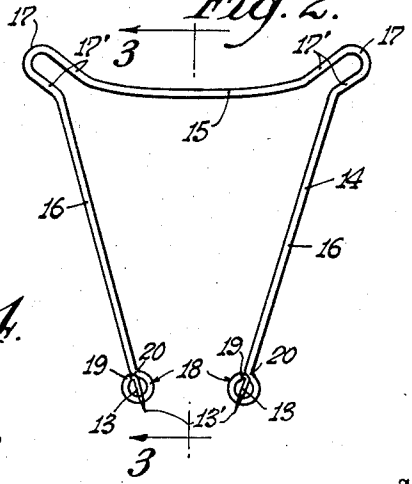


Fig. 3.

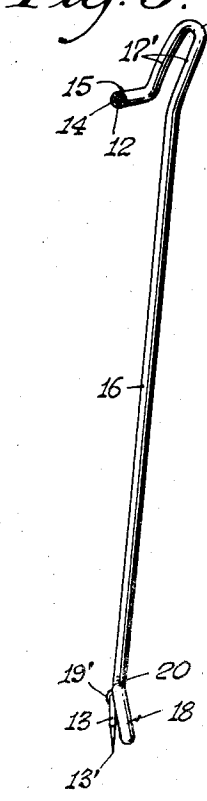


Fig. 4.

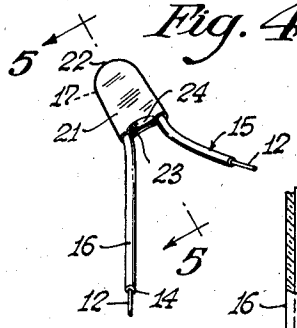
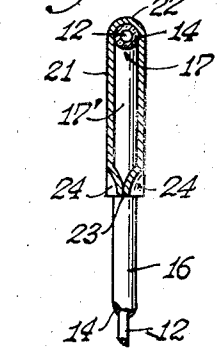


Fig. 5.



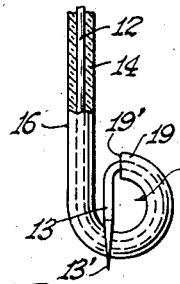
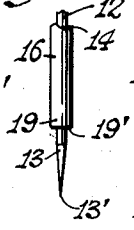


Fig. 7.

Fig. 9.



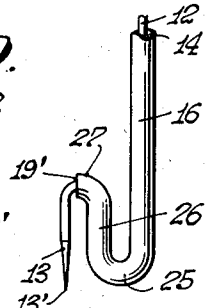


Fig. 8.

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Patented Dec. 8, 1942

2,304,464

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,304,464

COLLAR STAY

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Application April 21, 1941, Serial No. 389,567

3 Claims. (Cl. 2—132)

This invention relates to a collar stay designed and constructed for use in connection with soft shirt collars, and has for its principal object the provision of an improved construction of this character which will be highly efficient in use and economical in manufacture.

Among the several objects of this invention is the provision of a collar stay having a substantial portion of its body encased within a plastic coating so as to prevent a soiling of the shirt fabric when the stay is applied thereto.

Another object of this invention is to provide in a collar stay having a relatively flexible body, a housing for said body which will coact with piercing means adapted to be affixed in the fabric of the shirt to limit the extent to which the piercing means may pass into the fabric material.

A further object of this invention is to provide in a collar stay adapted to keep the wings of down turned collars in neat appearance by a relatively blunt bearing portion adapted to engage in the crease of the collar so as to prevent deformation of the collar stay at the point of bearing and to provide a uniform engaging surface at the point of bearing.

Other objects and advantages will appear more readily in the specification in view of the drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a collar and necktie assembly showing my new collar stay applied in position;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the collar stay embodying my invention;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the stay shown in Fig. 2 and is taken substantially along line 3—3 thereof at a substantially increased scale with respect thereto;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail view showing my new fabric-engaging means applied to the wing portions of a collar stay;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional detail view of the same as seen along line 5—5 in Fig. 4, at a substantially larger scale with respect thereto;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the lower end of one of the leg portions of the collar stay of Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive;

Figs. 7 to 9 inclusive are each fragmentary detail views of modifications of the construction illustrated in Fig. 6.

Referring to the drawing, the conventional type soft collar is indicated at 10. A typical four-in-hand tie 11 is shown assembled on the collar 10 in the usual manner. This illustration of the collar and necktie being for the purpose of explanation in bringing out the purpose and advantages of my invention.

As seen in Fig. 2, my new collar stay is preferably of U-shaped formation and comprises a superstructure consisting of a wire element 12 having pointed end portions 13. This wire element is of a predetermined length and has arranged thereon a pliable covering 14 which may be made of any one of the well known plastics. This covering 14 is of a length substantially shorter than the length of the wire member 12 so that a portion of the pointed ends 13 will be exposed.

The wire 12 and casing 14 as heretofore stated are formed into U-shape to provide a cross bar 15 and a pair of legs 16. There is provided at the juncture of the cross bar 15 and each of the legs 16 a hump 17 extending rather obliquely from a cross bar 15 and leg 16. Each of the leg members 16 terminates in a convoluted loop 18 with the end 19 of the plastic casing 14 terminating in substantially abutting relationship with the initial bend 20 of the loop 18. The pointed end 13 extends substantially in alignment with the extended legs 16 (Figs. 3 and 6) and is so related to the convoluted loop as to provide a clamping action on any material into which the pointed end 13 is disposed as will be hereafter explained.

As seen in Fig. 1, the collar stay is adapted to be arranged with the cross bar 15 beneath the knot of the tie 11 and the pin points 13' of the pointed ends 13 piercing the fabric of the shirt collar 10 at the apex of the wing members between which the tie 11 is disposed. The action is such that the leg members 16 function as struts to hold the wing elements of the collar outstretched and to make them appear to be starched. The cross bar 15 bears up underneath the knot of the tie maintaining the latter as near the point of convergence of the upper portion of the wing of the collar and the hump member 17 effecting a bearing action against the inner crease of the collar member 10.

By reason of the pliability of the plastic coating 14 the resiliency of the superstructure or wire element 12 is in no way minimized. In the manufacture of wire collar stays a relatively inexpensive wire material is employed. This wire element 12 under normal circumstances is wont to become rusty or otherwise tarnished which renders the collar stay less inviting to a user because the rusted or tarnished surfaces of such wire elements are likely to soil the fabric of the shirt material. It is therefore seen that the

pliable coating prevents such objectionable characteristics and renders the collar stay useable for a greater period of time.

Each of the leg elements 16 provide anchoring means in the form of the pin points 13' and the convoluted loops 18. This anchoring means is so constructed that the end 19 of the plastic coating provides a shoulder formation 19' on the pointed ends 13 of the wire element 12. This shoulder formation 19' provided as at 19 limits the piercing action of the pin points 13' with regards the fabric of the shirt. In addition to limiting the piercing action of the pin points 13' the coating on the convoluted loop has a bearing action against the side wall of the fabric and coacts with the pointed end 13 to clampingly engage the shirt material so as to prevent the pin points from becoming dislodged without a certain amount of force, such as the withdrawal by hand on the part of the user.

The upper ends of the legs at their point of juncture with the cross bar 15 provide engaging members in the form of the humps 17. These hump members are adapted to be inclosed within a relatively flat cup shaped member 21 having a closed end portion 22 and an open end portion 23 through which the bight portion of the humps 17 is passed. This member 21 may be of a metal having a plating such as will preserve the material and the open end portion 23 of the member 21 is adapted to be crimped as at 24 so as to clampingly engage the leg portions 17' of the hump 17 to maintain these leg portions in spaced relation with respect to each other. This cup formation on the hump 17 provides a relatively blunt collar engaging element wherewith to accomplish a neat appearance of the collar wings when the collar stay is applied and serves as a strengthening web for the leg elements 16.

Various forms of anchoring means may be employed in collar stays embodying the characteristics of my invention, several of which are illustrated in Figs. 7 to 9 inclusive.

Referring to the anchoring means of Fig. 7, the leg member 16 instead of being bent to initially start the convoluted loop 18, extends tangentially with respect to the loop 18' and has the pointed end 13 extending downwardly from the shoulder 19' provided by the end 19 of the plastic coating 14. In this arrangement the pointed element 13 is limited in its piercing action with respect to the fabric into which it is anchored by the shoulder 19', and the pointed end 13 coacts with the loop 18' to effect a clamping action on the fabric of the shirt.

The modified form of anchoring means illustrated in Fig. 8 is of a substantial S shape. The leg 16 being bent back upon itself as at 25 to provide a vertical leg portion 26 which in turn is bent back upon itself as at 27 so that the pointed end 13 extends in the same direction as the leg 16 but is spaced horizontally with respect thereto. The plastic coating 14 is of a length such as to encase the wire element 12 up to a point where the end portion 13 begins its downward extension. This provides a shoulder 19' similar to that heretofore described, which limits the piercing action of the pointed end 13 with respect to the garment and the coating on the vertical medial portion 26 of the S shaped anchor having coaction with the pointed end 13 so as to clampingly engage the material of the shirt. The pin point 13' is adapted to pierce the fabric of the wing of the collar 10, such piercing action being limited by the shoulder formation 19'.

In Fig. 9 there is shown a simple form of anchoring means wherein the lower end portion of the leg elements extend straight downward dispensing with the convoluted loop of Fig. 6 and relying solely upon the springiness or resiliency of the leg 16 for maintaining the pin point 13' in the apex of the wings of the collar, the end 19 of each of the leg members providing the shoulder formation 19' against which the fabric of the shirt will abut to limit the piercing action of the pin means 13'.

Having thus described my invention, it is seen that I have provided in collar stays of a relatively inexpensive construction a novel covering for such collar stay which cooperates with the resiliency of the latter and further coacts with the pin means which is adapted to pierce the shirt material to provide a novel anchoring means for the collar stay.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying my invention into effect, this is capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. In a collar stay having a wire body of U-shaped form to provide a cross bar and a pair of depending legs, said leg portions each terminating in a convoluted loop and providing a pointed end extending in the direction of said depending leg, the combination of a pliable tubular coating for said body and adapted to assume the shape of the latter, said pliable coating terminating at the point of juncture of said pointed end and said convoluted loop and adapted to limit the piercing action of the pointed end.

2. In a collar stay having a wire body of U-shaped form to provide a cross bar and a pair of depending legs, said leg portions each terminating in an S bend and providing a medial portion and a pointed end extending in the direction of said depending leg, the provision of a pliable tubular coating for said body and adapted to assume the shape of the latter, said pliable coating terminating at the final bend of said S bend and preventing the fabric of the collar wings from working up and past said last bend.

3. A collar stay having a wire body of U-shape formation to provide a cross bar, a pair of depending legs, U-shape portions joining the ends of the cross bar with corresponding end portions of the legs, the opposite corresponding end portions of said legs terminating into penetrating points, a pliable coating for said body adapted to assume the shape of the latter with the ends thereof terminating adjacent the penetrating points so as to leave said points exposed for penetrating purposes, and members mounted on the U-shaped portions and providing strengthening webs therefor, substantially as described.

BEN B. MANASTER.