

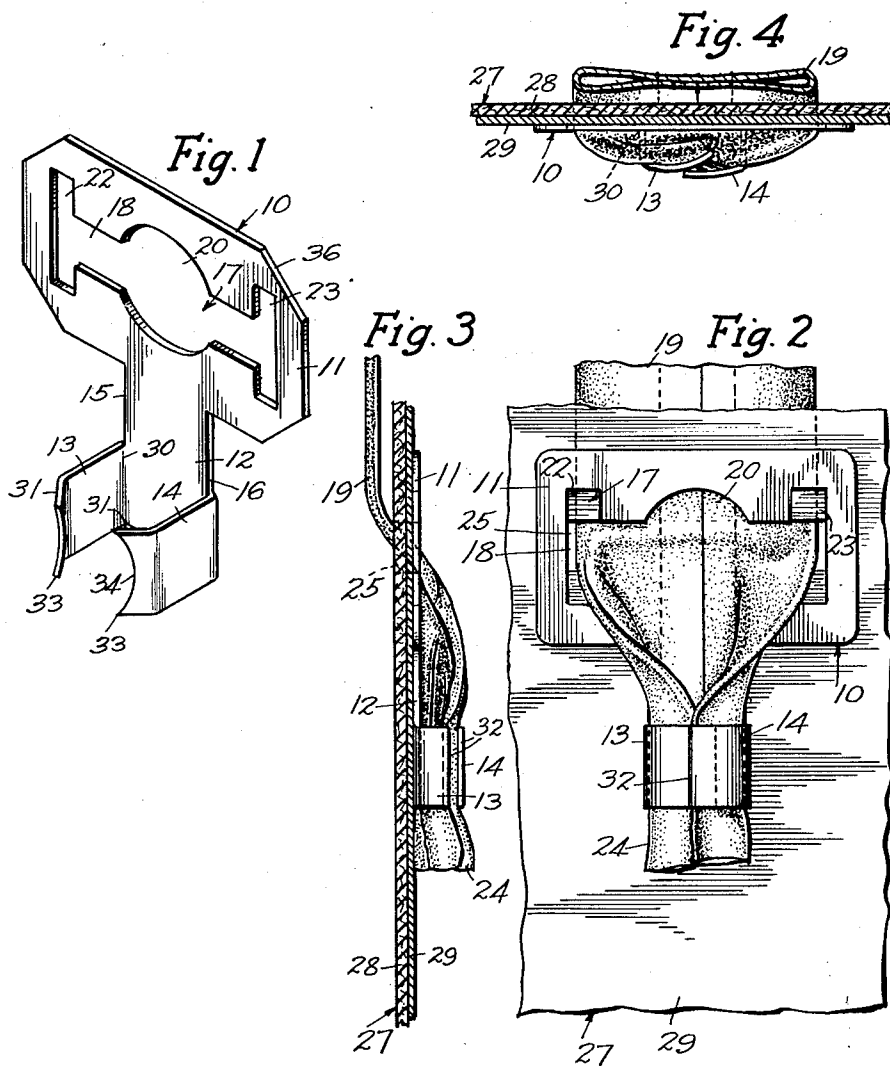
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END CLAMP FOR POCKETBOOK HANDLES

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END CLAMP FOR POCKETBOOK HANDLEES

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This invention relates to the means for securing to a pocket book, the end of a handle or strap and relates particularly to clamps designed to be attached to the handle end.

Women's pocket books are generally made with an exposed facing sheet, a reinforcing or stiffening sheet for the inner surface of the facing sheet and an inner lining sheet covering the stiffening sheet and concealing the various interior fastening devices and the like. Handles for the pocket book are made in a considerable variety of different cross sectional shapes and are frequently loosely secured to the facing and stiffening sheets by passing the end portion of the handle through slots in said sheets before the lining is secured in place, and employing some means for preventing the handle end from being retracted back through the slots.

The present invention is directed particularly to the means attachable to the concealed end of the handle of the pocket book for preventing retraction of such end, and contemplates the provision of a simple, inexpensive metallic clamp adapted to receive handle-ends of a considerable variety of different cross sectional shapes and to be quickly and easily clamped to such end, and when so clamped, being effective for the life of the pocket book and not likely to loosen or to become detached.

The invention further contemplates the provision of a one-piece metallic handle end clamp of flat sheet material having an enlarged head serving the function of a washer to engage the inner surface of the stiffening sheet of the pocket book and having a slot therein of such shape as to permit the passage therethrough of handles of any of the usual shapes, a pair of manually bendable spaced apart clamping arms being carried by an extension from the enlarged head, and in position to engage and hold the end of a handle passed through the slot against movement toward the slot or relatively to the clamp.

The invention also contemplates the provision of an end clamping installation for the pocket book handle of dependable, inexpensive and efficient construction designed to be quickly and easily assembled regardless of the cross sectional shape of the handle.

The various objects of the invention will be clear from the description which follows, and from the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the handle end clamp.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary rear elevational view of the handle end installation before the lining has

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been secured in place, showing the end portion of a relatively flat handle, as well as the adjacent slotted part of the pocket book wall and a slightly modified form of the clamp.

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of Fig. 2.

In Fig. 1 is shown a now preferred form of the one-piece clamp 10 which is preferably made of sheet metal and provided with the enlarged slotted head 11, the middle downwardly projecting extension or connecting part 12 of lesser width than that of the head, and the outstanding similar spaced apart bendable arms 13 and 14 at the lower end of and at the respective side edges 15 and 16 of the extension and held by the extension in spaced relation to the head. Said head 11 is sufficiently wide to permit the passage through the transversely elongated portion 18 of the generally H-shaped slot 17 in said head, of a handle or strap end of the greatest width which is likely to be used in a pocket book, such as the relatively wide and thin handle 19 seen in Figs. 2 and 4. The head 11 performs the function of a washer, since it bears against the inner face of the pocket book wall.

To accommodate handles of other shapes, the slot 17 has a central circular or elliptical or the like cut out 20 of greater width than that of the slot portion 18 for the passage of handles of circular or polygonal cross sectional shape, upright rectangular end slots as 22, 23 being made at the respective ends of the slot portion 18. Said end slots permit the passage of handles with enlarged edge beads of various shapes thereon. When the handle is of elliptical cross section, it may be passed through the central slot portion 20 and may extend partly into the portion 18 of the slot.

Referring to Figs. 2-4, it will be noted that the end part 24 of the handle 19 is passed through a correspondingly shaped slot 25 in the wall 27 of the pocket book and then through the slot 17 of the end clamp. Said clamp is arranged on the inside of the wall 27 preferably with its slot 17 in registration with the slot or hole 25. Said pocket book wall is usually formed by the outer or exposed facing sheet 28 of leather, imitation leather, plastic, fabric or like material and the stiffening sheet 29 of suitable reinforcing material such as buckram, cardboard or the like, cemented to the inner face of the facing sheet 28 and forming a unitary wall therewith. To clamp the end part 24 of the handle in place, said part is arranged between the initially parallel arms 13 and 14 and against the face of the extension

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12, said end part preferably projecting downwardly a short distance past the lower edges of the arms. One arm as 13 is then bent manually or mechanically by a suitable tool about the corner 30 at the intersection of the arm and the extension into pressed contact with the end part of the handle, thereby to fold or compress and clamp said end part against the lowermost part of the extension. The other arm 14 is similarly bent against the handle end to clamp it in place. Preferably, the arms are long enough to overlap when bent as best seen in Fig. 4, each arm being of greater length than the half width of the extension. To render the bending of the arms around the strap end easier, the free end portion of each arm tapers inwardly as at 31 toward the other arm and is arranged at an angle to the remainder of the arm and to the extension, the major part of the arm being initially substantially perpendicular to the common plane of the extension 12 and the head 11.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 2-4, the end edges 32 of the arms 13, 14 are straight. However, in that form shown in Fig. 1, the end portions 31 of the arms terminate in sharp points as 33 formed by the concave free end edge 34 of the arm, so that when the arms are suitably bent, the points 33 may grip the material of the handle. In Fig. 1 also, the corners 36 of the head 11 are bevelled, while in Fig. 2 the corners are shown rounded. Obviously, tension on the handle pulls the clamp 10 against the stiffening sheet into a position wherein the slot 17 of the clamp registers with the slot or hole 25 of the wall 27. Thereafter, the end part 24 of the handle is maintained by the clamping arms 13, 14 and the extension 12 in predetermined spaced relation to the slots and cannot be pulled up toward or through the slots. The clamp 10 and the handle end part 24 are then covered and concealed by a suitable lining in a manner which is well understood.

It will now be seen that I have provided a simple, economical but efficient clamp for the ends of pocket book handles, that by reason of the use of a generally H-shaped slot and the central cut out therein, the clamp is adapted to receive handles of a variety of cross sectional shapes, that the clamp is quickly and easily secured to the handle end and holds said end in predetermined spaced relation to the slot, that the clamp head effectively prevents retraction of the handle end and that the invention though simple, is well designed to accomplish its intended purposes and for commercial production, and use.

While certain specific forms of the invention have herein been shown and described, various obvious changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A one-piece sheet metal clamp for the end of a pocket book handle, said clamp comprising an enlarged flat head of greater width than the height thereof provided with an H-shaped slot extending from a point adjacent one side edge of the head to a point adjacent the other side edge of the head and having a central enlarged circular cut out in the slot of substantially the height of the end portions of the slot, said head constituting a flat washer having generally straight parallel side edges, a flat extension coplanar with the head and of reduced width integrally joined at one end thereof to an end edge of the head and a pair of spaced apart arms each extending

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integrally from an edge of and at the other end of the extension, each of the arms having the inner part thereof perpendicular to the plane of the extension and parallel to the other arm and having the other part thereof arranged at an obtuse angle to the inner part and adapted to be bent toward and into a position substantially parallel to the extension, each arm being of greater length than half the width of the extension to overlap the outer part of the other arm when the arms are bent into said position.

2. The clamp of claim 1, the outer part of each arm terminating in a concave side edge and providing spaced apart points at the intersections of the side and end edges of the arm adapted to enter and to grip a soft flexible article arranged between the arms when the arms are bent into said position.

3. A one-piece sheet metal clamp for the end of a pocket book handle, said clamp comprising an enlarged flat head of greater width than the height thereof provided with an H-shaped slot extending from a point adjacent one side edge of the head to a point adjacent the other side edge of the head, said head having an enlarged central circular cut out in the slot thereof of substantially the height of the end portions of the slot, said head constituting a flat washer having generally straight parallel side edges, a flat extension coplanar with the head and of reduced width integrally joined at one end thereof to an end edge of the head and projecting therefrom, and a pair of spaced apart arms each extending integrally from a side edge of and at the other end of the extension, each of the arms having the inner part thereof substantially perpendicular to the plane of the extension and substantially parallel to the other arm and having the remaining part thereof arranged at an obtuse angle to the inner part and adapted to be bent toward the other arm and providing an initially pre-bent end clamping part on the arm, said clamping part of each arm terminating in a concave side edge, the prolongation of the concave side edge intersecting the end edges of the arm and providing spaced apart points at the intersection of the side edge with the end edges of the arm, said points being adapted to grip an undistorted handle end passing through the slot of the head and arranged between the arms and on a face of said extension when the arms are bent toward each other.

4. A one-piece sheet metal clamp for the end of a pocket book handle strap, said clamp comprising a strap-receiving end, said strap-receiving end consisting of a flat head having an aperture of a configuration complementary to the cross-sectional shape of the strap formed therethrough, said head constituting a flat washer, a flat extension coplanar with the head integrally joined at one end to a portion of the outer edge of the head, and projecting therefrom, said extension having opposing side edges, a pair of arms laterally extending in confronting relation from the side edges of the extension adjacent the outer end thereof, and spaced apart sufficiently to receive the strap end when said strap end is moved axially between the arms on the extension after being passed through the aperture in the head, said arms being arranged substantially perpendicular to the plane of the extension and having offset outer free ends which are turned inwardly toward each other and arranged at an obtuse angle to the arms, said ends having free transverse edges formed with penetrating prongs.

adapted to engage the strap end when the arms are bent toward each other onto the strap end.

5. A clamp according to claim 4, wherein the configuration and size of the aperture in the head conforms generally to the cross-sectional shape and size of the strap and the edge of the aperture engages the strap end passed therethrough, without material deformation of the cross-sectional shape and size of the strap end.

6. A clamp according to claim 4, wherein for the end of any number of pocketbook handle straps differing in the cross-sectional shapes thereof, the configuration of the aperture conforms generally to said shapes and at least part of the edge of the aperture engages the strap end of any one of said straps passed therethrough unobstructedly and without material deformation of the strap end.

7. A clamp according to claim 4, wherein at least part of the edge of the aperture is circular.
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