

No. 893,163.

PATENTED JULY 14, 1908.

W. C. HAFEMEISTER.
COUPLING FOR ELECTRICAL CONDUCTORS.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 6, 1907.

Fig. 1

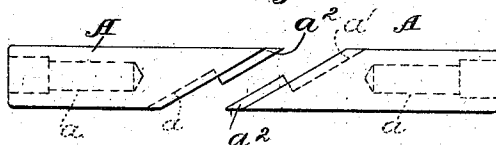


Fig. 2

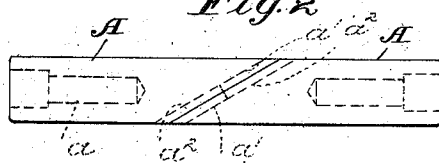
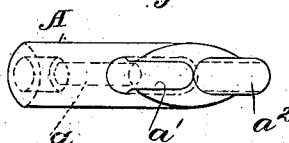


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COUPLING FOR ELECTRICAL CONDUCTORS.

No. 893,163.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. HAFEMEISTER, a citizen of the United States, resident of Cleveland, county of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Couplings for Electrical Conductors, of which the following is a specification, the principle of the invention being herein explained and the best mode in which I have contemplated applying that principle so as to distinguish it from other inventions.

My invention relates to couplings for connecting together electrical conductors such as wires or the like.

The object of the invention is the provision of a coupling that shall consist of interchangeable members, so that the same will not require to be assorted into pairs, but may be employed indiscriminately.

To the accomplishment of this object said invention consists of the means hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The annexed drawing and the following description set forth in detail certain mechanism embodying the invention, such disclosed means constituting, however, but one of various mechanical forms in which the principle of the invention may be used.

In said annexed drawing: Figure 1 represents in side elevation two of the duplicate or similar, coupling members disposed preliminarily to their being intergaged or locked together; Fig. 2 represents such coupling members in intergaged or assembled form; and Fig. 3 represents a plan view of the engaging faces of one of said members.

I am aware that heretofore couplings of the character in hand have been devised wherein a projecting tongue has been employed on one of the contacting faces of the members to be engaged by a corresponding groove or recess on the face of the other of said members. Obviously, however, to form a coupling of members of this sort requires a selection of a tongued member and a grooved member respectively as elements of such coupling. In view of the frequent necessity of forming connections, where couplings of this character are employed, under circumstances that render it difficult to thus pick out or select the desired members, this construction entails considerable annoyance in use.

My invention, briefly stated, consists in

the substitution for the respective male and female intergaging elements of the respective faces, of two different members, of similar combined male and female intergaging elements on the face of each member, all the members being duplicates. Thus, referring to the figures of reference, such coupling member A, which may be of various forms depending on the particular field of use for which the coupling is designed, is provided on its inclined contact face with a groove *a'*, extending from the inner edge of said face in the direction of its incline to the axial line of the member, and with a contiguously located tongue *a²* complementary to such groove, and extending similarly to the outer edge of such inclined face. Groove *a'* is recessed and the tongue undercut so as to conform therewith, whereby a tight fitting joint is secured when such engaging faces are brought together. Engagement between the two faces is had by simply moving one longitudinally of the other, the tongue *a²* on the first entering the groove *a'* in the other, and vice versa. Sockets *a* are provided in the respective members in which are inserted and suitably secured the terminals of the conductors to be joined, as will be readily understood.

In order to make the joint between the contact faces as tight as possible, both tongue *a²* and groove *a'* are made of corresponding laterally tapering form, whereby, upon engagement being had as aforesaid, an absolute fit is secured the entire length of the cut. The tighter the parts are drawn together, accordingly the better will be the electrical connection.

Other modes of applying the principle of my invention may be employed instead of the one explained, change being made as regards the mechanism herein disclosed, provided the means stated by any of the following claims or the equivalent of such stated means be employed.

I therefore particularly point out and distinctly claim as my invention:—

1. In a coupling of the character described, the combination of two similar members having plane contact faces, each of said faces being provided with a recessed groove and undercut tongue alined with each other and respectively adapted to register with the tongue and groove on the face of the other member.

2. In a coupling of the character described, 110

the combination of two similar members having plane contact faces, each of said faces being provided with a groove and tongue alined with each other and made of corresponding laterally tapering form, said groove and tongue being respectively adapted to register with the tongue and groove on the face of the other member.

3. In a coupling of the character described, the combination of two similar members having plane contact faces, each of said faces being provided with a recessed groove and undercut tongue alined with each other and made of corresponding laterally tapering form, said groove and tongue being respectively adapted to register with the tongue and groove on the face of the other member.

4. In a coupling of the character described, the combination of two substantially cylindrical members provided with contact faces, similarly inclined with respect to the axes of said members, each of said faces being formed with a similar groove extending in the direction of incline of said face and with a contiguous, similarly extending, tongue complementary to such groove.

5. In a coupling of the character described, the combination of two substantially cylindrical members provided with contact faces similarly inclined with respect to the axes of said members, each of said faces being provided with a similar groove extending from the inner edge thereof in the direction of its incline, and with a contiguously located tongue complementary to such groove and extending similarly from the outer edge of said face's incline.

6. In a coupling of the character described, the combination of two substantially cylindrical members provided with contact faces

similarly inclined with respect to the axes of said members, each of said faces being provided with a similar groove extending from the inner edge thereof in the direction of its incline, and with a contiguously located tongue complementary to such groove and extending similarly from the outer edge of said face's incline, said tongue and groove being made of corresponding laterally tapering form.

7. As an article of manufacture, a coupling member having a contact face formed with a recessed groove and with an undercut tongue alined with and complementary to such groove.

8. As an article of manufacture, a coupling member having a contact face formed with a recessed groove and with an undercut tongue alined with and complementary to such groove, said groove and tongue being made of corresponding laterally tapered form.

9. As an article of manufacture, a duplicate coupling member of substantially cylindrical form having a contact face inclined with respect to its axis and provided with a recessed groove extending from the inner edge of such face's incline to such axis and with an undercut tongue alined with and complementary to such groove, such tongue extending from such axis to the outer edge of such face's incline, and said tongue and groove being made of corresponding laterally tapered form.

Signed by me, this 3rd day of June, 1907.

WILLIAM C. HAFEMEISTER.

Attested by—

D. T. DAVIES,
JNO. F. OBERLIN.