My invention is an improvement in devices for tamping or compressing smoking tobacco within the bowl of a pipe, whereby the smoker is relieved from a tendency of burning the fingers of the hand while engaged in the operation of tamping burning tobacco within the bowl, and the fingers are not soiled by contact with the charred tobacco and ashes.

It is well known that smokers enjoy the consumption of tobacco when the burning mass is compacted within the bowl in order that smoke from the tobacco may be drawn into the mouth to the exclusion of an excess of air, and, further, to insure a desirable combustion of the mass present in the bowl. Commonly, the smoker compresses the tobacco by placing the fingers upon the burning mass within the bowl, but recourse to such proceeding is objectionable because the fingers are burned and soiled quite frequently.

The use of the tamping device of my invention overcomes these objections, but such a device to be practicable must be available for use instantly when desired by the smoker. Accordingly, I make provision for instant availability by providing a clip adapted to be attached with facility to the pipe stem, said clip being so formed that it retains itself securely in position and affords means whereby the tamper or compressor is held securely in place against accidental dislodgment and is yet easily removed and replaced.

Other functions and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation showing my tamping device mounted in an out of service relation to an ordinary pipe.

Figure 2 is a view partly in section through the pipe bowl illustrating the mode of compressing tobacco by the aid of my tamping device.

Figure 3 is a cross section on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an enlarged side elevation of the clip.

Figures 5 and 6 are views in side and edge elevation of the tamper detached from the pipe and the clip.

My invention embodies a clip A and a tamper or compressor B which are constructed for mutual co-operation to the end that the device as a whole may be mounted with facility upon a pipe stem independently of any attachment to the pipe bowl.

The clip A is a ring-shaped member shown in Figures 1, 2, 3, and with particularity in Figure 3. Said clip is composed of a band of any suitable material, such as metal, adapted to be cut or stamped in a flat condition from a piece of metal and to be bent or struck up so as to present the form of a ring. The end portions of said band or clip are extended from the ring-shaped body, said extended ends being in approximately parallel relation, as shown in Figure 3. These extended ends of the clip or band constitute a plurality of yieldable fingers, c, d, and with said clip or band is associated means for contracting the band, whereby the latter is adapted to frictionally grip a pipe stem. Said contracting means is usually in the form of a bolt or screw, e, having a nut, f, said bolt passing loosely through aligned openings provided in the fingers c, d, close to the ring formation of the clip, see Figure 3. The bolt or screw acts to tighten the band around the pipe stem, and to draw the fingers c, d, into the desired close relation one to the other, but these fingers have a relatively slight elastic action whereby they are adapted for frictional contact with the tamper or compressor. It is desirable to provide the finger d with a slight bend, d′, inwardly toward finger c, and to make finger c somewhat longer than finger d, and to bend said longer finger c slightly inward toward finger d, see Figure 3, whereby the two fingers cooperate in securely holding the tamper against accidental dislodgment.

A practical form of tamper or compressor is shown in Figures 1, 2, 5 and 6, of the drawings. It is usually a single piece of metal cut or stamped in flat condition from a sheet of metal to produce an elongated stem with an enlargement at one end, and in the course of production the stem b is twisted or turned intermediate its ends, as at b′, whereas the enlargement is bent at a right angle, or substantially so, to the stem, resulting in a head, b′. This head is substantially flat and extends outwardly from the stem at an angle thereto and at one end thereof, the size or area of the head b′ being such that it acts efficiently in compressing the tobacco within the pipe bowl, as depicted in Figure 2. Said stem is provided with a notch g in one edge and intermediate
the head $b'$ and the twist $b''$, and at one end said stem is forked or split to produce the diverging inclined lips $h$ adapted in the out of service position of the tamper to lie close upon the pipe stem, see Figure 1.

Obviously, the pipe C may be of any kind known to the trade, and while I have illustrated one form of pipe in Figures 1 and 2, it is to be understood that my tamping device may be, and is intended to be, used in connection with any kind of tobacco pipe.

In applying the device to a pipe, the tamper is disconnected from the clip, the screw or bolt is relaxed, and the clip slipped over the pipe stem to a position near to the bowl, see Figures 1 and 2, whereupon the screw is tightened to compress the clip into the desired frictional engagement with the pipe stem so as to adapt the clip to tightly embrace the pipe stem and retain it from sliding thereon. The compression of the clip around the pipe stem does not close the interval between the fingers $c$, $d$, and as said fingers are elastic and yieldable, the stem $b$ of the tamper B is easily thrust into the space between the fingers, as shown in Figures 1 and 3. The stem $b$ of the tamper is positioned for the notch $g$ to receive the screw, and for the lips $h$ to engage with the pipe stem and to fit closely thereto, whereby the tamper is retained firmly in position upon the pipe stem by the co-operation of said tamper with the clip. The notch $g$ and screw $e$ retain the tamper against dislodgment lengthwise, and the frictional engagement of fingers $c$, $d$, with the stem $b$ precludes the accidental dislodgment of the tamper from the clip and the pipe itself when the pipe is moved or shifted around in the mouth or in the hands of the smoker. The clip or band A affords the sole means for mounting the tamper on the pipe in the out of service position of said tamper, there being no attachment of the tamper to the pipe bowl, nor is there any connection between the tamper and said bowl. To use the tamper for compressing the tobacco within the bowl, the tamper is pulled by the fingers away from the clip so as to disconnect the stem $b$ from fingers $c$, $d$, of the clip, and thereupon the tamper is held in the hand and inserted, with the head $b'$ downward, into the pipe bowl, as shown in Figure 2, whereupon the tamper is operated by the hand to press the head $b'$ upon the mass of tobacco, for compacting the burning mass without the danger of burning or soiling the fingers by contact with said burning mass. The tobacco having been compacted as desired, the tamper is withdrawn from the bowl, and it is placed with the stem $b$ between the fingers $c$, $d$, and pressed down firmly until the notch $g$ receives the screw $e$ and the lips $h$ have the desired close relation to the pipe stem, the tamper head $b'$ being in facing relation to the pipe bowl, see Figure 1.

My device comprises two parts, the clip and the tamper, each composed practically of a single piece, to the end that the device is manufactured economically. The device is applied with ease and facility to the pipe stem, and the tamper is demountable from, and attachable at will to, the clip, and when not in service the tamper is instantly available for use.

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

1. In a device for compressing tobacco within a pipe, a clip provided with a plurality of fingers, means for tightening said clip upon a pipe stem, and a tamper insertible between said fingers and engaging frictionally therewith for retaining said tamper in an out of service relation to a pipe and in a position readily available for use.

2. A device for compressing tobacco within a pipe comprising a spring clip of band-shaped formation provided with a screw for clamping said clip frictionally upon a pipe stem, said clip having a plurality of fingers extending outwardly therefrom, and a tamper insertible between said fingers and frictionally engaged therewith.

3. A device for compressing tobacco within a pipe embodying a clip provided with tightening means and with a plurality of fingers, and a tamper the shank of which is notched, said tamper being insertible between said fingers with the notch in engagement with the tightening means.

4. A device for compressing tobacco within a pipe embodying a clip provided with a tightening screw and with a plurality of fingers extending outwardly from said screw, and a tamper provided with a twisted stem having a head and a notch, said stem of the tamper being insertible between said fingers with the notch positioned for engagement with said screw.

In testimony whereof I have hereto signed my name this 20th day of April, 1927.

CHARLES GOETZ.