L. C. HAY.

TAPE COUPLING.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 26, 1915.

1,247,269. Patented Nov. 20, 1917.

Fig. 1.

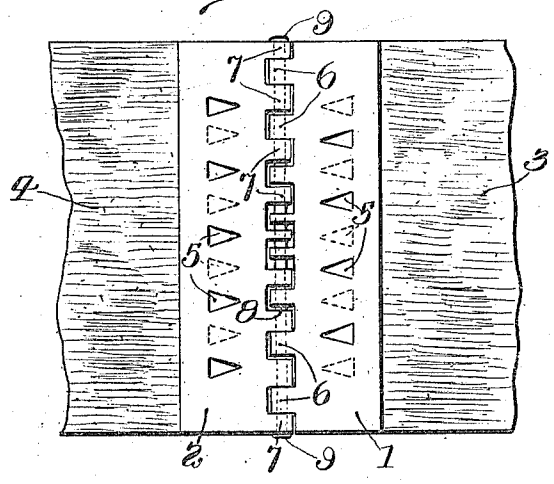
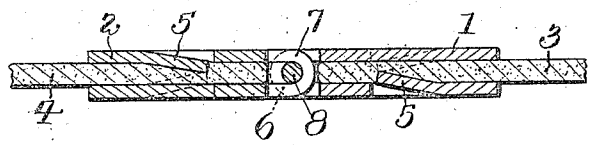


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TAPE-COUPLING.

1,247,269. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 20, 1917.

Application filed May 26, 1915. Serial No. 30,589.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI C. HAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, Hudson county, and State of New Jersey, have invented and discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Tape-Couplings, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to tape couplings and consists in combinations and arrangements of elements hereinafter described and particularly set forth in the accompanying claims.

The invention has for its purpose to provide a coupling for connecting the ends of tapes, belts, or straps, in a manner that will offer little or no hindrance to the flexure thereof, so that said belts will readily flex transversely to conform to the convex formation of the pulleys or other parts over which they may be designed to fit or run, and which is constructed to afford maximum strength along the side edges of the connected tape ends, whereby to withstand the severe strains to which these portions are subjected.

A further object of the invention is to produce a coupling of this type adapted for secure attachment to the tape ends without the employment of separate fastening devices.

The invention is shown by way of illustration in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a front elevational view thereof, and

Fig. 2 a central sectional view of the same.

Referring to the construction in detail, and wherein like reference characters indicate corresponding parts. the coupler comprises two members 1 and 2, each constructed preferably of thin sheet metal and folded upon itself to receive the respective ends 3 and 4 of the tape, or tapes, to be connected. Said members are also formed with struck-in prongs 5 that penetrate into the material of the belt, as shown in Fig. 2.

The adjacent edges of coupling members 1 and 2 are designed with complementary engaging elements 6 and 7 after the manner of hinged joints, and a coupling pin 8 passes therethrough and has its respective ends 9 upset or otherwise provided to prevent displacement of the same.

It is proposed to construct and connect the coupling members in a manner that will afford maximum strength along the side edges of the connected belt ends, inasmuch as these portions are usually subjected to the greatest strains, and, for this purpose, said hinge elements 6 and 7 are of increasing width toward the belt edges, *i. e.*, from the middle point toward either end of the hinged edge. By this construction the coupling members are also designed to readily flex transversely in order to conform to the convex face of the pulleys or other parts over which they may be designed to fit or run.

It is obvious that those skilled in the art may vary the details of construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention, and therefore I do not wish to be limited to such features except as may be required by the claims.

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

1. A tape coupler comprising two members each constructed of thin sheet metal folded upon itself to receive the tape end, the adjacent edges of said members being formed with complementary engaging elements, said engaging elements being of increasing width toward the ends of said edges, and a pin coupling passing through said inter-engaging elements, substantially as set forth.

2. A tape coupler comprising two members each constructed of thin sheet metal folded upon itself to receive the tape end and having struck-in prongs to engage the tape, the adjacent edges of said members being formed with complementary hinge elements of relatively increasing width toward the ends of said edges, and a pin coupling passing through said inter-engaging elements, whereby a coupling is provided adapted to readily flex in a transverse direction, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Jersey City, New Jersey this 24 day of May, A. D. nineteen hundred and fifteen.

LEVI C. HAY. [L. S.]

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."