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J. C. BOHAN

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CONDUCTOR TERMINAL

Filed Jan. 23, 1929

Fig. 1.

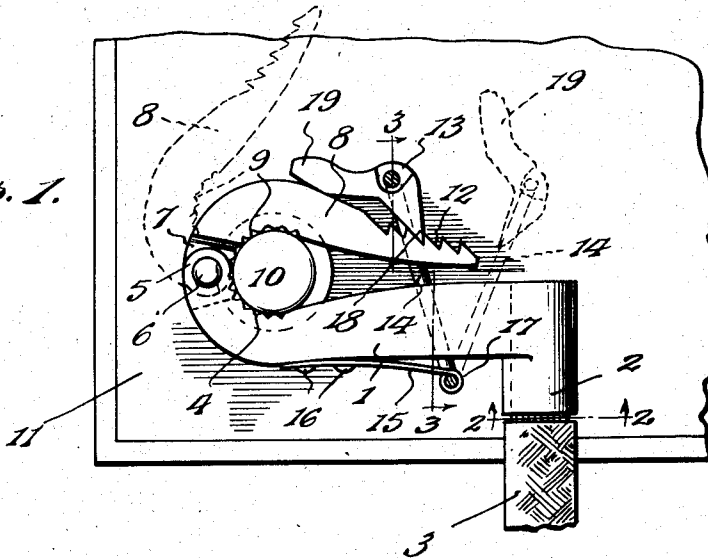


Fig. 2.

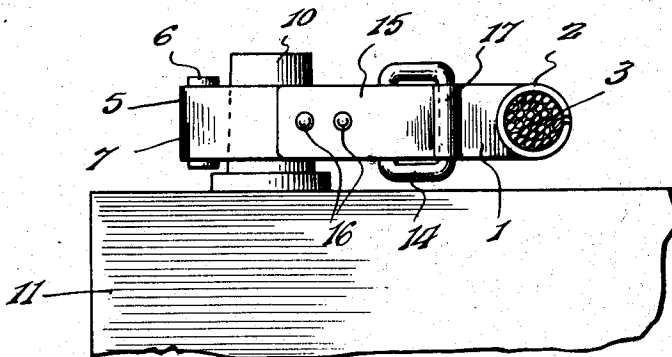
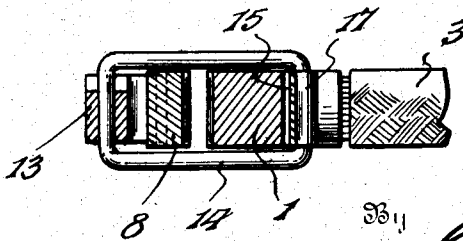


Fig. 3.



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CONDUCTOR TERMINAL

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This invention relates to a terminal adapted to be connected with an electric conductor and by means of which the conductor may be attached to a terminal post of a battery.

One object of the invention is to provide a terminal which may be firmly attached to a conductor and by means of which the conductor may be very firmly connected with a terminal post of a battery but easily released therefrom when necessary.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character including a shank having one end adapted to be attached to a conductor and at its other end carrying a bill constituting a movable jaw which, when swung toward the shank, will cause a battery post to be firmly gripped between the bill and shank.

Another object of the invention is to provide improved means for moving the bill towards a gripping position and, releasably securing it in a gripping position.

Another object of the invention is to permit the latch to be moved into and out of operative engagement with the bill but prevent the latch from accidentally slipping out of operative engagement with the bill and also to cause pressure to be exerted when the latch is in an operative position and thereby cause the battery post to be very firmly gripped between the bill and shank of the terminal.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a top plan view showing the improved conductor terminal engaged with a battery post,

Fig. 2 is a side elevation with the conductor shown in section, the view being taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view through the terminal taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

The improved terminal includes a shank 1 formed of conductive metal and at one end the shank carries a sleeve 2 adapted to fit tightly about an end portion of a conductor 3 from which the insulation has been removed. The forward end portion of the shank is curved longitudinally and formed with teeth 4 upon its inner side face and at its forward end the shank terminates in a hinge ear 5

perforated to receive a pin 6 which passes through a companion ear 7 of a bill 8 and pivotally connects the bill with the shank. The end portion of the bill connected with the shank is also curved and its inner side face is formed with teeth 9, as shown in Fig. 1, and by referring to this figure it will be seen that when the bill is swung towards the shank from an open position, indicated by dotted lines to a closed position, a terminal post 10 of a battery 11 may be firmly gripped between the curved ends of the shank and bill with the teeth biting into the post and not only serving to very effectively prevent the terminal from slipping about the battery post but also cut through scale or other corrosion which may have formed upon the battery post and cause a very good electric contact to be effected between the terminal and the battery post. The bill which may be referred to as a movable jaw tapers towards its free end and has its free end portion formed with teeth 12 upon its outer side face constituting a rack.

In order to releasably secure the bill or movable jaw in a closed position, there has been provided a latch 13 pivotally mounted intermediate its length upon the outer end portion of a yoke or link 14 which is disposed about the shank in encircling relation thereto. A resilient strip 15 which constitutes a yieldable hinge extends longitudinally of the outer side face of the shank and has one end portion secured to the shank by fasteners 16. The spring strip diverges from the shank and has its free end portion rolled to form a hinge sleeve 17 in which the end of the link 14 opposite from the latch 13 is loosely received, thereby pivotally mounting the link so that it may be swung from an inoperative position, indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1, to an operative position.

When the terminal is in use, the sleeve 2 is firmly secured about the bared wires of a conductor and the curved forward end portion of the shank or stationary jaw disposed against a side portion of a battery post. The movable jaw or bill is swung from the open position towards the shank until the battery post is engaged between the shank and bill

and the link or yoke is then swung into position to extend across the free end portion of the bill. After the yoke has been swung to an operative position, the tapered end or tooth 18 of the latch is engaged with one of the teeth 12 and the larger end portion or handle 19 of the latch forced forwardly until it contacts with the outer side face of the bill. During movement of the latch to the operative position shown in Fig. 1, the spring hinge 15 will be drawn towards the shank and since it will have a tendency to return to its original position it will exert a pulling action and cause the latch to be firmly held in the operative position and draw the bill towards the shank. Therefore, the battery post will be very firmly gripped between the shank and bill and the teeth 4 and 9 will bite into the post and prevent the terminal from slipping out of engagement with the battery post and also cut through scale which may have formed upon the battery post and effect a very good electric engagement between the battery post and the terminal. When it is desired to release the terminal from the battery post, it is merely necessary to engage a screw driver blade or other prying implement between the bill and handle of the latch and force the latch outwardly until it turns about the outer end of the yoke to a released position. When the latch is released, the yoke may then be swung to the inoperative position, indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1, and the bill swung away from the shank thereby releasing the battery post and allowing the terminal to be removed therefrom.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. A conductor terminal comprising an elongated rigid member adapted to receive a conductor at one end, and having its free end curved, a clamp having a curved end pivoted to the curved end of the rigid member, the free end portion of said clamp being toothed a link embracing the rigid member and clamp, a spring extending longitudinally of the rigid member and having one end secured to the rigid member and its other end formed with a sleeve receiving the link to pivotally mount the link and a latch pivoted to the free end of the link and adapted to adjustably engage the clamp to the free end portion of the clamp.
2. A conductor terminal comprising a rigid member adapted to receive a conductor at one end, a clamp pivoted to the opposite end of the rigid member, a link embracing the rigid member and clamp, a spring fixedly connected at one end to the rigid member and having the link pivoted to its opposite end, and a latch pivoted to the free end of the link and adapted to adjustably engage the clamp.
3. A conductor terminal comprising an

elongated member curved and toothed at one end, a conductor attached to the opposite end of the member, a clamp curved and toothed at one end and pivoted to the curved end of the said member and toothed at its free end, a link embracing the member and clamp, a spring fixedly connected at one end to the member and having the link pivoted to its free end, and a latch pivoted to the free end of the link and adapted to adjustably engage the free toothed end of the clamp.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN C. BOHAN.