May 27, 1941. S. LIGHTER 2,243,350

SHIRT WRAPPER

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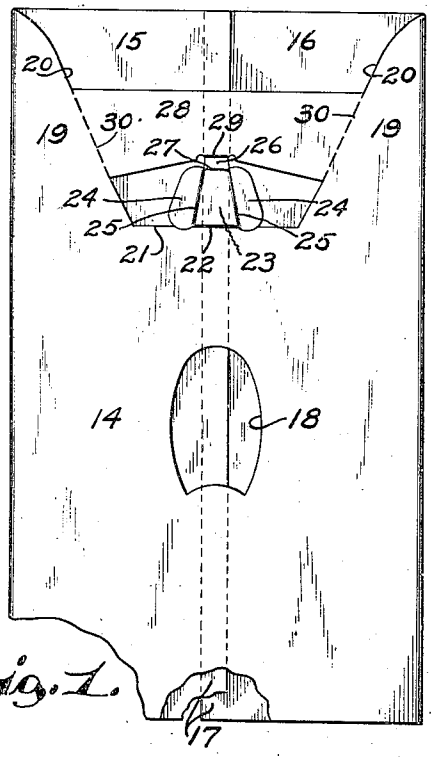


Fig. 1.

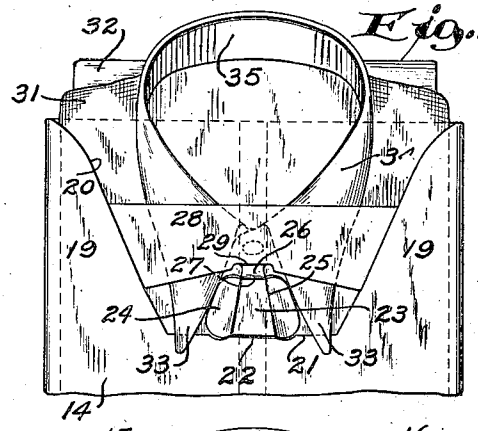


Fig. 2.

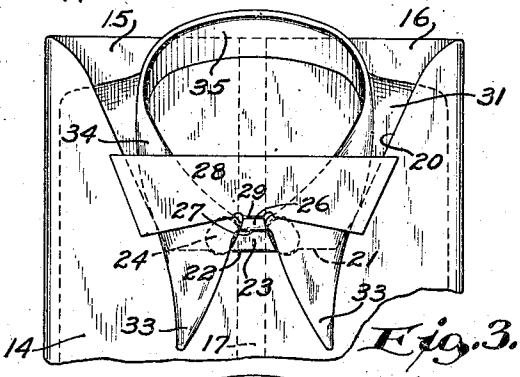


Fig. 3.

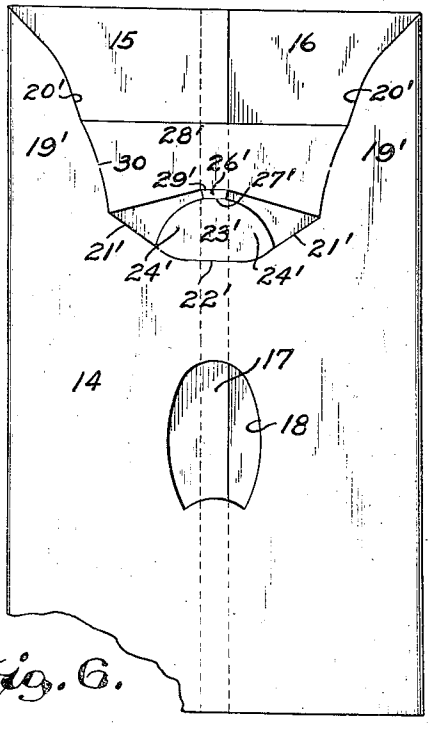


Fig. 6.

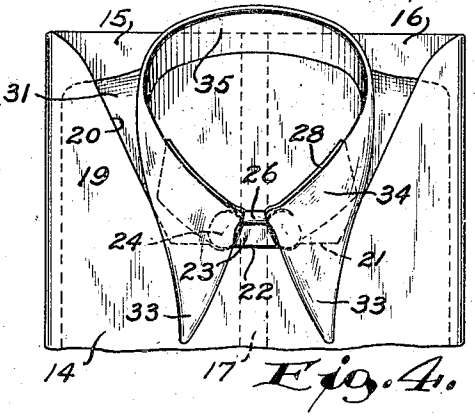


Fig. 4.

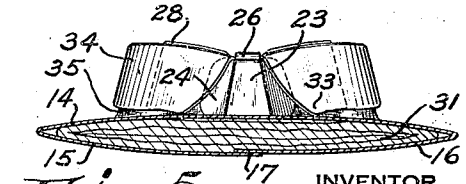


Fig. 5.

INVENTOR
Stephen Lighter
BY
Morsell, Lieber & Morsell
ATTORNEYS.

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Fig. 7.

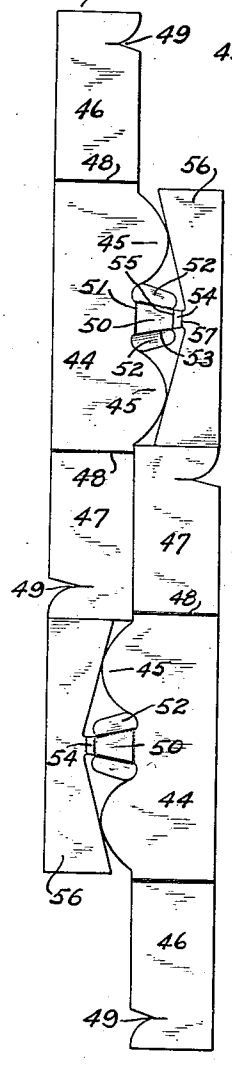


Fig. 12.

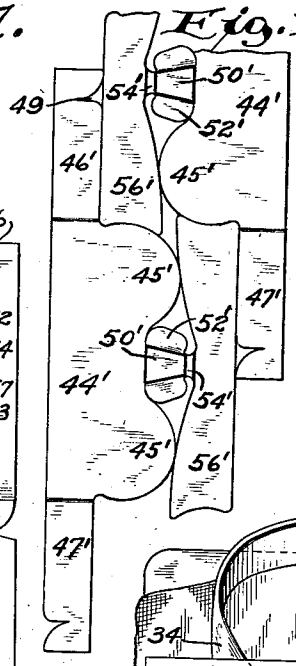


Fig. 8.

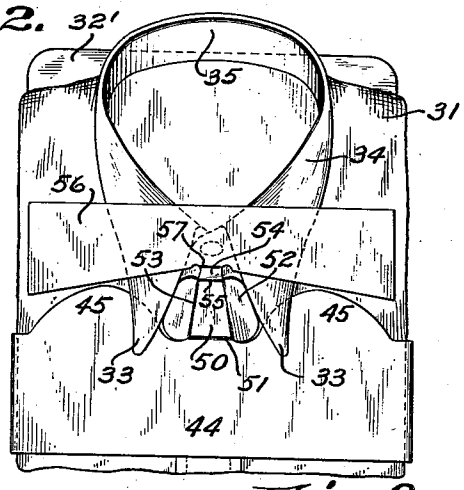


Fig. 9.

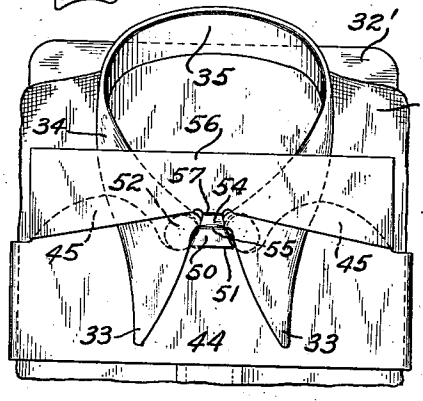


Fig. 10.

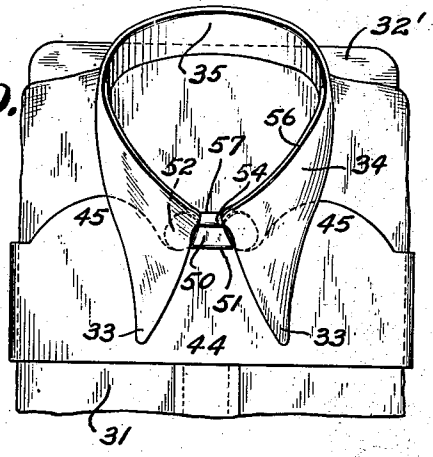
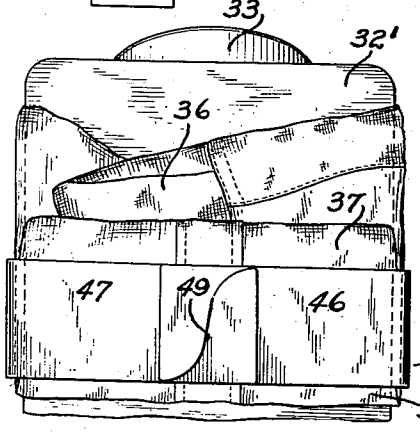


Fig. 11.



INVENTOR
Stephen Lighter
BY
Morsell, Lieber & Morsell
ATTORNEYS.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SHIRT WRAPPER

Stephen Lighter, Chicago, Ill.

Application September 22, 1939, Serial No. 296,016

2 Claims. (Cl. 229—87)

My present invention relates in general to improvements in the art of wrapping wearing apparel such as shirts or the like, and relates more specifically to improvements in the construction and operation of wrappers for freshly laundered and folded men's shirts and similar garments.

Generally defined, an object of my invention is to provide an improved laundry wrapper which is simple in construction and efficient in use.

Many different types of shirt wrappers have heretofore been proposed for use in wrapping freshly laundered shirts, and while some of these prior shirt wrappers have been used with a moderate degree of success, they are all more or less objectionable either because of the initial cost and difficulties in manufacturing, or because they do not effectively accomplish their intended purpose. A shirt wrapper in order to be commercially practical, must not only be adapted for use without the aid of pins or clips, but must also effectively protect various portions of the shirt and retain the latter in neatly folded condition. A practical wrapper of this type should be capable of being produced at moderate cost, and should also be applicable to a shirt speedily and with very little effort on the part of the individual making the application. The previous shirt wrappers have all been deficient as to one or more of these essential requirements, and the cheaper wrappers are usually insufficiently strong to withstand handling of the final package, without tearing.

It is therefore a more specific object of the present invention to provide a new and useful wrapper, especially applicable to folded shirts, which obviates all of the objectionable features of prior shirt wrappers, and which moreover embodies all of the desirable features thereof, as well as others.

Another specific object of my invention is to provide an improved shirt wrapper which can be readily produced at moderate cost, which may be quickly and conveniently applied to a folded shirt, and which will effectively protect the shoulders, collar and other portions of the shirt to which it is applied.

A further specific object of my present invention is to provide an improved individual wrapper for laundered and folded shirts, which is durable in construction and will maintain the shirts in neatly folded and protected condition.

An additional object of this invention is to provide an improved laundry wrapper which is relatively inexpensive, and the improved features of which may be applied either in a covering for substantially the entire garment without the aid of internal stiffening boards, or in a local band encircling a folded shirt having a stiffening board therein.

Still another specific object of the present invention is to provide an improved shirt wrapper which will effectively protect the shoulders and bosom of a folded shirt, and which is formed to retain the collar and neck band in proper shape and to prevent creasing thereof due to handling during delivery from the laundry.

Another specific object of my invention is to provide a simple wrapper for shirts and similar garments, having improved collar and neck band protective features which are conveniently applicable to the goods during packing, and which may be readily manufactured with the aid of punches and dies with minimum waste of stock.

A further specific object of my present invention is to provide a shirt wrapper of attractive appearance and to which advertising matter may be readily applied, and which is moreover strong and devoid of objectionable fasteners such as pins and metal clips.

These and other specific objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from the following detailed description.

A clear conception of the several features constituting my present improvement, and of the mode of constructing and of utilizing several types of shirt wrappers built in accordance with the invention, may be had by referring to the drawings accompanying and forming a part of this specification wherein like reference characters designate the same or similar parts in the various views.

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a cover-all shirt wrapper embodying the invention, portions of the lower part of the wrapper having been broken away;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary plan view depicting the initial step of the method of applying the wrapper of Fig. 1 to a shirt;

Fig. 3 is a similar fragmentary view illustrating the second step of the wrapping operation, following the initial assembly step of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is another similar fragmentary view showing the final wrapping step and completed package;

Fig. 5 is a transverse section through the completed package of Fig. 4, looking toward the collar of the shirt;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a modified type of cover-all shirt wrapper embodying my invention;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of several band type shirt wrappers embodying the invention, and showing

the mode of producing the same from sheet stock with minimum waste;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary plan view of a folded shirt, depicting one of the initial steps in the method of applying the band wrapper of Fig. 7 thereto;

Fig. 9 is a view similar to that of Fig. 8, illustrating the next step of the wrapping operation;

Fig. 10 is another view similar to those of Figs. 8 and 9, showing the final wrapping step;

Fig. 11 is a rear view of the portion of the final package shown in Fig. 10; and

Fig. 12 is a plan view of several modified type of band wrappers also embodying the invention, and likewise illustrating the mode of eliminating waste in the manufacture thereof.

Although the invention has been embodied herein in various types of cardboard wrappers especially adapted for the purpose of enwrapping freshly laundered shirts, it is not the intent to unnecessarily restrict the scope or utility of the novel features by virtue of such limited disclosure.

My present invention is adapted to be applied either to a cover-all type of shirt wrapper wherein the major portion of the folded shirt is concealed but no permanent stiffening board is utilized within the shirt, and in a band type of wrapper wherein the shirt is retained in folded condition about a cardboard stiffener and is maintained neatly folded by a local band having the improved collar protector associated therewith.

Referring especially to Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive of the drawings, the improved cover-all type of shirt wrapper disclosed therein comprises in general a one-piece cardboard blank having a front panel 14, and two overlapping rear panels 15, 16 foldably connected to the opposite side edges of the panel 14 and permanently connected to each other at the overlapped area 17 by means of adhesive or otherwise, so as to form an envelope open at the top and bottom. The central portion of the front panel 14 may be provided with a peek opening 18 through which a portion of the front of the enwrapped garment is visible, and which may also be utilized for decorative or advertising purposes; and the upper part of this panel 14 is provided with triangular side portions 19 the adjacent side edges 20 of which converge toward each other and terminate at the ends of a horizontal transverse edge 21 to provide a recess for the reception of the collar part of a shirt. Projecting upwardly from the top edge 21 and hingedly connected thereto along a score line 22, is a tapered panel 23 which has opposite side tabs 24 foldably connected therewith along score lines 25. A short transition section 26 is foldably connected to the top of the panel 23 along a fold line 27, and a relatively wide collar bracing or stiffening plate 28 extends across the top of the section 26 from one edge 20 to the other and is foldably connected to the section 26 along a fold line 29. Before the wrapper is applied to a shirt, the opposite ends of the plate 28 may be attached to the triangular portions 19 by one or more uncut portions 30 so that the empty wrappers may be handled without tearing the plates 28, sections 26 and panels 23 all of which are formed integral with each other and with the front panel 14. The plate 28 preferably has its narrowest central portion hingedly connected to the transition section 26, and increases in width toward both of its outer ends.

The shirt wrappers thus formed are normally collapsed or flattened as shown in Fig. 1, but each wrapper may be quickly and conveniently applied to a folded shirt 31 in the manner clearly illustrated in Figs. 2 to 5 inclusive. The shirt 31 is first neatly folded about a stiff temporary retainer board 32, and is slipped in this condition downwardly into one of the slightly distended wrappers after the uncut portions 30 thereof have been broken to leave the transverse plate 28 ends freely suspended from the panel 23 and hinge section 26. During this movement of the wrapper toward the collar band, the opposite side tabs 24 of the panel 23 ride along the lower surfaces of the lapel tips 33, and guide the panel 23 and plate 28 into proper central position; and after the shirt 31 has reached the position shown in Fig. 2 with the tips 33 of the collar lapels pointing through the openings between the plate 28 and edge 21 and overlying this edge, the final insertion of the shirt 31 to the position shown in Fig. 3 is accomplished by taking hold of the lower portion of the folded shirt through the open lower end of the wrapper and by pulling the shirt down, whereupon the board 32 may be removed from above the package. The final downward thrust of the shirt 31 into the wrapper, causes the panel 23 to assume the proper inclination relative to the front panel 14, and simultaneously causes the tabs 24 at the opposite sides of the central panel 23 to ride beneath the collar lapels or tips 33 and to assume positions in re-enforcing contact with the front of the collar and spaced from the exterior front portions of the band 35 as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4. The final downward pull of the shirt 31, also causes the triangular side portions 19 to effectively cover and conceal the shoulder parts of the shirt 31; and all that is thereafter required of the operator to complete the wrapping operation, is to fold and snap the resilient plate 28 within the upstanding neck band 35 as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The score lines 22, 25, 27, 29 will permit the various parts of the assemblage to readily assume these various positions, and when the plate 28 has been finally inserted it will remain in place and will lock the shirt 31 within its wrapper. The plate 28 effectively reinforces the collar 34 and cooperates with the panel 23 and tabs 24 to maintain the proper shape of the collar 34 and neck band 35, and the shirt 31 may be readily removed from its wrapping upon withdrawal of the plate 28.

In Fig. 6 of the drawings I have shown a modified cover-all type of shirt wrapper, which, while functioning the same as the wrapper of Fig. 1, is slightly different in construction. This modified wrapper of Fig. 6 also has a front panel 14, and two overlapping rear panels 15, 16 foldably associated with the opposite side edges of the front panel 14 and permanently connected at the overlapped area 17. The upper portion of the front panel 14 has triangular side portions 19' the adjacent inclined edges 20' of which converge toward and terminate at upper inclined edges 21' to provide a collar receiving recess. Projecting upwardly from the lower ends of the top edges 21' and hingedly connected to the panel 14 along a score line 22', is a modified panel 23' having opposite side collar lapel engaging and guiding tabs or ears 24' formed integral therewith. A connecting section 26' is foldably attached to the panel 23' along a score line 27', and a transverse collar band engaging plate 28' is foldably connected with the top of the section 26' along a score line 29'. The plate 28' may again be temporarily attached to the inclined edges 20' by local uncut portions 30. It will be apparent that

this modified wrapper of Fig. 6 is applicable to a shirt 31, in the same manner as above described in conjunction with the disclosures in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, and that the various parts of the modified wrapper will function the same as the corresponding elements of the wrapper previously described.

Referring more particularly to Figs. 7 to 11 inclusive of the drawings, the band type of the improved shirt wrapper shown therein, comprises a single sheet of cardboard or the like, which may be manufactured with relatively little waste as shown in Fig. 7, from a continuous sheet or strip of stock. This modified type of wrapper has a shirt embracing band formed of a front section 44 provided with upwardly projecting rounded portions 45, and two overlapping rear sections 46, 47 foldably connected to the front section 44 along fold lines 48 and each having a V-notch 49 interlockable with the other rear section to detachably connect the ends of the band. The front section 44 of the band, has a tapered panel 50 connected therewith along a score line 51, and this panel 50 has oppositely directed side guiding tabs 52 foldably connected therewith along score lines 53. A transition section 54 is connected to the top of the panel 50 along a fold line 55, and a transversely extending plate 56 is again widened toward its opposite ends and is hingedly connected at its narrowest central portion to the section 54 along a score line 57. All of the parts of this band type of shirt wrapper are formed integral with each other and may be cut from a strip of cardboard or the like with the aid of punches and dies, and scored with well known machinery.

The band type of wrappers normally lie flat as in Fig. 7, and in order to enwrap a shirt 31 in one of these wrappers, the shirt is first neatly folded about an ordinary cardboard stiffener 32' as illustrated in Figs. 8 and 11 with the sleeves 36 folded over each other and beneath the backfold 37 of the shirt. The flattened band assemblage is then applied about the folded shirt 31 as shown in Fig. 8, with the rounded portion 45 beneath the collar lapel tips 33, and with the rear sections 46, 47 interlocked at their V-notches 49 as indicated in Fig. 11. The wrapper 31 may be subsequently pushed upwardly along the folded shirt to the position illustrated in Fig. 9, whereupon the upwardly projecting portions 45 will slide beneath the collar 34 and the panel 50 and tabs 52 will swing about the fold line 51 and the tabs 52 will ride upwardly along and beneath the collar lapels until the tops of the guide tabs engage the foremost upper portion of the neck band 35. To complete the wrapping operation, it is then only necessary for the operator to swing the upper plate 56 rearwardly and downwardly into the interior of the upstanding neck band 35 about the score lines 55, 57, and the plate 56 due to its flexibility and resiliency will snap into snug contact with the neck band, see Fig. 10. The band will then be locked about and against possible shifting along the body of the shirt, by the V-notches 49 and the plate 56, and this plate will cooperate with the panel 50 and tabs 52 to protect the collar and neck band and to keep these elements in shape, while the projecting portions 45 will at least partially protect the shoulders of the shirt 31.

In Fig. 12 I have shown a modified type of the band form of wrapper, which functions precisely the same as the wrapper of Figs. 7 to 11 inclusive, but may be more economically produced. This modified band type of wrapper has a relatively high front band section 44' provided with larger upwardly projecting portions 45', and the height of the two rear sections 46', 47', has been materially reduced. The panel 50', guide tabs 52' and section 54' are substantially the same as in the wrapper of Fig. 7, but the top plate 56' is formed to fit the projections 45 and the sections 46', 47 so that minimum cardboard stock will be wasted during manufacture of the wrappers. This modified band type wrapper will be just as effective in use, as the band type wrapper previously described, and may obviously be applied to a shirt 31 in the same manner as described in conjunction with Figs. 8 to 11 inclusive.

From the foregoing detailed description of the several improved wrappers and of the mode of applying the same to shirts 31, it will be apparent that my present invention provides a simple and durable shirt wrapper which can be readily manufactured and applied to a shirt to provide an effective final wrapping. Both the cover-all and the band type of wrappers have the common characteristic construction whereby they may be slipped beneath the shirt collar points or tips while the tabs on the tapered central panel ride along the lower surfaces of the collar lapels, and effectively retain and protect the outer collar and collar band when assembled. Both types of wrappers also partially conceal and protect the shoulder portions of the shirt, and may be applied to a shirt with equal facility. All of the four modifications of the invention disclosed herein may be manufactured with the aid of punches and dies and with minimum waste of stock, and the band type can obviously be produced at considerably lower cost than the de luxe cover-all type. The improved wrappers avoid the use of pins and other metallic fasteners, and have proven highly satisfactory in actual commercial use. These wrappers also effectively maintain the shirts in neatly folded condition and are so quickly applicable to laundered shirts that they have met with great favor from the users; and while the cover-all type of wrapper shown herein is open at both the top and bottom, it may obviously be closed at the bottom to provide protection for the lower portion of the folded shirt. With the improved cover-all wrapper the collar while being protected is completely exposed to view at all times and may therefore be conveniently inspected at all times.

It should be understood that it is not desired to limit this invention to the exact details of construction or to the precise mode of use, herein shown and described, for various modifications within the scope of the appended claims may occur to persons skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A shirt wrapper comprising, a retaining band formed to snugly embrace a folded shirt transversely below the collar and having its opposite ends formed for inter-connection at the rear of the shirt, a relatively narrow panel projecting upwardly from the center of the front section of the band and having guide tabs at its opposite sides engaging and supporting the front portions of the collar adjacent to the lapels so as to maintain said collar portions away from the collar band, and an elongated flexible transverse plate connected at its lower central part to the upper end of said panel, said plate being foldable within the collar band.

2. A shirt wrapper comprising, a retaining band formed to snugly embrace a folded shirt trans-

versely below the collar and having its opposite ends formed for detachable inter-connection at the rear of the shirt, a relatively narrow tapered panel projecting upwardly from the center of the front section of the band and having guide tabs at its opposite sides engaging and supporting the front portions of the collar adjacent to the lapels so as to maintain said collar portions away from the collar band, and an elongated flexible transverse plate connected at its lower central part to the upper narrower end of said panel, said plate being widened at its opposite ends and foldable within the collar band.

STEPHEN LIGHTER.