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A. VERBIAR

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BARREL BAND

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INVENTOR:

ANDREW VERBIAR

BY

Schroeder, Høfgen, Brady & Wegner.

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BARREL BAND

Andrew Verbiar, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Pryor Machine Company, Inc., a corporation of Illinois

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1 Claim. (Cl. 292—256.67)

This invention is concerned with a barrel band, and more particularly with a connector or fitting for the end of a barrel band.

Barrels of one kind or another are used quite widely for packaging, shipping and storing many different goods. After they have served their original purpose, many of these barrels may be reused. In order to facilitate such reuse, it is generally the practice to provide a removable cover for the barrel which may readily be secured to and removed from the barrel. One of the most commonly used devices for attaching such covers to barrels is a split band which engages the cover and upper edge of the barrel, securing them together. I have developed and disclose and claim herein a novel and improved end fitting for a barrel band, which is strong, easy to use and economical to manufacture.

One feature of the invention is the provision of a fitting adapted for attachment to a barrel band and having a wall segment substantially aligned with the end of the barrel band and adapted for engagement with band securing means. Another feature is that the fitting includes a plurality of wall segments disposed at angles to and joined with each other. Yet a further feature is that one wall segment is parallel to and spaced from another wall segment to hold a nut therebetween.

Further features and advantages will readily be apparent from the following specification and from the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a barrel illustrating the use of a barrel band provided with fittings of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary enlarged perspective view of the end portions of the band showing the fittings; and

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken along line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Barrels in general use are made of a variety of materials, as sheet metal, fiber or other composition materials. Similarly, the covers may be made of different materials according to the use to which the barrel is to be put. In the case of fiber or composition materials, the edges are often metal covered. The barrel bands are generally of metal, usually steel, although in some cases lighter materials such as aluminum may be used.

Turning now to the drawings, in Figure 1 a barrel is shown having a cylindrical side wall 10, a bottom 11 and a cover 12. The cover is secured to the barrel by split band 13 which is provided with the novel securing means of the present invention, indicated generally as 14.

Referring to Figure 2 it will be seen that the side wall 10 of the barrel is provided at its upper end with an outwardly rolled arcuate flange 15, here shown as a separate member secured to the side wall 10. This flange may, of course, also be formed as a unitary part of the side of the barrel. The cover 12 is a circular sheet provided with a circumferential arcuate portion 16 which is adapted to engage the flange 15 at the top of the barrel. Barrel band 13 has a semicircular cross section and is adapted to encircle the peripheral flange 16 of the cover

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and, when tightened, to hold the cover securely in place. Attached to either end of band 13 are fittings 17 and 18. With one exception, which will be pointed out later, the two fittings 17 and 18 are mirror images of each other. Only the fitting 17 will be described in detail, it being readily apparent from the drawing that fitting 18 is substantially identical.

Fitting 17 is preferably stamped of a suitable sheet material, as steel, and has a first portion 19 which is arcuate in configuration to engage the outer surface of the end of the barrel band 13 to which it is suitably secured, as by welding. Extending downwardly from first portion 19 is a second portion 20 which includes a side wall segment 21 that lies along the side wall 10 of the barrel. An end wall segment 22 is formed at substantially a right angle to the side wall segment 21, extending outwardly from the wall 10 of the barrel and being substantially aligned with the end of barrel band 13. A third or bottom wall segment 23 is mutually perpendicular to the side and end wall segments 21 and 22 and is joined with both of them along the length thereof, greatly strengthening the end wall. A hole 24 is formed in end wall 22 and is matched by a corresponding hole 25 in the end wall 26 of fitting 18. A bolt 27 may be inserted through the holes 24 and 25 and threaded into a nut 28 to draw the ends of the band toward each other, tightening the band on the barrel.

End wall segment 22 may be extended and bent back to form wall segment 29 which lies generally parallel with side wall segment 21 and adapted to grip nut 28 therebetween. The nut 28 is locked into place in alignment with hole 24, facilitating threading of bolt 27 and preventing loss of the nut when the band is removed. Such an extension is not necessary, and in many cases may not be desirable, on fitting 18.

It is important to note that the end wall segments 22 and 26 of the fittings, against which the securing means bear, are generally aligned with the ends of band 13. The diameter of barrels in common use varies somewhat and accordingly the barrel band is made smaller than the smallest barrel with which it is to be used. Bolts of different lengths may then be used to accommodate larger barrels. However, as the difference in diameter between the barrel and the band increases it becomes more and more difficult to engage the threads of bolt 27 with nut 28, as they become angularly displaced from each other. Accordingly, by arranging the end walls 22 and 26 adjacent the ends of the band, the bearing surfaces are placed as close to each other as possible and the problem is minimized.

While I have shown and described certain embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that it is capable of many modifications. Changes therefore, in the construction and arrangement may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed in the appended claim.

I claim:

A connector for use with a split band for securing a cover to a barrel, said band being of arcuate cross section having one longitudinal edge closely adjacent the barrel, said connector comprising: a first fitting including a first portion attached to one end of said band and extending downwardly to a lower edge adjacent said band edge, and a second portion including a side wall segment extending directly downwardly from said first portion edge, said side wall having a rear surface abutting the barrel, an end wall segment extending outwardly at generally a right angle to said side wall segment and transverse of the axis of the barrel band in substantial alignment with the end of the band, said end wall segment having an aperture therethrough, a bottom wall segment generally at right angles to both

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said side and end wall segments and being joined with said wall segments throughout substantially their entire extent; and a second fitting including a first portion attached to the other end of said band and extending downwardly to a lower edge adjacent said band edge, and a second portion, said second portion of the second fitting including a generally planar side wall segment extending directly downwardly from said first portion edge, said side wall having a rear surface abutting the barrel, an end wall segment extending outwardly at generally a right angle to said side wall segment and transverse of the axis of the barrel band in substantial alignment with said other end of the band, said end wall segment of the second fitting having an aperture there-through aligned with the aperture of the first fitting, a bottom wall segment generally at right angles to both said side and end wall segments of the second fitting and being joined with said wall segments throughout

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substantially their entire extent, and an outer side wall segment extending parallel to and being spaced outwardly from said inner wall segment of the second fitting and being joined with said end and bottom wall segments of the second fitting.

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