G. H. WHEARY.

RETAINER BAR FOR TRUNKS.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 10, 1919.

1,382,701. **Patented June 28, 1921.**

Fig. 1.

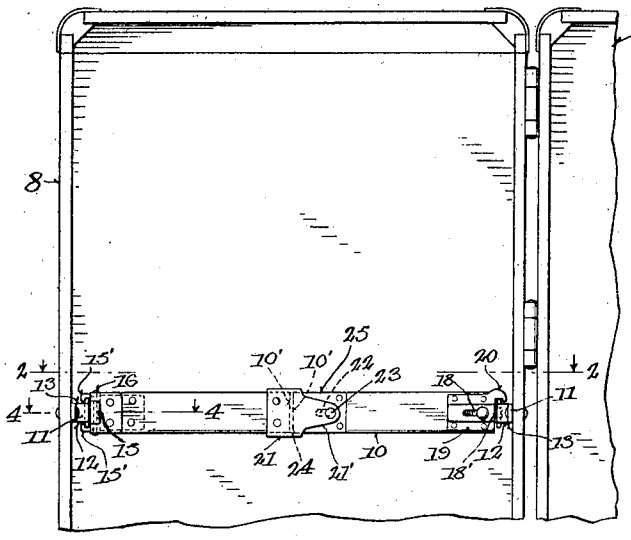


Fig. 4.

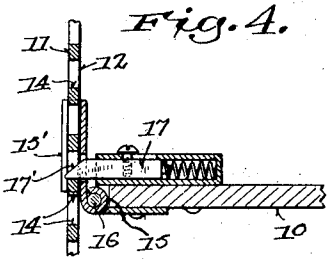


Fig. 5.

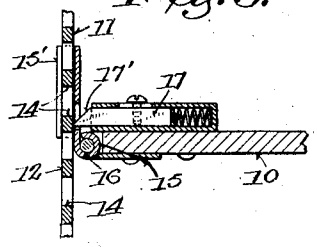


Fig. 2.

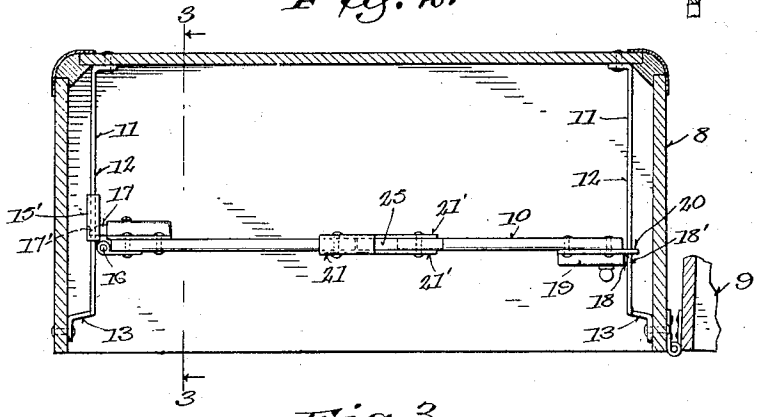
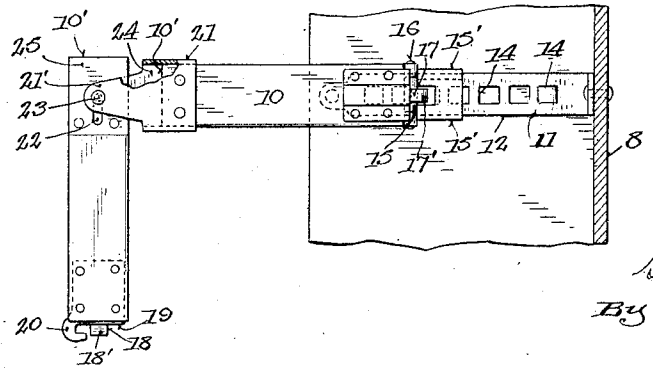


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RETAINER-BAR FOR TRUNKS.

1,382,701. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 28, 1921.

Application filed June 10, 1919. Serial No. 303,098.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE HENRY WHEARY, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Retainer-Bars for Trunks, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in retainer bars for trunks.

Trunks of the wardrobe type have garments suspended from hangers usually horizontally mounted in the upper portion of the wardrobe section of the trunk. It is necessary to retain medial portions of the garments and retainer bars or followers are provided for this purpose. These retainers or followers are usually adjustably held in position by straps or latches of various kinds which are connected to the opposite side portions of the wardrobe section. In removing or replacing apparel in the wardrobe section it is necessary in the ordinary retainers or followers to entirely remove said parts from the wardrobe section to permit access to said section. This removal requires considerable time and when removed there is always the possibility of the retainer being misplaced or lost. Furthermore the side walls of a compartment warp to a greater or less extent and it is somewhat difficult for an inexperienced person to connect the opposite ends of the retainer with the securing means mounted on the opposite side walls of the wardrobe section, due to the increased or lessened distance between said walls, and it is necessary to exert great force to connect the parts.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to overcome the before mentioned objectionable features and provide a retainer bar which may be easily detached from one side of the trunk and be swung and folded to an out of the way position while still attached to the trunk section.

A further object of the invention is to provide a retainer bar which may be easily extended or contracted to compensate for the varying distances apart of the side walls of the wardrobe section.

A further object of the invention is to provide a retainer bar in which one end portion thereof is automatically, adjustably locked against outward movement to one of the side portions of the wardrobe section.

A further object of the invention is to provide a retainer bar which may be adjustably locked to the side portions of the trunk at different points and against outward movement by merely pushing the bar inwardly.

A further object of the invention is to provide a retainer bar which is of simple construction, is strong and durable, and is well adapted for the purpose described.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the improved retainer bar and its parts and combinations as set forth in the claims, and all equivalents thereof.

In the accompanying drawing in which the same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the views:

Figure 1 is a front view of a portion of a wardrobe trunk provided with the improved retainer bar;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view, on a larger scale, taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional detail view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2 and on a larger scale, showing the retainer bar in folded position and swung to one side of the wardrobe section;

Fig. 4 is a sectional detail view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the locking bolt in an intermediate position.

Referring to the drawing the numeral 8 indicates the wardrobe section or compartment of a wardrobe trunk, 9 the other section hinged thereto and 10 the improved retainer bar slidably mounted medially within said wardrobe section. The wardrobe section is of ordinary construction and is provided in its upper portion with the usual garment hangers (not shown) which support the apparel or garments in extended position. Metal retainer bar engaging guide members 11 are mounted on the opposite side and rear walls of the wardrobe section of the trunk. Medial portions 12 of said guide members 11 are spaced from and extend parallel to the side walls of the compartment to accommodate the opposite engaging portions of the retainer bar 10. Said guide members 11 at their forward ends 13 are of less width than the spaced portions 12 to permit the easy removal of

the retainer bar from the trunk section when desired. Said spaced portions 12 are provided with spaced bolt openings forming shoulders 14 for locking the retainer bar in adjusted position thereto.

One end of the retainer bar is connected to a slide member 15 by a hinge joint 16 which permits the said retainer bar to swing outwardly and against one of the side walls of the trunk section. The slide member 15 extends partly around its coacting guide member 11 with its horizontal edge portions 15′ interposed between the guide and the side wall of the trunk section to which the guide is fastened, and spaced apart a sufficient distance to pass over the reduced end portion 13 of the guide to permit the easy removal of said slide from the guide.

A spring pressed bolt member 17 slidably mounted on the inner side of the retainer bar adjacent the hinge 16 and projecting therefrom is adapted to automatically swing into one of the bolt openings 14 of the guide member 11 engaged by the slide when the retainer bar is swung into the trunk section and at right angles to said guide bar and engage the shoulders and thus lock this end of the retainer bar in adjusted position. In the event that the bolt member when swung inwardly is not in register with one of the openings forming the shoulders 14 a slight push inwardly on this end of the retainer bar will permit the spring bolt to snap into the opening. The inner face portion 17′ of the bolt 17 is beveled to permit the bolt to automatically snap from one guide opening to another when the retainer bar is pushed inwardly into garment retaining position.

The opposite end of the retainer bar is also provided with a spring bolt 18 which is mounted on the front face of said bar and is provided with a beveled end portion 18′ which snaps into the bolt openings and engages the shoulders 14 of the adjacent guide member 11. The casing 19 of said spring bolt is formed with a projecting hook portion 20 which hooks over the upper edge portion of the said adjacent guide member and prevents endwise movement of this end of the retainer bar with relation to the guide member.

The connection of the slide and the spring lock hook portion with the opposite guide members securely holds the guide members and the compartment side walls from bulging outwardly or being forced inwardly a greater distance than is permitted by the adjustable feature of the retainer bar now about to be described.

The retainer bar is divided medially of its length and the abutting end portions 10′ are covered and adjustably connected together by the tubular connecting member 21. Said connecting member 21 surrounds and is riveted to the inner end portion of the retainer part which carries the fixed bolt and is provided with opposite side end extensions 21′ which overlap the opposite sides of the inner end of the retainer bar part provided with the spring lock. Said retainer bar inner part is provided with a horizontally extending elongated slot 22. The slotted portion is interposed between the end extensions 21′ of the coupling member and a pin or bolt 23 extending through the slot and the end extensions permits a limited telescoping or endwise movement of the retainer bar parts relative to each other. The tubular portion of the connecting member 21 extends beyond the inner end of the retainer part to which it is connected to form a socket 24 to receive the inner end of the other retainer bar part and hold both parts locked against folding and in alined position. When the slotted retainer bar part is pulled outwardly so that its inner end is out of the socket 24 it may then be dropped downwardly to folded position as clearly shown in Fig. 4. When thus folded and swung to one side of the trunk section and the slide member pushed inwardly to the rear portion of the trunk section, the retainer bar will be out of the way and not interfere with the removal or replacement of apparel suspended on the garment hangers. The telescoping slotted end portion of the retainer bar part is reinforced by a metal covering 25.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the retainer bar is of very simple construction and is well adapted for the purpose described.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A retainer bar, comprising a bar member having a yielding bolt member on one side end which is automatically moved to unlocked position by a swinging movement of the bar member and having a manually operated yielding bolt member on its opposite side end which locks the bar against movement in one direction, said bar being adjustable in one direction without a swinging movement.

2. A retainer bar, comprising a bar member having a yielding bolt member on one end which is automatically moved to unlocked position when the bar member is swung horizontally toward and to a position approximately parallel to the member to which it is locked, and a manually operated bolt member on its opposite end which locks the bar against movement in one direction, said bar being adjusted in one direction without a swinging movement.

3. A retainer bar, comprising a two part hinged together bar member having a yielding bolt member on one end which is automatically moved to unlocked position when the bar member is swung toward the member to which it is locked, said swinging

movement permitting one part of the bar member to swing to a position approximately at right angles to the other part, and a manually operated bolt member on its opposite end which locks the bar against movement in one direction, said bar being adjustable in one direction without a swinging movement.

4. The combination with a pair of spaced trunk side wall guide members having locking shoulders, a retaining bar interposed between said guide members and having a yielding bolt on one end which lockingly engages the shoulders of one of the guide members against outward movement and which is automatically unlocked therefrom when said bar is swung outwardly, and a manually operated bolt member mounted on the opposite end of the retaining bar and lockingly engaging the shoulders of the opposite guide member, said manually operated bolt member locking the bar against movement in one direction, said bar being adjustable in one direction without a swinging movement.

5. The combination with a pair of spaced trunk side wall guide members having locking shoulders, a retainer bar interposed between said guide members and having a spring bolt mounted on one end which engages the shoulders of the adjacent guide and locks said bar end against outward movement and which is unlocked when the bar is swung outwardly, and a manually operated spring bolt mounted on the opposite end of the retainer bar and lockingly engaging the shoulders of the adjacent guide member against outward movement, said bar being adjustable in one direction without a swinging movement.

6. The combination with a pair of spaced trunk side wall guide members having locking shoulders, a retainer bar interposed between said guide members and having a spring bolt on one end which lockingly engages the locking shoulders of one of the guide members and which is automatically unlocked therefrom when said retainer bar is swung outwardly, and means locking the opposite end of the retainer bar to the other guide member, said retainer bar having means on its opposite ends for engaging the outer side portions of the guide members, said bar being adjustable in one direction without a swinging movement.

7. The combination with a pair of spaced trunk side wall guide memers having locking shoulders, a two part retainer bar interposed between said guide members and having its inner end portions which are pivotally and slidably connected together, a member slidably mounted on one of the guide members and having a hinged connection with one of the outer ends of the retainer bar, a spring bolt mounted on said outer end of said retainer bar and engaging the locking shoulders thereof when swung to a position between the guide members and automatically disengaging said shoulders when the retainer bar is swung outwardly, and spring bolt means for locking the other end of said retainer bar to the other guide member.

8. The combination with a pair of spaced trunk side wall guide members having locking shoulders, a two part retainer bar interposed between said guide members and having inner end portions which are pivotally and lockingly connected together, a slide member removably mounted on one of the guide members and having a hinged connection with one of the outer end portions of the retainer bar, a spring pressed bolt fixedly mounted on said outer end portion of the retainer bar and lockingly engaging the shoulders when between said guide members and automatically disengaging said shoulders when the retainer bar is swung outwardly, and a spring bolt member mounted on the other outer end of the retainer bar and engaging the locking shoulders of the other guide member.

9. A clothes retainer, comprising a two part retainer bar having its inner end portions pivotally and lockingly connected together, a slidable member hinged to one of the outer ends of said retainer bar, a spring bolt mounted on the end of said retainer bar adjacent the slidable member, and a spring bolt mounted on the opposite end of said retainer bar, the slidable member and the casing of the spring having hook like portions.

10. A clothes retainer, comprising a two part retainer bar having its inner end portions pivotally and lockingly connected together, a slidable member hinged to one of the outer ends of said retainer bar, a spring pressed beveled end bolt mounted on the end of said retainer bar adjacent the slidable member, and a spring pressed beveled end bolt mounted on the opposite end of said retainer bar, the slidable member and the casing of the spring having hook like portions.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GEORGE HENRY WHEARY.