June 13, 1961 P. A. BAST ET AL 2,987,791

CUFF LINK

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Fig. 1.

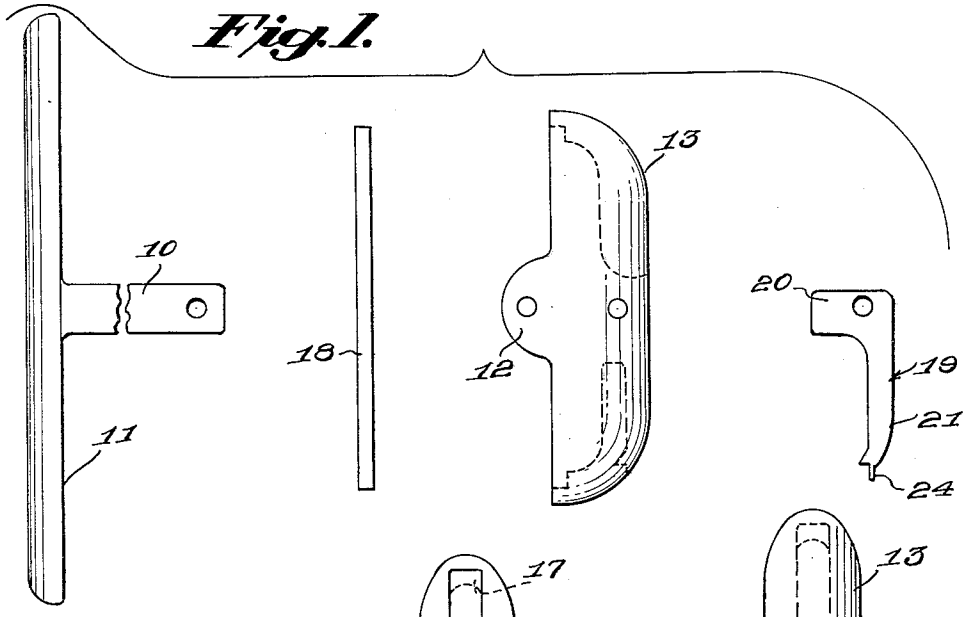


Fig. 2.

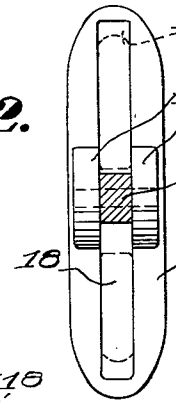
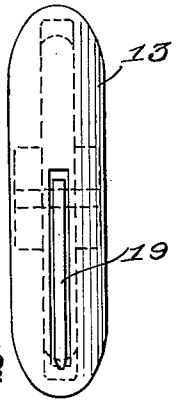


Fig. 3.



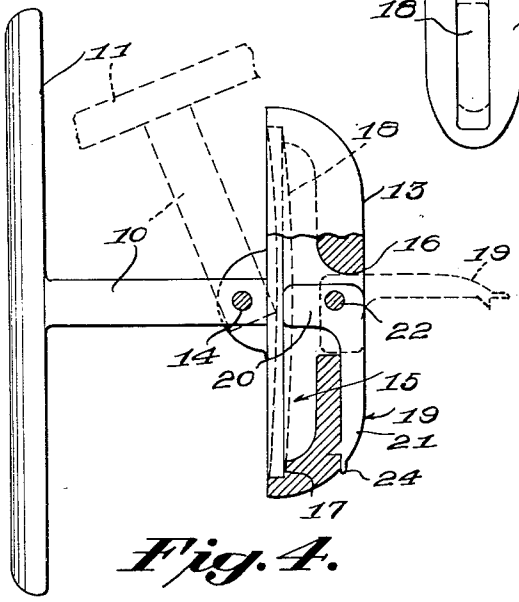


Fig. 4.

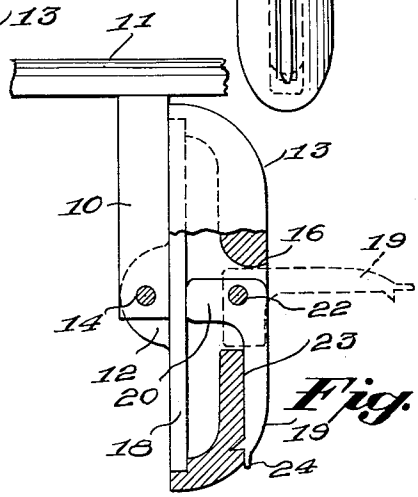


Fig. 5.

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Fig. 6.

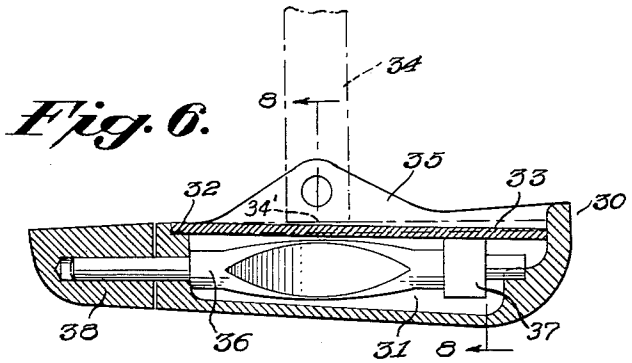


Fig. 7.

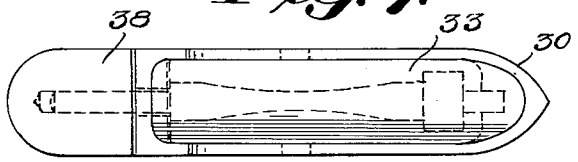


Fig. 8.

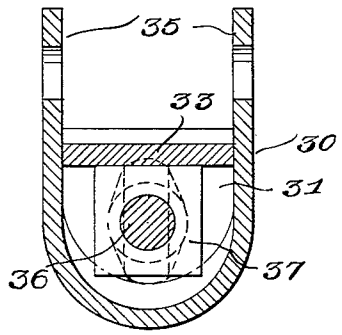
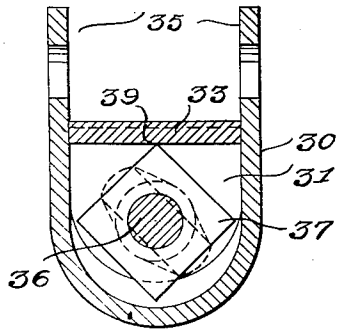


Fig. 9.



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2,987,791

CUFF LINK

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Filed Nov. 10, 1958, Ser. No. 773,028
1 Claim. (Cl. 24—97)

The invention is more particularly concerned with a cuff link of the character embodying a cuff hole traversing shank having a fixed head on one end thereof and a head pivotally connected to the opposite end and adapted to be passed through aligned holes in the cuff.

While various forms of cuff links of the above noted general character have heretofore been constructed and proposed, they have failed to fulfill the maximum requirements of cuff links of the general character above referred to.

Cuff links of the above noted general character as heretofore proposed or constructed have embodied yieldable means for retaining the pivotally connected head in general parallelism with the shank for entry through aligned cuff holes and the pivoted head being capable of restoration to an operative position upon relative light pressure on the pivoted head as to overcome the said yieldable means.

While such forms of cuff links have been generally satisfactory, difficulty has been experienced in holding the pivoted head against movement to its normal position when being entered through aligned cuff holes.

It is accordingly, a primary object of this invention to provide a cuff link which embodies structural features whereby the above noted objection is overcome.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a cuff link which in consideration of the above structural features, embodies relatively few simple cooperating elements which are so correlated as not to become inoperative.

Other objects of the invention will become apparent in the course of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a view in side elevation disclosing the several structural elements embodied in the improved cuff link in accordance with a first structural embodiment thereof.

FIG. 2 is a bottom plan view of the pivoted head with the shank shown in transverse section.

FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the pivoted head.

FIG. 4 is a side elevational view of the cuff link with a portion of the pivoted head being broken away and in section and wherein a locking latch embodied in the structure and the shank and fixed head are shown in inoperative position in dotted lines.

FIG. 5 is a view corresponding to FIG. 4 with the pivoted head in a position for entry through aligned cuff holes.

FIG. 6 is a longitudinal sectional view of a modified form of pivoted head.

FIG. 7 is a top plan view of the head shown in FIG. 6.

FIG. 8 is an enlarged transverse sectional view as observed in the planes of broken line 8—8 on FIG. 6.

FIG. 9 is a view corresponding to FIG. 8 but wherein adjustment has been made to hold the said pivoted head against pivoting action.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, and first to FIGS. 1 to 5 thereof, the cuff link in accordance with the first embodiment thereof comprises a shank **10** whose one end is fixed centrally of the bottom of a head **11** which may be of any attractive form and the other end of the shank is disposed between a pair of ears **12** projecting inwardly from opposite sides of a head **13** and which ears are pivoted to the shank **10** by means of a pin **14**.

The head **13** is provided with a recess **15** and is also

provided with an opening **16** for a purpose later to appear.

The head **13** is further provided with a depressed shoulder **17** adjacent each end thereof and a relatively stiff leaf spring **18** is disposed within said recess **15** with its opposite ends resting on said shoulders **17** and as is clearly shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, the thickness of the spring is substantially equal to the spacing of said shoulders **17** from the plane bottom wall of the head **13** whereby the spring **18** is normally substantially flush with the said plane bottom wall, as is clearly indicated in FIG. 5.

As is indicated in FIGS. 4 and 5, the pivotal axis between the shank **10** and the head **13** is spaced equidistantly from the square free end of the shank, the opposite side edges of the shank and the inner face of the spring whereby upon parallelism of head **13** with the head **11**, the end of the shank bears uniformly on the spring as is indicated in FIG. 4. Furthermore, upon movement of the shank about the pin **14** to the cuff hole inserting position of FIG. 5, an edge of the shank **10** bears uniformly on the spring **18**.

The invention includes means for retaining the relative positions of the shank **10** and the head **13** as in FIGS. 4 and 5 and such means comprises a locking arm **19** which is of generally L-shape including an abutment portion **20** and a manipulating handle portion **21**.

The locking arm is normally disposed as indicated in solid lines in FIGS. 4 and 5 wherein same is pivoted to the head **13** by a pin **22** disposed within the opening **16** with the abutment portion **20** engaged with the spring **18** to resist movement thereof from its normal flat position to the inwardly bowed position indicated by dotted lines in FIG. 4 and in this normal position of the locking arm the handle portion **21** is seated in a recess **23** in the outer wall of the head **13** and said locking arm is preferably provided with a finger nail engageable extension **24** for facilitating withdrawal of the locking arm **19** from the recess **23**.

At this point it is to be particularly observed that the axis of the pivot pin **22** is disposed off center of the abutment portion **20** whereby the locking arm may readily be swung to the dotted line positions in FIGS. 4 and 5.

The cuff link is indicated in full lines in FIG. 4 with the cooperating elements thereof in their normal wearing positions and wherein the pivoted head **13** is incapable of swinging about the pivot pin **14**.

When, however, it is desired to install or remove the cuff link, the locking arm **19** is swung to the dotted positions of FIGS. 4 and 5 thereby freeing the spring **18** for flexing within the recess **15** as indicated in FIG. 4 with the result that pivotal action between the heads **11** and **13** is capable of being performed and the shank may then be placed in the position in FIG. 5 with one edge thereof engaged with the normally flat spring **18** and in which position the head **13** may readily be threaded through aligned holes in a cuff.

With the shank **10** in the position of either FIG. 4 or FIG. 5, the locking arm **19** is swung to the solid line position.

The modified embodiment of the invention as disclosed in FIGS. 6 to 9 operates on the same general principle as that above described in connection with FIGS. 1 to 5, but is substantially different in structure.

Referring now in detail to the modified form of cuff link illustrated in FIGS. 6 to 9, the pivoted head only is disclosed and is designated as **30**.

The head **30** is provided with a recess **31** and at one end of the recess is a shoulder **32** on which one end of a leaf spring **33** rests in substantially flush relation to the inner wall of the head.

The opposite end of the spring **33** is frictionally engaged with a wall of the recess **31** and is normally dis-

posed nearer the bottom of the recess than the first named end thereof.

The shank **34**, indicated by dotted lines in FIG. 6, is pivoted between ears **35** projecting inwardly of the head and the squared end **34'** of the shank in the position in FIG. 6 is capable of rotation about its pivotal connection whereby the head **30** may be swung into substantial parallel relation with the shank for threading the head through aligned holes in a cuff.

Rotatably supported within the head is a shaft **36** which is provided with a square cam **37** whose corners are disposed further from the axis of the shaft **36** than are the sides, upon one of which an end of the spring **33** rests as shown in FIGS. 6 and 8.

A finger grip **38** is suitably secured to one end of the shaft **36** for imparting rotation thereto.

As is indicated in FIG. 9, the shaft **36** and cam **37** have been rotated through an angle of 45° whereby a corner **39** thereof engages the spring **33** and elevates same to a position indicated by the dot-and-dash line in FIG. 6 and as also shown in FIG. 9 whereby the squared end of the shaft **34** is firmly seated on the spring and thereby retained in right angular relation to the head **30**.

Having set forth the invention in accordance with certain structural embodiments thereof, what is claimed and desired to be secured by U.S. Letters Patent is:

A cuff link comprising a shank having a squared end, a

head pivotally connected to said end of the shank, said head being provided with a recess, an elongated spring plate spanning said recess and having one end thereof supported on said head and the other end thereof freely engaging a wall of the recess, a shaft rotatably supported in the head, and a cam rigid with the shaft and being operable upon rotation of the shaft for moving said spring plate into engagement with said squared head to prevent relative rotation of the shank and the head, said cam being disposed adjacent the other end of the spring plate, and comprising a member of square configuration transversely of the shaft.

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