United States Patent [19]

Morrill

[11] **3,861,639**

[45] **Jan. 21, 1975**

[54] **PICTURE HANGER ASSEMBLY**

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[22] Filed: **Sept. 26, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **400,995**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **248/489**

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47g 1/16**

[58] **Field of Search** 40/152.1; 248/489, 479, 248/496, 495, 476, 477

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A picture hanger assembly especially suitable for releasably securing display frames to a wall. A hanger and a mating member are respectively mounted to a wall and a frame to releasably secure the frame to the wall by interaction between the mating member and the hanger. The mating member is pivotally supported by the hanger to allow the frame to be centered after being releasably secured to the wall.

6 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures

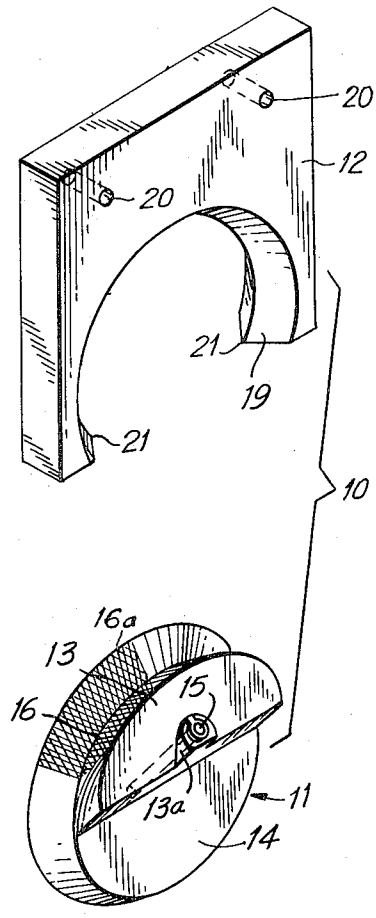


FIG. 1

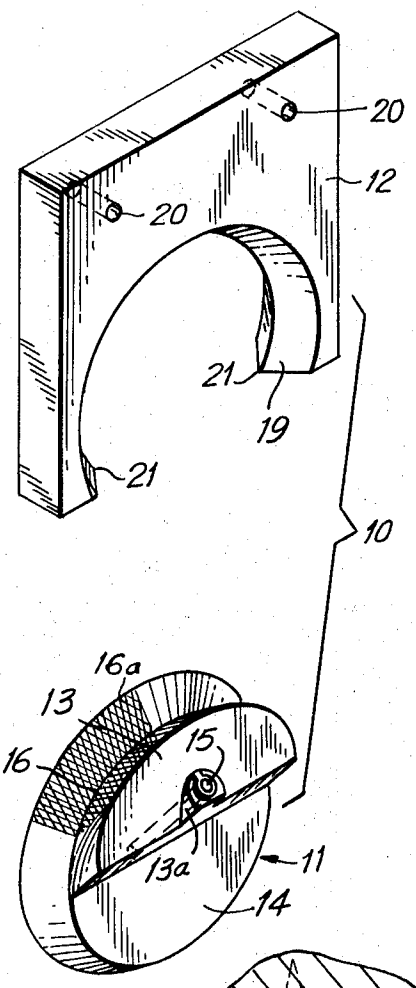


FIG. 2

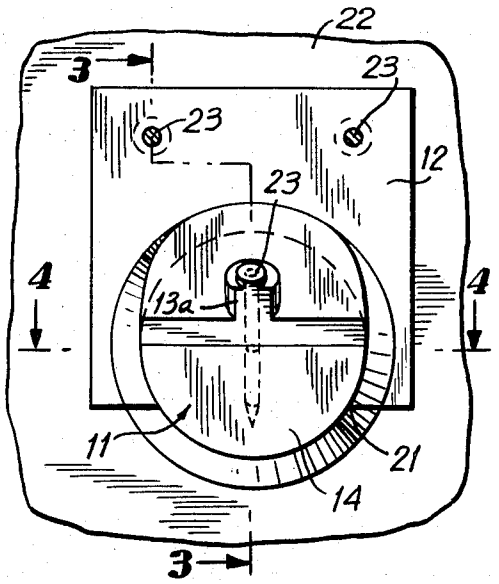
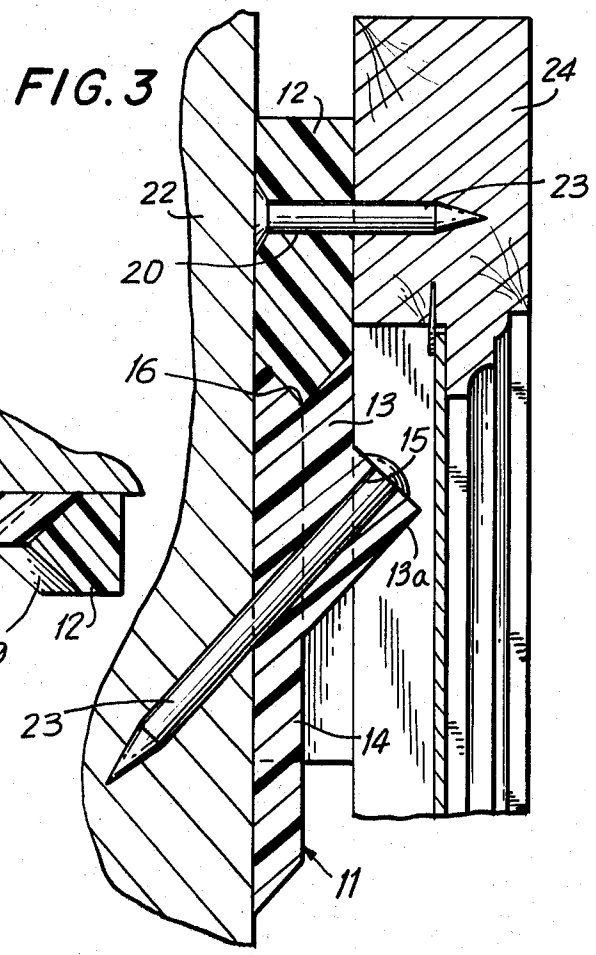


FIG. 3



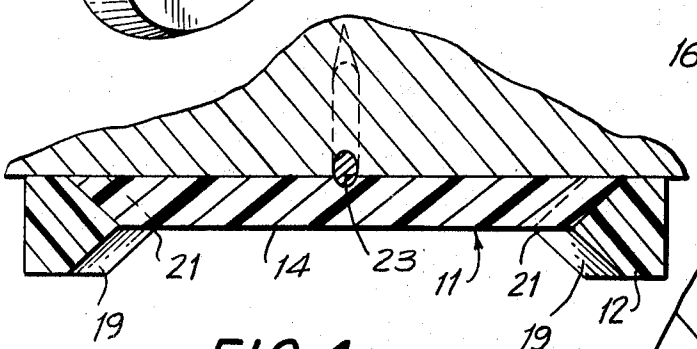


FIG. 4

PICTURE HANGER ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to a picture hanger assembly and especially to a picture hanger assembly for allowing a display frame to be releasably secured to a wall and to be pivotally disposed so that centering of the display frame on the wall is provided. While picture hangers have taken various forms, picture hanger assemblies which have provided for interlocking members including a first part mounted to a display frame and a second part mounted to a wall have not provided the positioning capability desired. Without such positioning capability, centering of the frame is difficult and renders such interlocking arrangement less than completely satisfactory.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Generally speaking, in accordance with the invention, a hanger assembly is provided for pivotally and releasably securing a display frame to a wall. The hanger assembly is constructed of a hanger and a mating member being releasably secured to the hanger. The periphery of the hanger is circular and the shape of the mating member is circular so as to interact with and allow pivoting between the mating member and the hanger. The mating member and the hanger are mounted to a display frame and wall respectively and then the frame is releasably mounted to the wall and is pivotally disposed so as to render centering thereof to be easily achieved.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide an improved hanger assembly capable of releasably securing a display frame to a wall.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved hanger assembly capable of providing a pivotal securing of a display frame to a wall to allow centering of the picture frame in a highly accurate manner.

Still other objects and advantages of the invention will in part be obvious and will in part be apparent from the specification.

The invention accordingly comprises the features of construction, combination of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter set forth, and the scope of the invention will be indicated in the claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

For a fuller understanding of the invention, reference is had to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a hanger assembly constructed in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the instant invention;

FIG. 2 is an elevational view of a hanger assembly, as illustrated in FIG. 1, mounted to a wall;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken along lines 3—3 of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 4 is a sectional view taken along lines 4—4 of FIG. 2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to FIGS. 1 through 4, a picture hanger assembly indicated generally at **10**, is comprised of a hanger **11** and a mating member **12**. The hanger **11** is formed of an abutting portion **13** and base portion **14** defining the inner or back region of hanger **11**, abutting portion **13** projecting forwardly from base portion **14** in the upper region thereof. The abutting portion includes an aperture **15** formed therein and a projecting portion **13***a* in the region of said aperture projected outwardly to a small extent to provide a further support for a nail **23** to be passed therethrough. The abutting portion **13** is semicircular and correponds to the circular curviture of the periphery of base portion **14**. At least the upper edges of both abutting portion **13** and base portion **14** are formed with converging inclined edges to define a V-shaped channel **16** therebetween.

The mating member **12** is formed of a rectangular block having a cutaway portion substantially defining the segment of a circle. The cutaway portion is defined by a wall **19** forming a V-shaped projection. The V-shaped semicircular projection **19** defines a segment of a circle slightly larger than a semicircle so as to define two inwardly pointing tips **21**. Apertures **20** are formed in the rectangular wall and as is hereinafter discussed provides means for mounting the mating member to a display frame.

In operation the hanger **11** is mounted to a reference member such as wall **22** by a nail **23** passed through the aperture **15** into the wall **22** to firmly secure the hanger to the wall. Aperture **15** is inclined to the longitudinal so that weight in the hanger tends to hold the nail in the wall. The mating member **12** is mounted to a display item such as frame **24** by passing nails **23** through apertures **20** to thereby affix the mating member **12** to a frame **24**. Next the display frame and mating member **12** mounted thereto are placed upon the hanger **11** insertably engaging the V-shaped projection **19** into the V-shaped groove **16** formed in hanger **11**. Because the V-shaped projection **19** occupies more than the semicircle defined by abutting portion **13** of hanger **11**, inwardly pointed tips **21** serve to releasably lock the mating member to the hanger. The region of the mating member above the tip **21** is relatively thin, permitting outward flexing of said tip for said releasable mounting upon the lowering of the mating member onto the hanger. In this manner, the frame is releasably secured to the wall **11** and is held very close thereto. The semicircular shape of the hanger **11** and the substantially semicircular shape of the cutaway portion **19** of mating member **12** allows the mating member **12** to be both releasably secured to and pivoted about hanger **11**, hence allowing the display frame **24** to be centered.

It is understood that the surface of the hanger **11** could be formed with a projection and the corresponding cut away portion of the mating member could be formed with a grooved portion to provide a fit therebetween. Moreover, it is further understood that apertures **20** in mating member **12**, and aperture **15** in hanger **11** are not the exclusive means by which said members can be mounted to the respective surfaces. Such mounting means as adhesives are also contemplated.

The surface of one or both of groove **16** and projection **19** may be knurled to increase the friction therebetween as shown by knurled region **16***a* of FIG. **1**.

It will thus be seen that the object set forth above, among those made apparent from the preceding description, are efficiently attained and, since certain changes may be made in the above construction without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying draw-

ing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described, and all statements of the scope of the invention which, as a matter of language, might be said to fall therebetween.

What is claimed is:

1. A hanger assembly for mounting a display frame to a reference support comprising in combination, a hanger formed of a substantially circular disc and including means for providing a mounting of the hanger support to a reference member, said hanger being formed with a base portion and an abutting portion of substantially semicircular cross-section projecting forwardly from an upper region of said base portion; and a mating member including a substantially semicircular cutaway portion defining a segment of a circle larger than semicircular to allow the mating member to be releasably locked into position with the hanger and further including means for mounting said mating member to a display frame, said hanger and said cutaway portion of said mating member being respectively formed with mating surfaces defining a segment of a circle to permit releasable mutual engagement for support of said mating member by said hanger relative pivotal displacement for centering of said display frame.

2. The hanger assembly as claimed in claim **1**, wherein the portions of said mating member at the ends of the mating surface defined by said cutaway region is flexable in the plane of the arc defined by said mating surfaces to permit releasable locking engagement of said hanger and mating member.

3. The hanger assembly as claimed in claim **2**, wherein one of said hanger support and mating member is formed with a substantially V-shaped peripheral projection and the other is formed of a correspondingly shaped peripheral groove.

4. The hanger assembly as claimed in claim **3** wherein at least a part of the surface of one of said groove and projection is knurled.

5. The hanger assembly as claimed in claim **2**, wherein said means for mounting said mating member on said display frame includes apertures dimensioned to permit nails to pass therethrough into said display frame.

6. The hanger assembly as claimed in claim **2**, wherein said means for mounting said hanger on said reference member includes an aperture extending through the base and abutting portions of said hanger inclined at an angle to said reference member and dimensioned to permit a nail to pass therethrough into said reference member.

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