

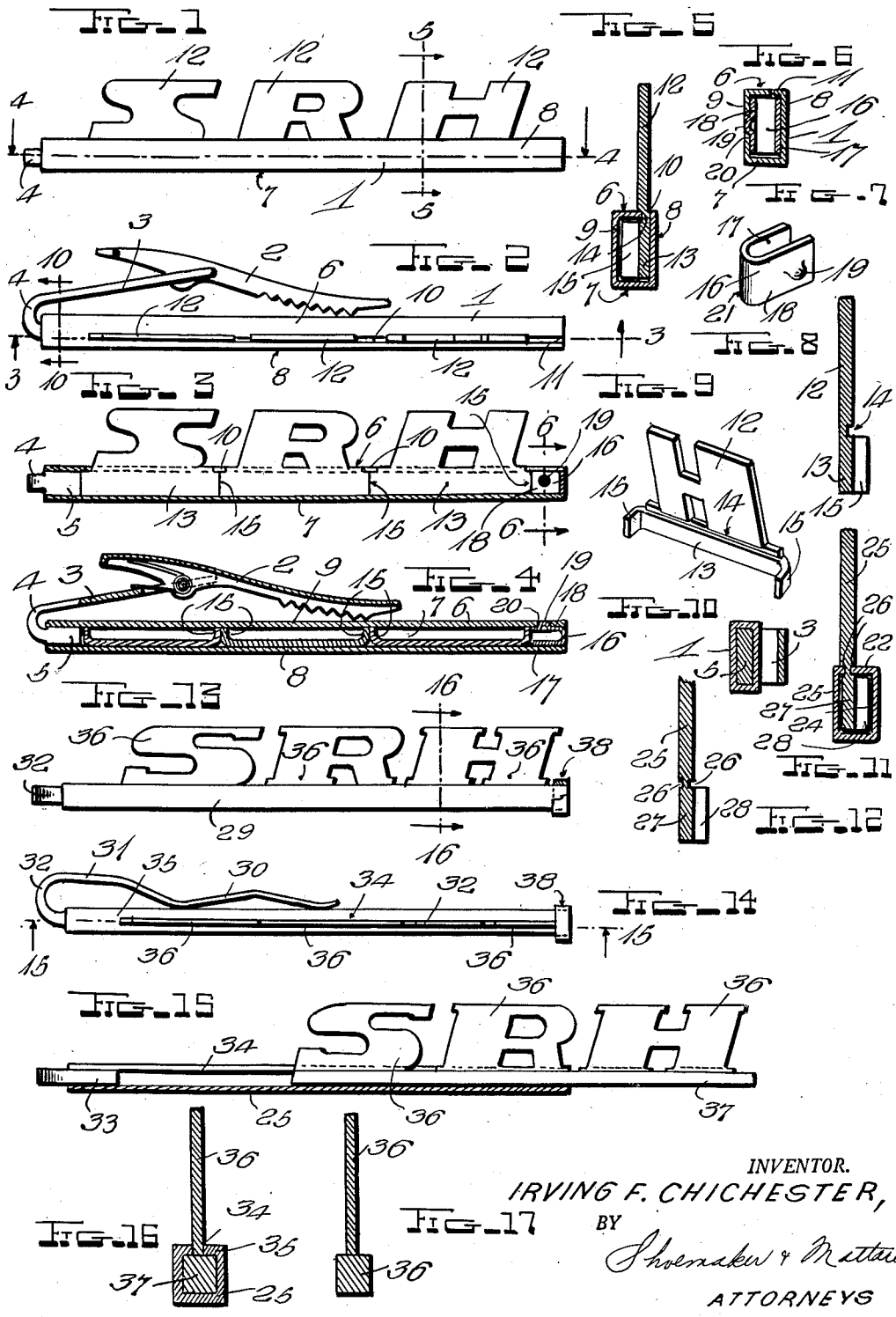
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ORNAMENTAL NECKTIE CLASP

2,578,507

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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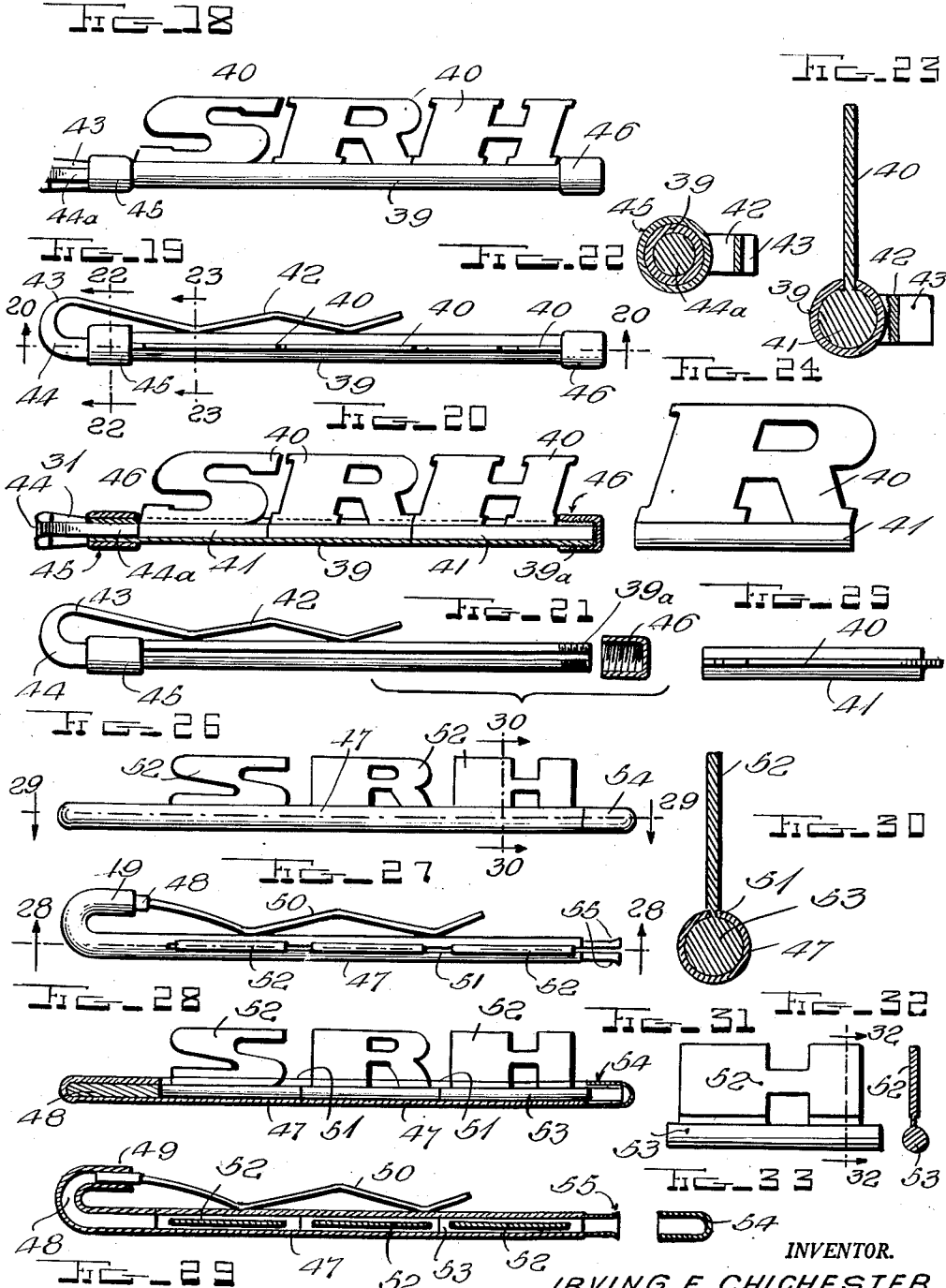
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ORNAMENTAL NECKTIE CLASP

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6 Claims. (Cl. 40-140)

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This invention relates to improvements in jewelry and more particularly has to do with a novel construction of necktie clasp.

One object of the invention is to provide an improved necktie clasp having a front portion to fit over the front of a necktie and adapted to removably hold initial letters on other character elements so that the same will be displayed to present with the front portion or bar an attractive ornamental appearance.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved necktie clasp of simple, inexpensive construction having a character holder front portion or bar of the kind referred to that will enable the ready selective association and locking of character elements on the front portion or bar and will permit of easy removal of the character elements for rearrangement or the substitution of others.

The invention comprehends a necktie clasp having a relatively long, slender, tubular front portion or bar adapted to receive therein attaching portions of character elements or members, and an important novel feature of the invention resides in the special construction of the tubular front portion or bar and its connection at one end by an arm portion with a rear clamping member whereby the tubular front portion of the clasp is closed at one end and reinforced by the connecting arm, and a simple, strong clasp is provided that can be produced at low cost.

Another important novel feature of the invention lies in the particular construction of character elements provided, economically constructed from sheet metal and formed with portions to slidably fit within the tubular front portion of the clasp and so designed as to facilitate the insertion of the same therein and to cooperate therewith to provide a secure mounting of the same on the tubular front portion of the clasp.

A further important novel features of the invention resides in the provision of simple, efficient means for locking the character elements within the tubular front portion of the clasp.

The invention with other objects, novel features and advantages thereof, and the particular construction, combination and arrangement of parts comprising the same will be understood from the following detailed description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings forming part hereof and illustrating a number of embodiments of the invention.

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In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a necktie clasp constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same;

Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a horizontal section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view, on an enlarged scale, on the line 5-5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a transverse section, on an enlarged scale, on the line 6-6 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of the locking member;

Fig. 8 is a detail sectional view of one of the character elements;

Fig. 9 is a detail rear perspective view of one of the character elements;

Fig. 10 is a transverse section on the line 10-10 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 11 is a transverse section of a slightly modified form of the tubular front portion of the clasp and character element;

Fig. 12 is a fragmentary transverse section of the modified form of character element illustrated in Fig. 11;

Fig. 13 is a front elevation of a modified form of the device;

Fig. 14 is a top plan view of the construction illustrated in Fig. 13;

Fig. 15 is a vertical longitudinal section on the line 15-15 of Fig. 14, looking in the direction of the arrows, the character elements being shown in side elevation partially inserted in the tubular front portion of the clasp;

Fig. 16 is a transverse section on the line 16-16 of Fig. 13;

Fig. 17 is a detail end elevation of the character element of the construction illustrated in Fig. 13;

Fig. 18 is a front elevation of another modified form of the device;

Fig. 19 is a top plan view of the construction shown in Fig. 18;

Fig. 20 is a longitudinal section on the line 20-20 of Fig. 19, looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 21 is a top plan view of the construction shown in Fig. 18 without the character elements, and with the closure cap removed from the end of the tubular front portion;

Fig. 22 is a transverse section, on an enlarged scale, taken on the line 22-22 of Fig. 19;

Fig. 23 is a transverse section on the line 23—23 of Fig. 19;

Fig. 24 and Fig. 25 are respectively a detail front elevation and top plan view of one of the character elements;

Fig. 26 is a front elevation of a further modified form of the device;

Fig. 27 is a top plan view of the construction illustrated in Fig. 26, with the end closure cap removed;

Fig. 28 is a vertical longitudinal section on the line 28—28 of Fig. 26;

Fig. 29 is a horizontal longitudinal section on the line 29—29 of Fig. 26, with the end closure cap removed;

Fig. 30 is a transverse section on the line 30—30 of Fig. 26;

Fig. 31 is a detail front elevation of one of the character elements of the construction shown in Fig. 26;

Fig. 32 is a transverse section on the line 32—32 of Fig. 31;

Fig. 33 is a detail longitudinal section of the end closure cap;

While a number of embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the drawings, it will be understood that minor changes and modifications may be made in the particular constructions shown and the invention may be embodied in still other forms as will appeal to those skilled in the art and falling within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring to a detailed description of the particular embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 10, the tie clasp shown comprises a relatively long slender tubular front portion or bar 1 and a rear spring-pressed clamping member 2 pivotally connected intermediate its ends to one end of an arm 3 which has at its other end a return bend 4 terminating in a straight part 5 that is rigidly secured to one end of the tubular front portion or bar 1. The tubular front portion 1 is rectangular shaped in cross section and of relatively small cross-sectional size, the same having top and bottom walls 6, 7 and side walls 8, 9. The straight terminal part 5 of the arm 3 is of a shape in cross section corresponding to that of the tubular front portion or bar 1 and of a cross sectional size to fit within an end portion thereof, and is soldered into the same. The terminal part 5 of the arm 3 closes the front tubular portion 1 at one end and reinforces the same, said arm 3 forming in effect a continuation of the tubular front portion or bar 1, the particular arrangement resulting in a simple, light, serviceable clasp structure.

The tubular front portion or bar 1 is provided with a longitudinal slot 10 in the top wall 6 thereof adjacent the front side wall 8, the slot in the top wall extending from the free end of the tubular front portion 1 to a point a short distance from the other end thereof, a relatively short end portion 11 of the top wall 6 being left completely bridging the side walls 8 and 9 of the tubular portion. The tubular front portion or bar 1 is made from relatively thin rectangular metal tubing, the longitudinal slot 10 being milled in the top wall 6.

Supported on the tubular front portion or bar 1 are a plurality of character elements or members 12. In the present instance, there are three individual character elements and these are shown as initial letters S, R, H. The character elements

or members 12 are constructed from sheet metal. Metal of about $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in thickness is preferably employed for the character elements. Each of the character elements 12 has a lower or base portion 13 below the initial letter thereof provided with a longitudinal groove 14 in its rear face to fit around the edge portion of the top wall 6 adjoining the longitudinal slot 10. The lower or base portion 13 of each of the character elements has a lug 15 at each end thereof projecting laterally and rearwardly therefrom at substantially a right angle thereto, said lugs at the juncture of the same with the lower portion or base being slightly rounded or curved as shown. The lugs 15 are rectangular shaped and of a size to slidably fit within the tubular front portion or bar 1 and when engaged therewith act to firmly hold the character elements 12 on the tubular front portion 1 in upright position relatively thereto.

In assembling the character elements 12 on the tubular front portion 1, the retaining lugs 15 of the character elements can be easily inserted within the tubular front portion by holding the character element at a slight angle to the tubular front portion and inserting the outer end of one of the retaining lugs 15 into the open end thereof, then turning the character element into longitudinal alignment with the tubular front portion and pushing it into the same.

Means is provided for closing the open end of the tubular front portion 1 and locking the character elements or members on the tubular front portion. This comprises a U-shaped spring clip 16 adapted to fit within the open end of the tubular front portion with its leg portions 17, 18 fitting against the side walls 8 and 9 thereof. The leg portion 18 is provided with a detent 19 and the rear wall 9 of the tubular front portion or bar 1 is provided with an aperture 20 to cooperate with the detent. The leg portions of the clip 16 normally are spaced from each other a distance slightly greater than the distance between the side walls of the tubular front portion so that when the leg portions of the clip are pressed toward each other, and the clip is fully inserted into the open end of the tubular front portion, the detent 19 will snap into locking engagement with the aperture 20. When in this position, the end portion 21 of the clip extends flush with the adjacent end walls of the tubular front portion. The inner ends of the legs of the clip 16 abut against the outermost lug 15 on the outermost of the initial letters 12, the initial letters being thus securely held within the tubular front portion, the innermost of the initial letters abutting against the outer end of the straight portion 5 of the arm 3 at the other end of the tubular front portion.

To remove the character elements 12, it is only necessary to apply sufficient force longitudinally of the tubular front portion to the character elements to overcome the tension of the spring legs of the clip 16. When this is done, the detent 19 will be disengaged from the aperture 20 and the clip forced out of the open end of the tubular front portion.

The modified form of tubular front portion and character elements, shown in Figs. 11 and 12, is the same as that illustrated in Fig. 5 except that the longitudinal slot in the top wall of the tubular front portion or bar is not located directly adjoining the front side wall but slightly inwardly thereof and the character elements are each provided with a longitudinal groove in each side face thereof to fit around the edge portions of the top

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wall at opposite sides of the longitudinal slot therein. In Figs. 11 and 12, 22 designates the top wall of the tubular front portion and 23, 24 designate, respectively, the side walls thereof. 25 is the character elements each provided with a groove 26 in each side face of its lower portion 27. 28 designates the retaining lug at one end of the lower portion 27.

The particular construction hereinbefore described provides a simple, efficient serviceable clasp structure having a tubular front portion adapted to removably hold character elements so that the same will be displayed to present with the tubular front portion or bar an attractive ornamental appearance. The character elements or members are economically constructed of sheet metal, the retaining lugs thereof being so designed as to be readily inserted within the tubular front portion or bar and serving to firmly retain the character elements in upright position therein. The means for locking the character elements on the tubular front portion or bar and closing the open end of the same is of simple, efficient construction and easily operated.

In Figs. 13 to 17 is illustrated a modified form of the device in which the rear member of the clasp is in the form of a spring clip or arm instead of a lever-type clamping member, and also instead of a plurality of individual character elements, a plurality of character elements are mounted on a common base portion as a single unit. The construction shown comprises a tubular front portion or bar 29, which, in this instance, is square shaped in cross section. The rear spring clamping member designated 30 is connected at one end to an arm 31 which, at its other end, has the return bend 32 that has a straight terminal end portion 33 soldered into one end portion of the tubular front portion or bar 29.

34 designates the longitudinal slot in the top wall 35 of the tubular front portion, said slot extending from the free open end of the tubular front portion 29 to a point near the other end thereof, the slot, in this instance, being shown located centrally of the sides of the top wall. 36 designates the character elements fixed on an elongated lower portion or strip 37, the character elements or members being suitably secured at their lower ends, as by welding or soldering, to the top of the holder strip 37, said holder strip being rectangular shaped in cross section to slidably fit within the front portion 29. The strip 37 supporting the character elements is locked in position within the tubular front portion by a spring collar 38 detachably fitting on the free end portion of the tubular front portion.

The modified construction illustrated in Figs. 18 to 25 has a tubular front portion or bar 39 that is round in cross section and the individual character elements or members 40 each have a lower elongated supporting portion or strip 41 that is round in cross section and of a size to slidably fit therein. The rear clasp member 42 in the form of a spring arm or clip is secured at its inner end to an arm 43 having the return bend 44 terminating in a straight part 44a the latter being soldered into one end portion of the tubular front portion or bar 39, reinforcing and closing this end thereof, the end of the tubular portion being further reinforced by a collar 45 suitably secured thereon. The free open end of the tubular front portion is closed and the character elements 40 held within the same by a cap member 45, this cap being interiorly threaded to

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engage an exteriorly threaded end portion 39a of the tubular front portion or bar.

The modified form of the device illustrated in Figs. 26 to 33 is the same as that shown in Figs. 18 to 25 except that, instead of the tubular front portion or bar being connected with the rear clamping member by a separate arm having a forwardly extending return bend, the tubular front portion or bar is itself provided with a rearwardly extending return bend that is connected directly with the rear clamping member of the clasp. In these views, 47 designates the tubular front portion or bar having at one end a rearwardly extending return bend 48 that has a straight part 49 into which the inner end portion of the clip member 50 is soldered. 51 designates the longitudinal slot in the upper side of the tubular front portion. 52 are the individual character elements or members, each having an elongated base portion or supporting strip 53 circular in cross section to slidably fit within the front tubular portion or bar.

A cap 54 detachably fitting over the free end portion of the tubular front portion or bar 47 closes the same and holds the character elements 52 therein. In this instance, the closure cap 54 is not threaded but is held on the end portion of the tubular front portion or bar by frictional engagement therewith, the slotted free end portion of the tubular front portion or bar being slightly flared outwardly at 55 as shown in Fig. 29, this outwardly flared end portion 55 being contracted when the closure cap is slipped thereon.

This application contains claims generic to subject matter disclosed in copending applications Serial Nos. 73,192 and 73,193. The present application, Serial No. 73,191 differs principally from the other cases referred to by the particular means for locking the character elements within the tubular front portion of the clasp.

What I claim is:

1. A necktie clasp including an elongated tubular front portion to fit over the front of a necktie, said tubular front portion being made from relatively thin metal tubing, a rear clamping member, an arm to one end of which the clamping member is connected having a return bend at its other end terminating in a straight part fitting within and secured to one end portion of the tubular front portion, said straight part closing one end of the tubular front portion and reinforcing the same, said tubular front portion being provided in its top wall with a longitudinal slot extending from its free end, a character element having a lower portion to slidably fit within the tubular front portion adapted to be inserted therein at the free end portion thereof and to hold the character element thereon with its character standing out from the top wall thereof, and means for locking the character element in position on the tubular front portion.

2. A necktie clasp including an elongated tubular front portion to fit over the front of a necktie, a rear clamping member connected with the tubular front portion, said tubular front portion being provided in its top wall with a longitudinal slot extending to one end thereof, a plurality of individual character elements of general plate-like form and of small thickness each having an elongated lower base portion provided at each end with a laterally projecting lug extension of narrow cross section to slidably fit within the tubular front portion and adapted to be inserted therein at said end thereof and to hold

the character elements thereon with their characters standing out from the top wall thereof.

3. A necktie clasp including an elongated tubular front portion to fit over the front of a necktie, a rear clamping member connected with the tubular front portion, said tubular front portion being rectangular shaped in cross section and having a longitudinal slot in its top wall extending to one end thereof, a plurality of individual character elements of general plate-like form and of small thickness each having an elongated lower base portion provided at each end with a laterally projecting substantially rectangular shaped lug extension of narrow cross section to slidably fit within the tubular front portion adapted to be inserted therein at said end thereof and to hold the character element thereon with its character standing out from the top wall thereof.

4. A necktie clasp including an elongated tubular front portion to fit over the front of a necktie, a rear clamping member connected to the tubular front portion, said tubular front portion being rectangular shaped in cross section, closed at one end and having a longitudinal slot in the top wall thereof extending to its open end, a character element of general plate-like form having a part at the lower end thereof to slidably fit within the tubular front portion adapted to be inserted therein from the open end thereof and to hold the character element thereon with its character standing out from the top wall thereof, and a U-shaped spring locking member adapted to detachably fit within the open end of the tubular front portion with its opposite leg portions fitting against the front and rear side walls thereof to lock the character element on the tubular front portion.

5. A necktie clasp including an elongated tubular front portion to fit over the front of a necktie, a rear clamping member connected to the tubular front portion, said tubular front portion being rectangular shaped in cross section, closed at one end and having a longitudinal slot in the top wall thereof extending to its open end, a character element of general plate-like form having a part at the lower end thereof to slidably fit within the tubular front portion adapted to be inserted therein from the open end thereof and to hold the character element thereon with its character standing out from the top wall thereof, a U-shaped spring locking member adapted to

detachably fit within the open end of the tubular front portion with its opposite leg portions fitting against the front and rear side walls thereof to lock the character element on the tubular front portion, and means on one leg portion of the locking member and on one side wall of the tubular front portion adapted to interlock one with the other to retain the U-shaped locking member in locking position on the tubular front portion.

6. A necktie clasp including an elongated tubular front portion to fit over the front of a necktie, a rear clamping member connected to the tubular front portion, said tubular front portion being rectangular shaped in cross section, closed at one end and having a longitudinal slot in the top wall thereof extending to its open end, a character element of general plate-like form having a part at the lower end thereof to slidably fit within the tubular front portion adapted to be inserted therein from the open end thereof and to hold the character element thereon with its character standing out from the top wall thereof, and a U-shaped spring locking member adapted to detachably fit within the open end of the tubular front portion with its opposite leg portions fitting against the front and rear side walls thereof to lock the character element on the tubular front portion, one side wall of the tubular front portion near the open end thereof being provided with an aperture, and one leg portion of the locking member being provided with a detent adapted to engage said aperture to retain the U-shaped locking member in locking position on the tubular front portion.

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