N. DE BEAUMONT.

BELT.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 11, 1919.

1,345,750. Patented July 6, 1920.

Fig. 1.

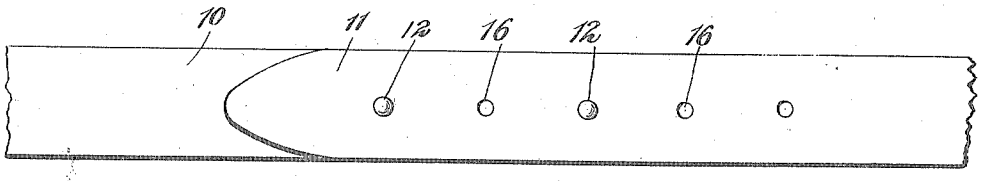



Fig. 2.

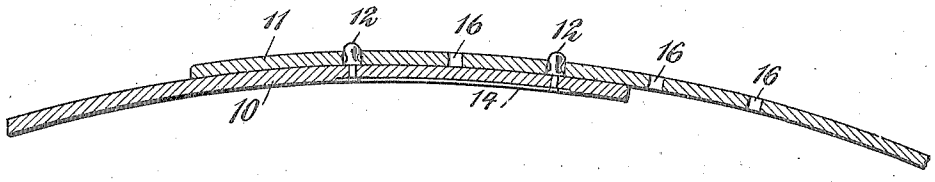
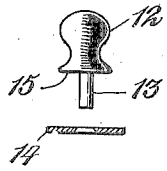



Fig. 3.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BELT.

1,345,750. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 6, 1920.

Application filed December 11, 1919. Serial No. 344,209.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NORMAN DE BEAUMONT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improvement in belts adapted for use around the waist in connection with or as a part of wearing apparel and it relates particularly to the means for securing together the overlapping of the free ends of the belt. The ordinary belt buckle used in connection with trouser supporting belts is usually of such shape and character that it is of very materially greater thickness than the combined thickness of the overlapped ends of the belt. This often makes an objectionable bulge or projection particularly where the belt is concealed by a waist coat or other article of wearing apparel. Furthermore the cost of the buckle constitutes a considerable portion of the total cost of the belt and the many types of buckles now on the market are disagreeably conspicuous in size and material and of inartistic appearance.

The main object of my invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and inconspicuous means for securing together the overlapped free ends of the belt and which means will securely hold the parts, but will permit quick and easy connection or disconnection of the belt ends.

A further important object is to secure means which does not project to any material extent beyond the front surface of the outer belt end and which is of a total thickness not materially greater than the thickness of the overlapped ends. Although my invention is particularly applicable for use as a substitute for a belt buckle it will, of course, be evident that the same character of fastening means may be employed in connection with other articles, whether or not of wearing apparel, and for holding together the overlapped ends particularly where the strain to be resisted is in the direction of the length of the overlapped parts rather than a strain tending to bodily separate them. My invention might be applied to such articles as the wrist band of certain types of gloves, the strap of wrist watch holders or the strap ends on such articles as suit cases or hand bags. By the term "strap ends," as hereinafter used in this specification and the appended claims, I wish to include the overlapped portions of any similar or analogous articles of appropriate material.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated only one of many possible embodiments of my invention.

In these drawings:

Figure 1 is a face view;

Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section in a plane at right angles to Fig 1; and

Fig. 3 is an enlarged side elevation of one of the studs or retainers.

In the form illustrated there are employed two overlapped strap ends 10 and 11 which may be of various different materials but are preferably of a material of considerable thickness and flexible, resilient and somewhat compressible. The inner strap end 10 carries a pair of studs 12 spaced apart along the length thereof. Each of these studs is rigidly secured to the strap end 10 and projects out from the latter to a distance slightly greater than the thickness of the outer strap end 11. The studs may be permanently secured in place in various ways, for instance, each stud may have a shank portion 13 adapted to extend through the strap end 10 and receive a washer 14 so that when the extremity of the shank is riveted over, the belt end will be permanently secured between the washer and a shoulder 15 formed at the inner end of the body of the stud. The stud is preferably rounded at its outer end and is of slightly greater diameter adjacent to its outer end than at an intermediate point so as to form a neck of slightly reduced diameter. The distance between the point of maximum diameter of the head and the shoulder 15 is preferably slightly greater than the thickness of the outer belt strap end 11. The strap end 11 has a plurality of apertures 16 formed along the length thereof and spaced apart at distances dependent upon the distance between the two studs 12. As shown the distance between adjacent apertures 16 is equal to one-half of the distance between the studs 12 so that the two studs may be inserted through a corresponding pair of apertures and permitting of the adjustment of the strap ends by distances equal to half of the distance between the studs. The distances between the apertures might be any other simple fraction of the distance between the studs.

In utilizing my invention in an ordinary

belt for use around the waist the strap ends 10 and 11 may be made of the usual width, thickness and character of leather. The apertures 16 are of such size as to snugly fit over the enlarged heads of the studs and due to the slight compressibility of the leather or other material used, the aperture will contract slightly about the neck of the stud and will be effectively held against accidental separation. This is accomplished also in part by the fact that the largest portion of the head of the stud lies in a plane slightly beyond the plane of the outer surface of the outer strap end so that the tendency is for the strap end to move farther on to the stud rather than off of it. I do not wish to be limited to the use of leather as a material for the strap ends, as other material might be employed although for ordinary purposes leather is preferable. It is important that there be at least two of the studs and that these be spaced apart lengthwise of the construction so that when the parts are secured together each stud will prevent the belt ends from turning about the other stud as a pivot and the two studs will hold the overlapped strap ends in proper superposed registry. The two studs coöperate in resisting the axial pull on the strap ends and tend to prevent the bending of either strap end at an acute angle in the vicinity of a stud. I do not wish to be limited to the specific form or character of the washer 14. In Fig. 2 I have shown this washer as a strip of metal of such length that it serves as the washer for two spaced studs and at the same time acts to reinforce the leather between the two studs. In some cases I might use two small ordinary washers, one for each stud and without direct connections therebetween.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In combination, a pair of superposed strap ends, one of said strap ends having a pair of projections extending outwardly therefrom at spaced points along the length thereof and means for securing said projections to said strap end rigidly in respect to each other, and the other strap end having a series of apertures formed directly therein and each aperture being spaced from another aperture along the length of the strap end a distance equal to the distance between said projections whereby said projections may register with and enter different pairs of apertures, said second mentioned strap end being formed of flexible and slightly compressible material, and said projections fitting said apertures friction tight.

2. In combination, a leather strap end having a pair of metal studs and a connecting plate rigidly secured thereto, said plate holding said studs in parallelism and said studs extending outwardly from said strap at spaced points along the length thereof and presenting rounded head portions, and a second leather strap end of a thickness slightly less than the height of said studs and having apertures formed directly therein and spaced apart along the length thereof and slightly smaller than said stud ends whereby the apertures may be forced over the stud heads by a slight stretching of the leather at the apertures when the strap ends are superposed.

Signed at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, this tenth day of December A. D. 1919.

NORMAN DE BEAUMONT.