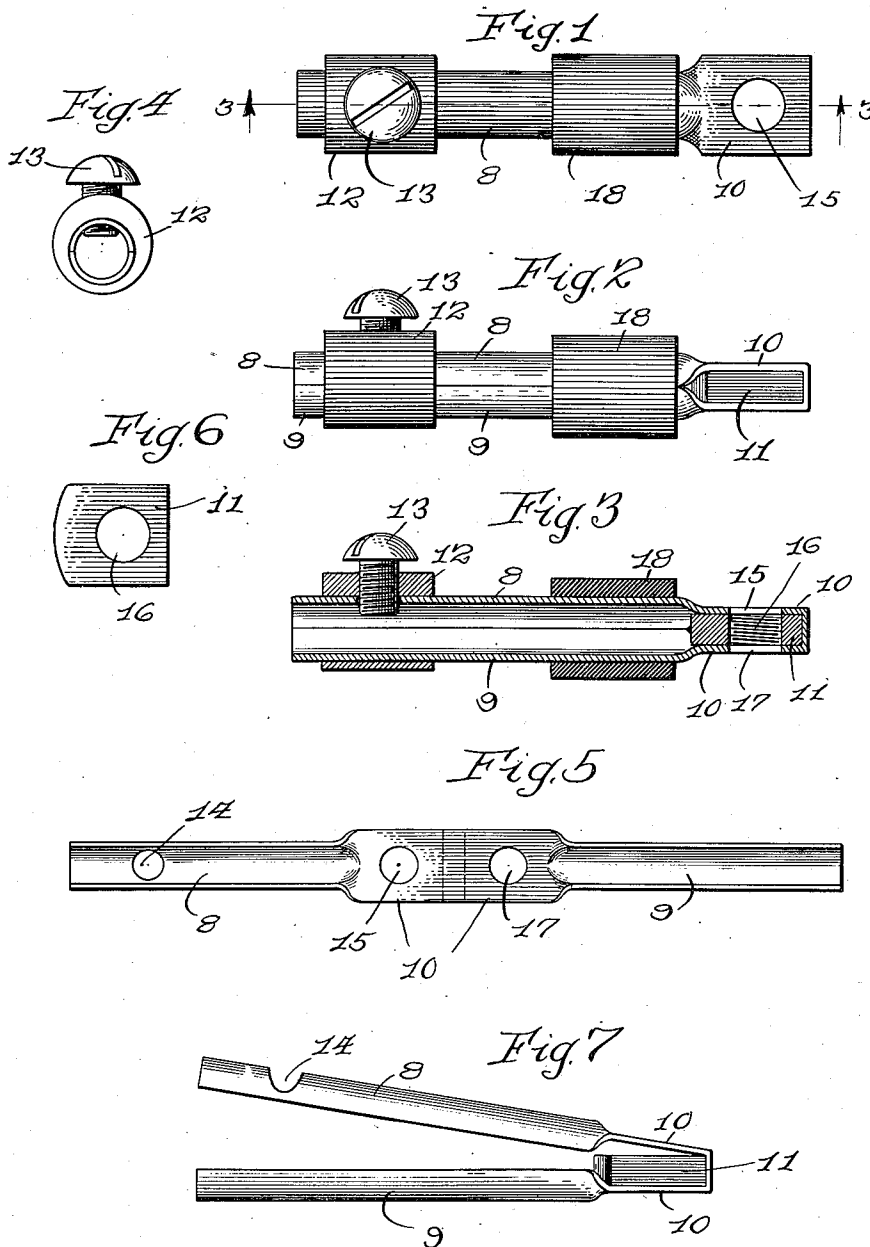


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CORD TERMINAL FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.
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1,335,943.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CORD-TERMINAL FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT L. EMENS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Springfield, in the county of Sangamon, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cord-Terminals for Electric Wires, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to cord terminals for electric wires. Such terminals have heretofore been usually made of solid brass rods, drilled out to receive a wire conductor and having a threaded hole which intersects such conductor socket and receives a clamping screw. A terminal of that description is comparatively expensive to manufacture not only because there is an unnecessarily large amount of metal in the finished terminal, but also because in the process of manufacture a large amount of expensive metal is wasted. The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved terminal which may be manufactured very cheaply but which will be equally as efficient as the more expensive terminals generally in use at the present time. I accomplish my object as illustrated in the accompanying drawings and as hereinafter described. That which I regard as new is set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings,—

Figure 1 is an enlarged view showing my improved terminal in a form designed especially for use in electric meters;

Fig. 2 is an edge view of the terminal as shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is an end view of the terminal, showing it in the position shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the blank before being folded;

Fig. 6 is a view of the block inserted at the fold of the blank; and

Fig. 7 is a view of the partially-folded blank, showing the block in place.

My improved terminal comprises a cylindrical portion composed of two semi-cylindrical members 8—9 connected at one end by a flattened folded portion 10, which is integral with said members and embraces a block 11. The members 8—9 are held with their side margins closely in contact with each other by a sleeve or collar 12

which fits closely upon them and is provided with a binding screw 13 which works in screw-threads in the collar 12 and passes through a hole 14 in one of the members 8 or 9, as shown in Fig. 3. The collar 12 is bored eccentrically, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and the transverse threaded passage which receives the screw 13 is placed in the thickened portion of said collar, so that the screw has a more extended engagement with the collar than it would have if the bore of the latter which receives the members 8—9 were placed concentrically. The block 11 and the flattened portions 10 at the upper and lower sides of said block are provided with aligned holes 15—16—17 which may be provided with screw-threads, if desired, for securing the terminal in place. Preferably, the hole 16 in the block 11 only is threaded. The purpose of said block is to strengthen the folded portion of the terminal and provide a substantial support for the attaching device, which may be a screw, a bolt, or other suitable device. 18 indicates a second collar, which is fitted tightly upon the members 8—9 and is placed near the folded end thereof, as illustrated in the drawings. This collar or sleeve may, if desired, be made of insulating material, as shown in Fig. 3, to provide for insulating the terminal from the plate or other part with which it may come in contact. This sleeve also serves to assist in binding the members 8—9 tightly together, particularly adjacent to the block 10, thereby preventing said block from getting out of place when there is no bolt in the holes 15—16—17.

It will be apparent that only the blank from which the members 8, 9, and 10 are formed need be made of copper or brass, the other parts being made of any suitable material. For example, the collar 12 and the block 11 may be made of steel, preferably nickel plated, and the collar or sleeve 18 of insulating material. The screw 13 may also be made of any suitable material, since the conductors to which the terminal is attached come directly in contact with the members 8, 9 and 10. For example, the end of a wire conductor is inserted in the socket formed by the members 8—9 and is clamped firmly against the inner surface of the member 9 by the screw 13. The folded portion 10 also may be secured firmly in contact with the conductor to which it is

connected. None of the strain, either of the clamping screw 13 or of the bolt or screw which engages the block 11, is sustained by the thin metal of which the terminal is principally made, as the strain applied through the screw 13 is sustained by the collar 12, while the block 11 sustains the strain of the securing device which engages it.

My improved terminal is made according to the following method: I first fashion a suitable blank of the form shown in Fig. 5—*i. e.*, having a central flat portion and semi-cylindrical end portions. This blank may be made from a split tube by flattening the intermediate portion thereof, or from a flat strip by rounding the end portions thereof. The holes 14, 15 and 17 are then made, after which the blank is folded, intermediately of the flattened portion, over the block 11, which is placed in the position shown in Fig. 7, so that when the fold is completed it lies between the opposed inner faces of the folded portion 10 and is thereby held securely in place. The semi-cylindrical members having been pressed together so that their side margins abut to form a tube closed at one end, the sleeve 18 is slipped upon the tube and moved down toward the flattened end portion thereof, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The sleeve 12 is then applied to the tube, and the screw 13 inserted when the transverse passage through said sleeve registers with the hole 14. As shown in Fig. 6, one of the sides of the block 11 is rounded to conform to the shape of those portions of the blank where the semi-cylindrical members merge into the flat intermediate portion. By this arrangement the block is secured against displacement.

That which I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A cord terminal comprising two integral semi-cylindrical sheet metal members folded over one upon the other with their

side margins abutting to form a tube, a sleeve fitted upon said members and serving to bind them together, and a binding screw mounted in said sleeve and adapted to be projected into said tube to clamp a conductor therein.

2. A cord terminal comprising two integral semi-cylindrical members folded over one upon the other with their side margins abutting to form a tube, a separate block fitted within the fold of said members, said block having a bore registering with perforations in the overlying portions of said members, and means for binding said folded members together.

3. A cord terminal comprising two sheet metal members folded over one upon the other and adapted to receive a conductor between them, a separate block fitted within the fold of said members and having a screw-threaded bore, and means for holding said folded members together.

4. A cord terminal comprising two integral semi-cylindrical sheet metal members folded over one upon the other with their side margins abutting to form a tube, means for holding said members together, and a separate block fitted within the fold of said members and having a screw-threaded bore, said members being perforated in alinement with the bore of said block.

5. A cord terminal comprising two semi-cylindrical sheet metal members arranged with their side margins abutting to form a tube open at one end, the opposite end portions of said members being integrally connected with a substantially flat folded portion, a separate block within such folded portion, said block having a screw-threaded bore registering with perforations in said folded portion, the side of said block adjacent to said semi-cylindrical members being rounded, and means for holding said semi-cylindrical members together.

ALBERT L. EMENS,