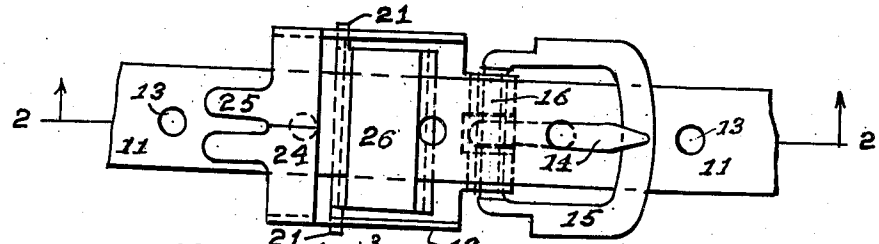
Oct. 29, 1940. W. SOKOLOF 2,219,756

END COUPLING FOR WATCH STRAPS AND BELTS

Filed March 15, 1940

FIG. 1.



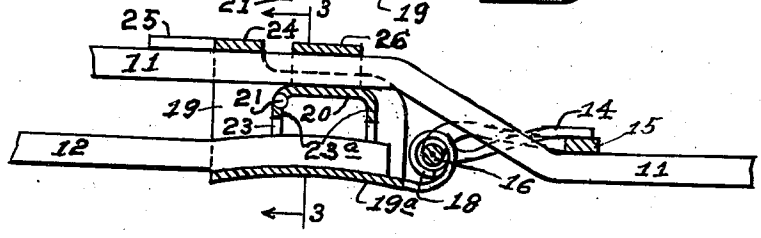


FIG. 2.

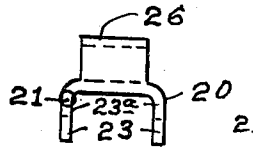


FIG. 5.

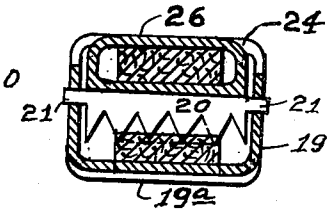


FIG. 3.

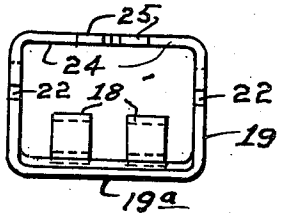


FIG. 4.

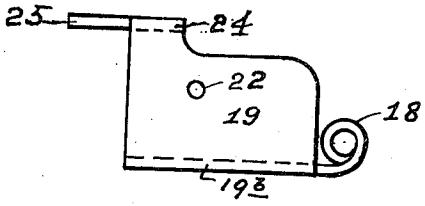
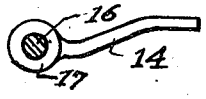


FIG. 6.

FIG. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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END COUPLING FOR WATCH STRAPS AND BELTS

William Sokolof, New York, N. Y.

Application March 15, 1940, Serial No. 324,075

3 Claims. (Cl. 24—265)

This invention relates to improvements in an end coupling for watch straps and belts, and it consists in the novel features which are hereinafter described.

One of the objects of my invention is—to provide an end coupling for watch straps and belts, comprising a clamp box and tongue buckle, that will allow an easy adjustment of the length of a watch strap or belt, and to combine the reliability and simplicity of the tongue buckle with the ease of attaching a belt or strap to a clamp box.

Another object of my invention is to include in said coupling a clamp box comprising a shell and a clamp, for connecting thereto one end of a watch strap or belt, and to provide said shell with a guard or loop which is integral therewith, wherein to receive the tip of the end of the other watch strap or of the other end of the belt, after the latter end has been passed through the tongue buckle and has been secured thereto.

A further object of my invention is to provide the said clamp with a similar guard or loop integral therewith, for the same purpose as said shell guard.

A still other object is to make the above shell and guard thereon of one blank of sheet metal or of one piece of metal tubing.

Another object is to make the said clamp and guard thereon of one integral piece of tubing.

A further object is to have the said shell pivotally connected to the tongue buckle, thereby rendering the coupling compact, and to employ the tongue pin of the buckle for pivotally connecting the same to sockets on the shell of the clamp box.

A still other object of my invention is to make my above end coupling relatively simple, durable and inexpensive.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

I attain these objects by the end coupling which is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, or by any mechanical equivalent or obvious modification of the same.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary plan view of the two ends of a belt or of watch straps shown as connected to each other by my improved end coupling.

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows and showing sundry parts in elevation.

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a detail view in end elevation of the shell of the clamp box, which is hereinafter described, looking from left to right in Figs. 1 and 2.

Fig. 5 is a detail view in side elevation of the clamp, which is hereinafter described.

Fig. 6 is a detail in side elevation of a modified form of the shell which is above mentioned.

Fig. 7 is a detail in side elevation of the tongue of the buckle, which is hereinafter described, showing the pin of the buckle in cross-section.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

11 designates the perforated end of a belt or watch strap, and 12 the other end of the belt or the end of the other watch strap; the end 11 has therein perforations 13 for the passage therethrough of a tongue 14 of a buckle 15—16, which has thereon a frame 15 and a pin 16, which has the hub 17 of the tongue 14 swivelled thereon.

The ends of the pin 16 are rotatably supported by sockets 18 at the rear end of a shell 19 of a clamp box 19—20 which includes besides the shell 19 also a clamp 20 for holding down the end 12 of the belt or watch strap.

The clamp 20 is pivotally connected to the shell 19 by means of pins 21 on the clamp 20 and openings 22 in the shell 19.

The clamp 20 is shown as provided with teeth 23 at the lower edges of the two branches 23*a* thereof, for engaging therewith the end 12 of the belt or watch strap which as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 rests on the bottom 19*a* of the shell 19, which is shown as curved at 19*a* in Fig. 2 and as straight at 19*b* in Fig. 6.

The sides of the shell 19 are shown in Figs. 2 and 3 as extending beyond the clamp 20, both vertically and horizontally, thereby shielding the clamp 20 from accidental interference therewith.

The sockets 18 are integral with the shell 19, which has also integral therewith a guard 24 and extensions 25 on said guard 24, for passing thereunder the tip of the end 11 of the belt or watch strap after the latter has been attached to the buckle 15—16; the guard 24 also serves to keep the clamp 20 from getting disengaged.

To assist the guard 24 on the shell 19 to keep the tip of the belt or watch strap 11 in position the clamp 20 is also provided at the top thereof with a guard 26 integral therewith, as shown in Fig. 3. As shown in Fig. 2, the guards 24 and 26 are positioned substantially in line with each other, and the end of the belt or strap 11 passes under both guards without being crumpled by them.

The clamp 20 with the guard 26 thereon may be made of one piece of tubing.

The guard 24 on the shell 19 may be made continuous when the shell 19 is made of a piece of tubing; and the guard 24 may comprise two branches, as shown in Fig. 1, when the shell 19 is made of a blank of sheet metal.

The shell 19 together with the clamp 20 form the clamp box 19—20 and the latter with the buckle 15—16, which is pivotally connected thereto, form the end coupling for the belt ends or watch strap ends 11 and 12.

In cheaper couplings either the guard 24 or the guard 25 may be used without the other guard.

As a less perfect modification, the clamp box 19—20 may also be made separate from the buckle 15—16 and the two detachably connected to each other in any desired fashion.

Variations are possible, and parts of my invention may be used without other parts.

I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. An end coupling for watch straps and belts comprising a clamp box for securing thereto one end of a belt or watch strap and a tongue buckle, for attaching thereto the other end of a belt or watch strap, and means for flexibly connecting said clamp box to said buckle, said clamp box comprising a shell and a clamp pivotally connected thereto and adapted to engage a belt or strap thereon, the sides of said shell extending beyond said clamp, thereby shielding said clamp from interference therewith.

2. In an end coupling for watch straps and belts, a clamp box and a tongue buckle, flexibly connected thereto, said clamp box comprising a shell and a clamp pivotally connected thereto, and adapted to engage a belt or strap thereon, said shell having thereon a guard made of one piece of metal therewith, for passing thereunder the tip of the end of a belt or watch strap after said end has been attached to said buckle and for keeping said clamp in position on said shell.

3. In an end coupling for watch straps and belts, a clamp box and a tongue buckle, flexibly connected thereto, said clamp box comprising a shell and a clamp pivotally connected thereto and adapted to engage a belt or strap thereon, a guard on said shell and a guard on said clamp, said guards being positioned substantially in line with each other and said guards serving to keep thereunder the tip of the end of a belt or watch strap after said end has been attached to said buckle and for keeping said clamp in position on said shell.

WILLIAM SOKOLOF.