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W. PIETSCH

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ZIP OR LIGHTNING FASTENER

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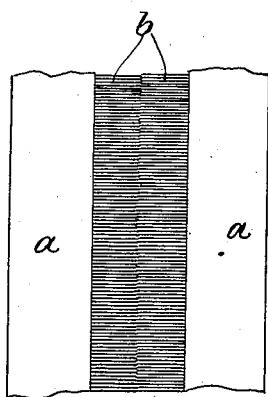


Fig. 1

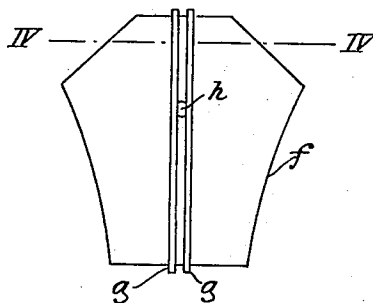


Fig. 3

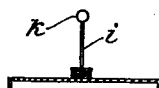


Fig. 4

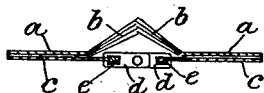


Fig. 2

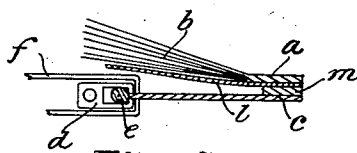


Fig. 5

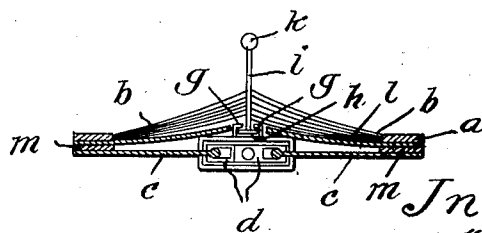


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ZIP OR LIGHTNING FASTENER

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This invention relates to an improvement in zip or lightning fasteners for clothes, boots, bags and the like. The well-known fasteners of this type which consist of two ribbons, edged with metallic fastening links, and a slider have the drawback that the metallic elements are visible when the fastener is closed. Attempts were made to hide these metallic elements by means of ribbons or the like, but the desired result was not attained, as the fastening members were not completely covered and the ribbons, on bending the fastener, were liable to crease, thereby presenting a bad appearance, not considering that cotton ribbons retain dirt. Leather or rubber strips are at best only suitable for boots, not for clothes for which woven strips should be used. Leather strips do not close tight, but show the same inconveniences as ribbons.

To avoid these drawbacks the covering ribbons according to my invention consist of fringed plush braid arranged upon the ribbons of the zip fastener. The braids are arranged in such a manner that the fringed or plush portions of these braids cover the metal members of the fastener and by meeting each other in the middle line hide all the metal elements of the fastener. At the same time an adornment of the articles provided with my new fastener is effected.

To avoid undesired separation of the fringed edges of the braid the handle for operating the slider consists of a thin pin or chain which is guided in a groove of the slider by means of a small plate inserted in the said groove. The free end of the pin or chain may be provided with a small ball or some other means for catching hold of the pin or chain. The whole zip fastener hereby acquires a nicer appearance; the covering edges of the fringed or plush braids are only slightly bent aside by the new handle.

The invention is illustrated by way of example in the annexed drawing in which

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the fastener in closed condition;

Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the slider on an enlarged scale;

Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the upper shield of the slider following the line IV—IV of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic cross-sectional view showing a modification.

Fig. 6 shows the combination of the parts shown separately in Figures 4 and 5.

a is the ribbon of the fringed braid which is sewed on the ribbons of the zip fastener. *b, b* indicate the lateral fringed or plush edges of the braids *a, a*. The edges of the ribbons *c* are thickened in the well-known manner to form small rolls *e e*, to which the metallic fastening members *d, d* are secured. *f* is the upper shield of the slider which carries two L-shaped bars *g, g* forming a guide for the handle of the slider. This handle consists of a plate *h* encompassed by the bars *g, g*. In the center of the plate *h* a thin pin or chain *i* is fixed carrying at its end a small ball *k* or other thickening device, the pin or chain passing between the bars *g g* and the fringed braids *b, b*. This handle may be moved to and fro from one end of the slider to its other end which is important for easily operating the zip fastener.

The above described fastener has the drawback that the hairs of the fringed braid may possibly be caught between the slider and fastening members guided therein.

By further investigations I have found that the protecting braids permanently retain their action even when using a normal slider by inserting an intermediary layer, for instance, in the form of a flat tape or braid between the fringed braid and the base ribbon of the fastener, thereby from the beginning raising the level of the fringed braid above the base ribbon.

This modification is illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings. *f* is the slider, *c* the base ribbon of the fastener, to which the locking members *d* are attached. *l* is the protecting tape and *a, b* the fringed braid. Between the base ribbon *c* and the protecting tape *l* is the intermediary layer *m*. The latter as well as the protecting tape and the fringed braid are sewed upon the base ribbon *c*.

All the woven parts of the fastener or some of them may also be woven in one piece.

As I have found with the above-mentioned intermediary layer no disturbance occurs even in the position of the zip fastener which mostly endangers the fringes being caught, that is to say if the fastener is operated in a greatly bent position (the fringed braid being on the convex side).

10 I claim:—

1. A zip or lightning fastener comprising a pair of opposed ribbons, fastening members secured to said ribbons, a slider movable on said members for causing the same to interlock or disengage from each other and fringed braids secured to the opposed ribbons and covering the fastening members to conceal the same from view.

2. A zip or lightning fastener comprising a pair of opposed ribbons, fastening members secured to said ribbons, a slider movable on said members for causing the same to interlock or disengage from each other, fringed braids secured to the opposed ribbons and covering the fastening members to conceal the same from view, a pair of L-shaped bars on the said slider forming a guiding groove, a plate guided in the said groove, and a narrow handle secured to the said plate.

3. A zip or lightning fastener comprising a pair of opposed ribbons, fastening members secured to said ribbons, a slider movable on said members for causing the same to interlock or disengage from each other, fringed braids secured to the opposed ribbons and covering the fastening members to conceal the same from view, a pair of L-shaped bars on the said slider forming a guiding groove, a plate guided in the said groove, and a narrow handle secured to the said plate and ending in a thickening portion.

4. A zip or lightning fastener comprising a pair of opposed ribbons, fastening members secured to said ribbons, a slider movable on said members for causing the same to interlock or disengage from each other, fringed braids secured to the opposed ribbons and covering the fastening members to conceal the same from view, a pair of L-shaped bars on the said slider forming a guiding groove, a plate guided in the said groove, and a narrow handle secured to the said plate and ending in a small ball.

5. A zip or lightning fastener comprising a pair of opposed ribbons, fastening members secured to said ribbons, a slider movable on said members for causing the same to interlock or disengage from each other, a pair of tapes overlapping the space between the said slider and ribbons, intermediary layers between the said tapes and ribbons, and fringed braids secured to the opposed ribbons and covering the fastening members to conceal the same from view.

6. A zip or lightning fastener comprising

a pair of opposed ribbons, fastening members secured to said ribbons, a slider movable on said members for causing the same to interlock or disengage from each other, a pair of tapes overlapping the space between the said tapes and ribbons, fringed braids secured to the opposed ribbons and covering the fastening members to conceal the same from view, a pair of L-shaped bars on the said slider forming a guiding groove, a plate guided in the said groove, and a narrow handle secured to the said plate.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLY PIETSCH.

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