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1,991,633

RETAINING DEVICE

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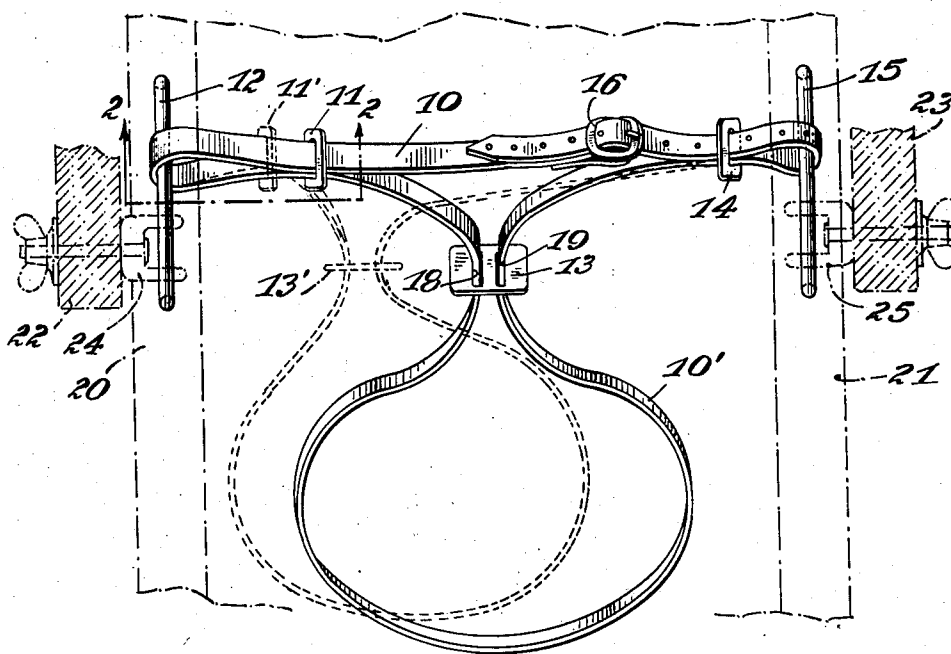


Fig. 1.

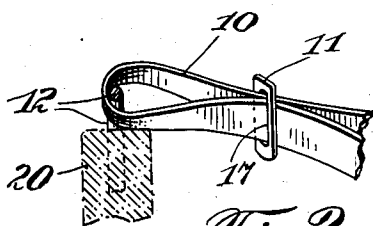


Fig. 2.

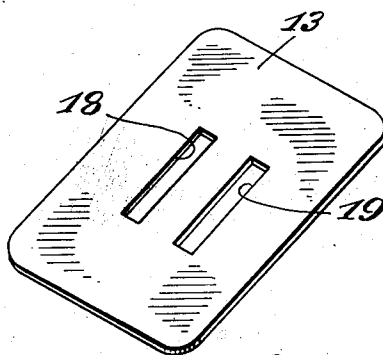


Fig. 3.

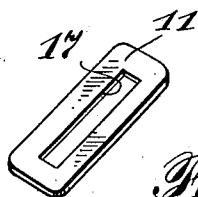


Fig. 4.

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1,991,633

RETAINING DEVICE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 155-189)

My invention relates to retaining means and refers particularly to devices adapted for the retention of a child in a chair, carriage or other similar device.

It is frequently desirable to retain a child in a chair, or carriage in such a manner that it will have freedom of movement, but will be maintained from accidental disconnection with the retaining means.

Strap devices of various kinds have been constructed for this purpose but they have been accompanied by objectionable features.

The usual device of this character consists of a belt placed around the body of the child; the belt being attached to some portion of the carriage. These belts are of fixed diameter, being fastened to such a size as to prevent the child from slipping through it.

This form of device has many recognized disadvantages, among which may be mentioned the necessity of an uncomfortably close fit around the body, the inability of the strap to accommodate itself to the many movements of the child, and the movement of the strap around the child's body causing abrasion.

My invention overcomes all of the above mentioned, and other objectionable features and presents a means whereby the movements of the child are unencumbered, and in which the device need not be uncomfortably close to the body and which does not revolve around the body during its movement, coupled with absolute safety and prevention from accidental displacement, thus insuring safety without discomfort or danger to the child.

I have found that if the strap or belt, be passed through slots in a plurality of riders and around fixed members, the movement of the belt is of such a character that as the child moves, the retaining portion of the strap adapts itself to the protection of the child, while that portion of the strap which encompasses the child's body retains its formation and size without revolution around the body of the child, thus safely retaining the child without the body abrasion incident to straps fixedly attached to the carriage.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating one form of my device, and in which similar parts are designated by similar numerals, I have shown my invention as attached to a baby carriage, but it is not limited to that particular form of device.

Figure 1 is a top perspective view of my device attached to opposite sides of a baby carriage, the dotted lines indicating the position of the device

when a child within the loop portion has moved to one side.

Figure 2 is a side perspective view of the portion of the device attached to the carriage.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one of the slotted riders.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of another slotted rider.

The particular form of the device of my invention shown in the accompanying drawing comprises a strap 10 which passes through a slot 17 in the rider 11 over and then under the fixed rod 12, back through the slot in the rider 11, thence through a slot 18 in the rider 13, returned through another slot 19, in the rider 13, thence through a slot in the rider 14, under and then over the fixed rod 15, thence through the slot in the rider 14 and finally fastened to the other end of the strap by means of the buckle 16.

The rider 11 has the elongated slot 17 through which the strap 10 can move freely when in alignment therewith, the displacement of the strap from alignment however, causing the rider to act as a stop or brake, to retain the strap from further movement through the slot.

The rider 14 is similar to the rider 11.

The rider 13 has two parallel slots 18 and 19, through which the strap 10 can freely pass when in alignment therewith, the displacement of the strap from such alignment causes the rider to act as a stop, or brake, to retain the strap from further movement through the slot.

The rods 12 and 15 are attached to the side bars 20 and 21 of a baby carriage, not shown, and are the rods to which the side members 22, 23 of the collapsible hood of the carriage are attached by means of the members 24, 25.

The operation of the device is as follows:

The strap 10 is so arranged with regard to length and position that the loop portion 10', fits snugly but not too tightly around the body of a child, below the arms, seated in the carriage to which the device is attached. As the strap can move through the riders 11, 13 and 14 and around the bars 12 and 15 when it is in alignment with the respective slots, but is retained from such movement when it is not in alignment with the slots, it is evident that considerable movement in every direction is allowed the child, but that the movement of the belt is controlled by the riders.

If the child moves to the left, the device will assume the position indicated by the dotted lines of Figure 1 and the riders 11 and 13 will be positioned at 11' and 13'. It will be noted how-

ever that the space within the loop 10' has not changed perceptively and hence the child is still retained within the strap loop.

5 It will thus be seen that the loop portion of the belt when encompassing a child's body can be moved without a decrease or increase, in size, the passage of the other portion of the belt through the riders and around the fixed rods compensating for said movement.

10 My invention, therefore, presents a novel and valuable means whereby a child may be retained in safety in a carriage or other device, with freedom of movement, the retaining means being of such construction and arrangement that the movements of the child will not materially affect
15 that portion of the device encompassing the child's body.

I do not limit myself to the particular size, shape, numbers or arrangements of parts, nor to the materials, particularly described, as these
20 are given simply as a means for clearly describing the device of my invention.

What I claim is:—

1. In a retaining device, in combination, a strip
25 of flexible material adapted to be passed around opposed fixed members, means for connecting the ends of said strip when passed around said fixed members, a plurality of slidable members
30 positioned around overlapping portions of said flexible strip in proximity to said fixed members, and an additional slidable member intermediate of said first mentioned slidable members, said flexible strip passing through said additional slidable member forming a loop portion
35 adapted to be positioned around a child's body.

2. In a retaining device, in combination, a strip of flexible material adapted to be passed

around opposed fixed members, means for connecting the ends of said strip when passed around said fixed members, two slidable members positioned around overlapping portions of said flexible strip in proximity of said fixed members, and an additional slidable member intermediate of said first mentioned slidable members, said flexible strip passing through said additional slidable member forming a loop portion adapted to be positioned around a child's body. 5 10

3. In a retaining device, in combination, a strip of flexible material adapted to be passed around opposed fixed members, means for connecting the ends of said strip when passed around said fixed members, a plurality of slidable slotted members through which overlapping portions of said strip pass in proximity to said fixed members, and an additional slidable slotted member intermediate of said first mentioned slidable
15 slotted members, said flexible strip passing through said additional slidable slotted member forming a loop portion adapted to be positioned around a child's body. 20

4. In a retaining device, in combination, a strip of flexible material adapted to be passed
25 around opposed fixed members, means for connecting the ends of said strip when passed around said fixed members, two slidable slotted members through which overlapping portions of said strip pass in proximity to said fixed members, and an additional slidable slotted member intermediate of said first mentioned slidable
30 slotted members, said flexible strip passing through said additional slidable slotted member, forming a loop portion adapted to be positioned around a child's body. 35

THOMAS SERPICO.