Feb. 24, 1931. F. C. WILLIAMS 1,793,575

LUGGAGE HANDLE

Filed May 2, 1928

FIG. 1.

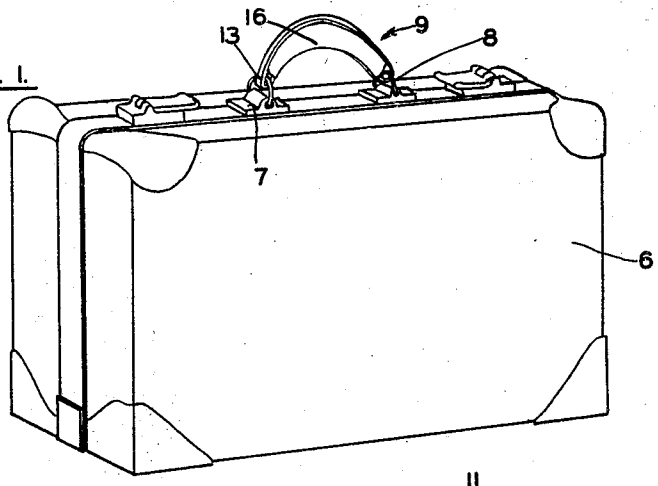


FIG. 2.

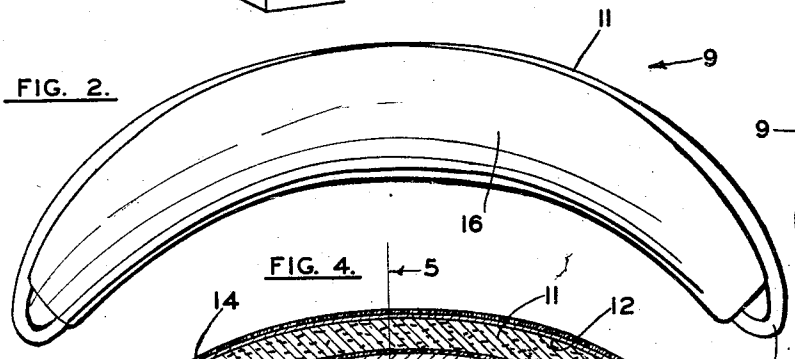


FIG. 3.

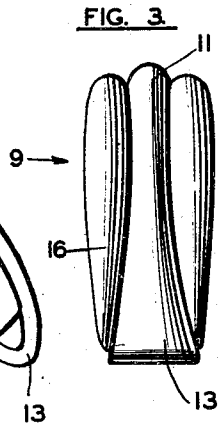


FIG. 4.

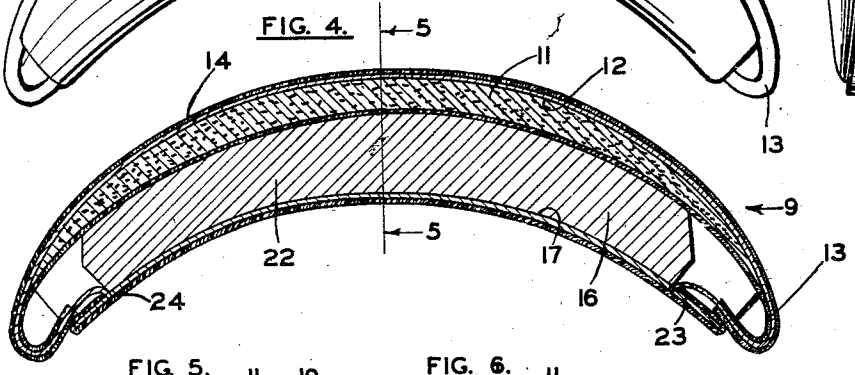


FIG. 5.

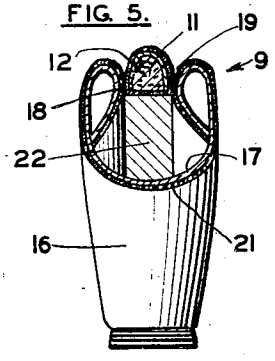
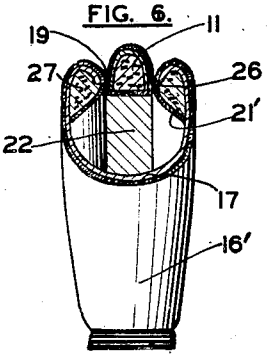


FIG. 6.



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LUGGAGE HANDLE

Application filed May 2, 1928. Serial No. 274,468.

This invention relates to luggage handles.

An object of the invention is the provision of a luggage handle which is adapted to be readily attached to or removed from its associated piece of luggage.

Another object is the provision of a luggage handle as described, wherein the means for attaching the handle to the luggage is of such a nature that the handle is fully as strong as though it were permanently secured in position.

A further object is the provision of a detachable luggage handle of the general character described, which, when in operative position, has the same appearance as the conventional type of handle which is permanently secured to its associated piece of luggage.

The invention possesses other objects and features of advantage, some of which, with the foregoing, will be set forth in the following description of the preferred form of the invention which is illustrated in the drawings accompanying and forming part of the specification. It is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the showing made by the said drawings and description, as I may adopt variations of the preferred form within the scope of my invention as set forth in the claims.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a piece of luggage with the demountable handle of my invention in operative position thereupon.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the handle alone.

Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the handle of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal, medial, vertical sectional view.

Fig. 5 is a transverse, vertical sectional view taken upon the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a transverse, vertical sectional view similar to Fig. 5, but showing a slightly modified form of demountable handle.

Broadly considered, the device of the present invention comprises a handle having a hook at each end permitting the handle to be readily attached to, or detached from its associated piece of luggage; and a grip disposed under said handle between said hooks to impart to the handle, all the appearance of being of the conventional type.

Specifically describing the present embodiment of the invention, the handle is shown in Fig. 1 as being in operative position upon a suitcase 6 which is provided with a pair of the conventional brackets 7 within each of which a ring 8 is preferably loosely mounted. Conventionally, a handle is adapted to be permanently secured to the suitcase 6 by having one of the rings 8 disposed within an eye in each end of the handle; but my invention contemplates the employment of a handle 9 which may be removably secured to the rings 8.

With this end in view, the device of the present invention comprises a handle portion 11 which is bowed so that its ends extend downwards in respect to the center portion. The handle portion 11 is preferably possessed of a certain degree of rigidity or stiffness, and accordingly, one convenient manner of forming the handle portion 11 is to make it of a strip of metal 12 bent to substantially inverted U-shaped cross section. Each end 13 of the handle portion 11 is flattened and bent to a reverse bend to extend back thereunder as clearly shown in Fig. 4. The handle portion 11 thus formed may then be covered with any suitable covering material 14, such as leather.

The handle 9 also includes a grip portion 16 which also may conveniently be formed by bending a suitable strip of metal 17 to U-shaped cross section. The grip portion 16 is also bowed with its ends extending downwards with respect to its center portion; and both sides of the strip 17, or in other words, both legs of the U presented by the cross section of the grip portion 16, are rolled inwards as at 18, to provide a restricted groove 19 therebetween within which the handle portion 11 may be frictionally and removably received. The grip portion 16 also may be covered with a suitable layer of leather 21 or its equivalent.

A spacer 22 is provided, this spacer being similarly curved so that its lower edge conforms to the bottom of the grip member 16 to which it is permanently and rigidly secured in any convenient manner such as by welding. The spacer 22 is preferably of

such width that when seated thereupon, the top of the handle member 11 extends slightly above the tops of the curled sides of the grip member 16, as clearly shown in Fig. 5. When thus assembled, the handle 9 presents all the appearance of being the conventional luggage handle, the various parts of which are permanently secured together. Each of the extreme ends 23 of the handle member 11 are bent downwards to seat within a notch or slot 24 in the bottom of the grip member 16 preferably adjacent each end of the spacer 22. This connection between the handle member 11 and grip member 16 serves as an additional means for holding the two in operative position.

It is to be observed that when assembled, all portions of the hooks at the ends of the handle member 11 are concealed within the ends of the groove 19, except the curved portions thereof; and that these curved portions present eyes within which the rings 8 of the suitcase or any other piece of luggage may conveniently be positioned. The manner of connecting my improved demountable handle to the suitcase 6, comprises removing the grip member 16 from the handle member 11 to expose the open portions of the hooks at each end of the handle member 11. This will permit the ready insertion of each of the rings 8 into one of the hooks, after which the grip member 16 may be conveniently inserted under the handle member 11 and pressed into place to effectually retain the rings 8 within the hooks.

The frictional engagement between the handle member 11 and grip member 16 is such that considerable resistance is offered to their relative displacement, with the result that the tendency of the handle to fall apart when the handle has been released, is eliminated. When the handle 9 is gripped for the purpose of lifting or carrying the luggage, of course, the weight of the luggage is supported upon the handle 11, which, in turn, rests within the grip member 16. Accordingly, the grip member 16 presses upwards against the handle member 11 with a force equal to the weight of the luggage; and since it is necessary in removal of the grip member 16 from the handle member 11, to move it in the direction opposite to this force, the heavier the luggage, the more positive is the engagement between the grip member 16 and handle member 11.

It is to be observed that in Fig. 5, the sides of the grip member 16 are rolled to such an extent that they extend almost back into the bottom of the U and bear against the outer portion of the sides. In Fig. 6 however, a slightly modified form is shown wherein the metal of the sides terminates at a point adjacent the bottom of the handle member 11, permitting the covering 21′ to extend from the edge 26 of the metal across to the side of the grip member 16′. Any suitable filler 27 such as cork or wood, may be employed to fill the space between the metal and that portion of the covering 21′ extending from the edge 26 across to the side; or, if it be so desired, this space may be left entirely empty, the only requirement being that the two edges 26 be so spaced that the proper degree of frictional engagement is offered between them and the handle member 11.

I claim:

1. A device of the character described, comprising a bowed handle, a hook at each end of said handle, said hooks being formed by bending each end of said handle back under the concave side thereof, a grip removably securable under said handle and extending longitudinally thereof to receive all of both of said hooks but the bent portions thereof, and a projection at the end of each of said hooks receivable within a notch in the bottom of said grip.

2. A device of the character described comprising a curved grip having a groove extending longitudinally thereof in its upper side, a curved handle removably receivable within said groove, and an open hook at each end of said handle, said hooks being formed by bending the ends of said handle back thereunder to extend into the ends of said groove the curved portions of said hooks extending beyond the ends of said grip to define eyes.

3. A device of the character described, comprising a curved grip of U-shaped cross section and having its edges rolled inwards to form a restricted groove in its upper side, a spacer secured within said grip under said groove, and a handle removably receivable within said groove to rest upon said spacer, each end of said handle being reversely bent to form a hook, the open portions of said hooks being receivable within the ends of said groove.

4. A device of the character described, comprising a curved grip of U-shaped cross section and having its edges rolled inwards to form a restricted groove in its upper side, a spacer secured within said grip under said groove, and a handle of inverted U-shaped cross section removably receivable within said groove to rest upon said spacer, each end of said handle being reversely bent to form a hook, the open portions of said hooks being receivable within the ends of said groove.

5. A device of the character described, comprising a curved grip of U-shaped cross section and having its edges rolled inwards to form a restricted groove in its upper side, a spacer secured within said grip under said groove, and a handle of inverted U-shaped cross section removably receivable within said groove to frictionally engage the sides thereof and rest upon said spacer, each end

of said handle being reversely bent to form a hook, the open portions of said hooks being receivable within the ends of said groove.

6. A device of the character described, comprising a curved grip of U-shaped cross section and having its edges rolled inwards to form a restricted groove in its upper side, a spacer secured within said grip under said groove, a handle of inverted U-shaped cross section removably receivable within said groove to frictionally engage the sides thereof and rest upon said spacer, each end of said handle being reversely bent to form a hook, the open portions of said hooks being receivable within the ends of said groove, and the end of each of said hooks being bent downwards to engage within a notch in the bottom of said grip.

7. A device of the character described, comprising a curved grip of U-shaped cross section presenting a longitudinally disposed groove in its upper side, a handle removably receivable within said groove, each end of said handle being reversely bent to form a hook, the open portions of said hooks being concealable within the ends of said groove, and the end of each of said hooks being bent downwards to engage within a notch in the bottom of said grip.

8. A removable handle comprising a grip having a longitudinally extending groove in the upper surface thereof, a handle disposed within said groove and extending beyond the ends of said grip, and hooks defined by the reversely bent ends of said handle, the ends of said hooks being extended inwards beyond the curved portions thereof and bearing against the bottom of said grooves.

9. A removable handle comprising a grip having a longitudinally extending groove in the upper surface thereof, a handle disposed within said groove and extending beyond the ends of said grip, hooks defined by the reversely bent ends of said handle, the ends of said hooks being extended inwards beyond the curved portions thereof and bearing against the bottom of said groove, and a lip on said reversely extending end of each of said hooks seating within a notch in the bottom of the groove.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

FRANK C. WILLIAMS.