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B. W. HANLE

1,926,852

CLIP FOR WRITING IMPLEMENTS OR THE LIKE

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FIG. 1.

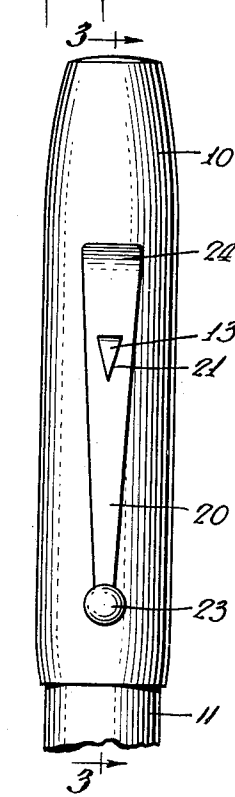


FIG. 2.

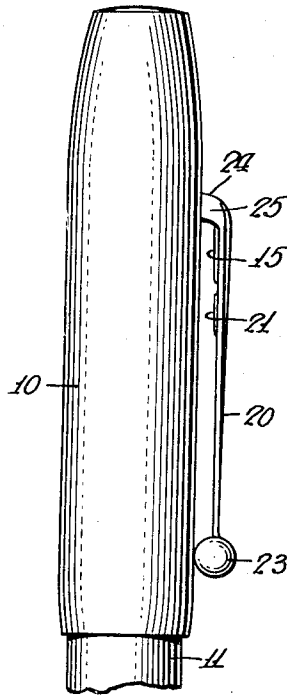


FIG. 3.

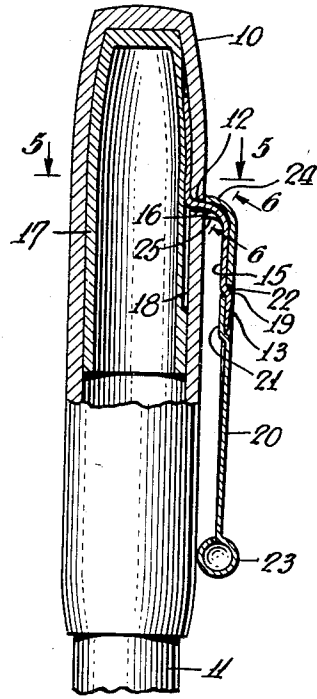


FIG. 4.

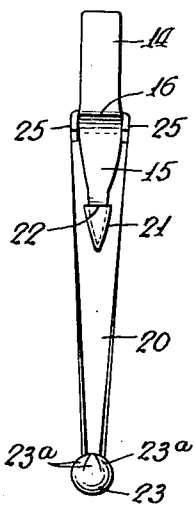


FIG. 5.

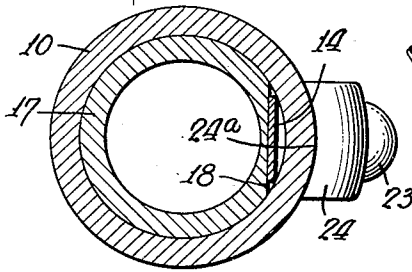


FIG. 6.

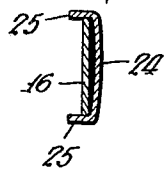


FIG. 7.

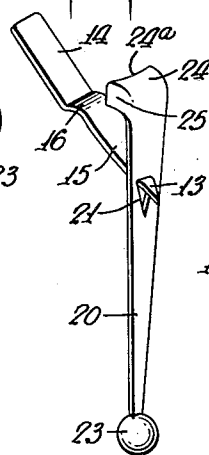
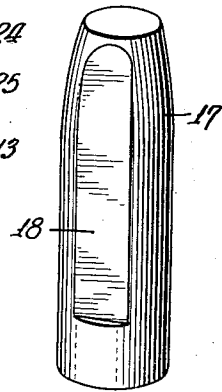


FIG. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CLIP FOR WRITING IMPLEMENTS OR THE LIKE

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14 Claims. (Cl. 24—11)

My present invention is concerned with a clip of the character commonly employed in conjunction with fountain pens, pencils and other elongated instruments or instrument cases for holding them securely in the pocket of the user.

An object of the invention is to provide a clip of this character which will assure a firm grip upon the fabric which it engages and which will not lose its resiliency or become permanently distorted even after prolonged periods of use and even though the clip is subjected to severe temporary distortion by sliding it over abnormally thick or heavy fabrics.

Another object is to provide a clip in which the desired tension is so applied by a tempered steel spring that the clip proper need have but little inherent resilience.

Another object is to provide a device of this character which will entirely obviate the need for difficult, time consuming or expensive assembly operations for securing the clip and spring together and specifically to provide a construction which avoids the need for using tiny light rivets for this purpose (which are difficult to handle) and likewise will do away with the necessity for special bending operations upon either the clip or the spring in order to interlock the two together.

Another object is to provide a device of this character in which spring and clip may be pre-assembled by a simple manual operation and are locked in such assembled relationship as an incident of anchoring the spring to the instrument, this latter operation also being preferably effected without the use of screws, rivets or similar securing devices.

Another object is to provide a spring and clip assemblage which despite the absence of any special securing means are so interlocked with respect to each other that the clip is positively restrained against movement in any direction save in a direction to cause flexure and tensioning of the spring.

Another object is to so interrelate the spring and clip that a portion of the spring contrasting in color with the clip is exposed through the latter; adding to the attractiveness of appearance of the device, by simulating a decorative inlay.

Other and more general objects are to provide a device of the character noted which is simple and practical in construction, rugged and durable in use and well suited to meet the requirements of economical manufacture.

The spring preferably consists of a length of flat tempered steel stock having a central offset

which disposes the two ends of the spring in generally parallel planes. This offset portion extends through the usual slot in a pen cap or the like and the inner end of the spring may be locked in the cap by the use of the conventional hollow plug force-fitted into the cap. The opposite end of the spring lies in parallelism with but spaced from the cap or barrel of the instrument and its end is preferably tapered so that it may conveniently enter a slot in the clip proper and overlie a depressed portion of the clip adjacent said slot. The clip at its top is preferably shaped to overlie and conceal the projecting end of the offset and to prevent relative lateral movement of clip and spring.

The spring and clip are assembled by a compound rocking and sliding movement to introduce the tapered end of the spring into the slot in the clip. The anchoring end of the spring may then be introduced through the slot in the barrel and locked by the plug. As an incident of such locking the clip is automatically secured against displacement in any direction except in a direction to cause flexure and tensioning of the spring since with the parts assembled the cap positively blocks the reverse rocking and sliding movement necessary to effect disassembly.

Engagement with the tapered end of the spring prevents axial movement of the clip in one direction. That portion of the clip which overlies and embraces the offset position of the spring prevents axial movement of the clip in the other direction or swivelling movement of the clip about the spring end as a center.

If desired, the exposed tapered end of the spring may be enamelled and lies flush with the clip and when so treated simulates a decorative inlay.

The invention may be more fully understood from the following description in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein:—

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a fountain pen cap showing the clip in front elevation,

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but taken at right angles thereto and showing the clip in edge view,

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 4 is a rear elevational view of the clip and spring pre-assembled prior to their application to the cap.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged transverse sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3,

Fig. 6 is an enlarged transverse sectional detail on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3,

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Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the clip and spring illustrating the manner in which the spring is rocked and slid into pre-assembled relationship with the clip, and

5 Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the conventional locking plug which secures the spring in place.

As suggested above the particular type of writing or other implement with which the clip is used is largely immaterial to the present invention but the clip has been illustratively shown as applied to a standard type of cap 10 for a fountain pen, the barrel of the pen being illustrated at 11.

15 The cap 10 is provided with a circumferential slot 12 of a length approximately equal to the width of the tempered spring indicated generally at 13. This spring includes an anchoring end 14 and a clip engaging end 15 integrally connected together by an angularly offset portion 16. Portion 15 may taper somewhat throughout its length and terminates in a pointed extremity 13.

25 The anchoring end 14 of the spring is introduced through the slot 12 in the cap and the spring is rocked on the offset 16 until the end 14 lies against the inner surface of the cap, in which position it is secured by a standard force-fitted tubular locking plug 17 having a flat side 18 to accommodate the spring end 14. With the spring thus applied the offset portion 16 thereof projects a sufficient distance outwardly beyond the cap to dispose the clip engaging end 15 of the spring in generally parallel spaced relationship to the cap.

35 The triangular pointed extremity 13 of the spring is slightly offset as indicated at 19 from portion 15 and the clip designated generally at 20 is formed intermediate its ends with a correspondingly triangularly shaped depressed pocket or recess 21, this pocket at its wider upper end affording a slot 22 to receive tip 13 which lies in the recess flush with the clip.

40 The clip is of generally tapering construction from end to end, its lower end being formed as is customary, with a plurality of prongs or ears 23a which are bent in conventional fashion to afford a hollow ball or knob 23 contacting the pen cap. At its upper wider end the clip is curved over affording a portion 24 which overlies the projecting part of the spring offset 16.

45 The curved end 24 of the spring preferably terminates in a concavely curved edge 24a which follows the contour of and lies snugly against the exterior of the cap. Merging into the curved portion 24 and pendant therefrom are a pair of ears 25 which extend below the offset portion 16 of the spring and conceal such portion as well as serve a mechanical function which will be later explained.

50 The spring and the clip are shaped and bent by suitable machinery into the form illustrated prior to their engagement with each other and no subsequent shaping or bending of either of them is necessary. The parts are interengaged in the manner illustrated in Fig. 7 by inserting the pointed end 13 of the spring through the slot 22 in the clip and by a compound rocking and sliding movement advancing the end 15 of the spring against the inner face of the clip so that the curved clip portion 24 lies against the curved offset portion 16 of the spring. The end 14 of the spring is then introduced through the slit 12 in the barrel and the locking plug 17 is applied.

With the inner end of the spring thus secured, the clip is not only locked against disengagement from the spring but against any relative movement or play with respect thereto.

As best seen in Fig. 3 axial upward movement 80 of the clip is prevented by the pointed extremity 13 of the spring which engages the lower tapering walls of the pocket 21 and by the offset 19 of the spring which engages the lower wall of the slot 22 of the clip. Axial downward movement 85 of the clip is prevented by the engagement of the rounded upper end 24 thereof with the offset portion 16 of the spring. Any tendency of the clip to rock or swivel laterally about the point 13 is prevented not only by the snug engagement 90 of the clip edge 24a with the pen barrel but is positively blocked by the ears 25. The cap itself blocks the reverse relative rocking movement of the clip and spring which would be necessary to accomplish their disassembly. 95

The spring is made of any suitable tempered metal and at least the portion thereof which is exposed through the clip is preferably enamelled or otherwise colored in contrast with the material 100 of the clip (the latter if not of precious metal being usually plated to simulate it). This triangular exposed end of the spring which lies flush with the clip body affords an effective imitation of an enamelled inlay (typically an inlaid escutcheon plate). 105

The clip itself may be made of any suitable material which is sufficiently hard to prevent permanent distortion under light bending stresses, it being understood that the spring itself will furnish all of the resilience necessary to swing 110 the clip against the pen cap after the lower end of the clip has been displaced to accommodate the edge of a pocket or other fabric between itself and the cap.

The snug fit of clip edge 24a against the cap is important because this fit creates the illusion 115 that the clip actually enters the cap, and gives the desired expensive appearance while permitting saving of precious metal in the trimming of the pen. 120

It will thus be seen that there is herein described a device in which the several features of this invention are embodied, and which in its action attains the various objects of the invention and is well suited to meet the requirements 125 of practical use.

As many changes could be made in the above construction, and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, 130 it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, what I 135 claim as new and desire to secure Letters Patent is:—

1. In an attachment for fountain pen caps or the like, a spring including a portion to lie within and be concealed by the cap and be secured by a 140 bushing fitted into the cap, a portion for disposition exteriorly of the cap in generally parallel spaced relationship thereto and a portion connecting said first mentioned portions and adapted to extend through a slot in the cap, a clip so 145 preassembled with said exposed portion of the spring that it is automatically secured against disassembly therefrom by abutment with the cap as an incident of securing said first mentioned 150 portion of the spring to the cap.

2. An attachment as set forth in claim 1 and wherein the exposed portion of the spring and the clip are interlocked in preassembly by a combined rocking and sliding movement and a similar reverse movement is prevented by the abutment of the clip and cap when the concealed end of the spring is secured within the cap.

3. A device of the class described, including a tempered spring of flat stock having a pair of oppositely extending ends disposed in generally parallel planes, an offset portion integrally connecting said ends, one end of said spring being adapted to lie within a pen cap or the like means for securing said end in such position and the other end of said spring being adapted to lie in spaced parallel relationship with the cap externally thereof and a clip including a portion slotted to engage and interlock with the exposed end of the spring, and a portion to embrace and conceal the projecting part of the offset.

4. A device of the class described, including a tempered spring of flat stock having a pair of oppositely extending ends disposed in generally parallel planes, an offset portion integrally connecting said ends, one end of said spring being adapted to lie within a pen cap or the like means for securing said end in such position and the other end of said spring being adapted to lie in spaced parallel relationship with the cap externally thereof, a clip including a portion slotted to engage and interlock with the exposed end of the spring, and a portion to embrace and conceal the projecting part of the offset.

5. A device of the class described, including a tempered spring of flat stock having a pair of oppositely extending ends disposed in generally parallel planes, an offset portion integrally connecting said ends, one end of said spring being adapted to lie within a pen cap or the like means for securing said end in such position and the other end of said spring being adapted to lie in spaced parallel relationship with the cap externally thereof and a clip including a portion slotted to engage and interlock with the exposed end of the spring, and a portion to embrace and conceal the projecting part of the offset, said clip having a recessed portion adjacent the slot therein and the extremity of the spring being offset from the adjacent portion thereof whereby the spring end overlies part of the clip and is substantially flush with the body of the latter.

6. A device of the class described, including a tempered spring of flat stock having a pair of oppositely extending ends disposed in generally parallel planes, an offset portion integrally connecting said ends, one end of said spring being adapted to lie within a pen cap or the like means for securing said end in such position and the other end of said spring being adapted to lie in spaced parallel relationship with the cap externally thereof and a clip including a portion slotted to engage and interlock with the exposed end of the spring, and a portion to embrace and conceal the projecting part of the offset, said clip having a recessed portion adjacent the slot therein and the extremity of the spring being offset from the adjacent portion thereof whereby the spring end overlies part of the clip and is substantially flush with the body of the latter, said spring end being of color contrasting with the color of the clip whereby to simulate an inlaid escutcheon plate.

7. A device of the class described, including a tempered spring of flat stock having a pair of oppositely extending ends disposed in generally

parallel planes, an offset portion integrally connecting said ends, one end of said spring being adapted to lie within a pen cap or the like means for securing said end in such position and the other end of said spring being adapted to lie in spaced parallel relationship with the cap externally thereof and a clip including a portion slotted to engage and interlock with the exposed end of the spring, and a portion to embrace and conceal the projecting part of the offset, said clip having a recessed portion adjacent the slot therein of the same shape as the extremities of the spring whereby the exposed spring end lies flush with the body of the clip, and simulates an inlay.

8. In a device of the character described the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring rigidly secured within the cap and having a bent portion extending out through the cap, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket clip element engaged, during preassembly with said second portion of the spring and locked against disengagement therefrom by its abutment with the cap as an incident of securing the spring within the cap.

9. In a device of the character described the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring fixedly secured within the cap and having a bent portion extending out through the cap, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket clip element preassembled by a sliding interlock with said second portion of the spring and locked against disengagement therefrom by abutment with the cap as an incident of securing the spring within the cap.

10. In a device of the character described the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring fixedly secured within the cap and having a bent portion extending out through the cap, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket clip element engaged, during preassembly by a rocking and sliding interlock with said second portion of the spring and locked against disengagement therefrom by its abutment with the cap as an incident of securing the spring within the cap.

11. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring rigidly secured within the cap and having a bent portion extending out through the opening, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket clip element engaged by preassembly with said second portion of the spring and locked against disengagement therefrom as an incident of securing the spring within the cap, the clip including a curved upper end concealing the projecting bent portion of the spring and abutting the cap.

12. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring including an end rigidly secured within the cap and having a bent portion extending out through the opening, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket

clip element engaged by preassembly with said second portion of the spring and locked against disengagement therefrom by abutment with the cap as an incident of securing the spring within the cap, the clip including a curved upper end concealing the projecting bent portion of the spring, and at its edge following the contour of the cap which it abuts.

13. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring, a bushing fixedly securing a portion secured within the cap and a bent portion extending out through the opening, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket clip element engaged with said second portion of the spring and locked against disengagement therefrom by abutment with the cap as an incident of securing the spring within the cap, the clip including a curved upper end concealing the projecting bent portion of the spring, said curved portion including a pair of pendant ears embracing the bent portion of the spring, and preventing relative lateral displacement of spring and clip.

14. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cap provided with an opening in its periphery of a tempered spring including a portion secured within the cap and a bent portion extending out through the opening, said bent portion merging into a second portion extending substantially parallel to and out of contact with the periphery of the cap, a pocket clip element engaged with said second portion of the spring, the outer extremity of the spring being of tapered triangular shape, said clip having a tapered triangular recess therein with an opening at its wider side to receive and accommodate the tapered spring end.

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