J. S. WALLENSTEIN.

WRIST LOCK FOR BAG HANDLES OR THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 7, 1916.

1,192,022. Patented July 25, 1916.

Fig. 1.

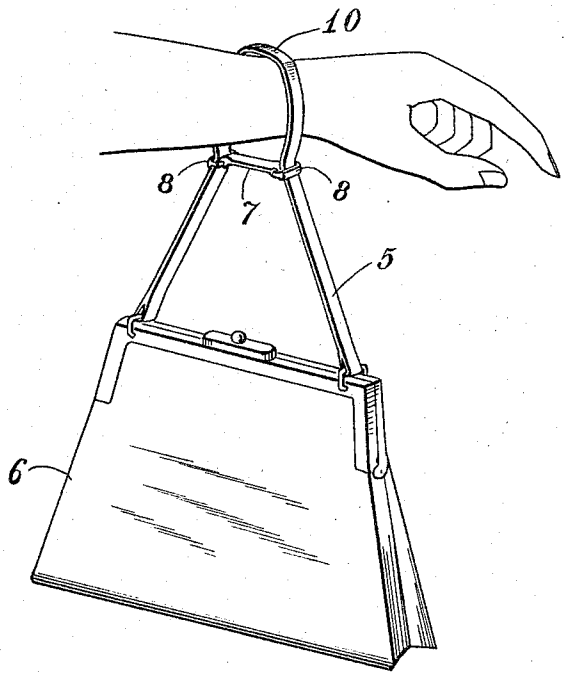


Fig. 2.

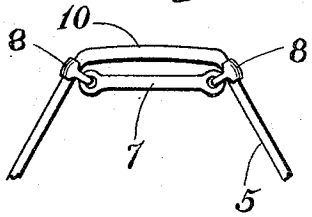


Fig. 3.

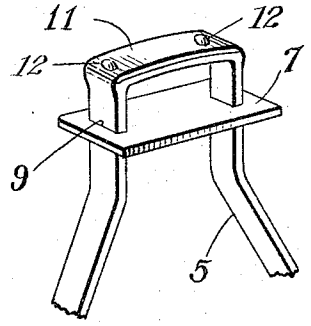
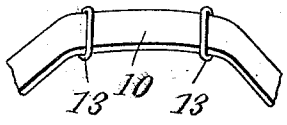


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WRIST-LOCK FOR BAG-HANDLES OR THE LIKE.

1,192,022. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 25, 1916.

Application filed February 7, 1916. Serial No. 76,567.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH S. WALLENSTEIN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 37 Union Square west, borough of Manhattan, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Wrist-Locks for Bag-Handles or the like, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates in general to ladies' handbags, purses, chatelaine bags, and like articles, which have comparatively long, strap-like handles, by which the articles are suspended from the hand or the wrist when carried. Specifically, it relates to a wrist-lock for such a handle which will prevent accidental loss when the article is carried suspended from the wrist while shopping, skating, or motoring.

The primary object is to provide a wrist-lock which is capable of effective use and yet is so extremely simple and compact in construction that it will not be in the way when it is desired to grasp the handle by the hand when carrying the handbag or the like.

A further object is to provide means for keeping the wrist-lock device centered upon the handle at all times, so that it will be accessible to the hand carrying the bag or other article, in order that the said device may be manipulated to render it operative or inoperative by this same hand without necessitating the use of the other hand, which may be engaged at a time when it is desired to adjust the wrist-lock.

To these ends the invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts described more fully hereinafter in the specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a lady's handbag in use, showing the wrist-lock in operative position; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a portion of a bag handle, showing the wrist-lock in inoperative position; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of a bag handle, showing a modified form of wrist-lock member applied thereto.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, 5 designates the strap handle of a handbag 6. It is this form of looped handle upon which the invention is best adapted for use, although it is obvious that the handle may be in the form of a ribbon, cord, or any other comparatively long and flexible member. The particular form and dimensions of the handle in any case will determine the form and size of the wrist-lock to be used in connection therewith. This wrist-lock is designated by the numeral 7 and, since the handle in this instance is a strap, it is in the form of an elongated piece of strap of sufficient thickness to afford the desired rigidity. At the ends of this member 7, loops or eyes 8 are provided for engagement with the bag handle, which is threaded therethrough. In the present instance, the eyes 8 are in the form of hinged metal members, but it is to be understood that any equivalent construction, such as that shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing in particular, may be employed. The wrist-lock member shown in Fig. 3 is in the form of an elongated strip of material similar to that of which the handle is constructed and is simply provided at each end with a slot 9 for the reception of the handle, instead of providing separate eye-forming members. In any case, the bag handle 5 is provided medially with a thickened stop portion 10, which is substantially equal in length to the wrist-lock member, so that, when the latter is in its inoperative position shown particularly in Fig. 2, the eyes at the ends of the lock member will fit against the ends of the stop portion 10. These ends of the stop portion afford abutments which will not pass through the said eyes but will prevent the wrist-lock from slipping past the center of the handle toward either end, wherein it would be in an awkward position and not capable of being grasped readily by the same hand of the wearer that is carrying the bag. The stop portion 10 is provided by reinforcing the handle interiorly. If soft material is used in this reinforcement, the thickened portion 10 will serve as a pad when the handle is supported by the wrist, thereby making it comfortable to carry the bag in this position.

Assuming that the wrist-lock is in its inoperative position and the handle is grasped in the hand while carrying the bag, if it is desired to shift the handle onto the wrist so as to carry the bag in this manner and

leave the hand free for use in grasping packages or the like, it is merely necessary to insert a finger of this hand between the inoperative lock member and stop portion of the handle and thus force the former downwardly into operative position, the entire hand and wrist then being inserted through the space between the lock member and the said stop portion. If, as is usually the case, the ends of the handle are secured to the bag at points spaced farther apart than the length of the wrist-lock member, then the latter will have a natural tendency to ride up upon the handle so as to be situated close to the wrist and in a position where it will effectively prevent the bag handle from slipping over the hand. It is thus practically impossible for the bag to become accidentally lost when carried in this manner, as often happens when no such device is used. It is obvious that the eyes of the wrist-lock member may be constructed of such size that they will frictionally grip the bag handle and thus secure the lock member effectively in any position to which it may be adjusted, irrespective of the spacing of the ends of the handle.

It is to be understood that the dimensions and specific form of the wrist-lock member and the reinforced, stop portion of the handle may be varied in practice without departing from the principle of the invention. For instance, the lock member may be in the form of a piece of cord having loops at its ends, when the handle is constructed of cord, ribbon, or the like. Also, the handle may be knotted or otherwise enlarged slightly to provide the stop portion. Various other mechanical expedients are obvious and should not require illustration.

In order that the parts of the wrist-lock device may be manufactured and sold as separate articles capable of being applied to a bag handle by the user, the stop portion of the handle may be provided by securing a plate such as that indicated by the numeral 11 in Fig. 3 of the drawing to the handle by means of rivets 12 or other suitable securing means. These plates will be constructed in form and length to correspond to the specific wrist-lock members with which they are to be used and may be made from metal, ivory, celluloid, leather, or any other suitable material. Such a plate is adapted to have a monogram or the like (not shown) engraved or otherwise delineated thereon to add to the attractiveness and utility of the device.

An equivalent stop device for a bag handle which will present abutments for engagement with the eyes of a lock member constructed in accordance with the invention is illustrated in Fig. 4. In this instance, two bands 13 of wire or any other suitable material, are fastened upon the bag handle at relatively spaced points. These bands present abutments which will limit the movement of a lock member which may be engaged with the handle and are extremely simple in construction and capable of being readily applied to the handle by an unskilled person.

It is manifest that a plate such as that indicated by the numeral 11 in Fig. 3, or bands such as those indicated by 13 in Fig. 4, and wrist-lock members constructed in accordance with any of the modifications which fall within the scope of the invention, may be manufactured separately in practice and sold as separate articles for attachment to a bag handle or the like.

Having thus described the invention, what it is desired to claim and to secure by Letters-Patent in the United States is:

1. In combination with a looped handle for handbags and like articles, a wrist-lock comprising an elongated member having terminal eyes slidably embracing the handle, and a stop device provided on the intermediate portion of the handle to keep the locking member centered thereon.

2. In combination with a looped handle for handbags and like articles, a wrist-lock comprising an elongated member having terminal eyes slidably embracing the handle, and a stop device provided on the intermediate portion of the handle, and presenting abutments spaced apart a distance substantially equal to the length of the locking member for limiting contact with the eye portions of the latter.

3. In combination with a looped handle for handbags and like articles, a wrist-lock comprising an elongated member having terminal eyes slidably embracing the handle, and a stop device provided on the intermediate portion of the handle by thickening and reinforcing the same to present abutments for engagement with the respective eye portions of the locking member when the latter is in inoperative position resting against the said thickened portion of the handle.

4. In combination with a looped handle for handbags and like articles, a wrist-lock comprising an elongated member having hinged eyes at its ends slidably embracing the handle, and a stop device provided on the intermediate portion of the handle and presenting abutments spaced apart a distance substantially equal to the length of the locking member for limiting contact with the eye portions of the latter.

5. A wrist-lock adapted for attachment to a looped handle for handbags and the like articles comprising an elongated member

having terminal eyes through which the handle may be threaded, and a stop device adapted to be secured to the intermediate portion of the handle and to present abutments for contact with the eyes of the lock member associated therewith to limit the movement of the latter upon the handle.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH S. WALLENSTEIN.

Witnesses:

DUDLEY B. HOWARD,

JOHN C. SANDERS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."