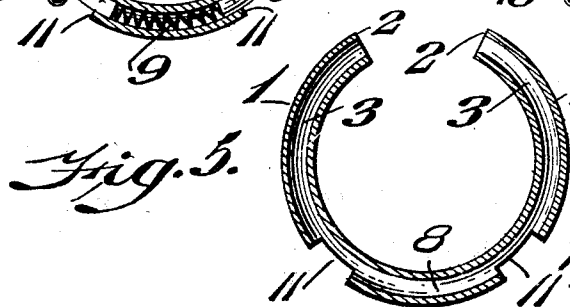
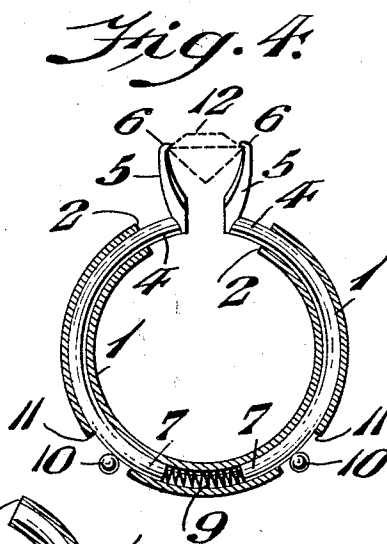
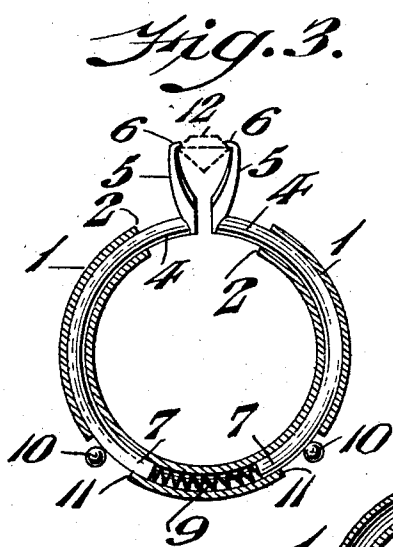
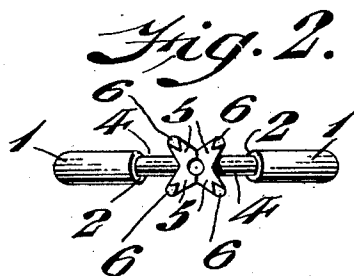
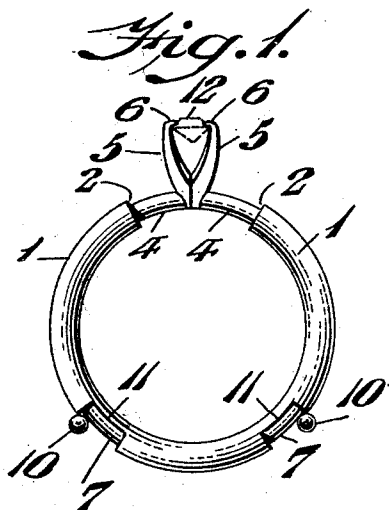


R. A. STONE.  
JEWELER'S EXHIBITION TWEEZERS.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 21, 1920.

1,382,867.

Patented June 28, 1921.



INVENTOR  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT A. STONE, OF BARRINGTON, NEW JERSEY.

## JEWELER'S EXHIBITION-TWEEZER.

1,382,867.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 28, 1921.

Application filed August 21, 1920. Serial No. 405,143.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT A. STONE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Barrington, in the county of Camden, State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Jeweler's Exhibition-Tweezer, of which the following is a specification.

My invention comprehends a device for exhibiting or displaying unmounted gems for the purpose of sale.

Jewelers, particularly retail jewelers, have heretofore been at a disadvantage in exhibiting to a customer unmounted gems, although it is frequently desirable in order to effect a sale to be able quickly and effectively to exhibit one after another, a considerable number of different gems.

I obviate this disadvantage by mounting the gem in an imitation ring-mounting which is adapted to grasp and temporarily retain any one of a group of selected gems of different sizes which can be quickly placed in and removed from the mounting.

For exhibition purposes, tweezers are ordinarily used; the disadvantage, however, being that to hold a gem picked up by them, the constant pressure of the fingers of the salesman is necessary, and if the pressure be released, the stone falls out of the grasping prongs of the tweezers, or if it be too greatly or unevenly exerted, there is the likelihood of the stone being snapped or flung out from the points of the tweezers, so that it sometimes falls off the counter to the floor and occasionally is lost.

None of the tweezers of which I have knowledge that have heretofore been used by dealers, are of such construction that they are capable of both picking up and exhibiting the gem in the way in which it will appear when set for use.

The general object of my invention is the construction of a jeweler's tweezers which embodies both the general appearance of a finger ring and the function of tweezers proper, which are adapted in their mounting to take and to hold as applied to the ring, unmounted gems of different kinds and of different diameters.

With such object in view, my invention comprehends the construction of a simple and inexpensive device which can be easily manipulated by a salesman to pick up from a counter, tray or other support, with safety and security and without special effort or skill, an unmounted gem, such, for instance,

as a diamond, ruby, sapphire or other precious stone, so that when it has been picked up it will in effect be self-mounted in an, so to speak, imitation ring, in order to present the same general appearance as the same stone would present were it set by a jewelry setter in the ordinary ring mounting.

After a gem has been so picked up and secured by my exhibition tweezers, it can be readily and safely handled, passed from one person to another, offered to a customer for examination without fear that it may fall out, and, more than this, be offered to the customer to try on so that he may see how the particular stone selected and temporarily mounted, will look when applied to a permanent ring mounting to be put upon the finger.

My invention, so comprehending an exhibition tweezers in the general form of a ring, a typical and preferred embodiment of it is illustrated in the accompanying drawing and hereinafter described, the particular subject-matter which I claim as novel being definitely specified in the claims.

The invention, however, may be generically stated to comprise a gem support having the general contour of a split ring, which embodies gem-clamping members carried by and slidable with respect to said support and co-acting with resilient means to move them together into a position to clamp the gem or to permit of their being moved apart.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a pair of exhibition tweezers embodying my invention and illustrated in the position which the parts occupy when a gem of the smallest diameter contemplated for exhibition, has been grasped and held by it.

Fig. 2 represents a top plan view of the device illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 represents a central, side sectional elevation of the device represented in Figs. 1 and 2, when the gem-engaging fingers have been separated to grasp a gem of a slightly larger diameter than that of the gem of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 represents a counterpart of the view of Fig. 3 with the parts in position to grasp a gem of a still larger diameter than that illustrated in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 represents a side central sectional elevation of the support or split ring member proper, with the sliding, gem-engaging members removed.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings:—

1 represents a split ring, being a hollow or tubular member or support bent into preferably circular form and so that its open ends 2 are separated from each other a predetermined distance. This ring may be made of solid gold or of gold-filled stock, or of platinum, silver or other preferred material, and its external configuration may be such as its desired general appearance may suggest, it being, however, formed with a hollow interior 3 extending throughout its length. In order that it may be slipped over a human finger, it is, as stated preferably circular.

Within the hollow interior of this support or ring member proper are mounted a pair of preferably semi-circular and counterpart gem-engaging or clamping members 4, the outer ends of which extend oppositely and outwardly into the space beyond and between the open ends 2 of the ring, and are formed or provided with gem-clamping fingers 5, of which a given number are carried by each clamping member, and which, in the embodiment illustrated, are four in all, two being applied to each clamping member.

These clamping fingers 5 preferably possess the general form of the beak-provided claws or prongs 6 of an ordinary ring mounting.

The clamping members 4 are preferably counterparts, slidable within the hollow split ring, and extend to the lower part of the ring, being, however, of a lesser length than the circumference of the hollow interior of the ring, so that their inner ends designated as 7, do not meet but are of such length as to leave between them, when mounted within the ring, what I call a spring space 8, within which is introduced a spiral spring 9 or other resilient device.

The normal operation of this spring is by its expansion to retain the gem-clamping fingers together, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, but it also constitutes a resilient means susceptible of being compressed when the clamping members 4 have their clamping fingers 5 separated from each other or spread apart by the action of pressure exerted by the fingers of a human hand upon a pair of thumb knobs 10, or kindred grasping devices, connected with each of the clamping members and extending through circumferentially extending thumb slots 11 in the outer wall surface of the ring, preferably near its bottom portion.

The gem illustrated in dotted lines in Figs. 1, 3 and 4, as secured in place by the claws of the clamping fingers, is designated 12, and shown as occupying the position which a cut gem ordinarily occupies when

mounted within the claws of an ordinary ring mounting.

Such being a description of my invention and of the elements which compose it, it will be easily understood that its operation consists in placing the gem to be taken hold of in an inverted position upon a supporting surface, then grasping the device, and, by the thumb and finger of the person so grasping it, moving the thumb knobs toward each other so as to compress the spring which intervenes between the inner ends of the clamping members, by forcing said members together to the extent necessary to spread apart the gem-clamping fingers a sufficient distance to admit the gem between them, after which the release of the thumb knobs will permit the expansion of the spring to the extent necessary to force the sliding clamping members and their clamping fingers together upon and so as to firmly hold the gem.

The action of picking up the gem with the tweezers is preferably performed when the gem lies in an inverted position upon the supporting surface from which it is to be taken up.

It will be obvious that my device as an entirety is so simple that it can be manufactured at a small price, that the parts are few and durable, and according to the materials of which it is made or the form which is imparted to it, it may be made to simulate a natural ring mounting,—when made of silver, for instance, exactly to simulate the form of a platinum mounting, and when made of filled gold, the appearance of solid gold.

In the use of my invention for comparing, for instance, two gems, it will be apparent that by employing two of my tweezers to grasp the two gems to be compared, a customer can determine by contrast how either of the gems will appear when mounted in an ordinary ring mounting.

In assembling the elements of the device, the spring is first dropped into the emptied ring until it locates itself in the spring space 8, and thereafter and before the application to them of the thumb knobs, the sliding clamping members are through the open ends 2 dropped into the opposite sides of the ring.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a new and useful construction of a jeweler's exhibition tweezers, which embodies the objects and features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and that while I have in the present instance, shown and described a preferred embodiment of it which has in practice given satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that the embodiment is susceptible of modification in various particulars without

departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

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

1. A device for exhibiting unmounted gems, which comprises a support having the general contour of a split ring,—gem-clamping members oppositely disposed and slidably carried by said support,—and resilient means adapted to move said clamping members into clamped position upon a gem.

2. A device for exhibiting unmounted gems, which comprises a support having the general contour of a split ring,—gem-clamping members oppositely disposed and slidably carried by said support,—resilient means adapted to move said clamping members into clamped position upon a gem,—and grasping devices adapted to be manually manipulated to effect the opening or separation of the gem-clamping members.

3. A device for exhibiting unmounted gems, which comprises a support in the form of a tubular split ring,—oppositely disposed gem-clamping members portions of which are slidable with respect to said support and portions of which extend beyond it and terminate in gem-clamping fingers,—and a spring interposed between the opposite inner ends of the gem-clamping members to move said members into clamped position upon a gem.

4. A device for exhibiting unmounted gems, which comprises a support in the form

of a tubular split ring,—oppositely disposed gem-clamping members in part extending and slidable within said support and in part extending beyond it and provided with fingers for clamping a gem,—slotted openings through the support,—and grasping devices secured to the inner portions of the sliding gem-clamping members and extending through said slotted openings, whereby the manual compression of the grasping devices will occasion the compression of the spring and the separation of the clamping fingers and their release the expansion of the spring and the moving together of the clamping fingers.

5. A gem-exhibiting ring-mounting, which comprises, a hollow, circular split ring support which is open at its split ends and slotted intermediately of said ends,—a pair of segmental, opposing, gem-clamping members within said support, which respectively extend beyond its open ends and are provided with gem-grasping devices and also with thumb knobs which extend through the slots,—and a spring within said support which bears against the inner ends of gem-clamping members and is intermediate of the thumb knobs.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name the ninth day of August, 1920.

ROBERT A. STONE.

In the presence of—

J. BONSALE TAYLOR,  
C. D. McVAY.