

No. 815,899.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

A. H. BLISS.
BRACELET.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 5, 1906.

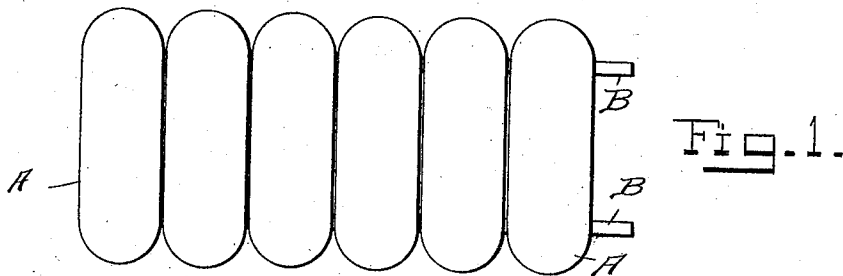


Fig. 1.

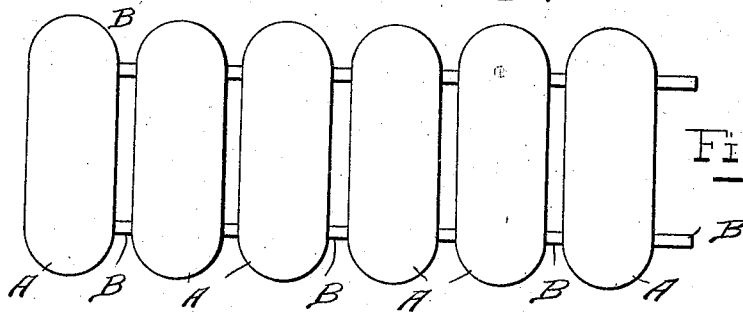


Fig. 2.

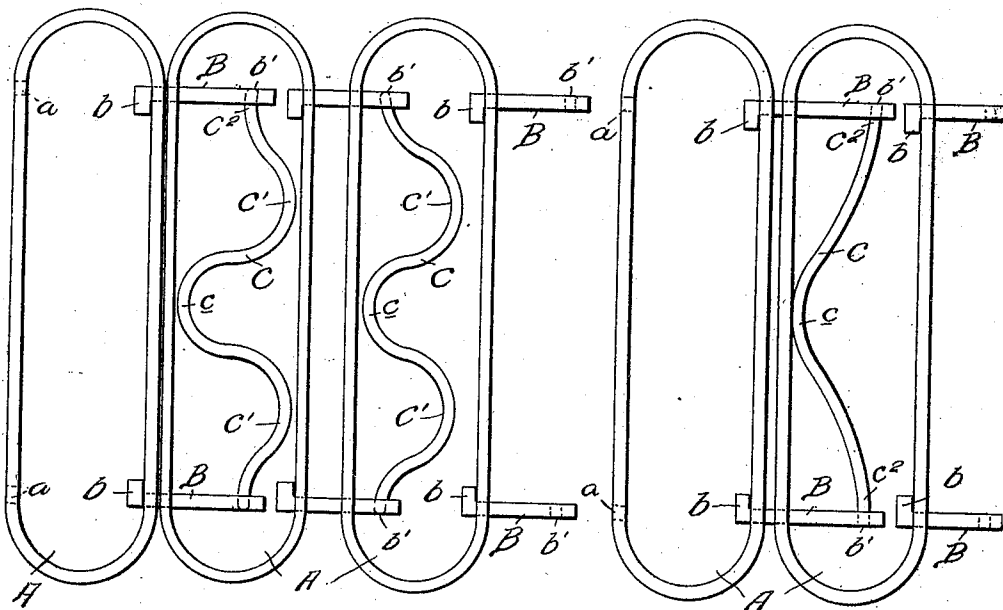


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

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BRACELET.

No. 815,899.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY HORTON BLISS, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Attleboro, in the county of Bristol and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bracelets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in flexible bracelets, collars, belts, or similar articles in which individual link members are joined as units by yielding connections which will permit their separation to a certain extent and which will allow and take up any relative individual movement which may occur among the units.

It is the object of the present invention to provide such a connecting means which will be flexible and capable of ready adaptation to the different movement of the parts and at the same time be of sufficient strength and simplicity to withstand the ordinary uses to which such an article is subjected. To this end I provide a certain combination of connecting fingers and springs the details of which and their location and arrangement will be more fully described later.

In the specification which follows and in the drawings which form a part thereof like letters of reference are used to indicate corresponding parts throughout.

In the drawings, Figure 1 indicates a view of my invention in normal position; Fig. 2, a similar view of the same expanded. Fig. 3 is an enlarged section of a group of units, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of a modification.

A represents a series of unit members, shown in the form of hollow box-like links and perforated at *a* for the reception of connecting-fingers B. The fingers B are headed at *b* at one end and at the other end have a hole or recess *b'*. The fingers B are inserted through the openings *a* in one link, being held in place therein by the heads *b* on their inner ends. Their outer ends are passed through the corresponding openings *a* into the next adjacent link, in which they are held by their engagement with the ends of the spring C. This spring C is preferably bent or arched and, as shown in Fig. 3, is preferably formed with a central loop *c*, which is so disposed as to rest against the side wall of the link between the fingers B. The ends *c'* of the spring C enter the holes or recesses *b'* in the ends of the fingers B and being held therein under slight compression tend to draw these

fingers B into the link member, and thus keep the link members normally in contact. The outward movement of the fingers to allow the separation of the links is permitted by the yielding of the spring C, the central loop *c* opening slightly. Between the ends *c'* and the central loop *c* the spring is preferably returned to form the side bows *c'*, which aid the central loop *c* in controlling the fingers and in aiding in the adjustment of the spring to lateral movements of the fingers. These auxiliary loops *c'* may be omitted, as illustrated in Fig. 4, or the spring may be further simplified and made as a plain spring supported between its ends. The arched or looped spring is found preferable, as the bow of the arch or loop can be located against the wall of the link between the entering fingers and the spring thus supported.

In assembling before the links A are covered they are fitted with the fingers B, which are pushed from the inside through the openings *a* until their heads *b* engage the side walls of the link. With the fingers thus placed the units are brought together, with the fingers of one passing through the corresponding openings *a* of the next. The spring C is now inserted with its ends entering the recesses *b'* of the links B and are thus held in place between the fingers under a slight compression. After the links are connected by the fingers and the springs placed in position the links are closed. This is usually done by putting on the cap which forms the top of the box. In normal position, therefore, the springs C will draw the fingers B within the link; but as the links are separated the spring yields to allow the finger to withdraw until the end of the spring reaches the side of the link, where it holds the finger against disengagement with the link.

What I therefore claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a device of the class described, the combination of adjacent link members, a pair of fingers attached to each link member and entering the next adjacent link member, an arched spring within said last-named member, bearing with its arch against a wall of the said link member and with its free ends engaging the ends of the said connecting-fingers to hold the same within the said link members.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination of adjacent link members, a pair of fingers on one link member having a

sliding engagement with the next link member, and a spring in said last-named link member disposed between the ends of said fingers and supported between its ends.

5 3. In a device of the class described, the combination of adjacent link members, a pair of fingers attached to each link member and entering the next adjacent link member
10 an arched spring within said last-named member and centrally supported therein, the ends of said spring engaging the ends of said fingers to hold them yieldingly within said last-named member.

15 4. In a device of the class described, the combination of adjacent hollow link members, a pair of connecting-fingers having a slidable engagement with the same, a head on one end of the fingers to prevent their

withdrawal from one member and a centrally-supported spring uniting the other ends of 20 the fingers in the adjacent link member.

5. In a device of the class described, the combination of adjacent link members, a pair of fingers attached to each link member and entering the next adjacent link member, 25 a spring connecting the ends of said fingers therein, consisting of a supported central loop and a side bow on each side thereof between said central loop and the ends of the fingers. 30

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ANTHONY HORTON BLISS.

Witnesses:

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FRANK H. BLISS.