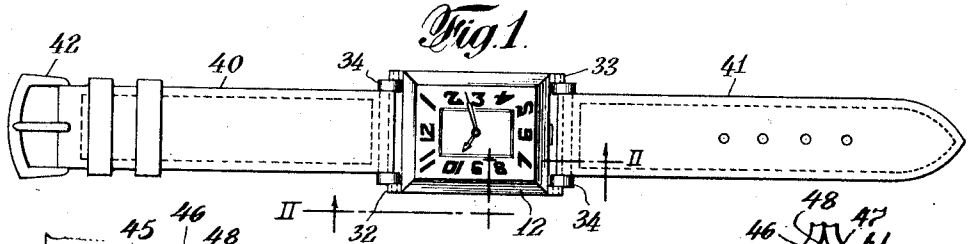
May 17, 1927. 1,629,040

J. McGREVY

ARTICLE HOLDER AND CASE

Filed Nov. 10. 1924

Fig. 1.



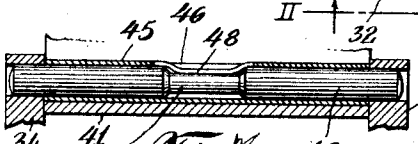


Fig. 7.

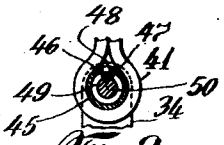


Fig. 8.

Fig. 2.

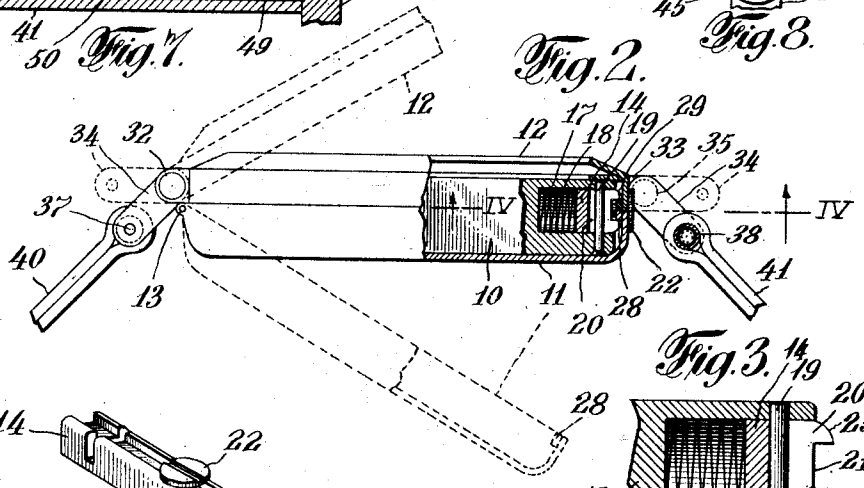


Fig. 3.

Fig. 5.

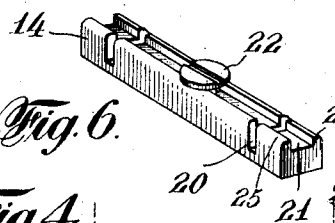
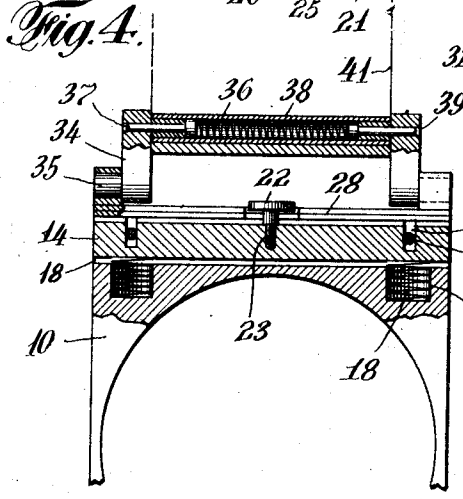
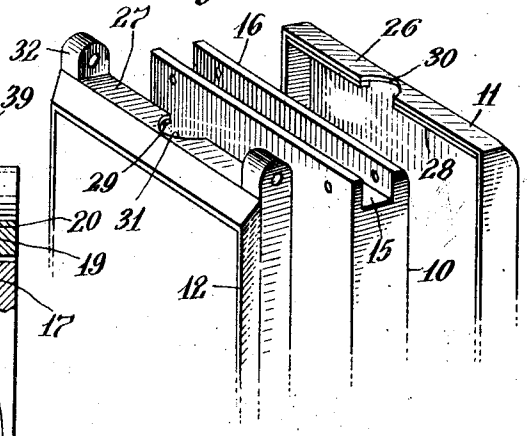


Fig. 6.

Fig. 4.





Inventor
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By his Attorneys Dorsey & Cole

Patented May 17, 1927. 1,629,040

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEREMIAH McGREVY, OF RICHMOND HILL, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO SOLIDARITY WATCH CASE COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

ARTICLE HOLDER AND CASE.

Application filed November 10, 1924. Serial No. 748,976.

This invention relates to an article holder and case more particularly adapted for use in connection with jewelry. An object of the present invention is to supply means for displacing the snap or friction fit by which an article holding member and a casing member, or two casing members for the holding member, are ordinarily held together, as in articles of jewelry for example, by providing reliable and compact means for so positively locking the casing member to the article holding member as to afford ready access to the holding member and the article held thereby; and to avoid mutilation of the members by the use of instruments to pry open the device which are necessitated by the present type of friction fastening for such devices. Other objects are to incorporate such advantages as those recited, in a case for a wrist watch or the like, which it is desirable to open conveniently either by raising the bezel or back or both of them, and to provide means which will improve the appearance of the case and increase the desirability of the same from a mechanical standpoint.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists of certain features of construction and combinations of parts to be hereinafter described and then claimed with reference to the accompanying drawings showing a preferred embodiment of the invention and in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a wrist watch showing the invention applied thereto;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged side elevation partly in section on the line II—II, Fig. 1, showing the parts in two positions in full and broken lines respectively;

Fig. 3 is a section similar to Fig. 2 to show the locking device free from inward compression;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line IV—IV, Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing the unassembled main parts of a watch case according to the present invention;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the locking bar; and

Figs. 7 and 8 are detail views of a modification.

Referring to the drawings, the holding member 10 is here shown in the form of a swing-ring of a watch for holding a watch movement. Casing members 11 and 12 are provided, and where the case is adapted to contain a watch movement the casing member 11 constitutes the back of the watch and the casing member 12 is constructed to provide a bezel for holding the watch crystal. The casing members 11 and 12 are pivotally connected with the holding member 10 by pintle 13.

A locking bar 14 is provided which is mounted in an elongated recess 15 formed in the edge portion 16 of one of the, preferably four, sides of the holding member which in this embodiment constitutes a swing-ring. The ends of the elongated recess 15 open out at the opposite sides of holding member 10, and the locking bar 14 is fitted movably into the recess and is preferably the same length as the recess. Parallel sockets 17 are formed in the holding member or swing-ring 10 at the bottom of the recess 15 and in them are located helical extension springs 18, the ends of which are adapted to bear upon the inner-side of the locking bar 14. Stop-pins 19 are riveted or secured by a drive-fit in the holding member or swing-ring 10 and extend across the recess 15 so as to be received in transverse slots 20 formed in the opposite ends of the locking bar.

Locking bar 15 is provided with a central depression 21 in its outer portion, and is preferably in the form of a longitudinal groove in the said outer portion of the bar. A button 22 is located at approximately the mid-length of the locking bar 14 and is provided with a stem 23 which passes through the groove 21 and is threaded into or otherwise secured rigidly to the locking bar. At the opposite sides of the longitudinal groove 21 in the locking bar, the locking bar is provided with substantially beveled surfaces 24, 25 which are inclined in opposite directions from the groove, such beveled surfaces being specifically shown in the drawings as somewhat rounded, it being this rounded surface portion of the bar which in the illustrated form of the invention is projected just beyond the straight edge of the edge portion 16 of the holding member by means of the springs 18, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

The casing member 11 or watch case back is provided with a flange 26 and the casing member 12 or the bezel is provided with a flange 27, and these two flanges are adapted to meet edge to edge around the holding member or swing-ring 10. The flanges 26,

27 are respectively provided with inner protuberances 28, 29 which are preferably formed by small fillets which produce straight slight lips on said flanges and which preferably meet when the meeting edges of the flanges abut. Flanges 26, 27 are also respectively provided with circular notches 30, 31 which form a hole when the flanges are closed together and through which hole the button 22 is operable to release either or both casing members, or the back or bezel or both the back and the bezel of a watch case, for example.

In the example shown the casing member or bezel 12 is provided at one end with a pair of rigid bearing-ears 32 and a similar pair of bearing-ears 33 at the opposite end. Also four arms 34 are provided which have trunnions 35 rigid therewith and extending at right angles thereto, each arm 34 and its trunnion 35 constituting a hinge. The trunnions 35 are mounted in the bearing-ears 32, 33 at each end of the casing member or bezel 12, so that the arms 34 may be swung around the axes of the trunnions. In order to hold the arms 34 apart in pairs a spring 36 is provided which is adapted to act on locking pins 37 to project their ends outwardly from a sleeve 38 in which the spring and the locking pins are arranged, the outer ends of the locking pins entering perforations 39 in the free ends of the arms 34. The hinges and their cross-pins such as 37, 38, for example, constitute attaching members. When the just described hinge feature of the present invention is applied to a wrist watch for example, but not necessarily, the flexible members 40, 41 constitute a two-part bracelet strap, the parts of the strap being connectable by means of a buckle 42. In this adaptation of the said hinge feature it will be seen that the customary cumbersome and objectionable rigid lugs for the attachment of the bracelet straps of a wrist watch are done away with as they have been found very objectionable in that they are liable to breakage and protrude unnecessarily. Under the present invention the hinges 34, 35 permit the straps 40, 41 to more nearly conform to the wrist of a person at the points where they fasten to the case, and when a wrist is comparatively small the arms 34 of the hinges will be swung inwardly, as shown in full lines in Fig. 2, by the tightening up of the straps, and if a wrist be larger the arms 34 will assume an outward position. The dotted lines in Fig. 2 show the arms 34 in extreme oppositely extended position, which position they may sometimes be required to take. It will, however, be seen that these swingable arms 34 do not protrude to such an extent that they are apt to be broken, as are rigid cumbersome lugs.

It will be seen that the attaching member formed by the hinge and its cross-pin at the locked end of the case is pivoted to one side of the locking bar button 22 and that the said cross-pin together with the material of the flexible member or strap secured thereto are so close to the button that a guard against the operation of the button is provided. It is necessary to turn the case around for depressing the button by a finger of a person.

Figs. 7 and 8 illustrate a modification of the cross-pin between the hinge members. A sleeve 45 of resilient metal serves as a spacer between the hinge members, and takes the place of the sleeve 38. This sleeve 45 is cut longitudinally at 46, 47, to provide a longitudinal portion or strip 48, which is bent or deformed inwardly so as to project somewhat into the interior of the sleeve and to form a spring or snap fastening.

The cross-pin proper 49 is provided with an annular groove 50 so that whenever the pin is pushed sufficiently into sleeve 45 the deformed portion 48 will snap into the groove 50 and the pin 49 and the sleeve will be held together. In assembling, the attaching member 40, or 41, would first have the sleeve 45 set therein, the end of said member, would be placed between the hinge members and the sleeve registered with the holes therein, and finally the pin 49 would be driven in. The snap spring 48 would then hold the parts together against accidental disunion.

Claims to the subject-matter of the locking bar and associated parts illustrated in Figures 7 and 8 are made in my co-pending application Sr. No. 149,758, filed November 20th, 1926.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no undue limitation should be deduced therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. In an article holder and case, the combination of a holding member adapted to hold a watch movement, pivoted casing members for enclosing the holding member, such holding member having one of its edges longitudinally recessed, a spring-pressed locking member mounted entirely on the holding member within the recess and movable bodily therein, such casing members each having an inwardly extending protuberance for interlocking with the locking member, whereby said casing members are releasably held closed.

2. In an article holder and case, the combination of a holding member adapted to hold a watch movement, and having an edge portion longitudinally recessed, a spring pressed locking bar mounted in the recess and movable bodily therein, such

bar being longitudinally grooved, and a casing member having an inwardly extending protuberance for interlocking with the groove in said locking bar, whereby the casing member is releasably held closed.

3. In an article holder and case, the combination of a holding member adapted to hold a watch movement, and having an edge portion longitudinally recessed, an outwardly spring-pressed locking bar mounted in the recess, and movable bodily therein, stop pins carried by the holding member and limiting the outward movement of said locking bar, and a casing member having a protuberance adapted to interlock with the locking bar for releasably holding the casing member in closed position.

4. In an article holder and case, the combination of a holding member adapted to hold a watch movement, a bezel, and a casing member constituting a back for the movement, the holding member having a recess in its outer end, and a locking bar movably mounted in the recess of the holding member for joint engagement with the bezel and casing member, whereby the bezel and casing member may be separately locked in closed position on the holding member and may be unlocked and separately swung back to expose either the face or the back of the watch movement.

5. In an article holder and case, the combination of a holding member constituting a swing-ring adapted to hold a watch movement, a bezel, and a casing member constituting a back for the movement, all pivotally joined together, a locking bar movably mounted on the swing-ring for joint engagement with the bezel and back, a spring confined in the swing-ring and bearing outwardly upon the locking bar to project it slightly from the swing-ring, and the outer end flanges of the bezel and back having inner protuberances for engaging and depressing the locking bar, whereby the bezel and back may be separately locked in closed position on the swing-ring and may be unlocked and separately swung back to expose either the face or the back of the watch movement.

6. In an article holder and case, the combination of a holding member constituting a swing-ring adapted to hold a watch movement, a bezel, and a casing member constituting a back for the movement, all pivotally joined together, the swing-ring having a recess in its end away from the pivot and a socket at the bottom of the recess, a locking bar movably mounted in the recess, a spring located in the socket for pressing on the bar and projecting its outer surface slightly beyond said end of the swing-ring, the said outer surface being substantially beveled, and the bar having a depression in its projecting surface, and means for limiting the outward movement of the bar, the outer end flanges of the bezel and back having inner protuberances for bearing on the beveled surfaces for depressing the locking bar, whereby the bezel and back may be separately locked in closed position on the swing-ring and may be unlocked and separately swung back to expose either the face or the back of the watch movement.

Signed at New York, N. Y., this 7th day of November, 1924.

JEREMIAH McGREVY.