Jan. 10, 1928. 1,655,763

L. E. FULFORD

CHAIN

Filed July 28, 1926

Fig. 1.

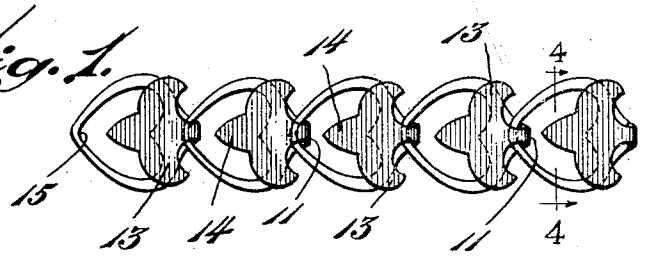
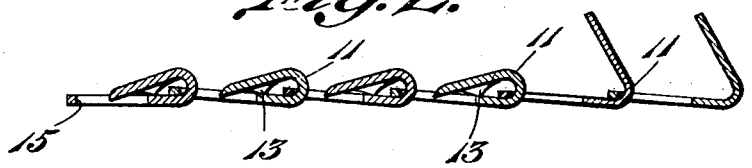


Fig. 2.



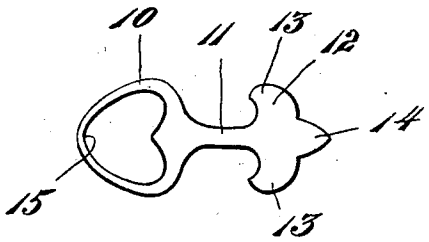


Fig. 3.

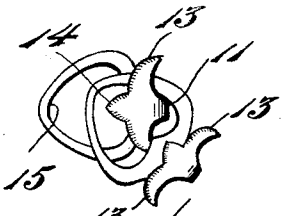


Fig. 5.

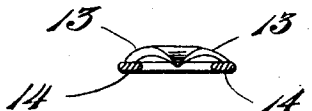


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CHAIN.

Application filed July 28, 1926. Serial No. 125,422.

This invention relates to an improved construction of ornamental chain which may be used for bracelets, necklaces, handbags, umbrella handles, or other uses to which such a chain may be adapted; and the object of this invention is to provide an ornamental chain of this character which may be cut from sheet stock and as readily assembled by a folding process, either by machinery or by hand and is strong and durable and is also quite ornamental in appearance.

A further object of the invention is to form a chain of this construction, the body portion of each link being formed in the shape of a loop with a bendable neck at one end thereof having a head of a size to be passed through the body loop of the next adjacent link and wing portions on the head adapted to be folded down in proximity to and engaging the body to connect and lock the links together.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation illustrating one form of my improved chain.

Figure 2 is a side elevation partly in section illustrating the manner of connecting together the links of my improved chain.

Figure 3 shows one of the links as cut or blanked from sheet stock providing a body portion and a head portion, the head portion being connected to the body by means of a bendable neck portion.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Figure 1, showing the head portion as having a lateral dimension sufficient to engage the side portions of the body loop to lock the links together.

Figure 5 is a top view showing two of the links of my improved construction in position to connect them together.

It is found in practice of advantage to form a chain of a series of ornamental links in such shape that they may be connected by a folding operation and to form each link in the shape of a heart with a loop-like body portion, and each link having a bendable neck portion extending from the broad end of the heart, and to provide a head member on the free end of the bendable neck with a lateral dimension of approximately that of the body and a longitudinal dimension less than that of the body, whereby the head may be passed through the opening in the loop link and be folded down in contact with or in proximity to the body of the loop to lock the links together, whereby the neck of one link engages the pointed end of the heart-shaped loop of the next adjacent link forming a chain which is very handsome and attractive in appearance; and the following is a detailed description of the present embodiment of my invention and showing one form of link by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:—

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates the body of my improved form of link which is preferably made of thin flat stock cut in heart shape and from the broad end of the heart I have formed an extending neck portion 11 and on the outer or free end of the neck is formed an enlarged head member 12. This head member is herein shown as being highly ornamental, its shape herein shown being in the form of a fleur-de-lis having laterally extending wing members 13 and a pointed end 14. These laterally-extending wing members are preferably of substantially the same lateral dimension as that of the body portion 10, and the longitudinal dimension of the head being less than the opening in the body portion of the link so that this head may be passed through the opening in the next adjacent link in the manner best illustrated in Figure 5 and the neck is then bent so as to cause the wings 13 of the head to rest upon the side arms 14 of the loop, as best illustrated in Figure 4, the neck portion 11 of one link engaging the narrow end portion 15 of the next adjacent heart-shaped link and the wings 13 limiting the movement of the end portion 15 about the neck portion 10 so as to lock the links together while permitting considerable lateral movement, the pointed portion 14 of the head extending into the open space of the loop preferably below the plane of the upper edge thereof.

My improved chain is very simple and practical in construction and handsome and attractive in appearance.

The foregoing description is directed solely towards the construction illustrated, but I desire it to be understood that I reserve the privilege of resorting to all the mechanical changes to which the device is suscepti-

ble, the invention being defined and limited only by the terms of the appended claim.

I claim:

An ornamental chain formed of a series of connected links, each having a body frame substantially heart-shaped in outline, and a head member including an integral bendable link-connecting hook-shaped neck portion extending upwardly from the plane of the bottom of the body frame, laterally-extending wing portions on said head member arranged to extend across the frame opening to engage opposite sides thereof on bending of said neck portion, said neck portion being adapted to receive the body frame of an adjacent link and said wing portions acting to limit the movement of said received body frame about the neck portion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LESTER E. FULFORD.