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CLASP

Filed June 22, 1928

Fig. 1.

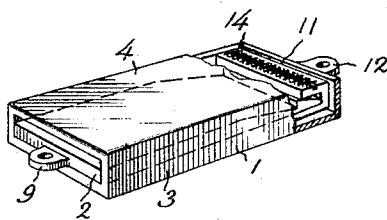
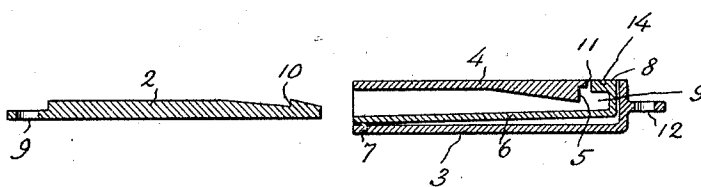


Fig. 2.



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CLASP.

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My invention relates to clasps, intended primarily for use with, or as a part of pieces of jewelry, but which are capable of use for detachably uniting separate parts irrespective of their particular form or adaptability.

The main object of the invention is the provision of a two-piece clasp, one member of which is in the form of a hollow casing which receives and interlocks with the other in such manner as to avoid any chance of accidental disengagement of the two members. The securing means, being within the casing, is concealed, protected, and held against unintentional displacement. Means are also provided which permit the operation of the securing means from the exterior of the clasp for causing disengagement of the interlocking parts to permit the ready separation of the two members of the clasp at any desired time.

Reference is hereby made to the accompanying drawing, of which Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the improved clasp partly broken away, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same showing the two members disengaged with respect to each other.

In the device shown, the clasp comprises a hollow casing 1 open at one end and a tongue 2 which is slidable with respect to the casing so as to be received and held therein as shown in Fig. 1.

The casing 1 may be formed of two parts, namely a body 3 and a cover 4 secured thereto in any suitable manner, as, for example, by solder. The cover fits very closely upon the body and no line of demarcation is visible in the finished article. The cover 4 is formed with an integral, downwardly extending shoulder 5 and the casing 3 is provided with a spring member 6, one end of which is secured thereto, preferably by means of solder 7, and the free end 8 of said spring is bent in a reverse direction, thereby forming a recess 9 to receive and form a limiting abutment for the end of the tongue 2.

The tongue 2, which preferably has an eye 9 by which the same may be operated, is provided near one of its extremities with an integral shoulder 10 which is adapted to interlock with the shoulder 5 so as to prevent the withdrawal of said tongue from the casing 1. The cover 4 is preferably shorter than the body 3, so as to form at the inner end thereof a slot 11 within which the turned-over portion 8 of the spring 6 is received.

The surface of the spring which is exposed at the slot 11 is preferably roughened as shown and provided with a transverse groove 14. The body 3 may be provided with an eye 12 similar to the eye 9.

The operation of the device is as follows: The members 1 and 2 being in disassembled relation as shown in Fig. 2, the end of the tongue 2 is inserted within the opening at the end of the casing 1 and the tongue is thereupon slid into the casing until its end contacts with the bottom of the recess 9 of the spring 6. In this position the shoulder 10 has passed the shoulder 5, the spring 6 yielding in a downward direction to permit the passage of said shoulders, and thereupon the spring, by reason of its resilience, presses upwardly on the end of the tongue 2 and causes the shoulder 10 to be moved into interlocking relation to the shoulder 5. In this position, the members 1 and 2 are locked firmly together and held by the spring 6 against accidental disengagement.

Whenever it is desired to withdraw the tongue 2 from the member 1, it is necessary only to press down upon the exposed portion 8 of the spring 6, as can readily be done by the thumb-nail, which may engage the groove 14, whereupon the spring, by reason of the engagement of the end of tongue 2 within the recess 9, causes the shoulder 10 to be moved downward to a position below the shoulder 5, whereupon by pulling upon the tongue by means of the eye 9, the latter may be readily withdrawn from the casing 1.

Having now described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A clasp comprising a hollow casing having an opening at one end and interior retaining means, a tongue slidable into and out of said casing and having retaining means to interlock with said first retaining means to prevent withdrawal of said tongue, and a yieldable member secured at one end to said casing and provided at the other end with a recess to receive the end of said tongue.

2. A clasp comprising a hollow casing having an opening at one end and interior retaining means, a tongue slidable into and out of said casing and having retaining means to interlock with said first retaining means to prevent withdrawal of said tongue, and a spring secured at one end to said casing and bent at the other end to form a recess to receive the end of said tongue.

3. A clasp comprising a hollow casing having an opening at one end, and interior retaining means, a tongue slidable into and out of said casing and having retaining means to
5 interlock with said first retaining means to prevent withdrawal of said tongue, a yieldable member secured at one end to said casing and provided at the other end with a recess to receive the end of said tongue, said casing
10 being provided with an opening adjacent the free end of said yieldable member.

4. A clasp comprising a hollow casing having an opening at one end, and interior retaining means a tongue slidable into and out

of said casing and having retaining means to
15 interlock with said first retaining means to prevent withdrawal of said tongue, a yieldable member secured at one end to said casing and provided at the other end with a
20 recess to receive the end of said tongue, said casing being provided with an opening adjacent the free end of said yieldable member and the exposed portion of the yieldable
25 member having thumb-nail engagement means.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name hereto.

CLARENCE CHAUNARD.