P. H. DE ROCHEMONT.

LAP LINK.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 16, 1907.

959,317.

Patented May 24, 1910.

Fig. 1.

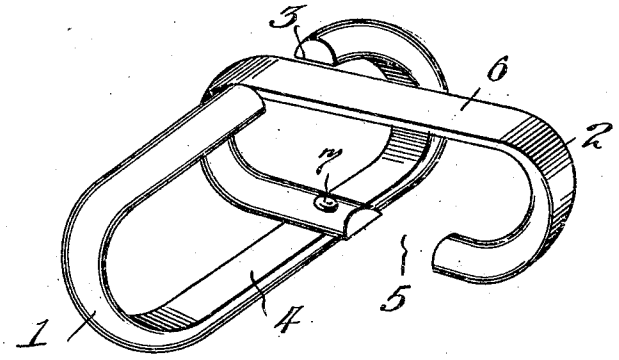
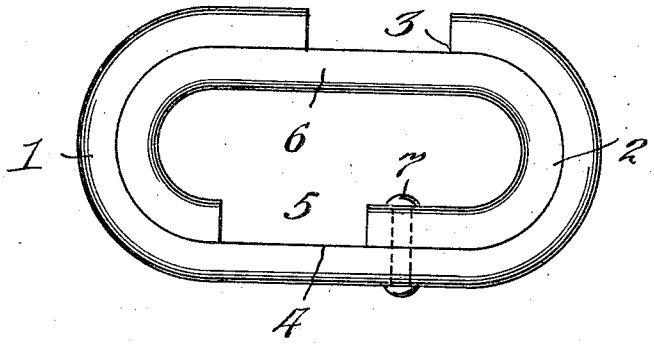


Fig. 2.



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LAP-LINK.

959,317. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented May 24, 1910.**

Application filed May 16, 1907. Serial No. 374,048.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERKINS H. DE ROCHEMONT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chattanooga, in the county of Hamilton and State of Tennessee, have invented new and useful Improvements in Lap-Links, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to lap-links, the object of the invention being to provide a link of this character of simple construction comprising coöperating link members corresponding in form, and so constructed and relatively mounted as to permit one to fold within the other, thus providing a device of this character which will possess maximum strength and will effectually prevent a chain-link or other connection from becoming accidentally detached therefrom.

The invention consists of a lap-link embodying the features of construction hereinafter fully described and is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the link, with its closure member turned to open position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the link with its closure member swung within the main member to closed position.

Referring to the drawing, the numerals 1 and 2 designate two link-shaped members corresponding in general construction, the member 2, however, being of relatively smaller size than the member 1 to swing or fold snugly therein, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The member 1 is formed in one side with a slot 3 located closer to one of its ends than to its opposite end, while its opposite side 4 is intact. The member 3 is similarly constructed, one of its sides being provided with a slot 5, while its other side 6 is intact, each member thus comprising a split link. The inner face of the member 1 and outer face of the member 2 are flattened, or otherwise suitably shaped, so that the member 2 may be swung closed to lie snugly within the member 1.

The long arm of the slotted side of the member 2 is pivotally connected with the intact side of the member 1 by a bolt, rivet or other suitable pivotal connection 7, so that said member 2 may be swung outwardly at right angles to the member 1 and swung inwardly to lie wholly within said member 1, as indicated, respectively, in Figs. 1 and 2. The pivotal connection 7 is arranged below or in line with the slot 3, while the slot 5 is arranged to be out of alinement with the slot 3, when the members are in closed position.

The slot 3 is wider than the member 2 to permit the link of a chain or other connection applied to said member 2 to be slipped over one of the parts of the slotted side of the member 1, as will be readily understood, so that when the member 2 is closed the chain-link will lie against one of the curved ends of the same and project beyond the adjacent ends of the member 1.

In applying a link the same is inserted through the slot 5 and slipped over the short arm of the slotted side of the member 2, then brought over the intact side 6 thereof and finally slipped into engagement with one of the arms of the slotted side of the member 1 as the member 2 is swung closed. Upon the closing of the member 2 such member will lie wholly within the plane of the member 1, and the link will serve to hold both members connected and prevent any possibility of accidental opening of the member 2 in the use of the link. The mode of disconnecting the chain-link from the lap-link will be readily understood.

It will be observed that by providing the members 1 and 2 respectively with inner and outer flattened faces, the member 2 is adapted to swing open on either side of the member 1, since there are no interfering projections to prevent such movements, which afford great convenience in different situations in which the link is used in the application and removal of a draft chain or other connection. It will also be observed that by pivoting the member 2 by the long arm of its slotted side to the intact side of the member 1 in line with the slot 3 of the latter, the member 2 is adapted to swing laterally from either side of the member 1 in a plane or direction longitudinally of the latter, by which means the member 2 may be swung outwardly to an increased extent for a more free application and removal of a chain or like connection.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

A link of the class described composed wholly of strap metal of plano-convex shape in cross section and consisting of two members of oblong shape adapted to fit and fold one within the other, the outer member hav-

ing the plane surface at the inner contour and the convex surface at the outer periphery thereof while the inner member has the plane surface at its outer periphery and the convex surface upon the inner side, whereby the plane surfaces lie in contact with each other when the link as a whole is closed, the outer member being provided with an entrance throat to one side of the minor axis thereof and the inner member being provided with an entrance throat at the opposite side of the minor axis thereof and the two members being pivotally connected together at the side opposite the entrance throat of the outer member and to one side of the center of the entrance throat of the outer member, substantially as described.

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

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Witnesses:

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