Feb. 14, 1928. 1,659,438

N. T. NELSON

EXTENSIBLE BRACELET

Filed April 8, 1926

Fig. 1.

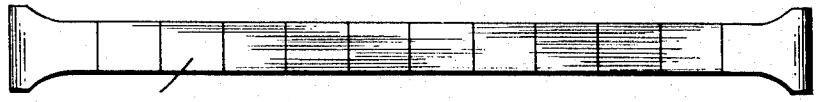
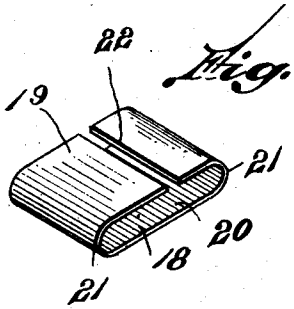


Fig. 4.



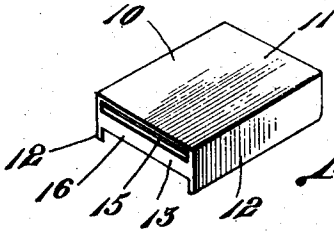
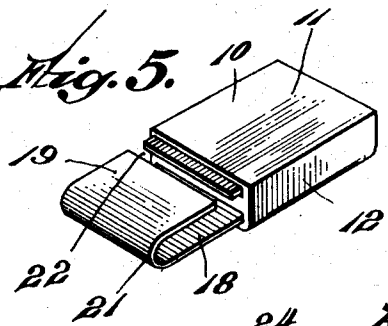


Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.



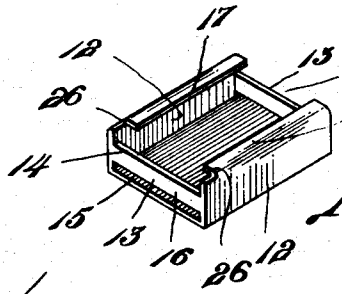


Fig. 3.

Fig. 6.

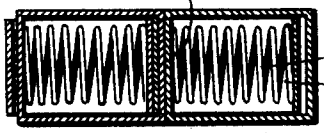
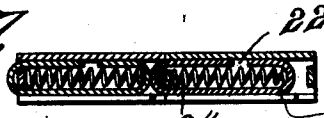


Fig. 10.



Fig. 7.



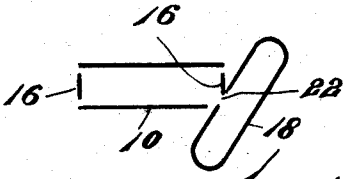


Fig. 11.

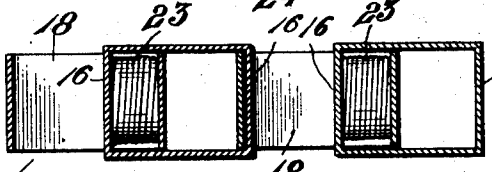
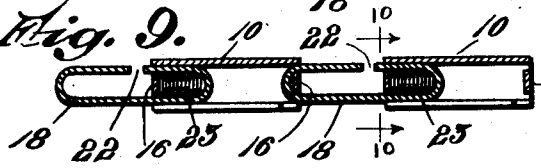


Fig. 8.

Fig. 9.



INVENTOR.
Nels T. Nelson.
BY Barlow & Barlow
ATTORNEYS.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELS T. NELSON, OF ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO J. F. STURDY'S SONS CO., OF ATTLEBORO FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

EXTENSIBLE BRACELET.

Application filed April 8, 1926. Serial No. 100,635.

This invention relates to an improved construction of extensible bracelet or chain, and has for its object to provide a device of this character which is constructed of a series of box-like links flexibly connected by band-shaped links slidably mounted therein, the band links being adapted to be connected to or disconnected from the box links for the purpose of removing or inserting one or more links to adjust the working length of the bracelet.

A further object of this invention is to provide the box link with top and side walls and with a cross-bar at either end thereof, and to mount a slide link of the band type to straddle the bars in the box links; the band link having one of its walls slit permitting it to be hooked into the cross bar of the next adjacent box link to connect the links together, a spring being mounted in the links to act between the band link and the cross-bar of the box link in which it is housed to yieldably press the band link to housed position therein.

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 claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a view of the front of a watch bracelet showing a series of box links of my improved construction, which box links house the slide links employed to flexibly connect them together.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of one of my improved box links showing the top wall and side walls, the end walls at both ends of the link being slit to form a cross-bar in each.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the under side of this box link showing the cross-bar at either end thereof and the inturned guide flanges on the lower edges of the side walls.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the so-called band link which is formed of a strip or ribbon of metal folded into band form leaving an open slit through one of its walls.

Figure 5 is a perspective view showing the band link as partially housed in the box link.

Figure 6 is a sectional top view showing two box links as connected together and housing a spring and a band link in each.

Figure 7 is a central sectional elevation of the box link and band links shown in Figure 6.

Figure 8 is the same as Figure 6 but showing the links in extended position with the springs compressed.

Figure 9 is a sectional edge view with the links in the same position as shown in Figure 8.

Figure 10 is a section on line 10—10 of Figure 9, showing the band link in section and straddling the cross bar of the box link.

Figure 11 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the relative positions of the links when the band link is being connected or disconnected from the box link.

In constructing bracelets of this extensible type, it is found in practice of advantage to provide a broad top face adapted to receive ornamentation or decoration and to provide a slide link connecting the two adjacent box links, the same also having a broad top face to receive similar ornamentation and also to close the space between the box links when in extended position. Also, it is found of advantage where these links are manufactured in large quantities, and especially when made of the precious metals, to be able to make the same with the minimum number of parts by machinery and to form them strong and durable; and to so construct these links that they may be readily assembled in the factory; also to so form these links that they may be readily disconnected one from the other by the wearer, or by a local jeweler, so that the length of the bracelet may be adjusted to fit the arm of the wearer; and the following is a detailed description of the present embodiment of my invention and showing one construction of both box and band links by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:—

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates the so-called box link as being provided with a top wall 11, side walls 12 and end walls 13. The lower edges of these end walls are cut away as at 14, and these walls are also slotted as at 15 adjacent the top plate thus forming a cross-bar 16 extending between the side walls at either end thereof.

The lower edges of the side walls of this box link are herein shown as being provided with lips 17 which are adapted to be folded inwardly toward each other to provide guide

flanges on the bottom of the link for guiding the band link which slides therein.

The slide link 18 is constructed of a strip or ribbon, preferably of a stiff or relatively unyielding metal, folded into band form having a top wall 19 and a bottom wall 20, the ends being preferably somewhat rounded, as at 21, and the top wall is provided with a transverse slit 22 through it, which is preferably left open and is of a width to receive and permit the passage of the cross-bar 16 of the next adjacent box link through it to connect the box and band links together.

In assembling the parts, I mount this band link with a spring 23 therein, in the box link to straddle the cross-bar 13 at one end of the box link, the end 24 of the spring abutting against the cross-bar while its opposite end 25 abuts against the inner end of the band serving to normally press it to housed position in the box link. The slit 22 in the band link preferably faces towards the front of the bracelet and this slit is in such position as to be exposed only when the band link is drawn out to its extreme or extended position, and when in this extended position the end bar 16 of the next adjacent box link may be hooked through the slit 22 in the band link to connect the different links together.

In order to permit this hooking action of the box link into the band link, I have cut away the ends 26 of the inturned walls 17 of the box link slightly so as to just permit its cross bar to pass through the slot in the band link and swing into longitudinal alignment therewith.

By my improved construction of bracelet, it will be seen that I have practically reduced the construction to two members and also have obtained all the desired features of such a bracelet which is that of providing a broad exposed face on both links for ornamentation, the band link also serving to close the space between the box links when in partly extended position. By providing a slot in one of the walls of the band link and a cross-bar on the ends of the box link, the two members may be readily connected and disconnected to permit insertion or removal of one or more links to adjust the operating length of the bracelet.

I have shown and described the slit in the band link as facing outwardly but this slit may face inwardly towards the wrist if desired.

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 susceptible, the invention being defined and limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In an extensible bracelet structure, a series of box links each having top and side walls, a bar at each end of each box link extending across between the side walls thereof, a band link embracing one of said bars and slidable in the box link and having front and rear walls, a spring acting against the embraced bar and the band link to press the latter to housed position, one of said walls of the band link being slotted to be hooked into the other end bar of an adjacent box to detachably connect the two links together.

2. In an extensible bracelet structure, a series of box links each having top and side walls, the edges of said side walls being inturned to provide guide flanges, a bar at each end of said link extending across between the side walls thereof, a band link having front and rear walls slidably mounted in the box link between its front wall and its said guide flanges and embracing one of said bars, and one of said band walls being provided with an open transverse slit of a width to permit the passage of the opposite bar of an adjacent link to detachably connect the two link ends together.

3. In an extensible bracelet structure, a series of box links each having a front wall and slotted end walls, said link also having side walls with inturned edges forming guide flanges, a band-shaped link having front and rear walls with the front wall slidable through the slot in one of the end walls of said box link and its rear wall guided by said flanges, a spring acting between said band link and the end wall through which it extends to press the latter to housed position in its box link, and the other end of said band link being connected to the slotted end of the next box link.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

NELS T. NELSON.