No. 839,538. PATENTED DEC. 25, 1906.

G. BECKER.

BRACELET.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1906.

Fig. 1.

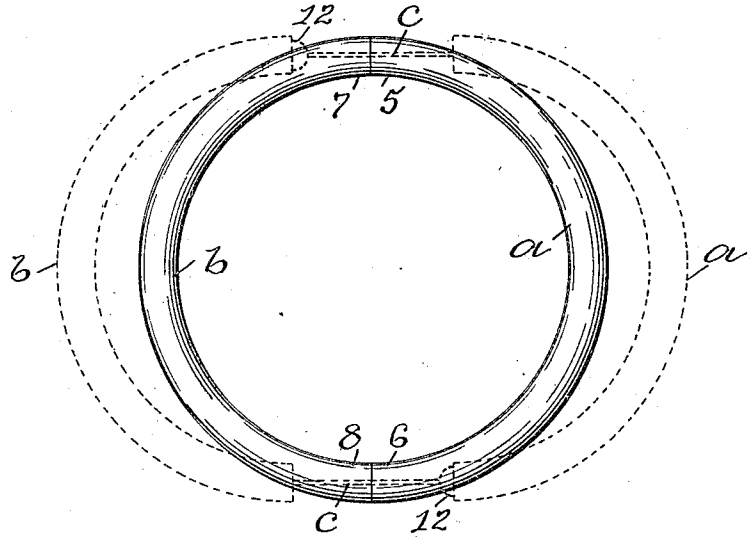


Fig. 2.

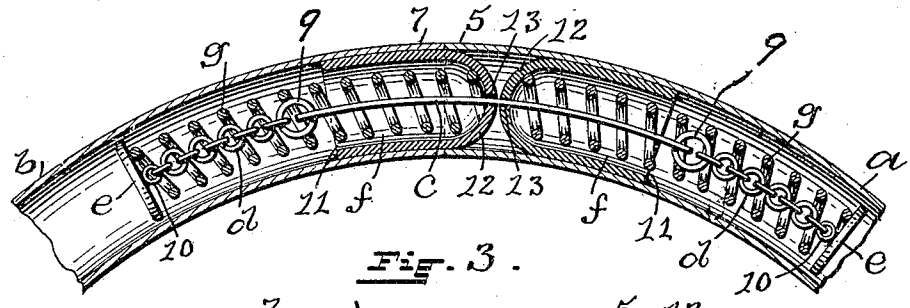


Fig. 3.

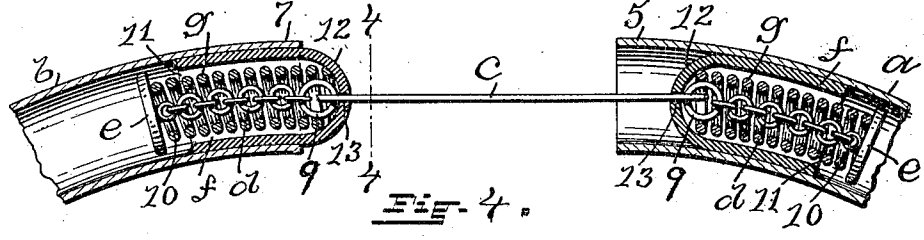
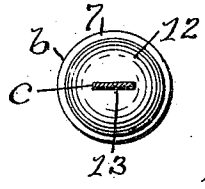


Fig. 4.



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BRACELET.

No. 839,538. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 25, 1906.

Application filed June 28, 1906. Serial No. 323,839.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE BECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bracelets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an improvement in bracelets, and more particularly to an improvement in that form of bracelets known as "extensible" bracelets.

The object of my invention is to improve the construction of a bracelet, whereby the bracelet having rigid semicircular half members is adapted to have the half members extended when required to form a larger approximately oval bracelet.

A further object of my invention is to construct a bracelet having rigid semicircular half members, so that the half members will close together automatically when released.

A still further object of my invention is to open or increase the size of a bracelet having rigid semicircular half members without disconnecting the members of the bracelet.

A final object of my invention is to simplify the construction of an extensible bracelet, thereby reducing the cost of manufacturing the same.

My invention consists in the peculiar and novel construction of an extensible bracelet having tubular members forming rigid semicircular halves, means whereby the tubular members may be extended into an open position to increase the size of the bracelet and to automatically close the members when released, with details of construction, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter and claimed.

Figure 1 is a side view of the bracelet, showing the same in the closed or contracted position in full lines and in the open or extended position in broken lines. Fig. 2 is a greatly-enlarged detail sectional view taken lengthwise through one of the joints of the bracelet on a line drawn centrally from the inner to the outer face of the bracelet and showing the same in the closed or contracted position. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view similar to Fig. 2 with the bracelet in the open or extended position, and Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 4 4 of Fig. 3 looking at the end of one of the rigid tubular members of the bracelet.

In the drawings, *a* indicates one tubular member forming a semicircular half; *b*, the opposite tubular member forming a semicircular half; *c c*, the flexible connecting-links; *d d*, the chains on the ends of the connecting-link; *e e*, the buttons on the ends of the chains; *f f*, the retaining members in the open ends of the halves *a* and *b*, and *g g* the coiled springs in the retaining members of my improved extensible bracelet.

The semicircular half members *a* and *b* are constructed from a tube which is circular or oval in cross-section. The member *a* has the open ends 5 and 6. The member *b* has the open ends 7 and 8. The ends 5 and 7 and the ends 6 and 8 coincide when the bracelet is contracted or closed and are held together under spring tension by a connecting-link *c* and its adjoining parts.

The flexible connecting-links *c c* each consist of a strip of thin tempered metal having a hole in each end, through which the stop-rings 9 9 are secured to the ends of the links, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. One end of each chain *d* is secured to a stop-ring 9, the opposite end being secured to the eye 10 of the button *e*, which is slightly smaller in diameter than the interior of the tubular half members *a* and *b* of the bracelet. The retaining members *f f* are each constructed from a tube bent to conform to the contour of the bracelet and constructed to have the open end 11 and the closed semispherical end 12, in which is the central oblong slot 13, through which the connecting-link *c* extends. A coiled spring *g* surrounds each of the chains *d* in the retaining members *f f*, one end of the spring bearing against the closed end 12 of the retaining member and the opposite end of the spring bearing on the button *e*. The retaining members *f f* are secured in the open ends of the half members *a* and *b* by solder or other means in a position for the semispherical ends 12 12 of the members *f f* to protrude from the ends 6 and 7 into the open ends 5 and 8 of the half members when the bracelet is closed, as shown in full lines in Figs. 1 and 2.

The bracelet is opened by pulling the half members *a* and *b* of the bracelet apart against the tension of the coiled springs *g g*. This opening or extension movement of the bracelet is limited by the stop-rings 9 9 on the ends of the connecting-link engaging with the closed ends 12 12 of the retaining members *f f*, as shown in Fig. 3. When the half members of the bracelet are released, they close

through the tension of the coiled springs *g g*, which, acting on the buttons *e e* and the closed ends of the retaining members *f f*, force the half members of the bracelet together, as shown in Fig. 2. The half members when closed are held from side movement by the semispherical ends 12 12 of the retaining members *f f* in the ends 6 and 7, protruding into the open ends 5 and 8 of the half member forming the shell of the bracelet.

It is evident that the bracelet could have a lesser or a greater opening movement by varying the length of the connecting-links *c c* or the length of the chains *d d*, or the chains *d d* could be dispensed with by lengthening the connecting-links *c c* and securing the buttons *e e* to the stop-rings 9 9. The links *e e* could be constructed of flexible spring-wire with the ends formed into the stop-rings 9 9 and the half members *a* and *b* shaped to form an oval bracelet, if desired, without materially affecting the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A bracelet comprising a pair of tubular members, adapted for abutting engagement at their adjacent ends, a pair of retaining members carried by each of the tubular members, said retaining members being received within the ends of said tubular members, one of each of the pairs projecting beyond the end of its tubular member, and the retaining member of the opposite section having its outer end disposed a slight distance within the end of its tubular member, each of said retaining members having an outer closed end and an inner open end, a connecting-link passed through the closed ends of each of said retaining members, chains, one connected to each end of each link, a button on the inner end of each chain, and spiral springs engaging each of the buttons at one end and the closed ends of the retaining members at their opposite ends.

2. A bracelet comprising rigid tubular members forming the shell of the bracelet, flexible connecting-links in the form of a flat metal strip, chains, one connected to each end of each link, two pairs of coiled springs surrounding the connecting parts contained within the ends of the tubular members, retaining members in the ends of the tubular members, each having an open end and a closed end semicircular in form, the latter serving to form an abutment for the coiled springs, said semicircular ends each having a central slot through which said links pass, means on the ends of the chains against which the inner ends of said springs abut, and rings connecting said chains with said links adapted to act as stops by engagement with said semicircular ends of the retaining members.

3. A bracelet comprising rigid tubular members forming the shell of the bracelet, adapted for abutment at their adjacent ends, a pair of retaining members carried by each of the tubular members said retaining members being received within the ends of the tubular members, each of said retaining members having an outer closed end and an inner open end, a connecting-link passed through the outer ends of said retaining members, chains, one connected to each end of each link, a button on the inner end of each chain, and spiral springs engaging each of the buttons at one end, and the closed end of each of the retaining members at their opposite ends.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE BECKER.

Witnesses:
ADA E. HAGERTY,
J. H. MILLER.