T. M. OBSBOUM.

JEWELRY.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1915.

1,152,340.

Patented Aug. 31, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

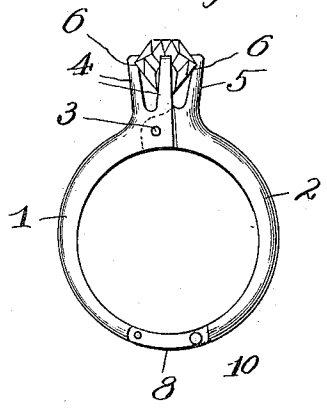


Fig. 2.

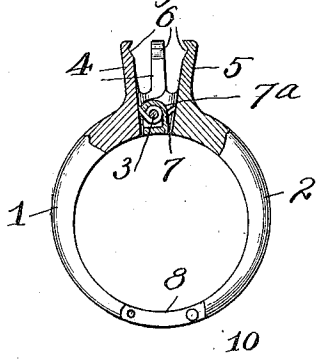


Fig. 3.

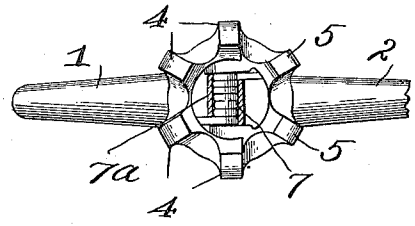


Fig. 4.

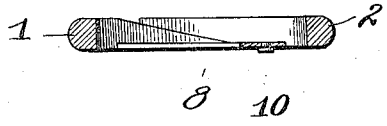
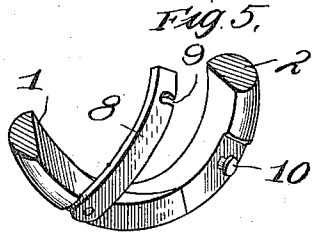


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

G. A. Rauberschmidt

W. G. Hilman

Inventor:

Thomas M. Obsboum,

By Miller & Chindahl

Attys

COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

T. M. OBSBOUM.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 6.

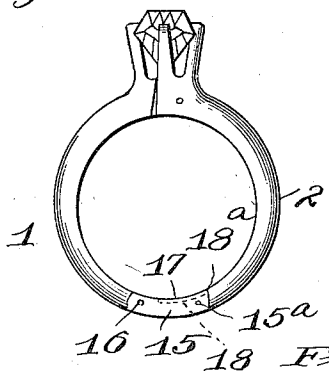


Fig. 7.

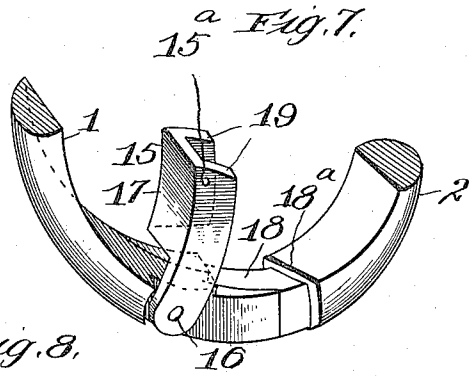


Fig. 8.

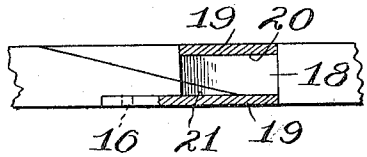


Fig. 9.

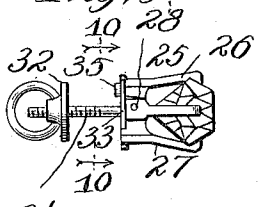
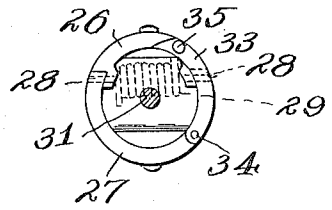


Fig. 10.



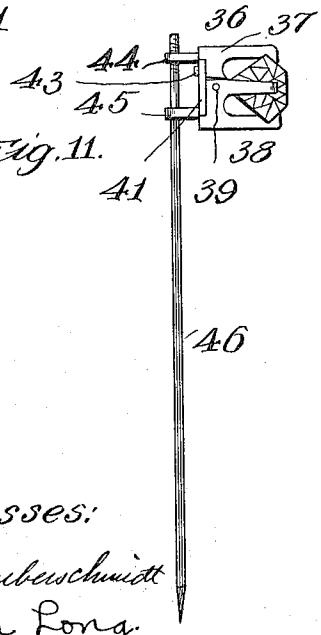
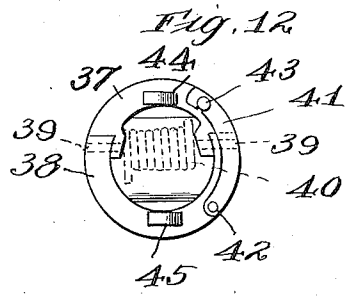


Fig. 11.

Fig. 12.



Witnesses:

G. A. Taubenschmidt

Lanna Long.

Inventor:

Thomas M. Obsboum,

By Miller & Chindahl

Attys

COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS M. OBSBOUM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE O. Z. O. JEWELRY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

JEWELRY.

1,152,340. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 31, 1915.

Application filed January 23, 1915. Serial No. 3,870.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS M. OBSBOUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Jewelry, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to jewelry comprising gem-settings and particularly to finger rings, earrings, scarf pins and shirt studs.

As heretofore constructed, gem-settings have been of such nature that the gem could not be readily removed. If, therefore, the user desired to replace a gem with another stone, it has been necessary for him to employ a jeweler to make the substitution. Moreover, gem-engaging fingers having but a slight hold upon the gem have necessarily been used, in order that the gem should be removable and replaceable with the ordinary appliances used for that purpose by jewelers. With such a construction, a very few changes would seriously weaken the setting and impair the security with which the gem was held.

My invention contemplates a construction wherein all of these disadvantages are obviated, and whereby it is possible for a person to have a number of unmounted stones and set them interchangeably upon a ring or other article of jewelry, a different gem being worn as often as desired.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a finger ring embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view, but showing the setting in section and the gem removed. Fig. 3 is a fragmental top plan view of the ring, with the gem omitted. Figs. 4 and 5 are sectional views, Fig. 4 showing the ring locked and Fig. 5 representing it as unlocked. Fig. 6 is a view of a ring provided with a different locking means, the ring being represented as in the locked condition. Fig. 7 is a fragmental perspective view of the ring shown in Fig. 6 and representing the same as unlocked. Fig. 8 is a fragmental sectional view of the ring shown in Fig. 6. Fig. 9 is a view of an earring embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 10 is a view, on an enlarged scale, taken in the plane of dotted line 10—10 of Fig. 9. Fig. 11 is a view of a scarf pin embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 12 is a view, on an enlarged scale, of the gem-setting removed from the pin proper.

The ring shown in Figs. 1 to 5 comprises two substantially semicircular sections 1 and 2 pivotally connected together at the outer side by a pivot 3. Each ring section carries a portion of the gem-setting. Herein I have shown four gem-engaging fingers 4 formed integral with the section 1, and two gem-engaging fingers 5 formed integral with the section 2. Said fingers are preferably made of sufficient thickness so that relatively deep recesses 6 may be formed in their inner sides to receive the edge of the stone. By reason of the depth of the recesses 6, the fingers overlie the top of the stone to a relatively great extent and thus obviate any danger that the gem will become detached through wear or weakening of the outer ends of the fingers. A torsion spring 7 coiled about the pivot 3 normally holds the ring sections 1 and 2 in such relation that the fingers 4 and 5 clamp the stone between them. 7^a is a plate that serves to cover the spring 7. To lock the sections 1 and 2 in the stone-engaging position, I provide a latch 8 pivoted to one side of the section 1 near the inner end of said section, said latch having an opening 9 to receive a headed stud 10 on the section 2. As indicated in Figs. 4 and 5, the inner ends of the sections 1 and 2 are beveled so as to overlap each other. The latch 8 is curved concentrically with the ring-sections 1 and 2. The pivotal connection between the sections 1 and 2 is sufficiently loose to permit a slight lateral movement of the sections as the inner ends thereof are overlapped more or less. As indicated in Fig. 5, the latch 8 is pivoted to swing inwardly, that is to say, toward the center of the ring to unlock the ring. It will thus be seen that when the ring is mounted upon the finger, the finger serves to prevent the latch from moving inwardly to unlock the ring.

The head of the stud 10 assists to prevent the latch 9 from being accidentally displaced, as perhaps might otherwise occur in washing the hands and in putting on or removing a glove.

It will be seen that a person provided with a ring embodying my invention may have a number of extra gems, and may exchange the gem in the ring for another as often as fancy may dictate. In placing a stone in the ring, the stone is laid in inverted position upon a table or other suitable surface, and the ring is pressed against the stone until the fingers 4 and 5 spring over and engage the edge of the stone. The latch 8 is then engaged with the stud 10. In removing the stone, the latch is opened, the ring inverted, and the sections 1 and 2 pressed toward each other until the stone drops from between the fingers 4 and 5.

Figs. 6, 7 and 8 illustrate an alternative form of latch, which form is designated by the numeral 15. The latch 15 is pivoted to the section 1 at 16 and comprises a portion 17 adapted to lie within the ring and overlie a portion of the overlapping ends of the ring sections 1 and 2, said sections being recessed as at 18 to receive the portion 17. The recess 18 provides a shoulder 18^a against which the end of the latch 15 may abut to lock the ring. At opposite sides of the portion 17 are flanges 19 adapted to lie at opposite sides of the overlapped ends of the ring sections 1 and 2, said sections being recessed as at 20 and 21 to receive the flanges 19. As in the construction first described, the finger upon which the ring is mounted serves to prevent the latch 17 from swinging inwardly into the inoperative position. A projection 15^a may be provided on the latch 15 for convenience in opening the latch.

Figs. 9 and 10 illustrate the application of the invention to an article of jewelry intended to be attached to the ear. 25 is a gem-setting comprising two sections 26 and 27 pivotally connected together at 28 and normally held in the gem-engaging position by means of a torsion spring 29 surrounding the pivot 28. Upon each of the sections 26 and 27 is a projection 30 adapted to be engaged by the fingers of the operator in pivotally moving the sections 26 and 27 against the action of the spring 29. The section 27 is rigidly secured to a stem 31 adapted to pass through an aperture in the ear, said stem being screw-threaded to receive a securing nut 32. The sections 26 and 27 may be locked in the gem-engaging position by means of a latch 33 pivoted to the section 27 at 34, said latch being substantially similar to the latch 8 and being adapted to engage a headed stud 35 on the section 26.

Figs. 11 and 12 show the invention as applied to a scarf pin, 36 being a gem-setting consisting of two sections 37 and 38 connected together by a pivot 39. 40 is a torsion spring surrounding the pivot 39 and tending to hold the sections 37 and 38 in operative position. 41 is a latch pivoted to the section 38 at 42 and adapted to engage a headed stud 43 on the section 37. On the sections 37 and 38 are perforated ears 44 and 45 to receive a pin 46, the ear 44 being internally screw-threaded for engagement by the threaded end of said pin. It will be apparent that the articles of jewelry shown in Figs. 9 and 11 are adapted to receive any one of an assortment of gems, thus enabling the owner to substitute a different gem whenever desired.

I claim as my invention:

1. A finger ring, the inner portion of which is severed to provide two overlapping portions, and a pivoted latch for locking said portions against movement, said latch opening inwardly or toward the center of the ring, and embracing said overlapping portions when closed, whereby the latch is held closed by the finger when the ring is thereon.

2. A finger ring comprising two semicircular ring sections pivotally connected together at one side of the ring, a spring at the pivotal connection for moving said sections apart, and a pivoted latch at the inner side of the ring for holding said sections in operative position.

3. A finger ring comprising two ring sections pivotally connected together, a gem-setting comprising two sections, each attached to one of the ring sections, and a latch for holding the gem-setting in engagement with the gem, said latch being pivoted to one of the ring sections to swing inwardly to unlock the same, and being adapted to engage a portion of the other ring section.

4. A finger ring comprising two semicircular ring sections pivotally connected together at one side of the ring, and means at the other side of the ring for holding said sections in operative position comprising a latch pivoted to one of said sections, said latch comprising a portion adapted to overlie the ring sections, said portion being flanged at each side of the ring sections, said latch being adapted to engage a portion of the opposite ring section.

5. A finger ring comprising two semicircular ring sections pivotally connected together at one end, gem-engaging fingers on the said ends of said sections, a spring at the pivotal connection tending to move the fingers on one section toward the fingers on the other section, the other ends of said sections being beveled and overlapped, a latch pivoted to one of the sections to lie at the

inner side of the overlapped ends of said sections, and a shoulder on the other section behind which said latch is adapted to lie.

6. An article of jewelry comprising two pivoted gem-holding sections, a spring extending across the pivotal joint between the sections and tending to close the same, and a latch pivoted to one section and adapted to engage the other to lock said sections in operative position.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS M. OBSBOUM.

In the presence of—
JOHN BERTENS,
JACOB BANK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."