

H. W. MATALENE.
FOLDING WATCHCASE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 10, 1911.

1,020,770.

Patented Mar. 19, 1912.

Fig. 1.

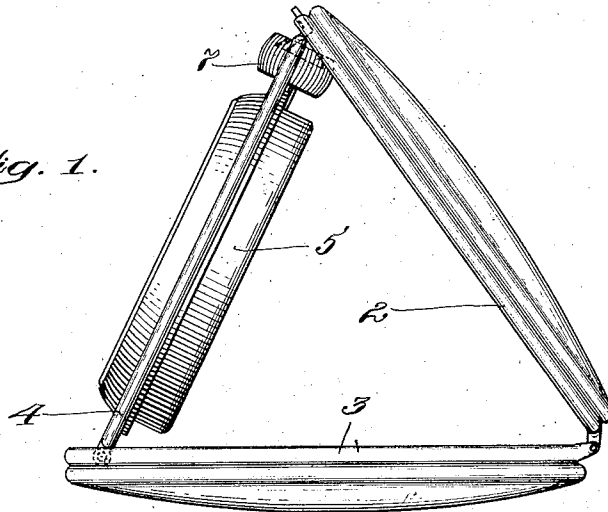


Fig. 2.

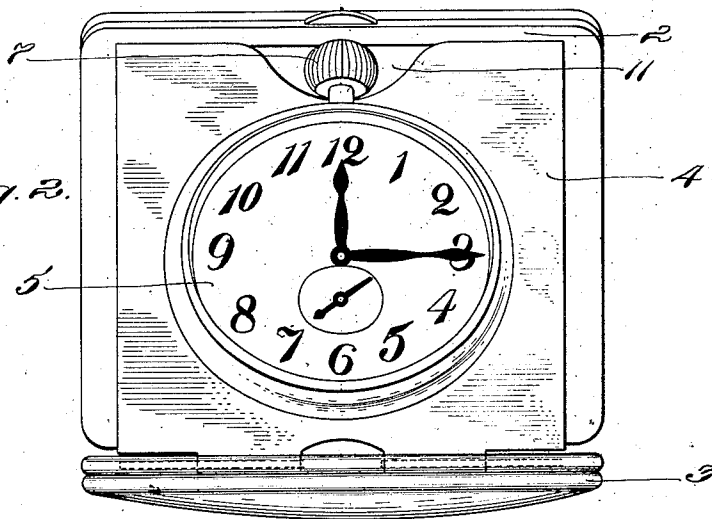


Fig. 3.

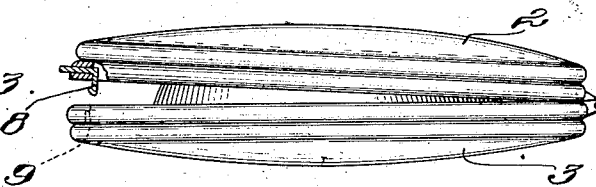


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

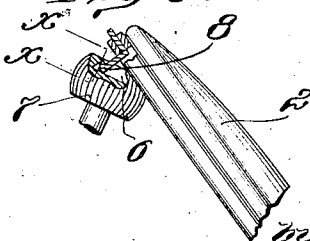
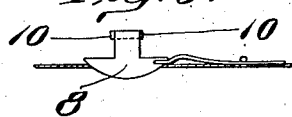


Fig. 6.



Witnesses:
Joseph T. Brennan.
Anna B. Lindsey.

Inventor
Henry W. Matalene,
by E. D. Bradwick, atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY W. MATALENE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

FOLDING WATCHCASE.

1,020,770.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 19, 1912.

Application filed June 10, 1911. Serial No. 632,313.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY W. MATALENE, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Folding Watchcases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to portable cases of the collapsible type which are used for the convenient transportation of watches in traveling and also serve when unfolded to support the watches in convenient position for observation. The particular type of case referred to comprises three leaves hinged one to another, end to end, one leaf being adapted to receive the watch and to be folded between the other two leaves, which serve as covers therefor during transportation, and in cases of this type, as commonly constructed heretofore, the end leaf which carries the watch has been hinged to the adjacent leaf at the top of the watch, so that it has been necessary to modify the construction of the watch itself by omitting the seconds-hand and locating the winding stem at the bottom of the watch, instead of at the top thereof, in order that said stem might be accessible for manipulation.

The principal object of my invention is to provide an improved form of case of the general type above referred to which will receive a watch of the usual construction, that is, a watch having the winding stem in its usual position and also having a seconds-hand, without preventing or interfering with the convenient manipulation of the winding stem after the watch has been secured in position in the case, the features of construction and arrangement whereby this result is accomplished being hereinafter set forth.

A watch case embodying my invention, as preferably constructed, is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the case and watch in open position; Fig. 2 is a front view of the same; Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the case when nearly closed; Fig. 4 is a detail view, partly in section on the line $x-x$ in Fig. 5, showing the crown at the outer end of the stem of the watch; Fig. 5 is a sectional detail illustrating the engagement of this crown by the locking catch of the case as hereinafter described; and Fig. 6 is another detail illustrating said catch.

The three leaves of the watch case illustrated in the drawings are shown at 2, 3 and 4, respectively, of which the leaves 2 and 3 are hinged together at one edge and serve as covers for the leaf 4, which carries the watch 5 and is adapted to be folded in between the leaves 2 and 3 as indicated in Fig. 3. The leaf 3 serves as a base for the case to stand on when extended, as shown in Fig. 1, and the leaf 4 is hinged at its lower edge to the front edge of said leaf 3, instead of being hinged at its upper edge to the leaf 2 as has been customary heretofore, so that the detachable engagement of the free edges of the end leaves is effected at the top of the extended case instead of at the lower front portion thereof. The leaf 4 is provided with the usual circular opening to receive the watch 5, and except for the recess in its crown, hereinafter described, this watch is of the usual construction, having the winding stem at its top.

When the case is set up to expose the watch, as shown in Fig. 1, the leaves 2 and 4 are detachably connected at their upper edges to maintain the parts of the case in extended position, and this is preferably accomplished by providing a recess 6 with under-cut side walls in the outer end of the crown 7 of the watch, which recess is adapted to receive the hook member 8 of a spring catch by means of which the case is locked in its closed position, said hook member being carried by the leaf 2 and the complementary member 9 by the leaf 3. The engagement of these parts is illustrated in Fig. 5, in which said hook member 8 is shown as inserted in the recess 6 with the front wall of said recess resting upon the free end of the hook, and at this point said recess is narrower than elsewhere, as indicated in Fig. 4, so that its side walls overlap the laterally-extending ends 10 of the hook. (See Fig. 6.) As thus constructed, the case is set up in extended position by opening the leaves as shown in Fig. 1, then dropping the hook 8 into the wide part of the recess 6, and then letting the leaf 4 fall backward slightly until said hook passes into the narrow portion of said recess 6, whereby the parts are held in extended position without danger of accidental displacement, although they may be readily disengaged when desired by first moving the upper edge of the leaf 4 forward slightly and then lifting the hook 8 out of the recess 6, whereupon said

leaf 4 may be folded down upon the leaf 3 and the leaf 2 may then be shut down over the watch and the leaf 4 and locked by means of the spring catch.

5 It will be seen from the foregoing description that the crown 7, by means of which the watch is wound and set, is located at the free edge of the intermediate leaf 4, where it is conveniently accessible for manipulation, being preferably located in a
10 recess 11 formed in said free edge of the leaf 4, and therefore, since the crown of the watch occupies its usual position at the top of the watch, it is not necessary to
15 modify the construction of the watch used with my case, either by locating its winding stem at the bottom of the watch or by omitting the seconds-hand, as will be evident.

I claim as my invention:—

20 1. A folding case for watches comprising two leaves hinged together and forming covers for the case when closed, one of said leaves being adapted to serve as a supporting base when the case is extended, an intermediate leaf hinged at its lower edge to the
25 front portion of the last-mentioned cover leaf and provided with a recess to receive a watch having its crown located at the top of the same, and with a supplementary recess to receive said crown and expose the
30 same on both sides of said intermediate leaf, and means for detachably connecting the free edge of the other cover leaf with the free edge of the intermediate leaf.

35 2. A folding case for watches comprising two cover leaves hinged together, one of said leaves serving as a supporting base when the case is extended, an intermediate leaf hinged at its lower edge to the front
40 portion of the base leaf, a watch secured to the intermediate leaf in position to face the top cover leaf when the case is folded, with

the bottom of the watch adjacent to the hinged edge of the intermediate leaf and the crown of the watch located at its top
45 and exposed for manipulation on both sides of said intermediate leaf, adjacent to the free edge of the latter, and means for detachably connecting the free edges of the top cover leaf and the intermediate leaf. 50

3. A folding case for watches comprising two cover leaves hinged together at one edge, an intermediate leaf hinged at one edge to the free edge of one of the cover leaves and adapted to be folded in between
55 the latter, a catch for holding the cover leaves in closed position, and a watch carried by the intermediate leaf and having a recessed crown located at the top of the watch and adapted to receive one member
60 of said catch to hold the parts of the case in extended position.

4. A folding watch case comprising two cover leaves hinged together and provided with a spring catch to hold the same in
65 closed position, an intermediate leaf hinged at one edge to the free edge of one of the cover leaves and adapted to be folded in between the latter, and a watch carried by the intermediate leaf and having its crown located at the top of the watch and provided
70 at its outer end with a recess, said recess having under-cut walls adapted to engage the hook member of said spring catch to hold the parts of the case in extended position. 75

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 6th day of June, 1911.

HENRY W. MATALENE.

Witnesses:—

COURTLAND E. HASTINGS,
ELLA A. TRUMPF.