Oct. 28, 1930. W. B. HOPKINS 1,780,015

GEM HOLDER

Filed April 19, 1929

Fig. 1.

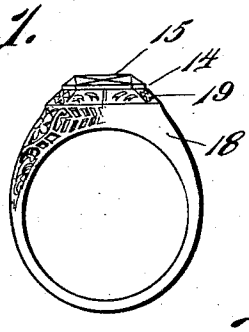


Fig. 2.

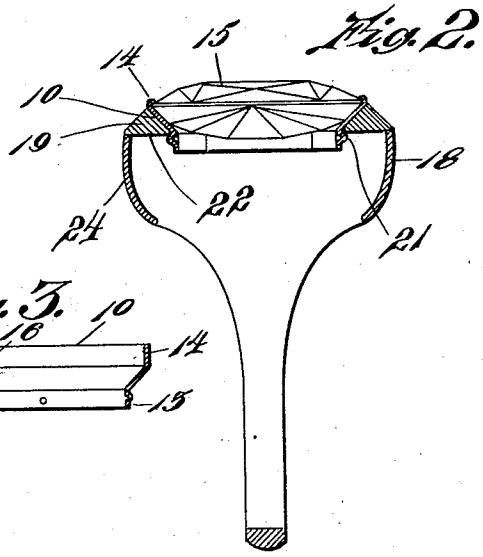


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

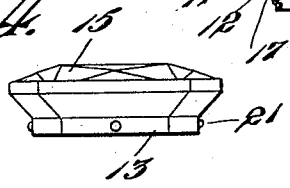


Fig. 7.

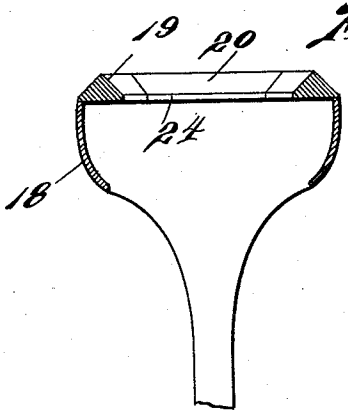


Fig. 5.

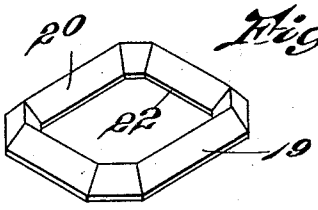


Fig. 6.

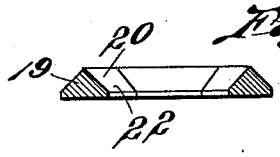
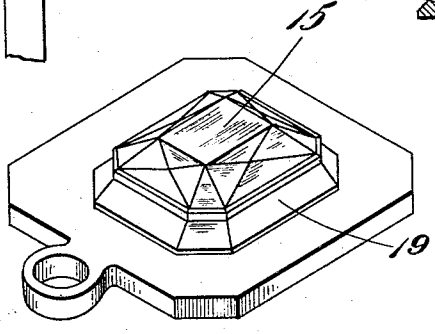


Fig. 8.



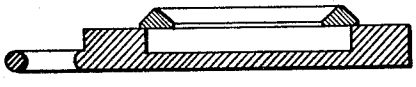


Fig. 9.

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Patented Oct. 28, 1930 1,780,015

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GEM HOLDER

Application filed April 19, 1929. Serial No. 356,500.

This invention relates to an improved construction of gem holder in which a gem or ornament may be interchangeably mounted; and one of the objects of this invention is to provide in such a holder a setting member in which the gem is permanently fixed and a mounting member into which any one of a plurality of previously set gems or ornaments may be mounted as desired.

A further object of the invention is to provide a mounting member shaped to form a seat for the setting member, one of said members having locking means by which the setting member may be fixedly secured in the mounting member.

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:

Fig. 1 is a front view illustrating the gem as mounted in a setting and the setting as mounted in the mounting member, the latter being in the form of a ring.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view showing the gem as secured in the setting member and the setting member as secured in the mounting member.

Fig. 3 shows the setting in section with the gem or ornament removed therefrom.

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the setting member with a gem mounted therein.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the flange member of the mounting removed from the mounting.

Fig. 6 is a section thru the flange member shown in Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a sectional side elevation showing this flange member as soldered to the upper edge of the body of the mounting member.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view showing the mounting member in pendant form.

Fig. 9 is a central section thru the mounting shown in Fig. 8 with the gem removed.

In practice it often happens that the mounting member of a gem holder such as in a ring, locket or the like, especially when made of the precious metals, is more expensive than the gem or ornament to be set therein and that it is of advantage for the retailer or jobber to be able to carry in stock a large variety of ornaments or different colored gems which may be selected and set in the mounting to suit the immediate requirements of the purchaser thereby avoiding the necessity of carrying a large quantity of the more expensive mountings in stock; and the following is a detailed description of the present embodiment of this invention and showing one construction of mounting by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates the setting member which is formed of sheet stock and struck into the desired shape, preferably one in which its body portion 11 is set on an incline as at 12, extending downwardly and inwardly from its upper edge for a portion of its width and then straight downward providing a skirt portion 13 which has more or less flexibility, the upper edge 14 of this setting being bendable to be turned inwardly over the edge of the gem 15 or other ornament to secure the same in the setting.

The inner surface 16 of this inclined portion is herein shown as forming a seat for the gem and the outer surface 17 of this inclined portion is shown as serving as a seat portion for the setting.

The body portion 18 of the mounting member is preferably formed with a thin peripheral wall 24, on the upper edge of which I have secured, preferably by solder, a flange member 19, preferably formed of relatively heavy non-yielding stock and in frame shape with a hollow center portion. The inner surface of this frame is inclined as at 20 to serve as a seat for the support of the setting member 10.

When the setting member is inserted into its seat it may be secured therein by any suitable means, one means herein shown being that of providing protuberances 21 on this skirt portion 13, which protuberances are arranged to snap beneath the inner edge 22 of the flange member 19 to securely retain the gem setting in its holder.

This setting may be removed by the dealer

if desired from its holder by forcing the resilient walls of the skirt 13 inwardly to release these protuberances from engagement with the inner edge of the flange member 19.

My improved device for mounting gems or other ornaments is extremely simple, practical and inexpensive in construction and by its use a large variety of relatively inexpensive gems or ornaments may be carried in stock and the desired one selected and pressed into the selected mounting which may be either a ring, brooch or other mounting to suit the desires of the purchaser, by which arrangement a great variety of combinations may be obtained by carrying but a relatively small stock of the more expensive mounting members.

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. A gem holder in which ornaments are interchangeably mounted, comprising a setting member in which the gem is permanently fixed, said setting member having a seat portion and a depending guide skirt extending therefrom, a mounting member having a hollow body portion with an inwardly-extending relatively non-yielding flange about its upper edge the lower face of said flange providing an abutment, the upper face of said flange providing a seat of substantial width for said setting member, the guide skirt of said setting extending thru said seat flange and having spaced means releasably engaging portion of said flange for locking the setting.

2. A gem holder comprising a frame-shaped setting member having inwardly inclined side walls providing on their inner surface a seat for the gem and on their outer surface a seat for the setting, a resilient skirt about the lower edge of said setting, and a separate mounting member for said setting having a hollow body with an inwardly extending relatively non-yielding flange about its upper edge, the upper face of said flange being inclined to provide a seat of substantial width for the support of said setting member, the guide skirt of said setting extending thru said flange and having spaced protuberances on its walls arranged to snap beneath the edge of said flange to lock the setting.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM B. HOPKINS.