Sept. 30, 1930. C. A. DOMLER 1,776,892

BRACELET CLASP

Filed Oct. 9, 1929

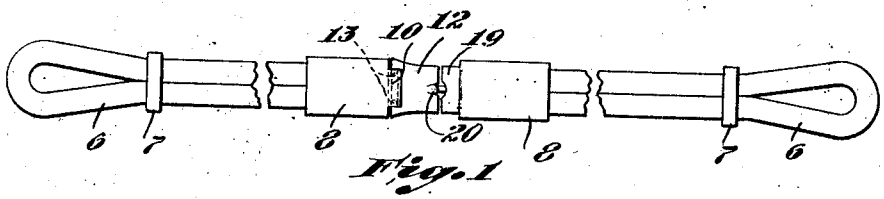


Fig. 1

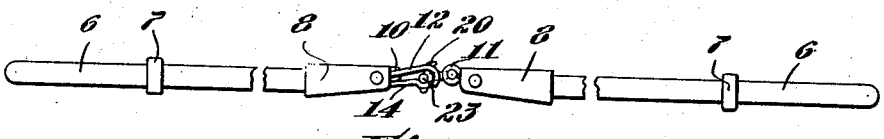


Fig. 2

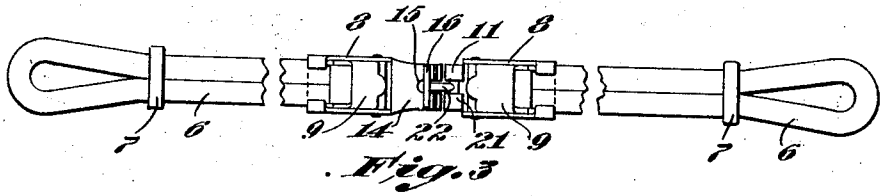


Fig. 3

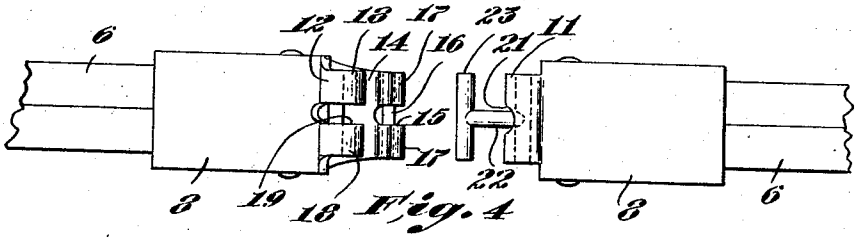


Fig. 4

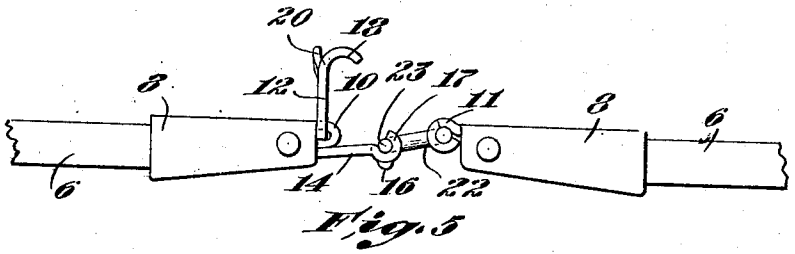


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BRACELET CLASP

Application filed October 9, 1929. Serial No. 398,532.

This invention relates to clasps for bracelets or the like and pertains more particularly to a center catch for wrist watch bracelets. The principal object of the invention is to provide an improved clasp or center catch which is compact and attractive in appearance, simple and economical to manufacture, easily operated yet securely locked against casual separation, and durable in use.

A recommended embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in association with a cord bracelet for wrist watches, but it will be apparent that the improved catch may be employed with bracelets of various types as well as for other purposes. In the drawings,

Figs. 1, 2 and 3 are front, side and rear views respectively of a bracelet equipped with the improved center catch;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged front view showing the clasp elements in separated position; and

Fig. 5 is a side view illustrating the clasp members engaged but unlocked.

The particular embodiment chosen for the purpose of illustration comprises a pair of looped cords 6 intended for attachment to a wrist watch or the like, split rings 7 surrounding and sliding along the cord and end links 8 connected by the improved catch and attached to the free ends of the respective cords. The links 8 include gripping elements 9 which clamp upon the cord ends in the manner described in the patent to Charles A. Mealy No. 1,717,574, but the precise construction of the end links is not essential to the present invention.

One of the links 8 is preferably formed with a lug or knuckle 10 curving downwardly from the forward edge of its front face, and the other link preferably has a lug or knuckle 11 similarly positioned. A locking member or latch 12 provided at one end with oppositely directed studs or pins 13 which are received within the ends of the knuckle 10, is pivoted to the corresponding link to swing into locking engagement with a hook member 14 affixed to said link as by soldering it upon the bottom of the knuckle 10. The curved end of the hook 14 is bifurcated, providing a central slot 15, and a crossbar 16 may be soldered on the under side of the hook portion 17 to prevent spreading thereof. The latch 12 has similarly curved ends 18 arranged to snap over and frictionally lock upon the hooks 16, the ends 18 being divided by a corresponding slot 19. An upwardly projecting tongue 20 may be formed on the latch 12, at the end of the slot 19, to permit the latch to be released by the finger nail.

The knuckle 11 of the opposite link has a central slot 21, and a metal member, substantially in the form of the letter H, is gripped by said knuckle, as best shown in Fig. 4, to provide a projecting T-shaped connector 22, the leg of the connector passing through the slot 21. It is thus apparent that in order to interconnect the two end links, the transverse head of the T-shaped connector 23 is engaged behind the hooks 17 (Fig. 5) with the leg received in slot 15, and the pivoted clasp 12 is then swung to snap over said hook to enclose the connector within the overlapped hook portions 17 and 18. As indicated above, the clasp may be readily released by lifting the projecting tongue 20 to disengage the latch and permit the withdrawal of the connector 22.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that the improved clasp or center catch not only ensures easy and secure attachment of the end links 8 and permits the parts to be separated without excessive effort or inconvenience, but also provides a compact fastening element which is attractive in appearance, and which is unlikely to be marred or damaged during use.

I claim:

1. A clasp for detachably connecting a pair of end links comprising a hook member projecting from one of the links and having a bifurcated end, a connector projecting from the other link and having a leg portion received within said bifurcated end and a transverse head engaged by the hook, and a latch pivoted to the first link and engaging the hook to enclose the connector, the latch being substantially as wide as the links and having a curved end formed with a central slot so that the latch snaps over the bifur-

cated hook with the leg of the connector received in said slot.

2. A bracelet clasp comprising a pair of separable links each having a knuckle at its free end, a hook member affixed to one of the links and projecting forwardly beneath its knuckle, a latch straddling and pivoted in said knuckle, and a connector fixed in the knuckle of the other link and having a leg portion projecting from the center of the knuckle and a T-head at the end of the leg, the hook member having a bifurcated end providing a central slot for receiving said leg when the T-head is engaged behind the hook, and the latch closing upon and locking with the hook to enclose the connector.

3. A bracelet clasp comprising a pair of separable links each having a knuckle at its free end, a hook member affixed to one of the links and projecting forwardly beneath its knuckle, a latch straddling and pivoted in said knuckle, and a connector fixed in the knuckle of the other link and having a leg portion projecting from the center of the knuckle and a T-head at the end of the leg, the hook member having a bifurcated end providing a central slot for receiving said leg when the T-head is engaged behind the hook, and the latch having a curved end formed with a central slot so that the latch snaps over the bifurcated hook to enclose the connector with the leg of the connector received in said latch slot.

Signed by me at Providence, Rhode Island, this 30th day of September, 1929.

CHARLES A. DOMLER.