R. STANIG.

SAFETY LINK FOR WATCH CHAINS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 21, 1910.

997,020. Patented July 4, 1911.

Fig. 1.

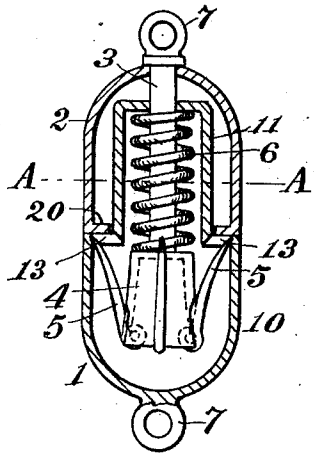


Fig. 2.

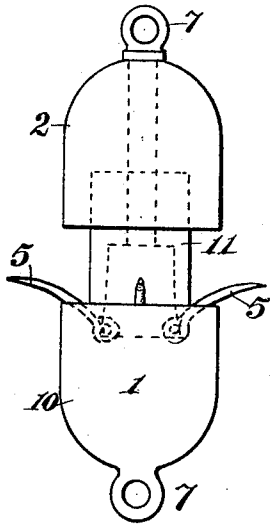
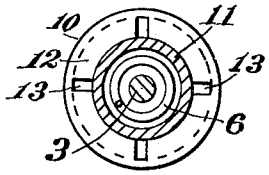


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES.

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RICCARDO STANIG, OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

SAFETY-LINK FOR WATCH-CHAINS.

997,020. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented July 4, 1911.**

Application filed September 21, 1910. Serial No. 583,106.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICCARDO STANIG, a subject of the King of Italy, and resident of the city of Seattle, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety-Links for Watch-Chains and the Like, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to safety devices for use with watches and like articles which are usually carried in a pocket and have a chain or fob attached thereto for convenience in removing them, and consists in a safety link for watch chains and the like.

My invention comprises the novel parts and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide a device which may be inserted as a link in a chain or fob, and which normally will not be unusual in appearance, but which will project prongs or teeth adapted to engage the fabric of the clothing when the chain is pulled after the manner which would be most natural if the article to which the chain is attached were sought to be purloined by another.

In the drawings I have shown my invention embodied in the form which is now preferred by me.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section through the inclosing casing parts, the parts being in closed position. Fig. 2 is an exterior view with the two parts separated, or as they would appear when the chain in which it is a link were pulled. Fig. 3 is a transverse section upon the line A, A, of Fig. 1, the cap 2 being removed.

The drawings show the device much larger than it would ordinarily be made. It would ordinarily be made from one third to one half the size shown. The invention may, however, be better shown in this size than if smaller.

The device as it would normally appear, consists of a capsule-like body having an eye 7 at each end by which it is inserted in the watch chain next to or very near the watch, so that when the watch is in the pocket, this device will also be within the pocket. In its normal position it presents no unusual appearance, and its outer surface may be ornamented in any manner which is desired and suitable.

The outer casing is composed of two parts, the main body part 1 and the cap 2. As seen when the device is in its normal condition, or closed, these look alike, each constituting a half of the device. The body section 1 however, has the larger end section 10 and a smaller end section 11, the latter entering the cap section 2. These two parts 10 and 11 are connected by a web 12, which is pierced with a number of holes 13 adapted to receive the points of the prongs or barbs employed.

The cap section 2 is preferably provided with a web 20 which has sliding engagement with the outer surface of the smaller section 11 of the body section of the device. A rod 3 is secured centrally of the cap section and enters a hole in the end of the smaller section 11 of the body 1, and at its inner end is secured to a head 4, which is smaller than the inner diameter of the part 11 so that it may enter therein.

Between the head 4 and the farther end of the reduced section 11 is placed a spring 6 which normally holds these parts separated. Pivoted to the lower edge of the head 4 are prongs or barbs 5 having their upper ends or points lying in the openings 13 when the device is in closed position.

A pull upon opposite ends of the device, by the eyes 7, will cause the head 4 to enter the reduced section 11 of the body and the prongs 5 to be projected through the holes 13, after the manner shown in Fig. 2. This will be caused by pulling upon the chain, and consequently such a pull will cause the prongs 5 to engage the fabric of the pocket and prevent extraction of the watch. At the same time this will produce such a pull as will warn the wearer of the watch that its extraction is attempted.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A safety device for watch chains and the like, comprising a link composed of body and cap sections adapted to slide, one upon the other, lengthwise of the link, the body section being hollow and having longitudinally separated parts of unequal diameter connected by a web having a series of holes therein, the cap part of the link being hollow and embracing the smaller end of the body section, a rod entering the smaller end of the body section and secured to the inclosing cap section, and a series of prongs pivotally connected with the inner end of this rod and having their points lying within the holes

in the web of the body section when the two parts are brought together, and a spring normally holding said parts together.

2. A safety device for watch chains and the like, comprising a link composed of body and cap sections adapted to have relative movement lengthwise of the link, the body section being hollow and having longitudinally separated sections of different diameters joined by a web having a series of holes therein, the other or cap part of the link being hollow and adapted to surround the smaller end of the body section and cover the holes in the web connecting its two parts, a rod extending from the cap section into the small end of the body section and having a head upon its inner end, a series of prongs pivoted upon said head and having their ends lying within the holes in the connecting web of the body section when the parts are closed together, and a spring surrounding said rod within the small end of the body section and acting against this and against the end of the head to draw the body and cap sections together.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature at Seattle, Washington, this 15th day of September, 1910.

RICCARDO STANIG.

Witnesses:

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H. L. REYNOLDS.