

H. W. MATALENE.

WATCHCASE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 7, 1909.

1,006,965.

Patented Oct. 24, 1911.

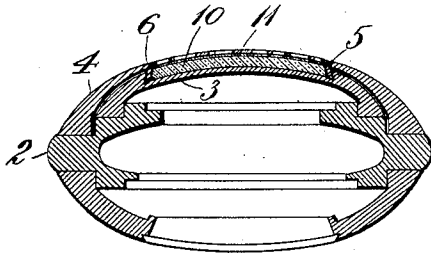


Fig-3.

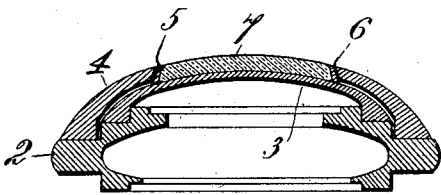


Fig-1.

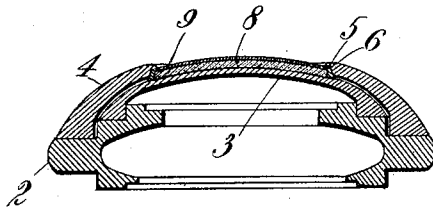


Fig-2.

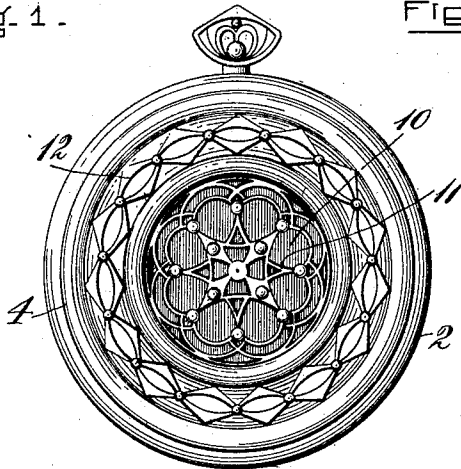


Fig-4.

WITNESSES=

Joseph T. Brennan,
J. M. Walsh

INVENTOR=

Henry W. Matalene,
By E. D. Chadwick,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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

WATCHCASE.

1,006,965.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 24, 1911.

Application filed September 7, 1909. Serial No. 516,425.

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 and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Watchcases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to watch cases of that type in which the back side of the case is provided with an applied ornament of one sort or another, such as a disk of some semi-precious stone, for example, the practice heretofore having been to apply such an ornament directly to the outer face of the back of the watch case, with the result that the thickness of the case has necessarily been increased to an extent equal to the thickness of the applied ornament.

My invention is particularly intended to provide a watch case of this character which will not necessarily be increased in thickness by the addition of such an ornament, and will also have an improved appearance as compared with prior cases of this character, to which end I apply the ornament to the cap of the watch case, instead of to the back, and I provide the back of the case with a perforation which surrounds and receives the ornament and exposes the same to view. By means of this arrangement I am able to effect a saving in the thickness of the watch case equal to the thickness of the applied ornament and the thickness of the back of the case, in addition to the width of the slight space which has necessarily been provided heretofore between the exterior of the cap and the interior of the back of the case, since it is impossible to fit these parts so accurately that they will be in exact contact with each other when closed. In practice, the outer face of the cap is preferably provided with a bezel in which the applied ornament is secured, and the perforation in the back of the case is fitted accurately to the bezel, so that the ornament has the appearance of being set into the back of the case, and the outer face of the ornament is preferably caused to come flush with the outer face of the back of the case, although it may be located above or below the same if preferred.

My invention is especially applicable to locket watches, and inasmuch as the ornament is reinforced by the cap and is protected from injury by the surrounding back, which is substantially flush with it, the ornament may be constructed from a thinner

disk of a semi-precious stone than heretofore, in case it is desired to construct the ornament therefrom.

In the accompanying drawings, in which I have illustrated my invention in several of its possible forms, Figure 1 is a transverse section of a watch case having an applied ornament composed of a semi-precious stone; Fig. 2 is a similar view of a watch case in which the ornament is composed of an enameled metal disk; Fig. 3 is a similar view showing an arrangement in which an enameled disk is overlaid by an openwork metal design; and Fig. 4 is an elevation of the back of a watch case having an openwork metal design covering an applied ornament secured to the cap and surrounded by an ornamental border formed on the back itself.

Referring first to Fig. 1 of the drawings, the watch case there shown comprises a center 2, a cap 3, and a back 4, which parts are or may be of the usual construction, except that the outer face of the cap 3 is provided with a bezel 5 and the back 4 is perforated as at 6 to receive said bezel, when the parts are in closed position, and fit closely around the same. Within the bezel 5 is secured an applied ornament 7, represented in this case as composed of a disk of some suitable semi-precious stone, the outer face of this disk being finished flush with the outer face of the back 4, so that when the watch case is closed the ornament 7 is exposed to view and the back of the case presents a smooth and unbroken appearance.

In the construction shown in Fig. 2, the parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 are constructed as shown in Fig. 1, but the applied ornament is represented as consisting of a metal disk 8 coated externally with a layer of enamel 9 which gives the desired ornamental appearance to the back of the case. In this instance the outer face of the applied ornament is shown as located slightly below the level of the outer surface of the back 4.

According to the construction shown in Fig. 3, the parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 are constructed as already described, and the applied ornament comprises a disk 10 which may be made of any desired ornamental material and is overlaid by open metal work 11 secured directly to the outer face of the disk 10. The open metal work 11 may be of any desired design, and in some cases it may be secured at its edges to the back 4 of the case,

or formed integral therewith, instead of being secured to the disk 10. The latter arrangement is illustrated in Fig. 4, in which the central portion of the watch case, where the applied ornament is located, is represented as surrounded by an ornamental border 12 engraved or otherwise formed on the back of the watch case itself. In case the open metal work is secured to the back 4 the disk 10 is fitted to make contact with the under side of said open metal work when the watch case is closed, so that the appearance of a one-piece construction results.

It will be evident that my invention admits of a wide degree of variation in respect to the specific nature and appearance of the applied ornaments employed, and I have not attempted to show herein all possible forms which my invention may take, it being a useful feature of my invention that it makes it possible to apply any one of a great variety of ornaments to a given watch case without alteration of the latter, by cutting the ornament to the required

size or design and securing it in place in a bezel carried by the cap.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A watch case comprising a perforated back, a cap provided on its outer face with a bezel adapted to project into and fit the perforation in the back, and a separately-constructed ornament secured in said bezel and exposed to view through said perforation when the case is closed.

2. A watch case comprising a perforated back, a cap having an ornament secured thereto and exposed to view through the perforation in the back when the case is closed, and open metal work carried by said back and overlying said ornament.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 30th day of August, 1909.

HENRY W. MATALENE.

Witnesses:

J. R. GLEASON,
ARTHUR S. HILLYER.

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