

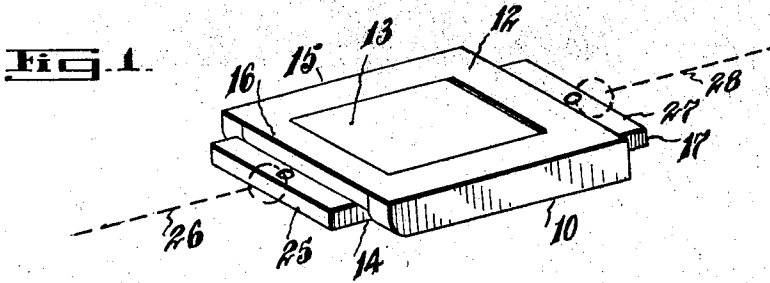
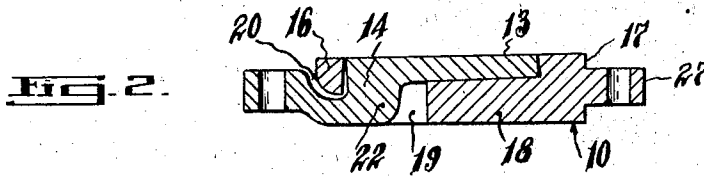
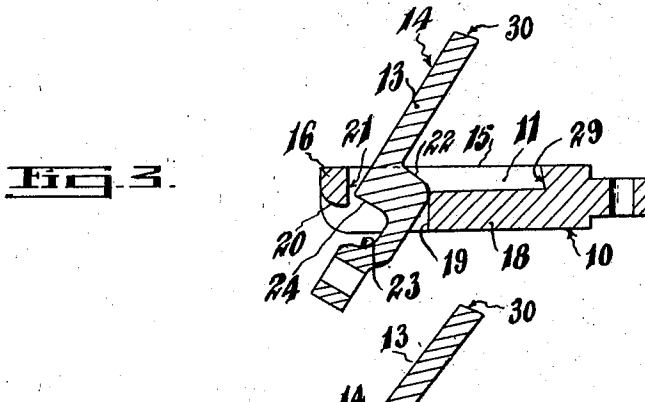
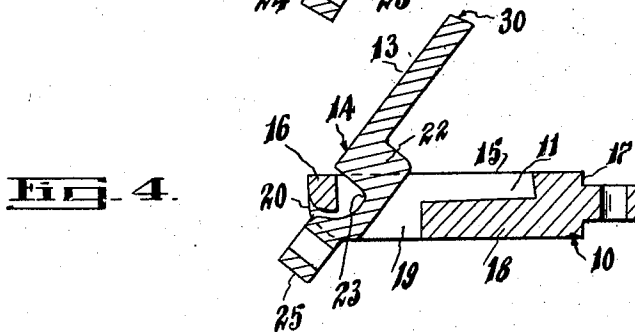
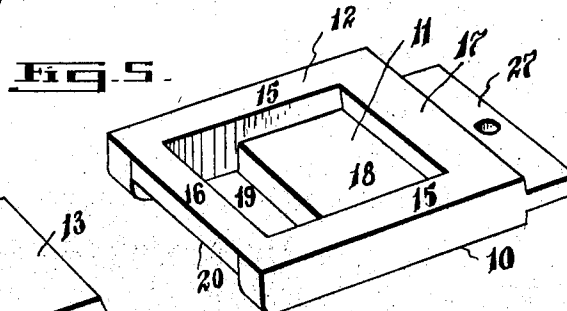
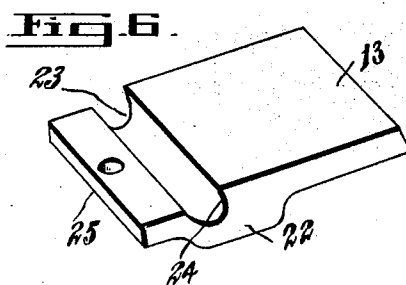
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2,346,887

CLASP FOR NECKLACES, BRACELETS, AND THE LIKE

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2,346,887

CLASP FOR NECKLACES, BRACELETS, AND
THE LIKE

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8 Claims. (Cl. 24—201)

My invention relates to improvements in clasps for necklaces, bracelets and like articles, and has for its primary object the provision of a separable device which will lock securely and which is adapted to be mouldably formed of a plastic material.

A still further object of the invention is to produce a simple and efficient clasp composed of two interlocking parts so arranged that one fits into the other with a locking effect which precludes any likelihood of their becoming inadvertently disengaged in the ordinary use of the clasp as in a necklace or bracelet.

A distinctive feature of the invention is that the clasp can be manufactured of a thermo-plastic material by means of injection moulds which are well known in the art. This clasp is inexpensive to manufacture and is of sturdy construction.

The accompanying drawing illustrates a practical embodiment of the invention in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the clasp showing the two parts in their interlocked relation.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a further sectional elevation but showing the manner in which the male member is inserted in the female member.

Fig. 4 is a similar sectional elevation but depicting more clearly the manner in which the parts interlock.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the female member, and

Fig. 6 is a like view of the male member.

Like numerals of reference denote similar parts in each figure of the drawing.

Desirably each of the two members composing the clasp is a substantially flat rectangular piece mouldably formed of a suitable material such as thermo-plastic.

The female member 10 is fashioned with a rectangular cavity 11 extending inwardly of its upper face 12 to accommodate a tongue 13 provided on the male member 14. The cavity is defined by the side walls 15, the front wall 16 and the rear wall 17. The bottom wall 18 of the cavity is cut away as at 19 adjacent to the front wall 16 to provide an aperture for upward insertion of the male part so that the tongue thereof may be thus seated in the cavity and rest upon the bottom wall, in which position the top face is flush with the face 12.

The front wall 16 is reduced in cross-section to compose a bit or locking bar with an upward curved outer face 20 extending from the inner

abrupt face 21. The bit or locking bar is of a depth substantially less than the thickness of the female member, and the male member is fashioned with a head portion 22 which extends into and forwardly of the aperture 19. Said head portion is slotted, as at 23, transversely, inwardly of its upper face receptive to said bit or locking bar. Slot 23 is curved upwardly and forwardly from an abrupt inner face 24 which engages the face 21 of the bit or locking bar. The curved portion of said slot is sloped away from the curved face 20 of the bit or locking bar in order to provide necessary clearance for assembly of said members.

The head portion 22 has a forward continuation in the nature of a lug 25 for attachment to an end, indicated at 26, of a stand or equivalent element of a necklace or bracelet. Likewise, the rear wall 17 of the female member has a lug 27 for attachment to the other end, indicated at 28, of the strand or its equivalent. The lugs may be pierced for attachment of the ends 26 and 28, as is customary in clasps of this class. The lugs may also be of any shape or ornamental configuration, and be designed for attachment to single or multiple strands.

To unite the interlocking members it is only necessary to insert the male part upwardly in the aperture 19 of its companion sufficiently to cause the slot 23 to engage the bit 16, and then swing the male part downwardly about the bit until the tongue is properly mounted in the cavity. It is preferable that the face 24 of the tongue and the face 29 of the cavity be sloped inwardly on a slight angle of about four or five degrees and that the end face 30 of the tongue be sloped on a similar angle, but outwardly, so that the tongue will seat itself in the cavity with a snap action under moderate pressure, and thereby assure of a secure interlocking of the parts.

The device is simple to operate and provides a secure locking juncture; moreover it may be manufactured by dies from a thermo-plastic material.

Changes and variations of the structure may be resorted to as coming within the spirit and scope of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A clasp of the class described composed of substantially flat male and female members, the female member having a cavity extending inwardly from its upper face defined by a bottom wall and marginal walls comprising a front wall, said cavity having an aperture in the bottom wall aforesaid adjacent to said front wall, said

front wall being reduced to form a bit or locking bar; the male member having a head portion formed with a transverse slot extending inwardly of its upper face and a tongue extending therefrom, said male member adapted to be inserted upwardly in the aforesaid aperture and then turned downwardly to cause the slot to engage the aforesaid bit or locking bar and the tongue to seat itself in the aforesaid cavity, whereby interlocking engagement of the members is effected.

2. A clasp as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the marginal walls of the female member which define the cavity have substantially vertical inner faces for engagement with mating marginal faces of the tongue.

3. A clasp as set forth in claim 1 and in which the cavity and the tongue have co-acting end faces arranged to cause the tongue to seat itself in the cavity with a snap action under moderate pressure.

4. A clasp as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the bit or locking bar has an abrupt inner face for contact with an inwardly sloping face forming a part of the slot in the male member, and in which the cavity has an opposing face sloped inwardly to engage a correspondingly sloped face at the rear end of the tongue so as

to seat the tongue in the cavity with a snap action under moderate pressure.

5. A clasp as set forth in claim 1 and in which the tongue is a flat elongated element which lies flush with the upper face of the female member when resting upon the bottom of the cavity, and in which the head portion of the male member extends outwardly from under the bit or locking bar and is accommodated by the aperture in the cavity.

6. A clasp as set forth in claim 1 and in which the bit or locking bar has an abrupt inner face and an upwardly curved outer face, and in which the slot of the male member is outwardly curved away from the curved face of the bit or locking bar to afford clearance sufficient for the head portion to turn for seating the tongue in the cavity.

7. A clasp as set forth in claim 1 and in which the head portion of the male member is continued beyond the bit or locking bar to form an attachment lug.

8. A clasp as defined in claim 1 and in which the opposite ends of the members are supplied with means for connection to a strand or equivalent element of a necklace or bracelet.

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