

June 3, 1930.

L. F. OTTEN

1,760,913

END CONNECTER FOR BRACELETS

Filed May 11, 1928

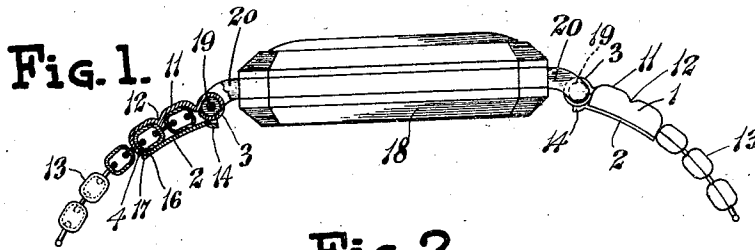


Fig. 2.

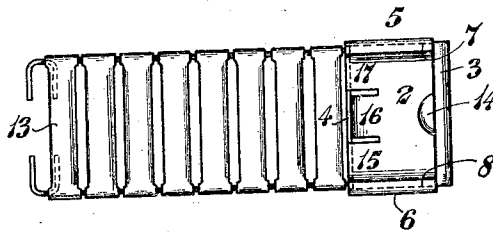


Fig. 10.

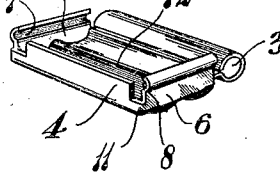


Fig. 3.

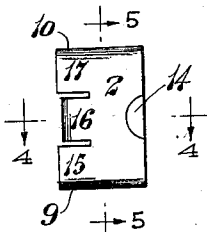


Fig. 4.

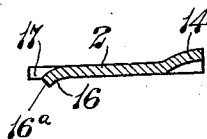


Fig. 5.

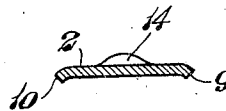


Fig. 6.

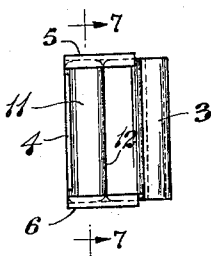


Fig. 7.

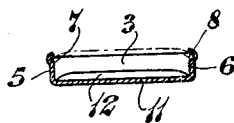


Fig. 8.

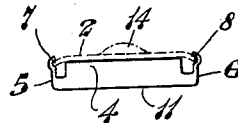
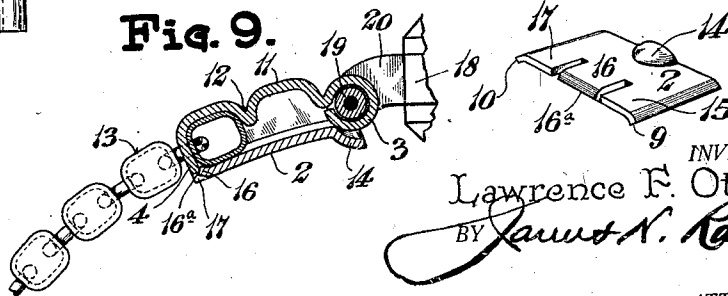


Fig. 11.

Fig. 9.



INVENTOR.
Lawrence F. Otten

BY *Lawrence N. Ramsey*
ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LAWRENCE F. OTTEN, OF FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR TO THE WADSWORTH WATCH CASE COMPANY, OF DAYTON, KENTUCKY, A CORPORATION OF KENTUCKY

END CONNECTER FOR BRACELETS

Application filed May 11, 1928. Serial No. 277,043.

This invention relates to connectors for bracelets and more particularly to link bracelets worn with wrist watches and the like.

The objects of this invention are to provide simple, efficient, convenient and inexpensive means for attaching the ends of a link bracelet to a wrist watch case or like element to be carried when worn upon the wrist.

10 The invention consists in providing a link receiving shell having a tubular portion formed integral with one end thereof and a slidable holder or plate received by means on said shell whereby one end of a link bracelet can be removably held within said shell by said slidable holder.

The invention further consists in the construction, combination, location and arrangement of parts, as herein set forth and claimed.

20 In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a watch case and a portion of a link bracelet attached thereto by the use of my invention, one side of which is shown in longitudinal section;

25 Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view of one end of a link bracelet shown in connection with one of the novel end connectors;

Fig. 3 is a detail view of the slidable holder;

30 Fig. 4 is a section thereof on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a cross section taken on a plane corresponding to line 5—5 of Fig. 3;

35 Fig. 6 is a detail view of the link receiving shell;

Fig. 7 is a cross-section thereof taken on a plane corresponding to line 7—7 of Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is a rear end elevation of Fig. 6;

40 Fig. 9 is a view enlarged partly in section showing the chain held to the connector by one link;

Fig. 10 is an isometric view of the shell; and

45 Fig. 11 is an isometric view of the slidable holder.

In the embodiment of my invention as illustrated and which shows a preferred construction I provide an end connector for link bracelets comprising a link receiving open

side shell or housing 1 and a slidable holder or removable cover-plate 2.

Said shell 1 is provided with tubular portion 3 at one end and flange 4 at its other end, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 6. The end edges of side walls 5 and 6 are bent inwardly to form grooves 7 and 8, which grooves are adapted to slidably receive the edges 9 and 10 of cover-plate 2, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 8. Wall 11 of shell 1 is provided with an intumed fin or rib 12 (Figs. 1, 6 and 7) which fits between two of the elongated parallel links of bracelet 13, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. Cover plate 2 is provided with thumb lift 14 and is partially cut in three sections 15, 16 and 17, respectively. The center section 16 is bent slightly, as shown in Fig. 4, thereby enabling the edge 16^a of said section to have frictional contact with flange 4, thereby holding the plate 2 in assembled position with shell 1, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 9, respectively.

It will be understood that my novel connectors are used to connect each section of a link or chain bracelet to the opposite sides of a watchcase and that the other ends of said sections are adjustably or detachably connected together in any other well-known manner.

To attach one end of the bracelet 13 to watchcase 18, simply proceed as follows:

Place one or more of the connected parallel slightly spaced apart links of bracelet 13 within shell 1 with the inner link (or second link from the end) resting between flange 4 and fin or rib 12. Then slide the edges 9 and 10 of plate 2 within grooves 7 and 8 with the thumb lift 14 out and towards tubular portion 3 until edge 16^a of center section 16 snaps past flange 4, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively. With the plate 2 thus properly inserted to closed position one end of the bracelet 13 will be firmly held within shell 1.

To remove the connector (shell 1 and plate 2) from one end of bracelet 13 to detach it from the watch, simply place the thumb nail under thumb lift 14 and push said plate in a direction towards flange 4, thereby forcing the edge 16^a of center section 16 out of holding engagement with flange 4.

To attach said connectors to the watchcase 18, simply insert the usual pin bars 19 within tubular portions 3 of shells 1 and insert the ends of said pin bars within the holes in lugs 20 in the usual and well-known manner.

Link bracelets of the type illustrated in Fig. 2, comprise parallel bars slightly spaced apart and flexibly connected together at their ends and one of the advantages of my invention is that a chain of like or similar construction can be shortened to any desired length to fit a particular wrist, whereupon the end link, or the two end links, if desired, may be inserted in the shell and removably held therein by means of the slidable holder or cover plate 2. When the link chain or bracelet has been formed to the right length by the removal of the excess links and the connector attached thereto, as described, and also attached to the watch or other element to be carried, there is usually no further occasion for removing the connector.

While I have shown and described one embodiment of my invention it will be understood that certain changes and modifications can be made without departing from the scope or spirit thereof, as, for example, the tubular portion 3 of shell 1 may be left partly open to receive the bail commonly formed integral with the ends of women's watchcases and the plate 2 can be used to cover said open space when the connector is attached to a watch case of such construction.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An end connector for watch bracelets or similar articles, the combination of a body member bent around at one end to form a tubular portion, upstanding walls formed with said body member, two of which are provided with grooves extending parallel with the plane of said body member and the other of which forms a stop, a rib formed upon the inner surface of said body member and a cover plate adapted to be slid within said grooves to hold one end of said bracelet within said body member.

2. An end connector for watch bracelets or similar articles comprising, in combination, a body member, one end of which is bent to form a tubular portion, walls formed by bending the edges of said member, two of which walls are provided with grooves and the other of which forms a stop, a rib struck inwardly from the inner surface of said body member and extending at right angles to said grooved walls, and a cover plate adapted to be slid longitudinally within said grooves to hold one end of said bracelet within said body member, said plate including a thumb catch and an inwardly bent finger, said finger adapted to engage said stop wall to detachably hold said cover within said grooves.

3. An end connector comprising a shell having a flange adapted to fit between two

connecting links of a chain or bracelet, a removable cover plate adapted to slidably engage said shell and having an edge adapted to bear against said flange when in closed position and to be sprung out of holding engagement with said flange and detached from said shell to open said connector, and means connecting said shell with an element to be carried.

4. An end connector for a divided band comprising a shell, means on said shell for attachment to an element to be carried, and a detachable cover plate slidably mounted within said shell and adapted to hold said band in nested relation within said shell.

5. An end connector for a link band comprising an open-side shell, means carried on the front end of said shell for attachment to an element to be carried, a removable cover plate, means for slidably mounting said plate in the open side of said shell to close said open side and to securely hold said band within said shell.

6. In combination with a chain having a series of transverse links, an end connector comprising a shell having a flange adapted to fit between two of said links, a cover plate adapted to slidably engage said shell and having an edge adapted to bear against said flange when in closed position and to be sprung out of engagement with said flange to open said connector, and means connecting said shell with an element to be carried.

7. An end connector comprising a shell or housing adapted to receive a link of a chain and a removable cover plate adapted to slide into holding engagement with said housing and fit over said link whereby said chain is secured to said connector.

8. An end connector for metal link wrist bracelets comprising, in combination, a shell adapted to receive a plurality of links at one end of said bracelet, a wall bent inwardly upon said shell for preventing said links from being withdrawn therefrom lengthwise, a tubular portion bent upon one end of said shell and adapted to receive the carrying bail or pin bar of a watch case, and a removable cover plate slidably mounted within said shell and adapted to cooperate with said shell to hold said links within said shell.

LAWRENCE F. OTTEN.