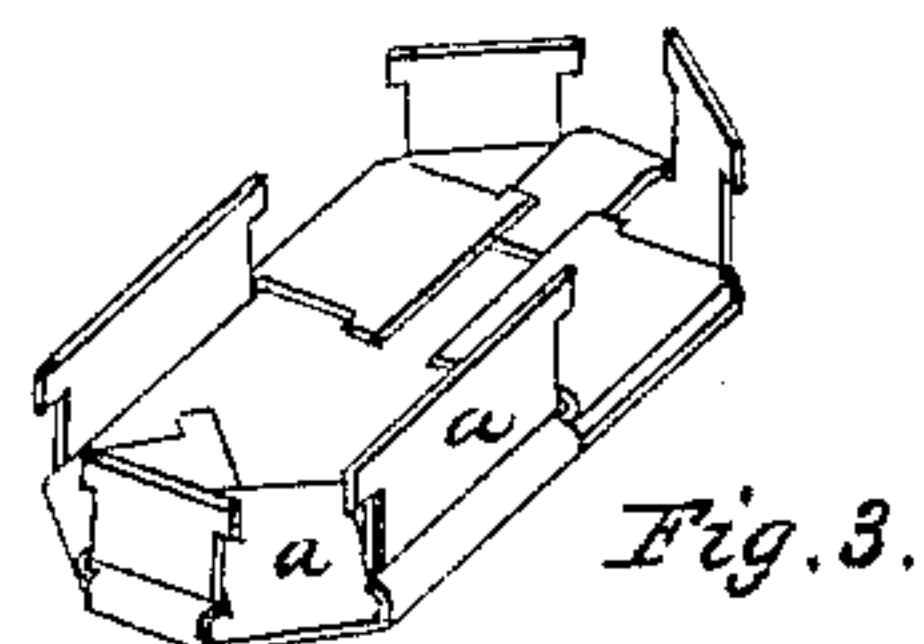
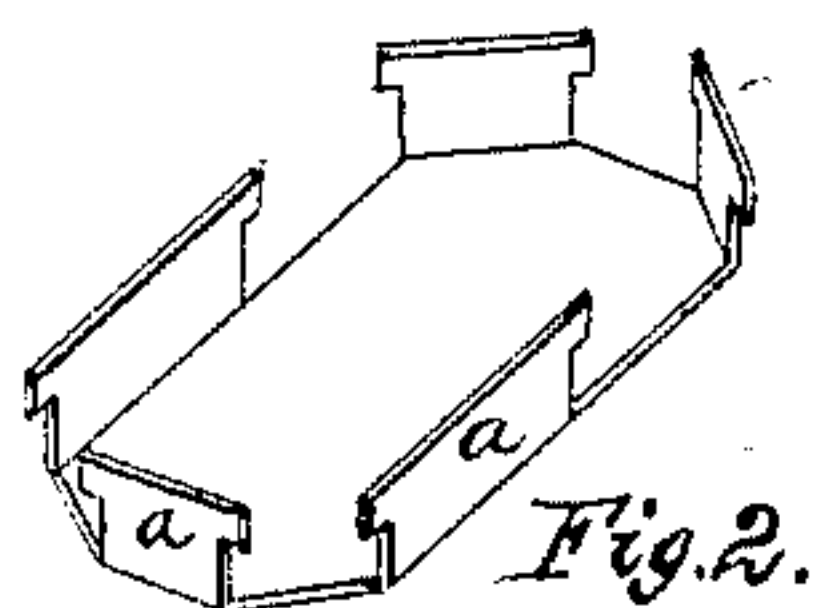
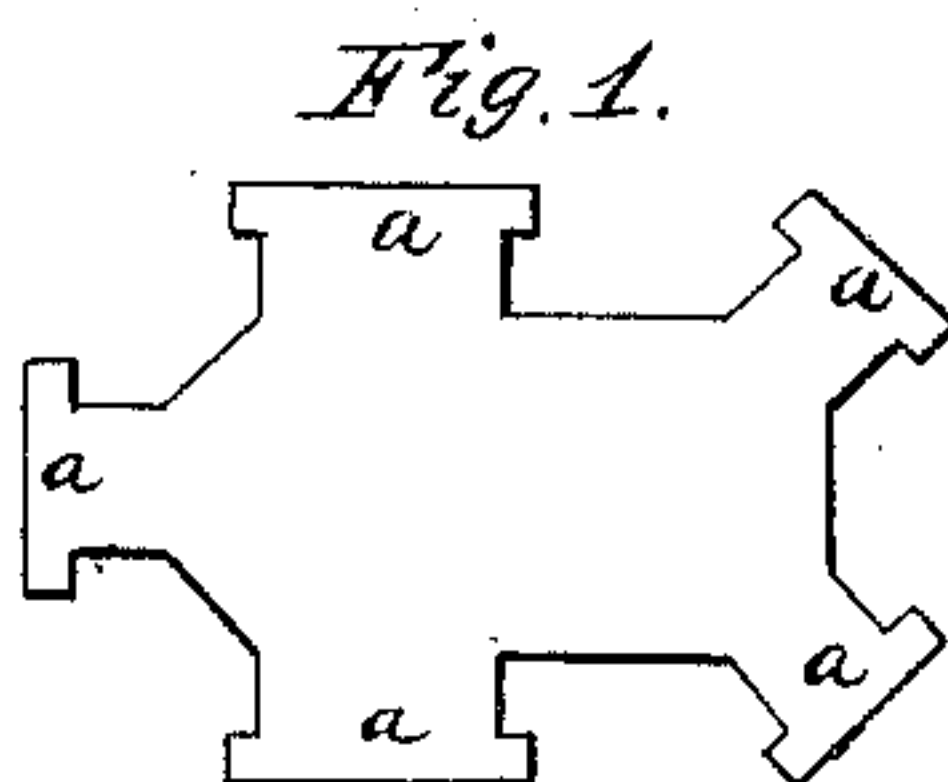
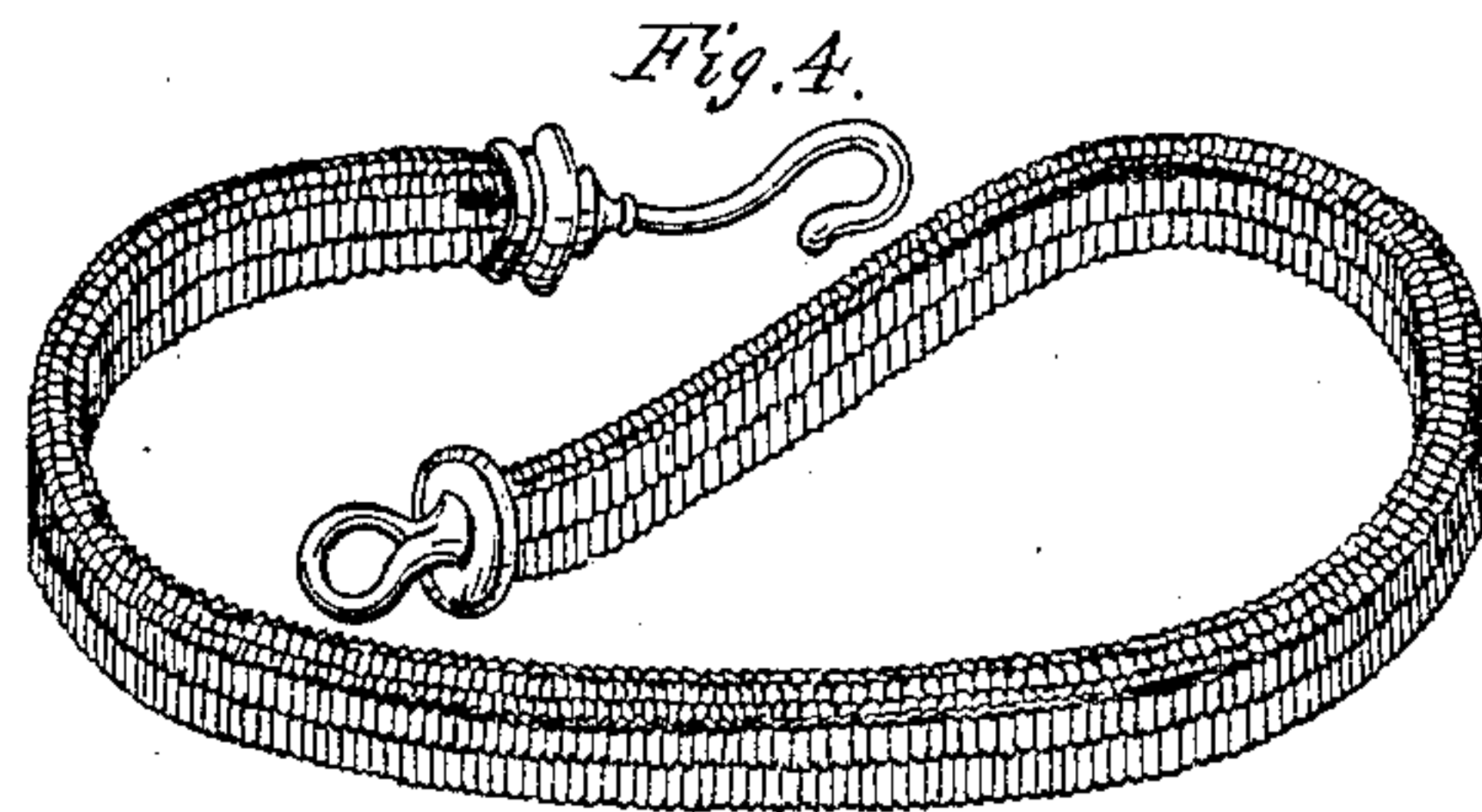


No. 44,899.

PATENTED NOV. 1, 1864.

L. TOWNE.
CHAIN FOR ORNAMENTS.



Witnesses:
John D. Thurston
John A. Smith

Inventor:
Lamington, Towne

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAURISTON TOWNE, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHAINS FOR ORNAMENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 44,899, dated November 1, 1864

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAURISTON TOWNE, of the city and county of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Chain for Ornament; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings making a part of the same, is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Figure 1 is a view of the link before the arms have been bent. Fig. 2 is a view of the same link with the arms bent at right angles. Fig. 3 is a view of two links, the arms of the under one being clasped upon the body of the upper one, whose arms are in the position shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view of the chain complete.

The ornamental chain, which is the subject of this patent, belongs to that class where, as in the so-called "Adelaide chain" described in the Letters Patent granted to me for a machine for making the same, dated March 13, 1860, the several links are woven or are mechanically held together without the aid of solder, and its novelty results not from the manner by which the successive links are united so as to form a chain, but from the peculiar fashion and structure of the link itself. This peculiarity of form and structure is shown plainly in Fig. 1, which represents the link as it appears when cut from the thin sheet of metal of which it is made. It is not, as will be observed, a figure with arms equidistant, as in the case of all other woven chains, so that the arms of each succeeding link can interlock with the arms of the preceding one without reversing it or changing it end for end, but it is a figure the long sides of which are similar and the short sides or ends are dissimilar. It is this dissimilarity between the opposite sides or ends, and not the fact that there is an uneven number of arms, which makes it a necessity that each alternate link in the process of building up the chain should be reversed, so that the arms of the one will cover the spaces between the arms in the other. It will be readily understood that all chains of this class, which are made up from links having equidistant arms, must of necessity have a cross-section which is a circle or a regular polygon.

As I desire to produce a chain the diameter of which in one direction shall be greater than

in the other, I am obliged to place the long sides of each succeeding link over the similar sides of the preceding one, and cannot, as in the other cases, produce the chain by simply placing the arms of the second relatively to the arms of the first at an angle equal to a circle divided by the number of arms which the link may have. I take a number of links, each of which is of thin metal suitable for the purpose, and such as is well known to manufacturing jewelers, and of the form shown in Fig. 1. Suppose the arms *a a a* to have been bent at right angles to the body, as shown in Fig. 2, the base will make an eight-sided figure, with one diameter longer than the other. A second link is then placed over the first, but with reference to it, changed end for end, so that the arms of the latter will interlock with the arms of the first. The arms of the latter link are then bent at right angles to the body, as in the case of Fig. 2, and the arms of the first link are bent down so as to clasp the body of the second. In this way, by successive links, each being placed and held in the way described, the chain is made. The end of each arm is furnished with a cross-bar, as in the case of the link for Adelaide chain, the object of which is, as in that case, to give increased strength to the chain by the ends of the bars bearing against the arms of the succeeding link, with which they interlock. The chain which results from the process described is represented at Fig. 4, and is not only extremely pleasing to the eye—its outline being regular, while the long sides are broken midway by the joint formed by the interlocking arms and relieve it from the appearance of stiffness—but is also adapted to ornamental uses—such as for bracelets and fob-chains, for which a round or regular polygonal chain would be less suitable—and is not inferior in strength to chains of the same weight and metal made by any process which is in use.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved ornamental chain shown and described, when composed of links of the form and structure substantially as herein specified.

LAURISTON TOWNE.

Witnesses:

JOHN D. THURSTON,
JOHN H. STINESS.