

No. 843,188.

PATENTED FEB. 5, 1907.

E. F. WILDE.

BRACELET.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1906.

Fig. 1.

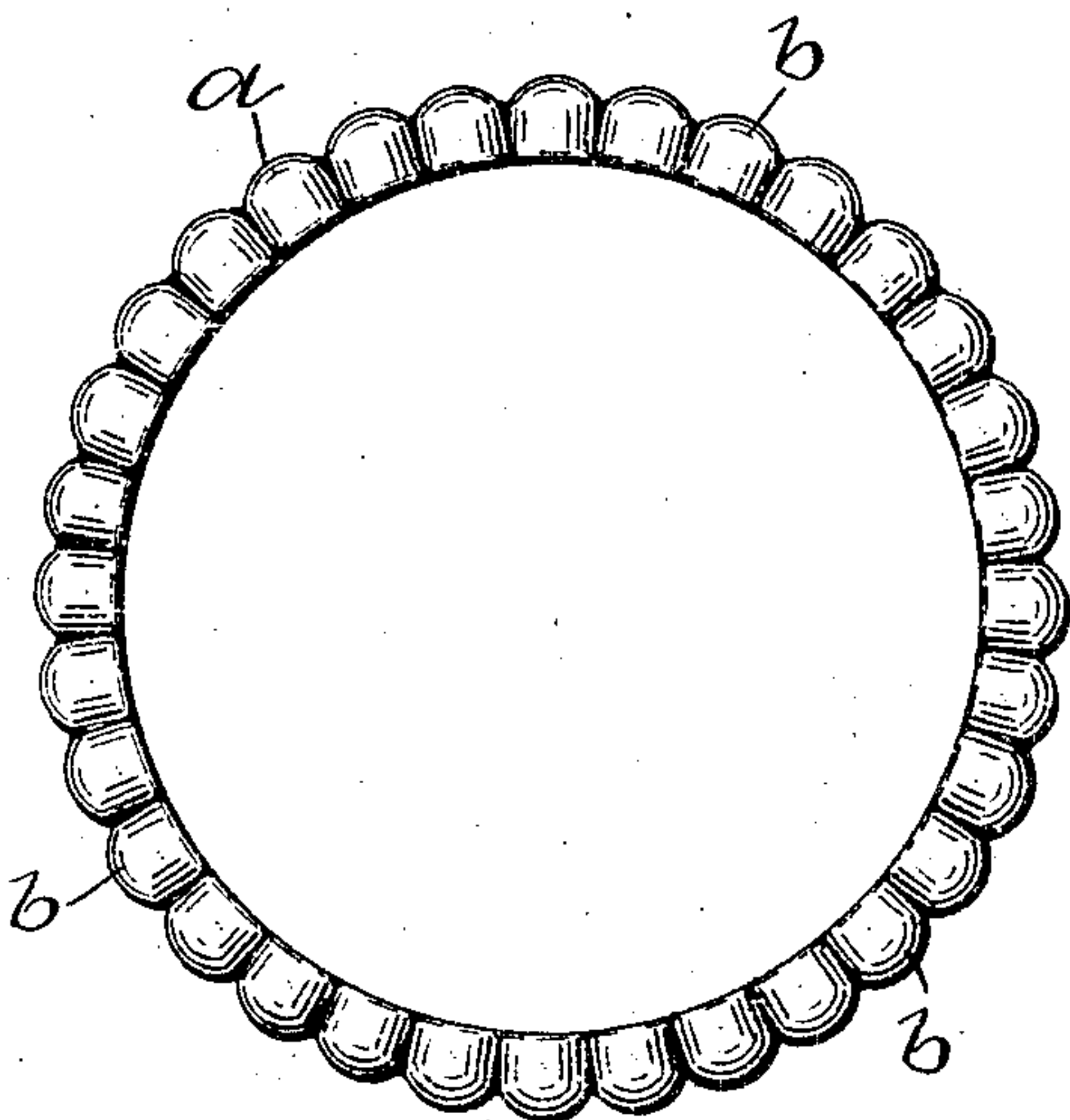


Fig. 2.

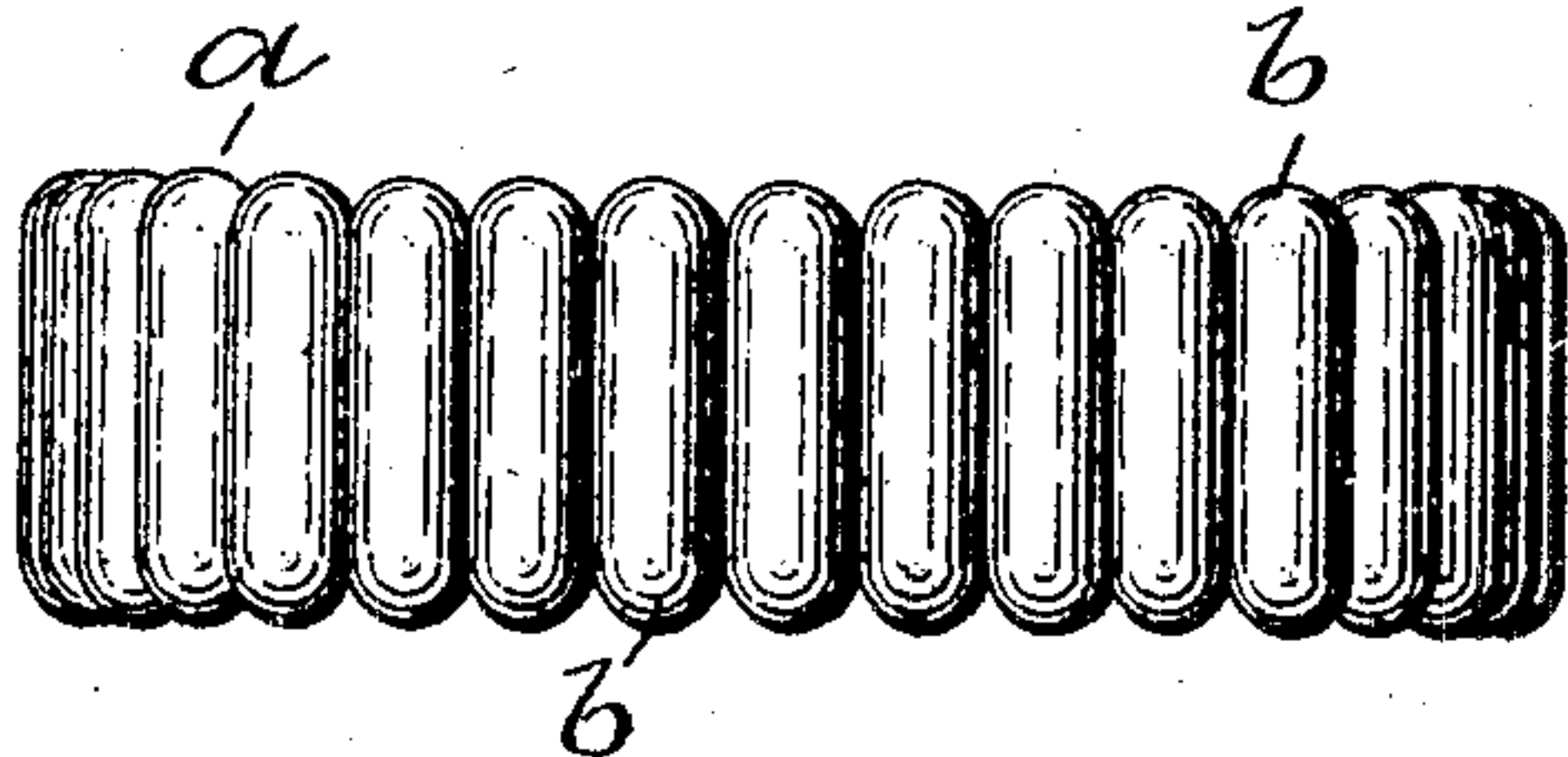


Fig. 3.

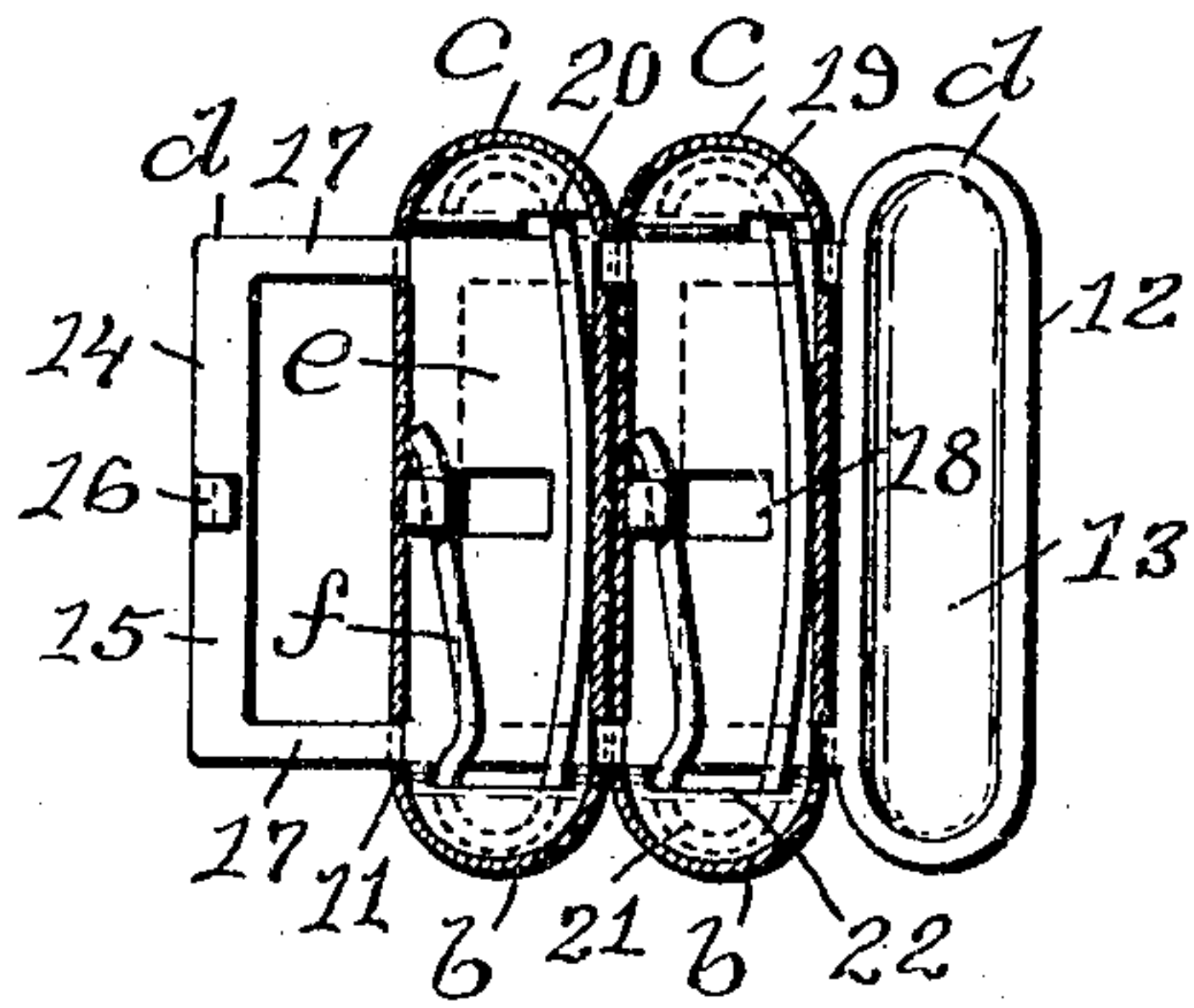


Fig. 4.

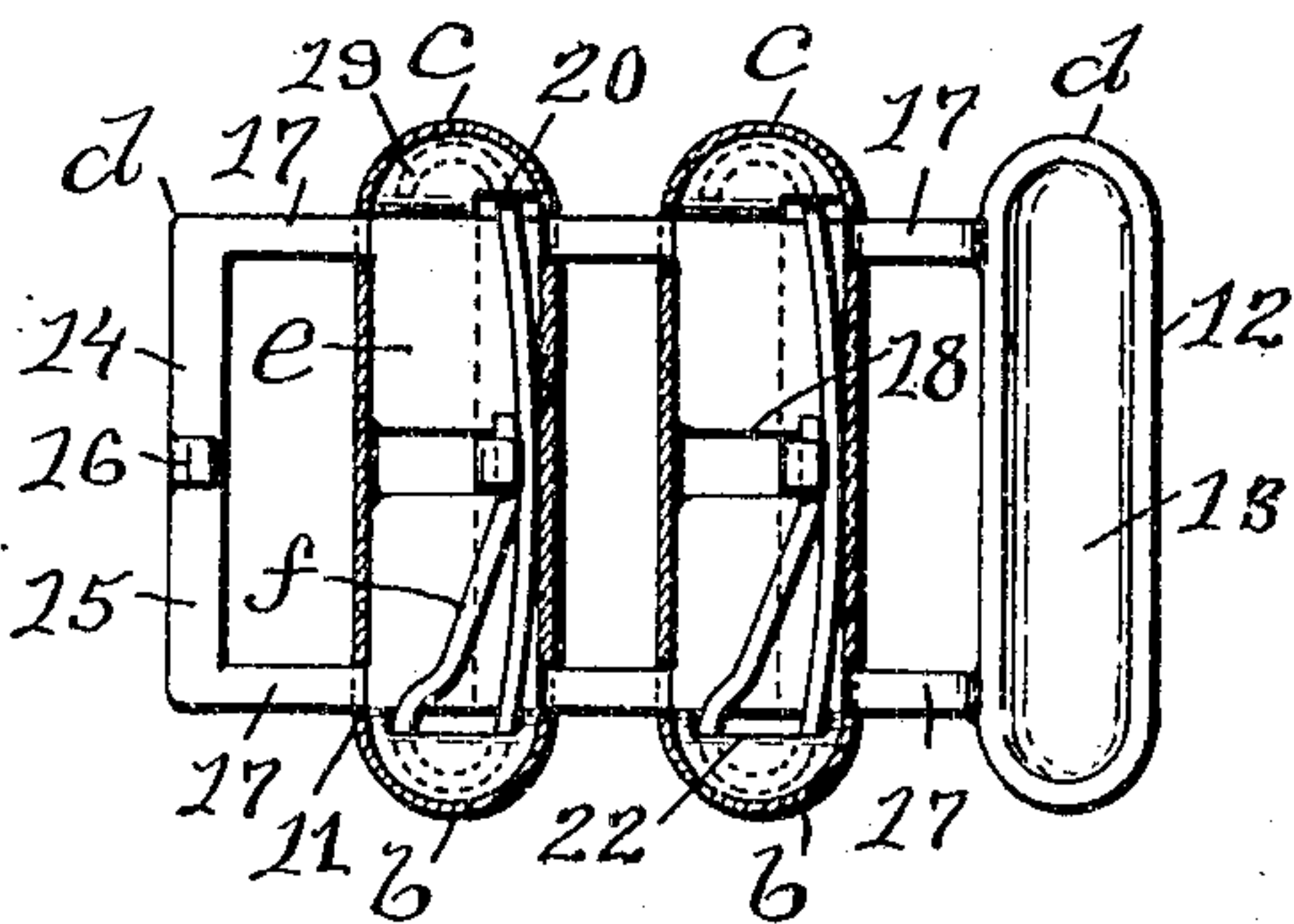


Fig. 5.

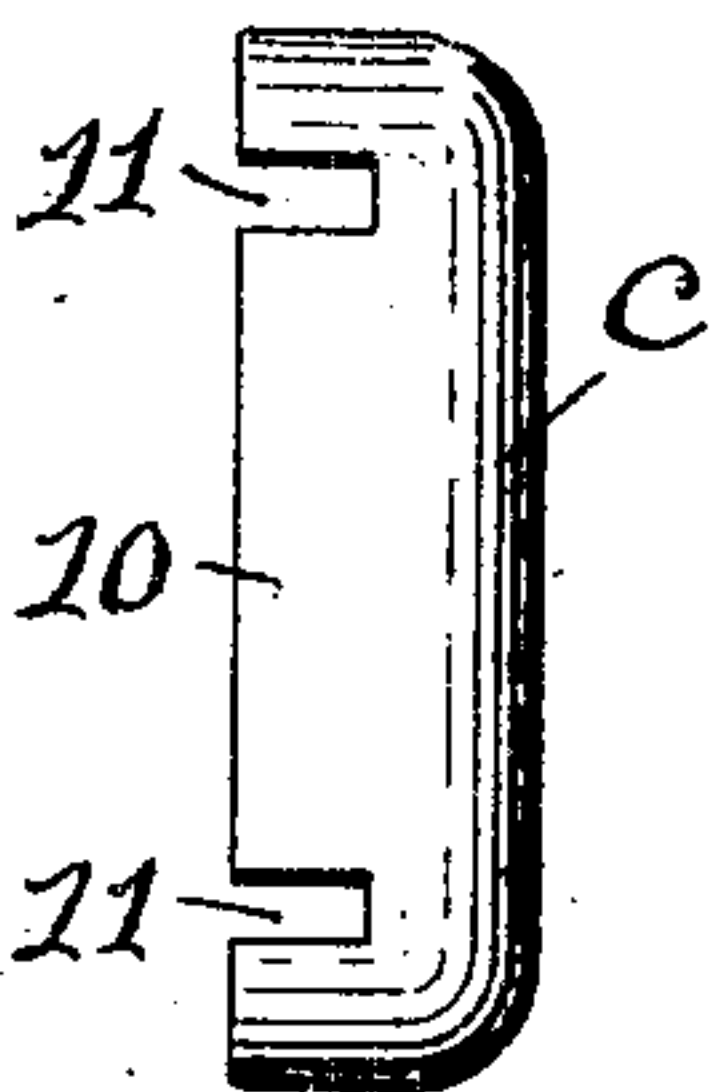


Fig. 6.

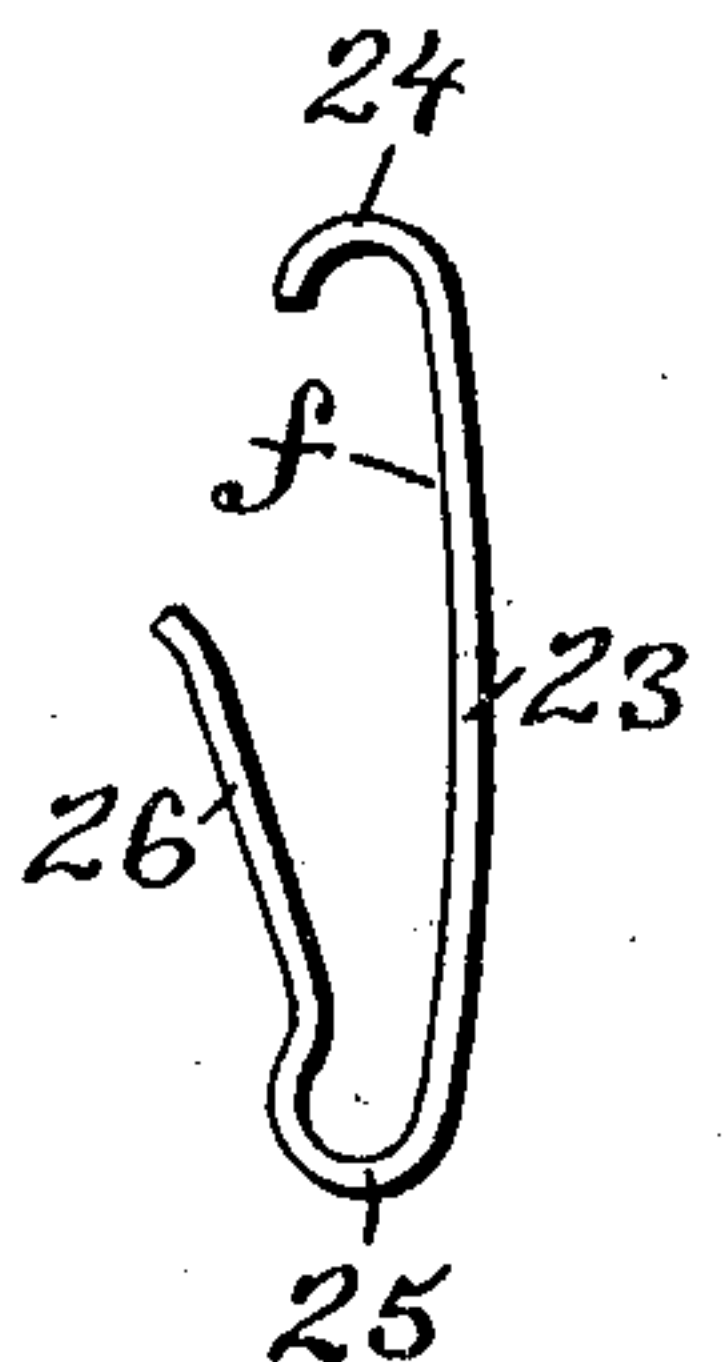


Fig. 7.

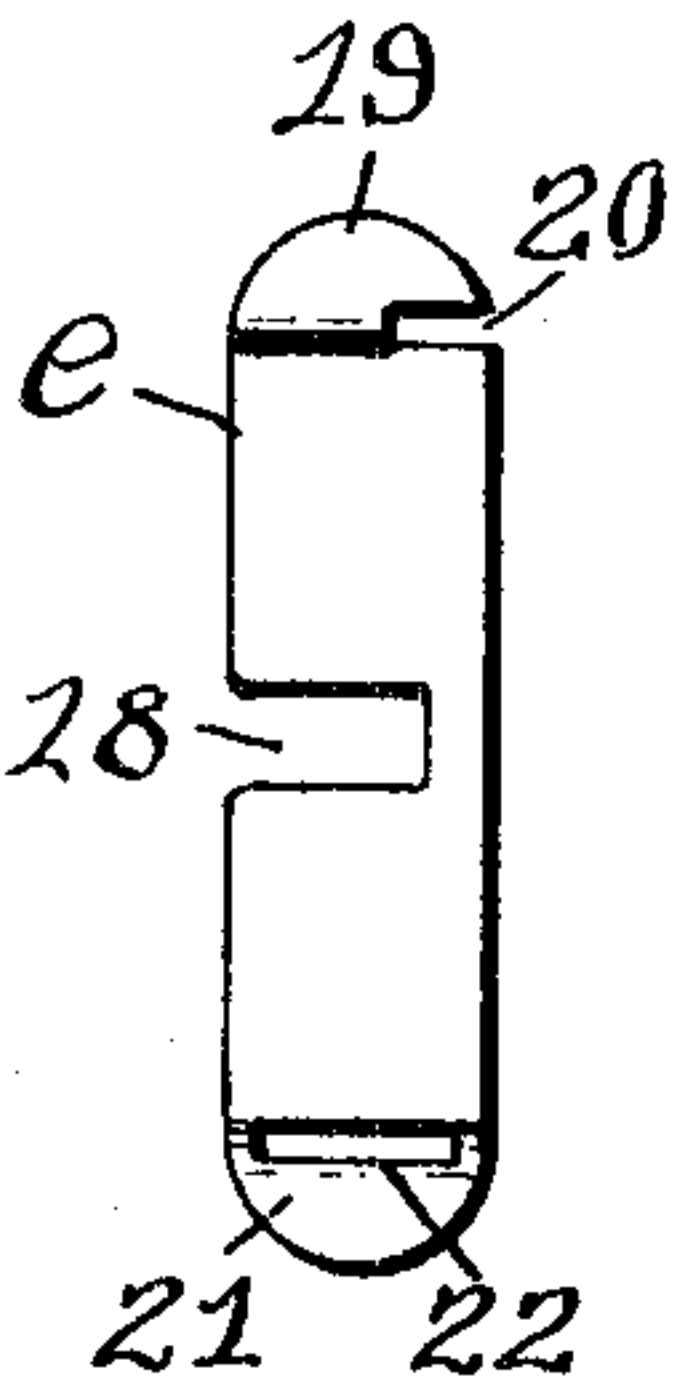


Fig. 8.

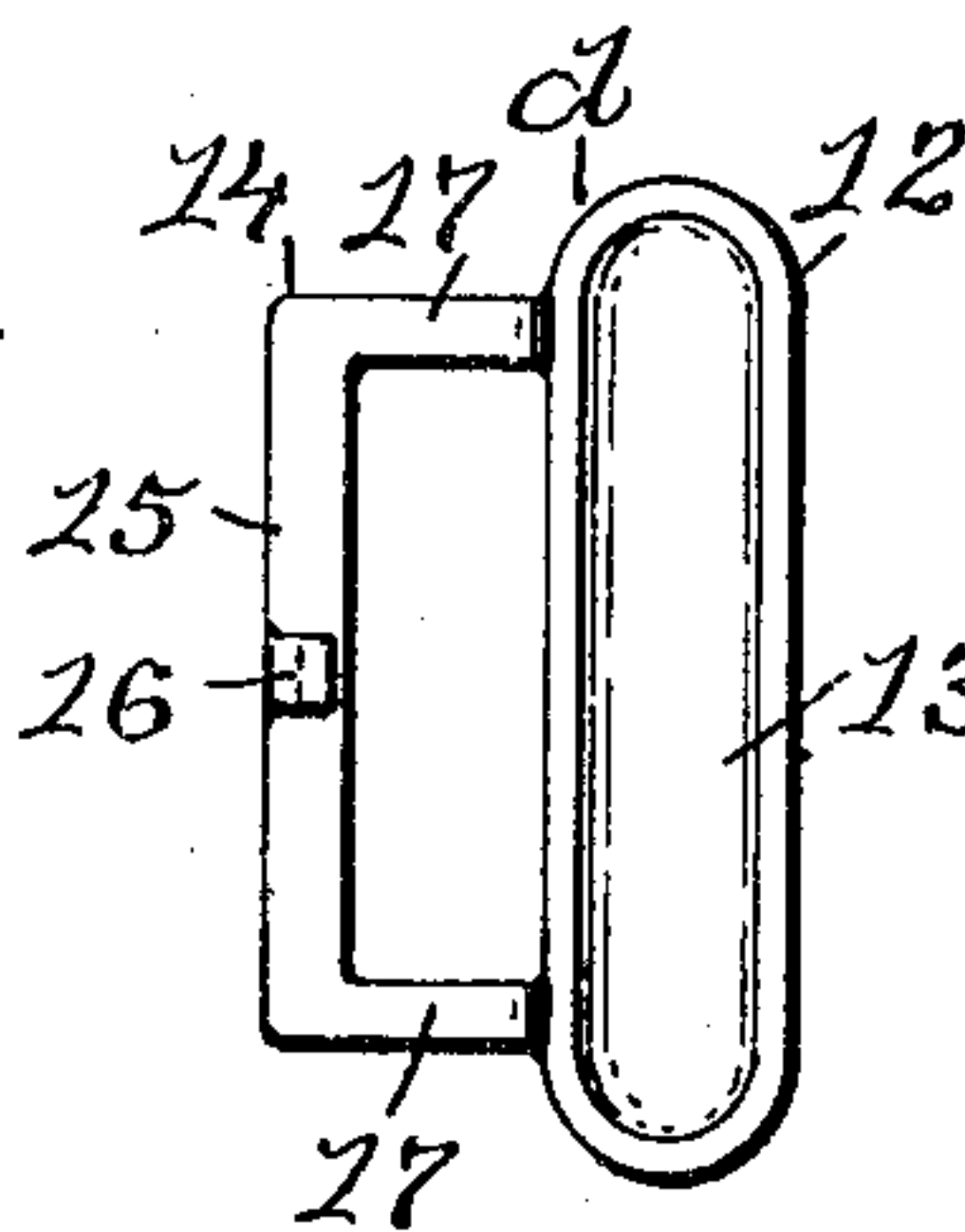
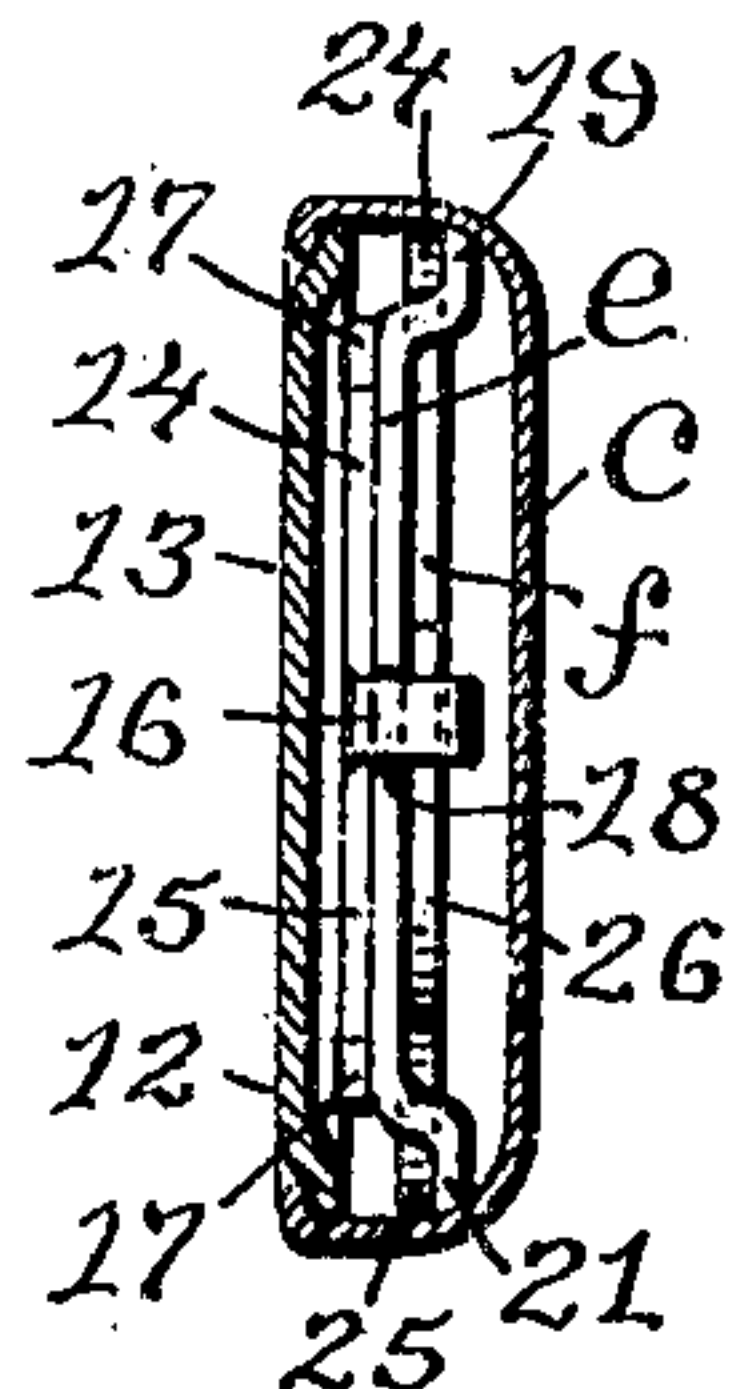


Fig. 9.



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BRACELET.

No. 843,188.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 5, 1907.

Application filed April 27, 1906. Serial No. 313,993.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EBEN F. WILDE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Attleboro, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bracelets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an improvement in bracelets, and more particularly to an improvement in bracelets composed of a plurality of spring-actuated units.

The object of my invention is to improve the construction of a bracelet composed of a plurality of spring-actuated units, whereby the parts are simplified and strengthened and the cost of manufacturing the same reduced.

A further object of my invention is to construct an expansible bracelet of a plurality of units, the spring action of which is more perfect than has heretofore been done.

My invention consists in the peculiar and novel construction of an expansible bracelet composed of a plurality of spring-actuated units, each unit consisting of a shell forming the body of the unit and the face of the bracelet, a back plate having a connecting-link extending through slots in the shell and formed integral, a spring-retaining plate, and a whip-spring secured to the plate in a position for a hooked finger on the connecting-link to engage with the free end of the spring, the spring, plate, and connecting-link being secured in the shell by rolling the edge of the shell over the back plate, with details of construction, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter and claimed.

Figure 1 is an edge view of an expansible bracelet composed of a plurality of my improved spring-actuated units and showing the bracelet in the contracted or normal position. Fig. 2 is a face view of the bracelet in the contracted position. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view of the units looking from the face toward the back and showing the position the springs would assume to hold the units in their normal or contracted position. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view similar to Fig. 3, showing the units in their expanded position. Fig. 5 is a side view of the shell, showing the slots in the side of the shell for a connecting-link. Fig. 6 is a face view of the whip-spring. Fig. 7 is a plan view looking at the inner face of the spring-retaining plate. Fig. 8 is a plan view

looking at the inner face of the combined back plate and connecting-link, and Fig. 9 is a sectional view taken lengthwise through a complete unit.

In the drawings, *a* indicates an expansible bracelet composed of a plurality of spring-actuated units *b b*, each unit *b* consisting of a shell *c*, a combined back plate and connecting-link *d*, a spring-retaining plate *e*, and a whip-spring *f*.

The shell *c* is stamped up from sheet metal to form the sides 10 10, in which adjacent the ends of the shell are the slots 11 11, as shown in Fig. 5, for the stems of the connecting-links. This shell *c* forms the body of the units and may be of any design or configuration desired.

The combined back plate and connecting-link *d* is stamped from sheet metal and shaped to form the back plate 12, having the same configuration as the shell *c* and on its outer face the convex central panel 13 and the broad U-shaped connecting-link 14, having the bar 15, representing the closed end of the U, with the bent-up central finger 16 and the stems 17 17 representing the arms of the U, all formed integral, as shown in Fig. 8. The stems 17 17 where they join the back plate 12 are bent so as to bring the connecting-link 12 between the spring-retaining plate *e* and the back plate 12 of the adjacent unit.

The spring-retaining plate *e* is stamped from sheet metal to have the same configuration as the shell *c* and constructed to have the central opening 18 for the finger 16 on the connecting-link, the raised end 19 having the edge notch 20 oppositely disposed relative to the opening 18 and the raised end 21, in which is the slot 22, as shown in Figs. 7 and 9.

The whip-spring *f* is formed of spring-wire and shaped to have the comparatively straight body portion 23, with the curved hook-shaped end 24 and the rounded end 25, merging into the spring-tongue 26, the free end of which extends approximately toward the rounded end 24 and beyond the center of the spring, as shown in Fig. 6.

In assembling the units to form a bracelet the spring *f* is secured to the retaining-plate *e* by inserting the rounded end 25 into the slot 22 and the curved end 24 into the notch 20 in a position to bring the spring-tongue 26 over the opening 18 and the ends 24 and 25 under

the raised ends 19 and 21 of the plate, as shown in Figs. 3 and 9. The plate with the spring, is now placed in the shell *c*, with the spring toward the face of the shell, the combined back plate and connecting-link *d* placed in position with the connecting-link 14 over the spring-retaining plate *e*, with the finger 16 on the link engaging with the spring-tongue 26 through the opening 18 in the plate, and the back plate of the next adjoining unit over the connecting-link and the whole secured in position by rolling the edges of the shells *c c* over the edges of the back plate, as shown in Fig. 9. The bracelet can now be expanded by pulling the units apart against the tension of the spring-tongue 26. The spring-tongue 26, abutting against the body portion 23 of the spring, limits the expansion of the units, as shown in Fig. 4. When released, the units assume their normal or contracted position, as shown in Fig. 3, through the tension of the spring-tongues 26 26.

In forming the back plate 12 and connecting-link 14 integral it is evident that the connecting-link could be given any shape desired to conform to the configuration of a shell *c* without materially affecting the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a bracelet, a plurality of units, a back plate and connecting-link formed integral and adapted to unite the units, and a spring adapted to exert a spring tension on the connecting-links in the units.

2. In a bracelet, a plurality of units, a back plate and connecting-link formed integral and adapted to unite the units, a spring-re-

taining plate in the units and a spring in the units held by the plate in a position to exert a spring tension on the connecting-links.

3. In a bracelet, a plurality of spring-actuated units, each unit consisting of a shell having sides in which are slots, a combined back plate and connecting-link formed integral and adapted to unite the units through the slots in the shells, and a spring adapted to exert a spring tension on the connecting-link, whereby the units are held in a contracted position under spring tension, as described.

4. In a bracelet, a plurality of spring-actuated units, each unit consisting of a shell having sides in which are slots, a combined back plate and connecting-link formed integral and adapted to unite the units through the slots in the shells, a spring-retaining plate, and a spring held by the plate and adapted to exert a spring tension on the connecting-link, whereby the units are held in a contracted position under spring tension, as described.

5. In a bracelet composed of a plurality of units, a combined back plate and connecting-link *d* stamped from sheet metal and shaped to form the back plate 12 having the central panel 13 and the connecting-link 14 shaped to form the bar 15 having the central finger 16 and the connecting-stems 17 17 all formed integral, as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EBEN F. WILDE.

Witnesses:

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J. A. MILLER.