J. L. HERZOG.

ARTICLE OF JEWELRY.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 11, 1908.

917,604. Patented Apr. 6, 1909.

Fig. 1.

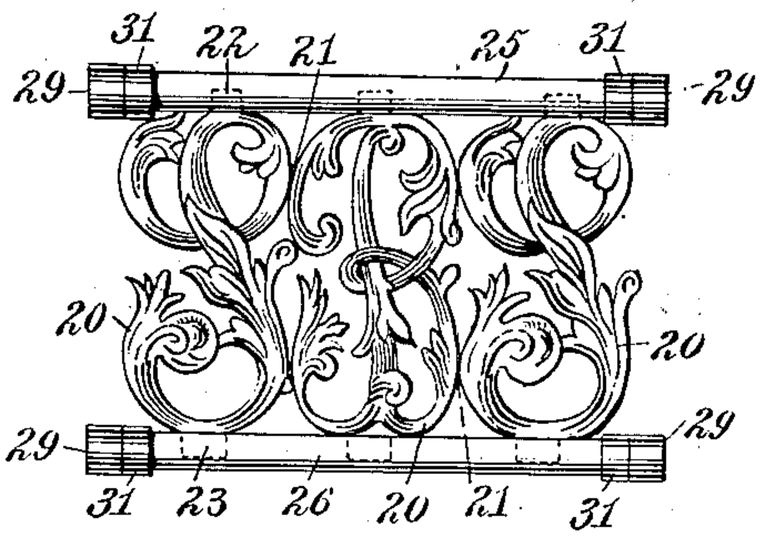


Fig. 2.

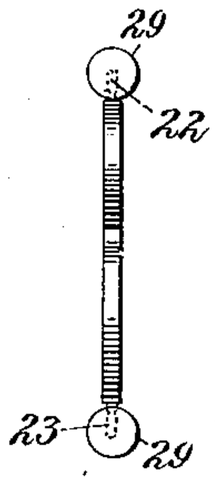


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

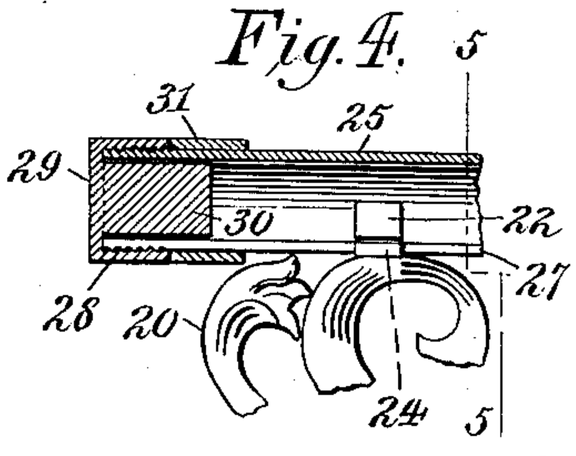


Fig. 5.

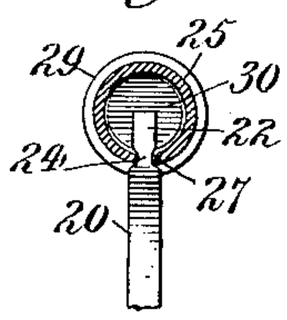


Fig. 6.

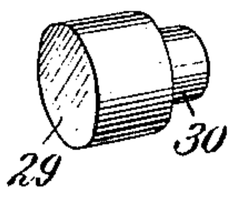


Fig. 7.

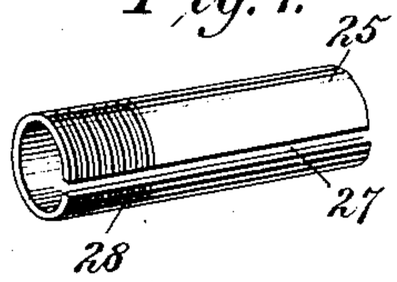


Fig. 8.

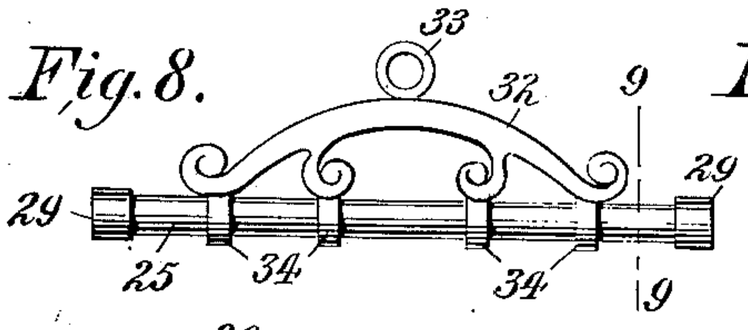


Fig. 9.

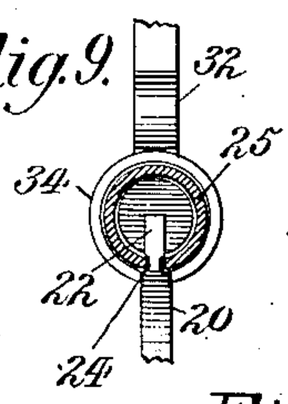


Fig. 10.

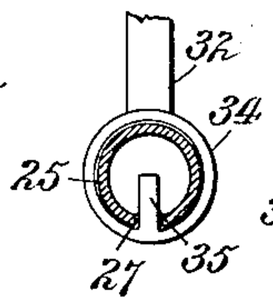


Fig. 11.

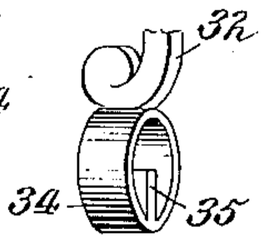


Fig. 12.

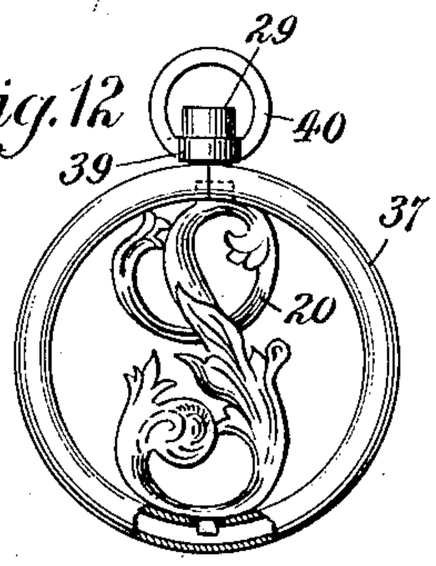


Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.

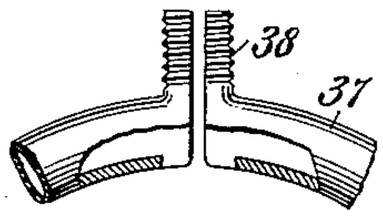


Fig. 15.

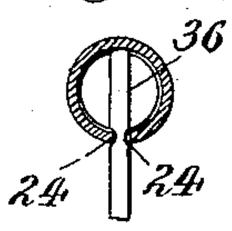


Fig. 16.

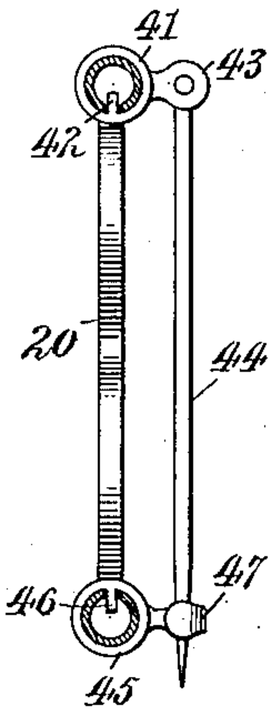


Fig. 17.

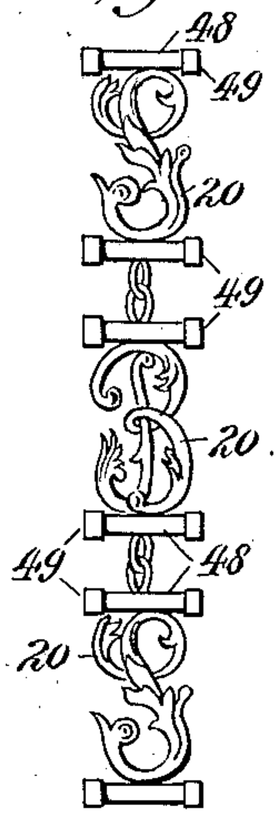


Fig. 18.

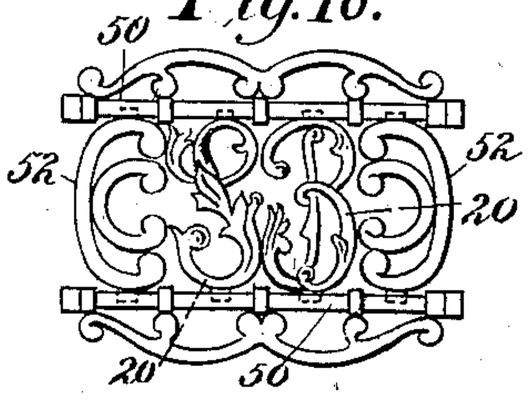
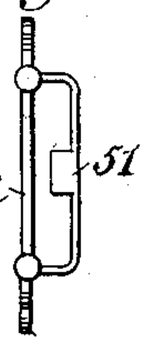


Fig. 19.



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ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ARTICLE OF JEWELRY.

No. 917,604. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 6, 1909.

Application filed May 11, 1908. Serial No. 432,283.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH L. HERZOG, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county of New York and State of New York, have made and invented certain new and useful Improvements in Articles of Jewelry, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in articles of jewelry, and more particularly to those comprising in part an initial letter or letters, monogram, or ornament, and which may be worn or used on chatelaine bags, leather goods, buckles, or as a brooch, watch fob or charm, and for other like purposes, the object of the invention being to provide individual letters so constructed that when assembled or properly arranged, they will have all the appearance of being cut or formed from one piece of metal.

A further object of the invention is to so construct or form these individual letters, ornaments, etc., that they may be arranged or assembled in a horizontal or vertical line, in order that they may be worn or employed for the several different purposes above suggested.

A further object is to so construct and form the letters that they will be interchangeable, in order that any combination of letters, or letters and ornaments, may be quickly and readily assembled to suit the taste or desire of the purchaser.

With these and other ends in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of several letters constructed in accordance with my invention and arranged in a horizontal line. Fig. 2 is an end view thereof. Fig. 3 is a detached view of one of the individual letters. Fig. 4 is a detached sectional view of a part of the hollow wire with the retaining cap and a part of one of the letters attached thereto. Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the retaining cap. Fig. 7 is a similar view of one end of the hollow slotted wire threaded to receive the retaining cap. Fig. 8 shows one of the hollow wires provided with a swinging ornament mounted thereon by which to suspend the article. Fig. 9 is a sectional view taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8, and having a portion of one of the letters attached thereto. Fig. 10 is a similar view of a modified form thereof, the letter being detached. Fig. 11 is a perspective view of that portion of the device shown in Fig. 10. Fig. 12 is a view partly in section and partly in elevation of an article wherein but one letter is employed, the supporting frame being made circular. Fig. 13 is a view partly in section and partly in elevation of a detached part of the circular frame illustrated in Fig. 12. Fig. 14 is a similar view thereof having the retaining cap applied thereto. Fig. 15 is a sectional view of the hollow retaining wire having a modified form of letter attached thereto. Fig. 16 is a view partly in section and partly in elevation of the improvement as applied to a brooch. Fig. 17 shows a number of letters assembled in a vertical line. Fig. 18 is a view of several letters and ornaments arranged to be used as a buckle, and Fig. 19 is an end view thereof.

In the accompanying drawings, 20 represent letters, each formed of any suitable metal and of any desired size or style, and either plain or ornamented, but so shaped, however, that when assembled in a horizontal line, as in Fig. 1, they will preferably touch or contact at one or more points, as illustrated at 21, whereby to give them a neat and finished appearance, and whereby to lend the impression that they are cut, stamped or formed from one piece of sheet metal. Each of these letters, as illustrated in Fig. 3, is provided at its upper end with the lug or projection 22 and at its lower end with a similar lug or projection 23, said lugs being each provided on its front and rear sides with a groove 24, whereby to securely hold the same in the upper slotted hollow retaining wire 25, and the similar lower wire 26, these wires being formed, as illustrated in Fig. 7, that is, with the slot 27 running the entire length of the wire and having its ends threaded as illustrated at 28. These wires 25, 26, are preferably made of the same material as the letters 20, but if desired may be made of other metal, in order to afford a pleasing contrast, that is, the letters 20 may be made of gold and the wires of silver, or vice versa. These retaining wires are preferably made of such length as to nicely contain the letters 20, the latter being retained in position therein by means of the retaining caps 29, these caps being constructed as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 6, that

is, each comprises a cap proper 29, internally threaded to engage with the threaded ends 28 of the wires, and provided with the hub or plug 30 adapted in size to be nicely contained within the end of the wires 27 and prevent the latter from becoming bent, distorted or injured. As illustrated in Fig. 1, these bars may be somewhat lengthened and spacing rings or sleeves 31 fitted over the wires between the letters 20 and caps 29, whereby to keep said letters from shifting, and retain them in close contact with each other.

In assembling the several parts, the cap 29 is first screwed onto one end of each of the wires 25, 26. The grooved lugs 22 23 of the letters are then fitted into the hollow wires, the edges of the slot 27 in the wire fitting in the groove 24, securely locking said letters to the wires and preventing their accidental disengagement therefrom. After the several letters 20 have been assembled with the wires 25, 26, the caps 29 are then screwed onto the opposite ends of the wires 25, 26, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the letters thus assembled contacting with each other and having all the appearance of being cut or formed from one piece of sheet metal.

This article may be used for various purposes, for instance, as illustrated in Fig. 8 of the drawings, it may have applied to the upper bar 25 the ornament 32 provided with the ring 33, whereby to attach it to a watch chain, watch fob, or other article, said ornament being provided with the rings 34 fitting loosely around said wire 25 and allowing the article to swing. If desired, however, these rings or sleeves 34 may be provided with the upwardly extending projection 35, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 10 and 11, the projection 35 fitting up through the slot 27 in the wire 25, whereby to hold the ornament 32 and wire 25 stationary with relation to each other and prevent one from swinging with relation to the other.

As illustrated in Fig. 15, the lugs formed on the upper and lower ends of the letters or ornaments may be somewhat lengthened, as illustrated at 36, and extended from one wall of the wire to the other, whereby to strengthen said wire and assist in preventing any bending thereof or injury thereto. These lugs are also made of sufficient width in order to prevent any twisting or turning of the letters after being properly assembled, and to assist in stiffening the completed article.

Instead of arranging a series of letters in a horizontal line, as above described, these letters may be used individually as ornaments, for instance, in Fig. 12, I have shown the piece of hollow slotted wire bent into the form of a circle 37, the adjacent ends being upwardly bent and threaded as illustrated at 38. After the lugs on the letter 20 have been properly entered in the slot, the ends 38 are brought together and a sleeve 39 passed over the same to assist in holding them together, said sleeve 39 being provided with a ring 40 whereby to suspend the same. The retaining cap 29 is then screwed onto the ends 38, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 14, whereby to lock the parts together and retain them in their proper relative positions. Again, the article as illustrated in Fig. 1, instead of being suspended may have a pin attached thereto, as illustrated in Fig. 16. In this instance, one of the hollow wires will have fitted thereon the sleeve 41, provided with the lug or extension 42 to project up through the slot 27 in the wire, in order to prevent the sleeve from turning. On the sleeve 41 is provided the arm 43 having attached thereto the pin 44, and on the opposite hollow wire is fitted the sleeve 45 formed with the projection 46 extending through the slot in the wire to prevent its turning or twisting thereon. This sleeve 45 is formed with the hook 47, with which the free end of the pin 44 engages. Again, these letters may be arranged in a vertical line, as illustrated in Fig. 17, the hollow wires 48 being formed similar to those before referred to and provided with the retaining caps 49 to prevent the disengagement of the letters 20 therefrom. As illustrated in Figs. 18 and 19, these letters may also be arranged to form a buckle, the letters 20 being constructed and arranged as before described, and assembled upon the hollow wires 50 as above suggested, said buckle being constructed with the catch 51 as in ordinary cases. In this as well as in other instances, it may be desired to combine ornaments with the letters in order to give to the finished article its proper proportions and finish, such as illustrated at 52, Fig. 18, these ornaments being provided with grooved lugs similar to those formed on or secured to the letters 20 and assembled with the hollow wires in the same way.

From the foregoing it will be understood that my invention is exceedingly simple; that from a stock of letters and ornaments and different lengths of hollow slotted wires, many varieties and forms of articles of jewelry may be constructed, the several parts being interchangeable and completely finished at the factory, and therefore requiring no fitting or mechanical operations on the part of the retail dealer to assemble them in devising a particular article or combination of letters, or letters and ornaments. Furthermore, it will be understood that I have avoided the heating or soldering of the hollow wires to retain the parts in their proper places, and have so constructed and formed the several parts that they may be securely locked in place without the application of any heat to said wires, and thereby avoid the softening or weakening of the latter, which

necessarily results when hollow gold or silver wire is exposed to fire or soldering operations.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. An article of jewelry, comprising interchangeable outline letters, each of which contacts with the adjacent letters only at points on the side edges between its upper and lower ends when assembled in a horizontal line, and means associated with the end portions of said letters for holding them in their contacting positions whereby the finished article has the appearance of being made from a single piece of metal, substantially as described.

2. The combination of interchangeable outline letters, each of which contacts with the adjacent letters only at points between its upper and lower ends when assembled in a horizontal line, each of said letters being provided at its ends with grooved lugs, and means engaging said lugs for carrying said letters, substantially as described.

3. The combination of interchangeable outline letters, each of which contacts with the adjacent letters only at points between its upper and lower ends when assembled in a horizontal line, and upper and lower wires to which said letters are assembly secured, the two ends of each of said wires being free and suitably capped.

4. The combination with a hollow slotted wire, of letters provided with lugs fitting in the slots in said wires, means for retaining said letters in position, and a support attached to said wire and provided with means also fitting in the slot in said wires whereby to hold said support and wire in their proper relative positions, substantially as described.

5. The combination with interchangeable letters each constructed to contact with the adjacent one when assembled in a horizontal line, and each provided with a lug at its upper and lower ends, of an upper and lower wire provided with longitudinal slots in which said lugs fit, and a support attached to one of said wires and also provided with lugs fitting in said slots, substantially as described.

Signed at New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county of New York, and State of New York, this 8th day of May, A. D. 1908.

JOSEPH L. HERZOG.

Witnesses:

M. VAN NORTWICK,

JOHN B. WHITE.