

H. E. KERLEY.

CHAIN CLASP.

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921,846.

Patented May 18, 1909.

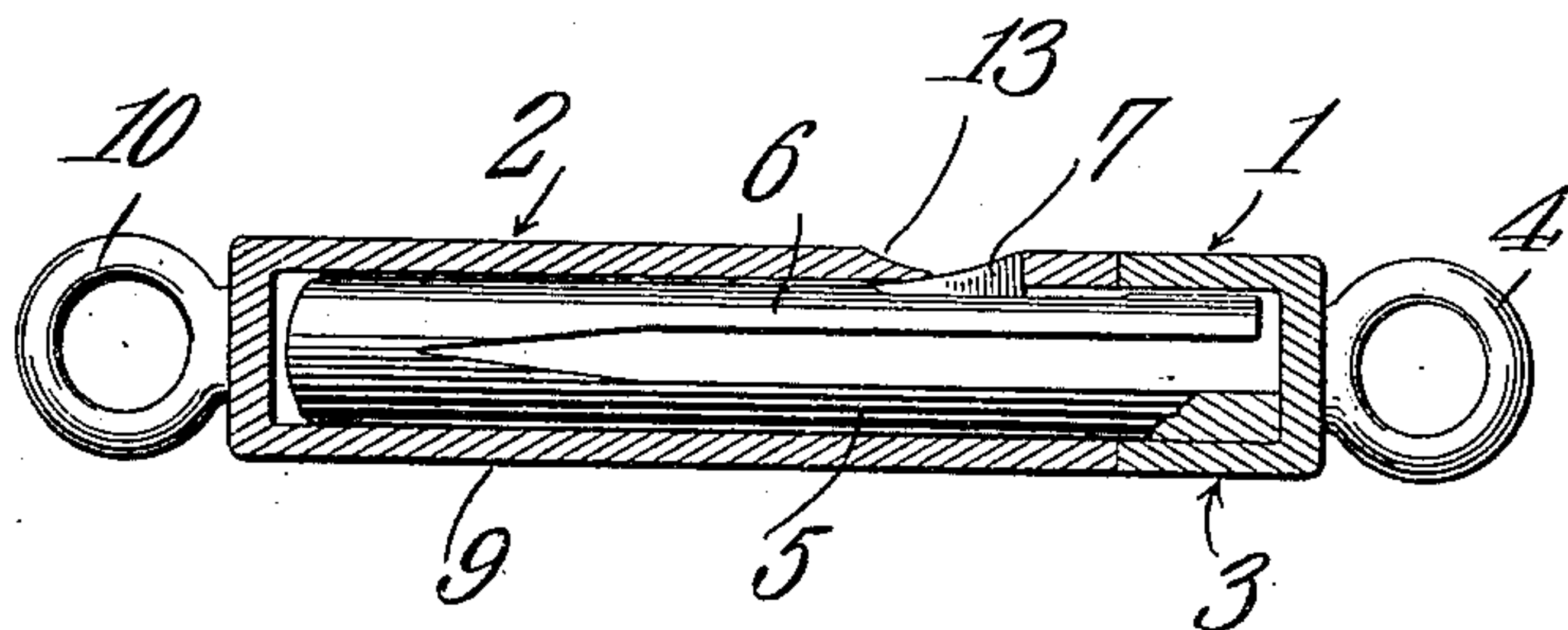
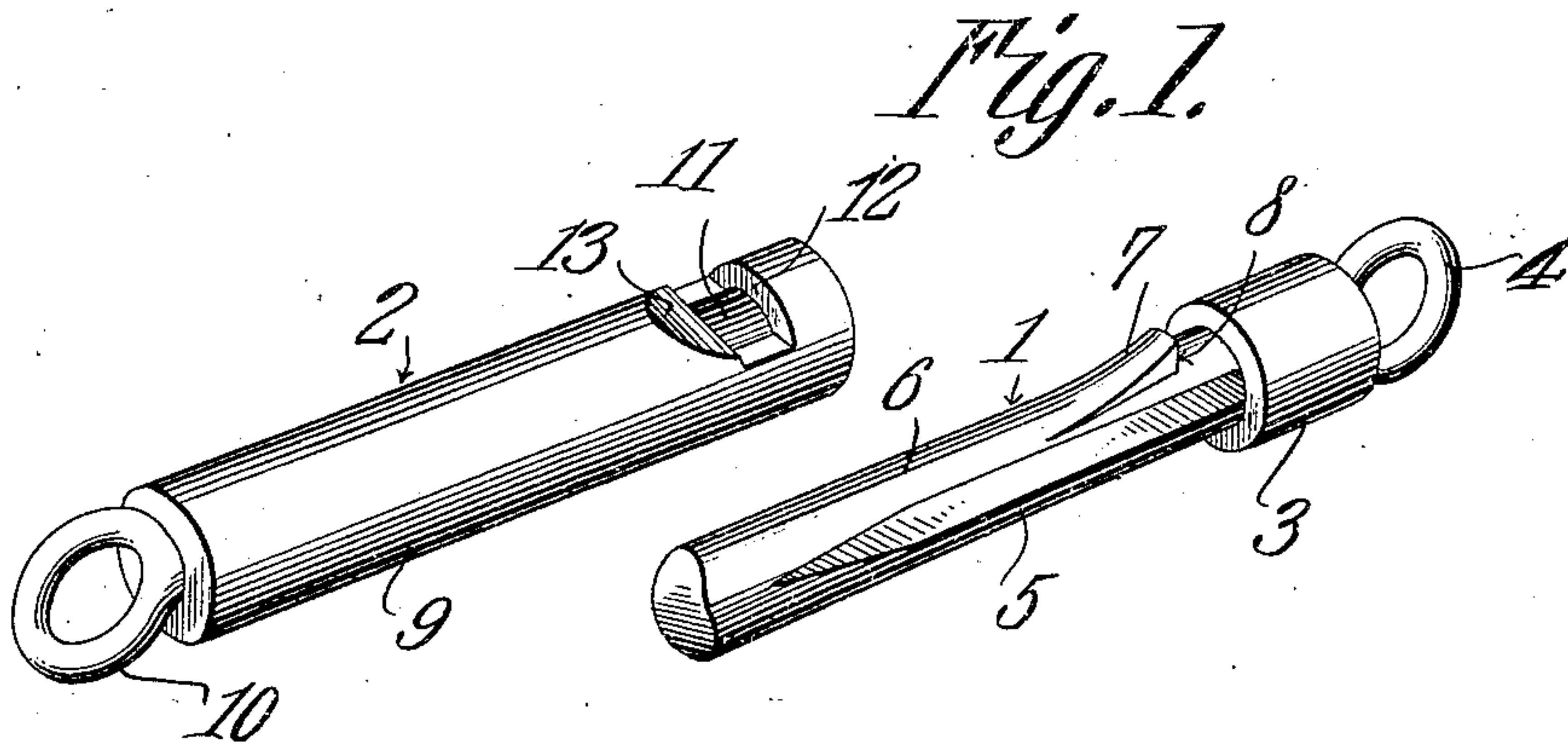


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

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HUBERT E. KERLEY, OF MARIETTA, GEORGIA.

CHAIN-CLASP.

No. 921,846.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 18, 1909.

Application filed June 18, 1908. Serial No. 439,238.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUBERT E. KERLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marietta, in the county of Cobb and State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Chain-Clasp, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to clasps, and particularly to one of that class employed on jewelry for securing together the ends of a neck or other chain.

The objects of the invention are to provide an article of this character in which the parts shall, in a novel manner, be held positively assembled against accidental separation; in which no projecting parts shall be presented to catch in the hair or clothing of the wearer with attending danger of breakage; in which the releasing and assemblage of the members may be readily effected; and in which the parts shall be so constructed and arranged as to insure the greatest durability in use with the minimum of liability of injury from careless handling.

With the above and other objects, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of a jewelry clasp, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts; Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a jewelry clasp constructed in accordance with the present invention, the parts thereof being separated. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the clasp, showing the parts assembled.

The article embodies the male member designated generally 1, and the female member generally designated 2.

The male member embodies a tubular section 3 to the closed end of which is attached in any desired manner a ring 4. Secured within the section 3 is the locking member or latch, which in this instance is constructed from a length of resilient wire, and is longitudinally cleft for a greater portion of its length to provide two arms 5 and 6, the former of which is soldered or otherwise attached to the inner wall of the section 3. The arm 6 is somewhat the shorter and is provided adjacent to its free ends with a boss 7 of less width than the arm, the outer face of the boss being concaved and its wall 8 being disposed at

right angles to the length of the arm, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, and spaced at any preferred distance from the opposing end of the section 3.

The female member embodies a tubular section 9 of the same external diameter as the section 3, and to its closed end is attached in any desired manner a ring 10. Adjacent to the open end of the section 9 is formed a slot 11 through which the boss 7 projects when the two clasp members are assembled, as shown in Fig. 2, the forward wall 12 of the slot being here shown as disposed at right angles to the length of the member and being engaged by the wall 8 of the lug. The section 9 adjacent to the slot is beveled on an inward curve to provide a nail guide 13 by which to facilitate the springing of the lug out of engagement with the slot when the members are to be disconnected.

As will be observed by reference to Fig. 2, the lug lies flush with the outer face of the section 2, thus to obviate the presentation of a projection that might catch in the hair or garments of the wearer. This disposition of the lug also materially facilitates its engagement by the finger or thumb nail of the user when the members are to be disconnected.

Aside from the finished appearance imparted to the article by having both sections of the same external diameter a more stable clasp is secured, and the assemblage of the two members is greatly facilitated as the shoulder formed by the inner section 3 will positively operate to limit the inward insertion of the member 1, so that proper coaction between the slot and the lug will at all times be assured.

As will be obvious the members of the clasp may be circular in cross section, as shown, or polygonal according to the taste of the user.

It will be obvious that changes in the form, proportions, and relative arrangement of parts of the device may be made and also other modifications, without departing from the spirit of the invention and so long as such changes or modifications are within the scope of the claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A clasp of the class described comprising a sleeve member formed with a shoulder, and a second member comprising a locking element which is bifurcated and is provided upon one of its furcations with a boss for

engagement with the shoulder of the first mentioned member, and means rigidly connected with one of the furcations and engaged by the other furcation to limit the
5 springing of the last mentioned furcation away from the first mentioned furcation.

2. A clasp of the class described comprised of a sleeve member formed with a shoulder, and a second member comprising a head and
10 a locking element which is bifurcated and has one of its furcations fitted into the head

and secured therein and having the other furcation projecting into the head and formed with a boss for engagement with the shoulder of the first mentioned member. 15

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HUBERT E. KERLEY

Witnesses:

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