A. EKLUND.

BRACELET LINK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 23, 1915.

1,166,821. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Fig. 1

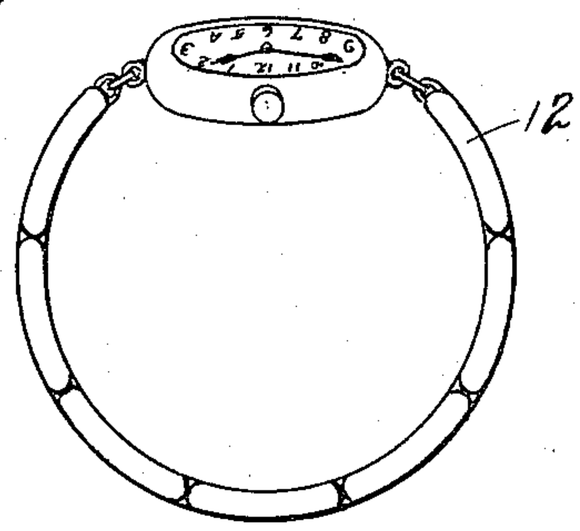


Fig. 3

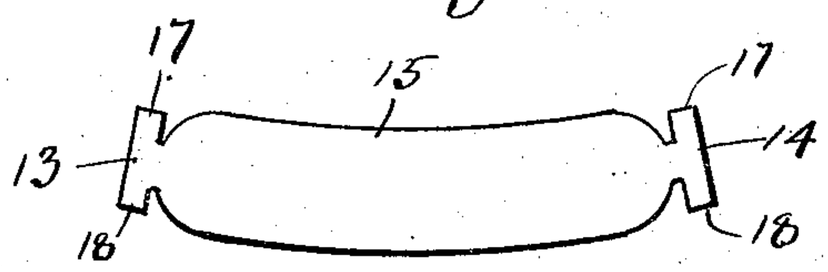
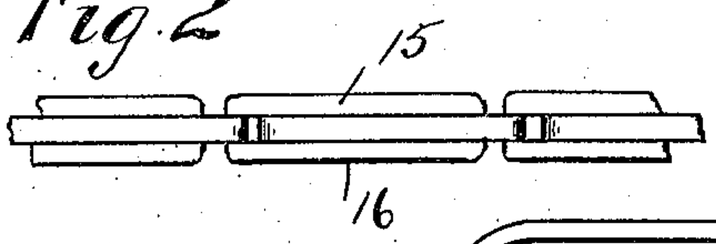


Fig. 2



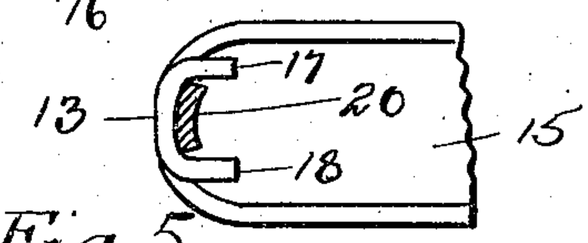


Fig. 5

Fig. 4

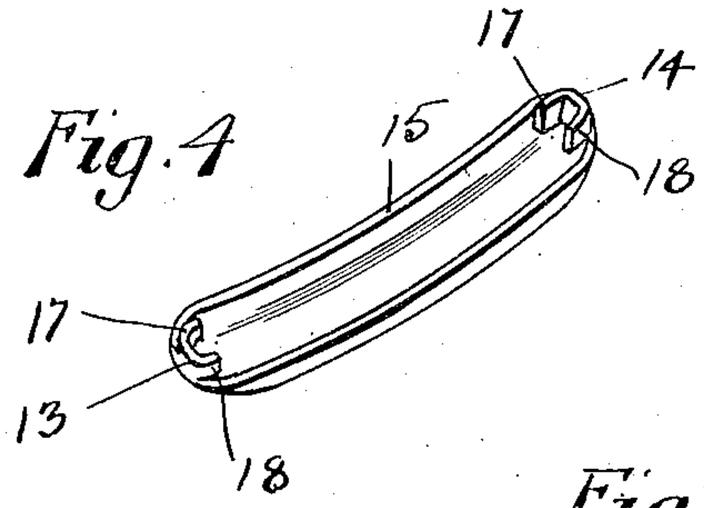


Fig. 6

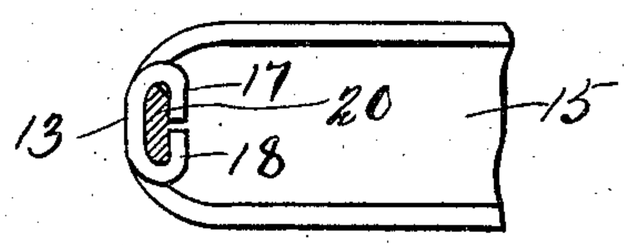


Fig. 7

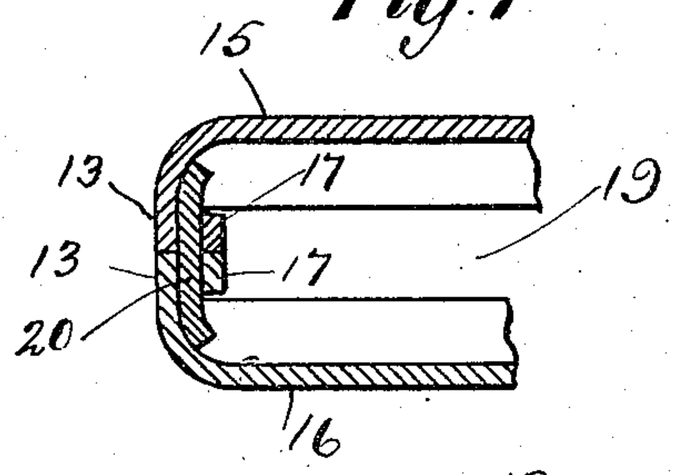


Fig. 9

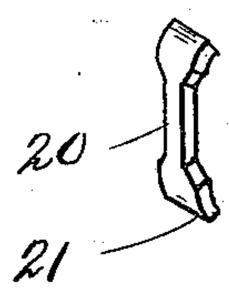
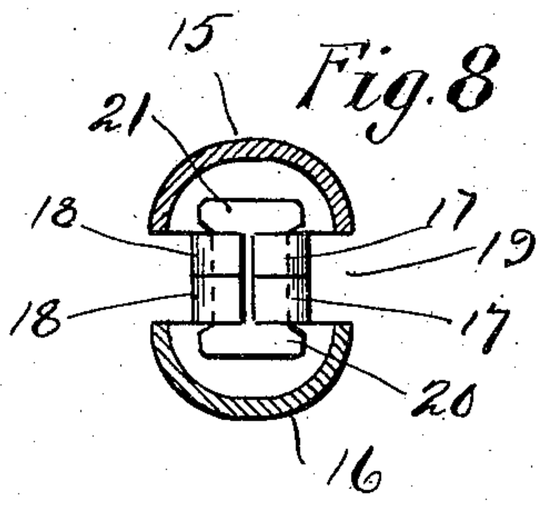


Fig. 8



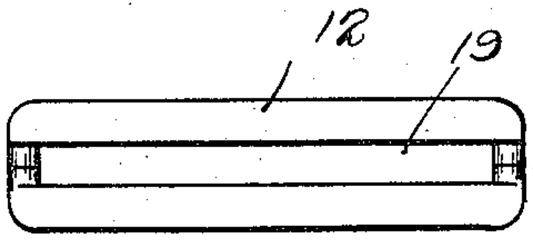


Fig. 10

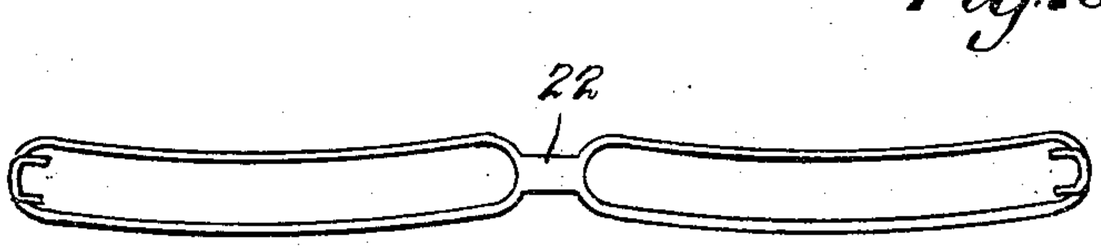


Fig. 11

Witnesses

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By

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BRACELET-LINK.

1,166,821. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Application filed August 23, 1915. Serial No. 46,987.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER EKLUND, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of Attleboro, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bracelet-Links, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to bracelets of the extendible type, and has for its object to provide a plurality of guide link members each carrying a connecting slide link member, each guide link being constructed of two oppositely disposed spaced apart parallel members, one or both ends of each member being provided with foldable extensions whose ends abut and so provide a spacing gage for said members to support them positively in parallel alinement one with the other and to also provide a locking bar around which a portion of the extensions of both members are folded for locking them securely together.

It is found in practice that where the extension members which join the ends of the opposite guide members are made long to overlap each other, each having wings, one to fold about the neck of the other, that considerable difficulty is experienced in the manufacture of the same to secure them in parallel alinement.

My improved construction as described above has numerous advantages from a practical standpoint. First, by forming the extension members substantially one-half the width of the space between the guide members and abutting their ends, they provide a positive spacing gage to absolutely control the distance between said members, making each and all exactly alike, so that when the slide links are mounted in this space, they will fit closely yet slide freely and not bind therein, which is of utmost importance in the smooth and free working of the bracelet. Then again by forming a separate and independent lock bar and mounting the same on the inner side of these extension members and folding the wings of both the members inward about said bar, the outer surface of these abutting extensions is left smooth, and in the same plane, which renders this portion of the bracelet much more finished in appearance. Then again by this construction the bearing surface engaged by this extension link is just double the width that it would be if the wings were folded in opposite directions and the inner surface of these folded extension members is nicely rounded forming a smooth bearing over which the next adjacent link member may work. This locking means may be applied to either or both ends of this guide link.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a side view of the complete bracelet having links of my improved construction and attached to a watch. Fig. 2 is an edge view showing the general arrangement of the interconnecting links. Fig. 3 shows one of the guide link members as constructed of sheet-stock with foldable wings formed on the ends thereof. Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the result of the next operation in which this member is struck up into a trough-shape with the extensions drawn up into position to engage the connecting lock bar. Fig. 5 is a view looking at the inner side of one end of one of the guide members showing the lock bar in position and in section, before the wings are folded about the same. Fig. 6 is the same as Fig. 5 showing the wings folded about the lock bar. Fig. 7 is a central side elevation of one end of the guide link showing the members as joined together by having the extension wings of each folded about the lock bar. Fig. 8 is a sectional view looking from the inner side at the end of the guide link showing the wings as bent around the lock bar. Fig. 9 is a perspective view showing the lock bar in detail. Fig. 10 illustrates the two members of the guide link connected at both ends and positively held in parallel alinement by my improved connecting means. Fig. 11 is a modification showing the two members of the guide link as connected together at one end by an integral bridge.

Referring to the drawings, 12 designates one of the complete guide links which is formed of two members 15 and 16, each of which is blanked out of sheet stock as illustrated in Fig. 3, with extensions 13 and 14, respectively, formed integral with the opposite ends thereof. Each of these extensions is provided with wings 17 and 18 which are adapted to be bent or folded in the manner

presently described. These side members are next struck up preferably into trough-shape as illustrated in Fig. 4, with their extension members set substantially at right angle to the plane of the inner edge of the body portion, and the wing portions are turned inward. After these members have been so struck, they are placed opposite each other and the ends of the extensions caused to abut against each other as illustrated in Figs. 7, 8 and 10. The length of each extension is just one-half the width of the space 19 between these guide members, and therefore together form a spacing gage to accurately position said members relative to each other. In order to connect the ends of these guide members firmly together, I have provided a lock bar 20, see Fig. 9, which is enlarged at its opposite ends. This lock bar is placed against the inner surface of these extension members and the wings 17 and 18 of both members are folded about the reduced middle portion of this bar as best illustrated in Fig. 6 and when so folded the enlarged head portions 21 at the opposite ends effectually prevent the ends of the guide members from opening. By this construction, it will be seen that by the employment of such spacing gages as these abutting extensions provide, that these guide members are held in absolute alinement one with the other, which is of utmost importance in the proper working of the slide link members in the space between them. Then again as will be seen both of the wings of both extension members are turned inward which leaves the outer surface of the extensions in the same plane with each other and with the ends of the link members which effect greatly improves the appearance of this link. Then again by folding all four of the wings inwardly instead of each pair in opposite directions, the inner contacting surface for the connecting link is left smooth so as to permit a free and easy swinging action of one link upon the other and also presents the maximum contact surface for engagement with the connecting link.

I have shown and described the guide link members as provided at each end with these abutting spacing extension members, but in some cases, I may prefer to employ a bridge member 22 as illustrated in Fig. 11 for connecting one end of each of these guide members together and employ these spacer members above described for connecting the opposite ends of said members.

I claim:

1. In a bracelet, a guide link comprising two oppositely disposed spaced apart parallel members, each of said members being provided with an integral extension whose ends when the members are assembled abut and provide a spacer for said members, and a locking bar around which a portion of the extension of both members is folded to secure said members together.

2. In a bracelet, a guide link comprising two oppositely disposed spaced apart parallel members, each of said members being provided with an integral extension each of a length substantially one-half the distance of the space between said members, the ends of said extensions abutting to provide a spacer for said members, and a locking bar around which the extensions of both members are folded to secure said members together.

3. In a bracelet, a guide link comprising two oppositely disposed spaced apart trough-shaped members, each being provided at its ends with integral extensions whose ends abut and provide a spacer for said members, each of said extensions having wing members, and a lock bar at each end around which the corresponding extension wings are folded to secure said members together.

4. In a bracelet, a guide link comprising two oppositely disposed spaced apart trough-shaped members, each being provided at one of its ends with an integral extension whose ends abut and provide a spacer for said members, each of said extensions having wing members, and a lock bar at each end on the inner side of said extensions around which the corresponding extension wings are folded to secure said ends together, and a link slidably mounted in the space between said guide link members, said folded extension members also serving to guide said slide link.

5. In a bracelet, a guide link comprising two oppositely disposed spaced apart trough-shaped members, each being provided at one end with an integral extension whose ends when the members are assembled abut and provide a spacer for said members, each of said extensions having wing members, and a lock bar at each end on the inner side of said extensions around which the corresponding extension wings are folded to secure said members together, said bars being enlarged at the ends to positively prevent separation of the parts after said wings have been folded about the same, and a link slidably mounted in the space between said guide link members, said folded extension members also serving to guide said slide link.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALEXANDER EKLUND.

Witnesses:

WALTER W. COBB,

FRANK G. GRANT.