

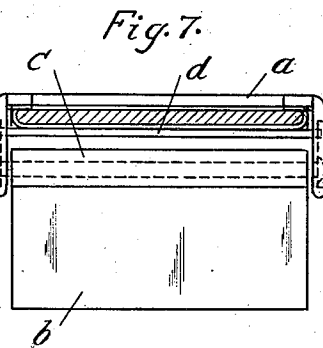
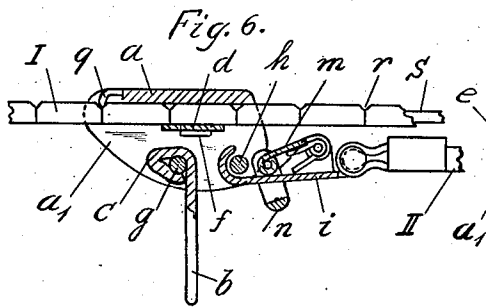
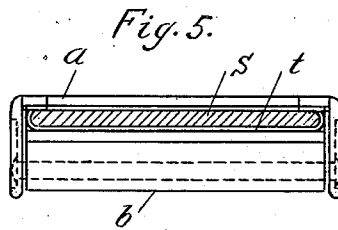
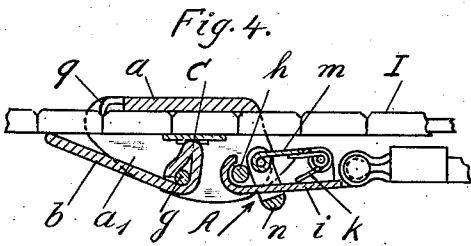
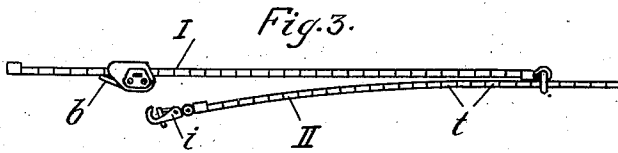
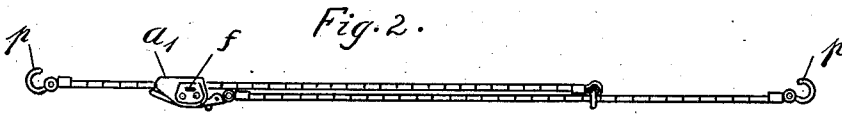
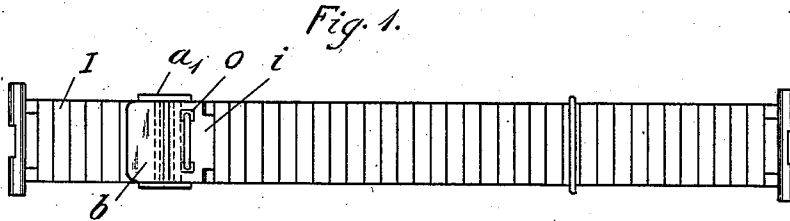
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BRACELET FASTENER

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BRACELET FASTENER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 24—78)

This invention relates to a fastener for bracelets, especially wristwatch bracelets, comprising two strap portions slidable the one over the other so that they can be enlarged for the purpose of slipping over the hand when putting on and taking off, without completely unfastening the same.

It is known in bracelets of this type to provide the end of one strap portion with an eye through which the second strap portion is threaded which carries on its end a so-called folding fastener slidable on the first strap portion and adapted to be fixed by folding down a flap provided with a pressure bar.

This known folding fastener is open to the objection that it slips under tensional stresses even when the flap is closed, so that the bracelet becomes larger and no longer fits tightly on the arm. A further disadvantage of the slidable folding fastener is, that for the purpose of enlarging or narrowing same every time the bracelet is put on or removed the flap must be opened and the fastening element must be displaced on the strap so that embossed or engraved decorations and patterns suffer considerably and, for example in the case of plated straps, the precious metal layer wears off extremely quickly. Moreover, the pressure bar of the flap wears owing to the opening and closing of the flap every time the bracelet is put on and taken off, so that a sufficiently tight hold of the fastener in closed position is not ensured for a long time.

The above mentioned objections are overcome to a considerable extent by the fastener according to the invention, which consists of the combination of a slidable and fixable flap fastening slide arranged on one strap portion, with a strap snap hook on the second strap portion, a rod provided on the flap fastening slide behind the flap hinge serving as fixing means for the hook.

An embodiment of the invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawing in which:—

Fig. 1 shows the wristwatch bracelet in elevation.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of Fig. 1 with closed strap snap hook.

Fig. 3 is a similar view to Fig. 2 but with the snap hook disengaged.

Fig. 4 is a medial longitudinal section of the fastening slide with snap hook fixed on the strap.

Fig. 5 is a cross section of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a similar view to Fig. 4 showing the fastening slide loosely riding on the strap.

Fig. 7 is a cross section of Fig. 6.

The flap fastener consists of a slide *a*, detachably fixed on one band portion I by means of a flap *b* having a pressure bar *c*. In order to prevent the pressure bar *c* from coming into direct contact with the strap portion I and damaging same, a plate *d* is provided having lateral supports *e* mounted in apertures *f* in the side walls *a*₁ of the slide *a*. A rod *h* for connecting the other strap portion II is mounted in the side walls *a*₁ of the slide *a* directly behind the flap hinge *g*. The strap portion II has a strap snap hook *i* which, for the purpose of closing the wristwatch bracelet is hooked on to the rod *h*. The mouth of the hook is closed by a tongue *m* acted upon by a spring *k*. The tongue *m* is swung from the closed position shown in Fig. 4 into the open position shown in Fig. 6 by means of a bow *n* extending through two apertures *o* in the snap hook *i* and serving as handle for the finger nail inserted in the direction of the arrow A.

When it is desired to use the bracelet the two hooks *p* are hooked in known manner on to the straps of the watch case not shown in the drawing. When a continuous bracelet has been formed in this manner, it must be adjusted to the size of the wrist. When the bracelet is always worn by the same person, this can be effected once for all with the aid of the combination according to the invention, in that the slide *a* is shifted to and fixed by depressing the flap *b* in the position in which the bracelet fits tightly on the arm when the snap hook *i* is engaged.

The slide *a* is held in this final position not only by the clamping effect of the flap pressure bar *c* but also by the claws *q* arranged on the bottom of the slide *a* and engaging in recesses *r* (Fig. 6) or the like, which are provided at distances apart on the rear side of the strap. In the bracelet illustrated these recesses *r* are formed by links *t* slipped on a supporting band *s*. Any pull exerted by the strap on the suspension rod *h* of the slide *a* imparts a tilting movement to the slide *a* causing the claws *q*, arranged on the bottom of the slide *a*, to engage more securely in the recesses *r*. To enable the slide claws *q* to disengage from the recesses *r* when shifting the slide *a*, the plate *d* has sufficient clearance in the apertures *f* in the side walls *a*₁ of the slide *a*.

When putting on and taking off the bracelet, it is only necessary to hook the snap hook *i* on to the slide *a* or to unhook same therefrom. The unhooking is effected in a simple manner by inserting the finger nail in the bow *n* of the snap

hook tongue *m* and pulling up the whole hook *i*. The hooking on is effected merely by pressing the snap hook *i* on to the suspension rod *h* engaging the tongue *m* to yield and liberate the mouth of the hook.

The bow is made of wire, preferably of semi-circular cross-section. In this manner sharp edges are avoided which are otherwise eliminated by rounding the edges of the slide especially on the bottom and side walls, thereby effectively preventing damage to the clothing.

I claim:—

1. In a fastener for bracelets composed of two portions extending one over the other, a slide comprising in combination a U-shaped member riding on the inner bracelet portion, a hinge pin mounted in the side walls of said member, a flap mounted on said pin and consisting of a two-armed lever the shorter arm of which is constructed as a pressure bar adapted when said flap is depressed to press against the inner bracelet portion guided along the bottom of said member and thus fix the slide on the inner bracelet portion, a rod fixed in the side walls of said member at about the same height as said pin and near the end of said member remote from said flap in depressed position, and means for connecting the outer bracelet portion to said rod, said means consisting of a detachable lock adapted to be disengaged from said rod for removing the bracelet from the wrist and to be hooked on to said rod for closing the bracelet on the wrist.

2. In a fastener for bracelets composed of two portions extending one over the other and having on their inner surface recesses at distances apart, a slide comprising in combination a U-shaped member riding on the inner bracelet portion, a hinge pin mounted in the side walls of said member, a flap mounted on said pin and adapted to clamp the slide on the inner bracelet portion, claws arranged on but only projecting slightly from the bottom of said U-shaped member adapted to engage in the recesses in the inner bracelet portion, a rod fixed in the side walls of said member at about the same height as said pin and near the end of said member remote from said flap in depressed position, and means for

connecting the outer bracelet portion to said rod.

3. In a fastener for bracelets composed of two portions extending one over the other and provided on their inner surface with recesses at a distance apart, a slide comprising in combination a U-shaped member riding on the inner bracelet portion, a hinge pin mounted in the side walls of said member, a flap mounted on said pin and provided with a pressure bar, adapted to clamp the slide on the inner bracelet portion, a plate mounted with play in the side walls of said U-shaped member and adapted to protect the inner bracelet portion from contact with the pressure bar of said flap, claws arranged on but only projecting slightly from the bottom of said U-shaped member adapted to engage in the recess in the inner bracelet portion to prevent the slide from slipping on the inner bracelet portion, a rod fixed in the side walls of said member at about the same height as said pin and near the end of said member remote from said flap in depressed position, and means for connecting the outer bracelet portion to said rod.

4. In a fastener for bracelets composed of two portions extending one over the other and provided on their inner surface with recesses at a distance apart, a slide comprising in combination a U-shaped member riding on the inner bracelet portion and composed of a bottom and side walls with rounded edges, a hinge pin mounted in the side walls of said member, a flap mounted on said pin and provided with a pressure bar adapted to clamp the slide on the inner bracelet portion, a plate mounted with play in the side walls of said U-shaped member and adapted to protect the inner bracelet portion from contact with the pressure bar of said flap, claws arranged on but only projecting slightly from the bottom of said U-shaped member adapted to engage the recess in the inner bracelet portion to prevent the slide from slipping on the inner bracelet portion, a rod fixed in the side walls of said member at about the same height as said pin and near the end of said member remote from said flap in depressed position, and means for connecting the outer bracelet portion to said rod.

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