

(No Model.)

T. W. FEELEY.  
WIRE FOR EAR DROPS.

No. 306,143.

Patented Oct. 7, 1884.

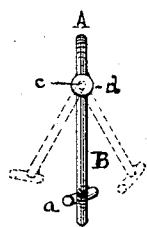


FIG. 2.

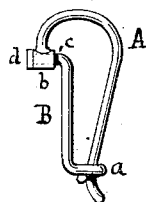


FIG. 1.

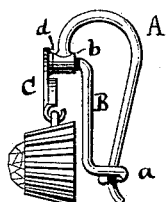


FIG. 3.

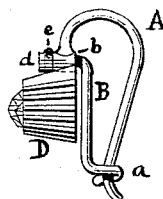


FIG. 4.

WITNESSES.

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## WIRE FOR EAR-DROPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 306,143, dated October 7, 1884.

Application filed April 16, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS W. FEELEY, of the city and county of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wires for Ear-Drops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a specification thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

Like letters indicate like parts.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Figs. 3 and 4 show my improved ear-ring as applied, respectively, to a knob and a pendent ear-drop.

In the manufacture of ear-drops it has hitherto been common to use an ear-wire in one piece, fastened to the knob, and having its free end engage with a catch or loop. Ear-wires thus made, in order to be inserted through the ear, require to be sprung apart from the catch a sufficient distance to make room for the lobe of the ear to pass between, and this frequent bending of the wire soon destroys its symmetrical shape, and finally causes it to break apart.

It is the object of my invention to prevent this injury to the wire, and at the same time to afford a more convenient insertion of the wire through the lobe of the ear.

In the drawings I show my improved ear-wire made in two sections, A and B, the former being bent in the usual bow shape, and the latter being furnished with the usual hook or catch, *a*. The section A has a small swivel-ring, *b*, through which the end *c* of the section B, bent at a right angle, passes to form a swivel-joint; and said end *c*, after its insertion through the swivel-ring *b*, terminates in a head, *d*, which prevents its withdrawal from the joint. By means of the hinge thus formed the two sections may be swung laterally, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2. A knob, C, may be soldered to the head *d*, or a pendant, D, by means of an eye or loop, *e*, may be hung upon the wire *c*, between the head *d* and the swivel-joint.

To insert the ear-ring through the lobe of the ear, the section B of the ear-wire, which supports the pendant or drop, is pushed aside, and the free end of the section A of the ear-wire is put through the hole in the lobe without any interference with the other portions

of the ear-ring, as heretofore common, and when in position the section B, with its appendances, is swung down again, and the end of the wire A is snapped into the catch *a* in the usual manner. By disengaging the end of the wire A from said catch and swinging the section B laterally the ear-wire A may be readily withdrawn from the lobe, and this insertion and removal are accomplished not only with greater ease and convenience than with an ear-wire of ordinary construction, but also all danger of unshapely bending or breakage is avoided, and the ear-ring, so furnished, is made more durable and retains its original beauty of form.

In the drawings and in the foregoing description I have shown an ear-wire in two sections, A and B, united by a swivel-joint, the section B having a catch, *a*, made integral therewith. It is obvious that the section A may be as well swivel-jointed upon a stud or pin projecting from the knob of the ear-ring, and that the catch *a* may be soldered directly upon such knob.

I am aware that ear-ring fastenings or hooks have heretofore been composed of a bent arm or rod, the upper end of which is hollow to receive the lower end of another bent rod, the upper end of which forms the hook; and also that the puncture-wire of an ear-ring has heretofore been vertically swiveled to the upper part of the bracket-arm from which the pendant is suspended; but these forms of construction I do not claim.

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

The herein-described wires for ear-drops, consisting of the wire section A, having a horizontal swivel-ring, *b*, at its upper bent end, and the wire section B, having its upper end bent horizontally, and provided with a stud, *c*, having head *d*, and at its lower end a catch, *a*, for engaging the lower end of the other section, in combination with a knob, drop, or pendant suspended from the horizontal swivel-joint, as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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