

W. A. BATES.
Setting for Gems.

No. 202,402.

Patented April 16, 1878.

Fig:1.

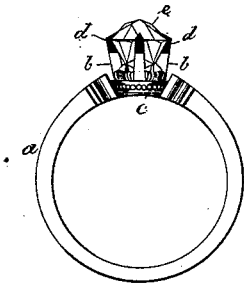
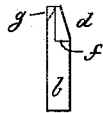


Fig:2.



Witnesses

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IMPROVEMENT IN SETTINGS FOR GEMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 202,402, dated April 16, 1878; application filed January 23, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM ALEXANDER BATES, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Settings for Jewels, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to an improved setting for diamonds; and consists in a setting the prongs of which are composed of gold or its alloys, tipped with platinum, or an equivalent white metal more nearly the color of the diamond than gold, the tips of the prongs being scarcely perceptible when viewing the diamond from its top.

Rings, pins, ear-rings, and other articles of jewelry set with diamonds are usually composed of gold, and the prongs holding the diamonds are usually of gold corresponding in color with that of the main part of the ring or other article. The ends of these gold prongs, extended above the diamonds, show very plainly when looking at the top of the diamond, and form a seeming boundary-line for and show the diamond to be of a certain diameter, whereas if they did not show, the reflection of light from the diamond would make it appear larger.

The ring, if so held as not to show the prongs distinctly when looking at the diamond in top view, is much more handsome and desirable.

To overcome this objection to the use of gold prongs in diamond pins, rings, &c., diamonds have been held by platinum prongs rising from a platinum base attached to the article made of gold. This construction is objectionable, because, when viewing the ring, pin, or other article from the side, the platinum base and prongs contrast strongly with the yellow gold, and destroy the beauty of the ring or other ornament.

By my invention I am enabled to produce a ring, pin, or other ornament containing a diamond, which, in side view, will appear as if made only of gold, and which, if viewed from the top of the diamond, will scarcely show the platinum points which hold the edge of the diamond. Such points, nearly approximating the color of the diamond, seem to lose

themselves in the reflection of the stone, whereas the gold points, being darker than the stone, throw into the stone a shadow.

Figure 1 shows my invention embodied in a finger-ring; but it is obvious that the invention is applicable to all articles of jewelry where a diamond is to be set and held; and Fig. 2 represents one of the prongs very much enlarged.

The ring *a*, of gold, has prongs *b*, also of gold, rising from a gold base, *c*. The extreme tops of the prongs *b* are made of platinum, as at *d*, the platinum points embracing the edges of the diamond *e*, as shown. Each prong is cut away at its upper end, forming a shoulder, *f*, upon which to support the platinum point *d*, and the prong and point are then brazed or soldered together. After the point is secured to the prong, the upper and inner corner of the latter is cut away, as at *g*, so that the edge of the platinum point exposed by cutting away the prong is permitted to come in contact with the edge of the diamond.

It is obvious that the invention herein described might be used to set stones having the appearance of, or being imitations of, diamonds. The shape of the shoulder *f* may be changed without departing from my invention.

I claim—

1. A setting for gems, the main body of the prongs of which are composed of gold or its compounds, the ends of the prongs being formed of platinum, or a metal of lighter color than gold, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a gem-setting, the shouldered prongs *b*, in combination with the points *d*, supported thereon and united with the prongs, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM ALEX. BATES.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,
JNO. D. PATTEN.