

A. HESSELS.
Ear-Ring Cover.

No. 207,869.

Patented Sept. 10, 1878.



Fig. 1.

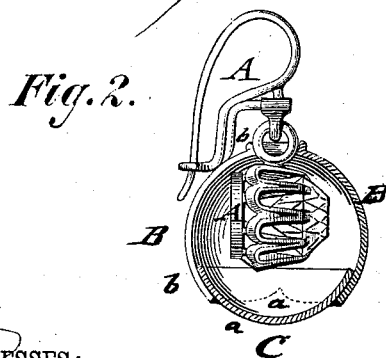


Fig. 2.

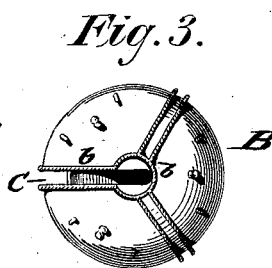


Fig. 3.

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ANTHONY HESSELS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN EAR-RING COVERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 207,869, dated September 10, 1878; application filed August 3, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY HESSELS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Ear-Ring Cover, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a side view of my improved cover for ear-rings, shown as applied in use. Figs. 2 and 3 are respectively a vertical central section and a top view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention refers to improvements in that class of ear-rings in which an outer shell or covering is used to inclose a diamond or other valuable stone whenever it is not desired to expose the same to view; and the invention consists of a cover or shell having a bottom opening for inserting the diamond or other stone, a slit extending from the opening to the top or apex of the shell, and a gravity drop-plate at the inside for closing the bottom opening of the shell.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a diamond or other ear-ring, and B a shell or cover of spherical, bell, or any other shape. The shell or cover A has a bottom opening, *a*, of circular or other shape, and of such size that the diamond of the ear-ring may be readily inserted through the opening into the shell. A slit, *b*, runs from the bottom opening *a* along the side of the shell to the top or apex of the same, where it is slightly enlarged. The slit and enlarged top end of the same serve to guide the suspension ring or shank of the setting of the stone into position in the cover A, as shown in Fig. 2. The bottom opening *a* is closed by a gravity drop-plate, C, that is either of convex-concave, disk, or other shape, according to the shape of the shell, and somewhat larger than the bottom opening, so as to drop over the same and close it automatically by its own weight when the ear-ring is dropped in pendent position. The

drop-plate is sent into the interior of the shell or cover by means of the bottom opening and slit. By turning the cover so that the gravity drop-plate recedes and clears the bottom opening the shell or cover may, with little practice, be removed from the ear-ring, even while the same is on the ear, or the ear-ring may be taken off, and then the cover put on or removed, as required. Ladies are thereby enabled to wear diamond ear-rings without exposing them on the streets or other places, and of removing the covers whenever it is desired to show the diamonds. When covers of fanciful shape are used, the bottom plate may sometimes be dispensed with; but in covers of spherical shape they are preferably used.

I will here mention that the idea of inclosing the diamonds of ear-rings by means of removable covers broadly is not new, as such have been used heretofore, and I do not lay claim to them.

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

1. A cover or shell for ear-rings having a bottom opening and slit extending therefrom, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. A cover or shell for ear-rings having a bottom opening adapted to admit the diamond or other stone of the ear-ring, and a side slit extending therefrom and being enlarged at the upper end, substantially as specified.

3. A cover or shell for ear-rings having a bottom opening and extension slit for inserting the diamond or other stone of the ring, in combination with an interior gravity drop-plate for closing the bottom opening, substantially as shown and described.

ANTHONY HESSELS.

Witnesses:

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