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(54) **Device for joining and/or supporting jeweller articles, such as precious metals and pearls**
Vorrichtung zum Verbinden und/oder Fassen von Schmuckartikel wie Edelmetallen und Perlen
Dispositif pour joindre et/ou monter des articles de joaillerie comme les métaux précieux et les perles

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(56) References cited:
EP-A- 0 848 918 **FR-A- 2 531 323**
GB-A- 2 090 724

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a device for coupling elements forming jeweller articles or precious articles in general.

[0002] More specifically, the present invention relates to a device allowing to easily and quickly join element made of precious metals to elements comprising pearls.

[0003] Prior devices used for coupling the above mentioned precious elements usually comprise a housing in which are set pearls and possible precious stones.

[0004] These prior devices, however, greatly limit making and decorating possibilities in the jewellery field.

[0005] Moreover, the mentioned prior devices frequently use glueing substances for firmly holding the pearls in their housings, thereby, frequently, the glued pearls can detach and be lost.

[0006] The document EP-A-0 898 918 discloses a jeweller article substantially according to the preamble of claim 1.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] The aim of the present invention is to solve the above mentioned problems, by providing a device which allows to firmly and quickly join elements forming jeweller articles.

[0008] This object is achieved by a jeweller article according to claim 1.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] The present invention will be disclosed hereinafter, by way of an illustrative, but not limitative example, in preferred embodiments thereof, with reference to the figures of the accompanying drawings, where:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a jeweller article, including a metal chain, and provided with a first embodiment of the joining device according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the jeweller article shown in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a side view of the jeweller article shown in Figures 1 and 2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT.

[0010] A preferred embodiment of the invention will be disclosed hereinafter by way of a merely indicative example.

[0011] With reference to Figures 1 and 3, the joining device 10, according to the invention, comprises: a first pair of pins 11, 12; a first pair of opposite holes 13 and 14; a second pair of pins 15 and 16 and a second pair of opposite holes 17 and 18.

[0012] The device 10 has been applied to a jeweller article comprising a metal chain construction made of a

precious material.

[0013] At one end of the mentioned metal chain is arranged a metal half-ring shaped link, at the cross-sections of which are provided pin elements.

5 [0014] On the outer surface of the pearl are provided opposite holes, specifically designed for engaging therein said pins.

[0015] In particular, the pearl is mounted by spreading apart the end portions of the link, which link will automatically re-close owing to the resiliency of the metal material thereof.

10 [0016] The procedure for mounting the pearl, according to the invention, is very simple and provides the following operating steps:

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- a) spreading apart the end portions of the metal element;
 - b) engaging the pins in their respective holes formed on the surface of the pearl;
 - 20 c) releasing the end portions of the metal element, so as to lock the pearl in its related housing.

[0017] In order to provide a better coupling, it is provided, according to the present invention, to apply on the surface of the mentioned pins a suitable adhesive substance.

25 [0018] Thus, it should be apparent that the invention fully achieves the intended aim and objects, since the invention provides a device allowing to easily and firmly join elements forming jeweller articles.

30 [0019] In this connection it should be apparent that the inventive device can be also used for different elements, both in the jeweller field and in the gift article field.

35 [0020] While the invention has been disclosed and illustrated with reference to a preferred embodiment thereof, it should be apparent that the disclosed embodiment is susceptible to many modifications and variations, all of which will come within the scope of the appended claims.

Claims

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1. A jeweller article comprising a pearl having a pearl surface on which are formed hole means for engaging therein resilient metal link means, **characterized in that** said hole means comprise two pairs of opposite holes (13, 14; 25, 26) formed on said surface of said pearl and that said link means comprise two half-ring links each having a respective pair of end pins (11, 12; 15, 16), said holes being provided for receiving each by a resilient plugging one pin of a respective said pair of pins, said pins of each said pair of pins (11, 12) being resiliently plugged-in into said holes (13, 14; 17, 18) by spreading apart said two half-ring links, so as to provide an integral element of a chain-pearl jeweller article.
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2. A jeweller article according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** each pin (11, 12, 15, 16) comprises a base element provided with a spring, engaged in a hole, formed on a cross-section of each said halbring shaped link, and a projecting ring element engaged in a said hole (13, 14, 17, 18) formed on said surface of said pearl.
3. A jeweller article according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** said pins (11, 12; 15, 16) are coated by a glue material.

Patentansprüche

1. Schmuckartikel, umfassend eine Perle, die eine Perlenoberfläche aufweist, auf der Öffnungsmittel gebildet sind, um federnde Metallbindegliedermittel darin ineinander greifen zu lassen, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Öffnungsmittel zwei gegenüberliegende Öffnungspaare (13, 14; 25, 26) umfassen, die auf der Oberfläche der Perle gebildet sind, und dass die Bindegliedermittel zwei halbringförmige Bindeglieder umfassen, wobei jedes ein entsprechendes Paar Endstifte (11, 12; 15, 16) aufweist, und die Öffnungen zur Aufnahme jeweils eines Stiftes eines entsprechenden Stiftpaares durch federndes Hineinstecken vorgesehen sind, wobei die Stifte jedes Stiftpaares (11, 12) federnd durch Auseinanderdrücken der zwei halbringförmigen Bindeglieder in die Öffnungen (13, 14; 17, 18) gesteckt werden, so dass ein wesentlicher Bestandteil eines Perlenketten-Schmuckartikels bereitgestellt wird.
2. Schmuckartikel nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** jeder Stift (11, 12; 15, 16) ein Basiselement umfasst, das mit einer Feder versehen ist, das in die Öffnung eingreift und das auf einem Querabschnitt des halbringförmigen Bindegliedes gebildet ist, und ein vorspringendes Ringelement, das in die Öffnung (13, 14; 17, 18) eingreift, die auf der Oberfläche der Perle gebildet ist.
3. Schmuckartikel nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Stifte (11, 12; 15, 16) mit einem Klebstoff bedeckt sind.

Revendications

1. Un article de joaillerie comprenant une perle ayant une surface de perle sur laquelle sont formés des moyens formant trou pour engager dedans des moyens formant maillon métalliques élastiques, **caractérisé en ce que** lesdits moyens formant trou comprennent deux paires de trous opposés (13, 14 ; 25, 26) formés sur ladite surface de ladite perle

et **en ce que** lesdits moyens formant maillon comprennent deux maillons en demi-anneau ayant chacun une paire respective de tiges terminales (11, 12 ; 15, 16), lesdits trous étant prévus pour recevoir chacun par insertion élastique, une tige d'une paire de tiges respective, lesdites tiges de chaque dite paire de tiges (11, 12) étant insérées élastiquement dans lesdits trous (13, 14 ; 17, 18) en écartant lesdits deux maillons en demi-anneau, de façon à produire un élément intégral d'un article de joaillerie à chaîne-perle.

2. Un article de joaillerie selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** chaque tige (11, 12 ; 15, 16) comprend un élément de base pourvu d'un ressort, engagé dans un trou, formé sur une section transversale de chaque dit maillon en forme de demi-anneau, et un élément d'anneau faisant saillie engagé dans un desdits trous (13, 14 ; 17, 18) formés sur ladite surface de ladite perle.
3. Un article de joaillerie selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** lesdites tiges (11, 12 ; 15, 16) sont revêtues d'un matériau adhésif.

