

G. E. Higgins,
Ear-Ring,
Nº 10,921. *Patented May 16, 1854.*

Fig. 1.

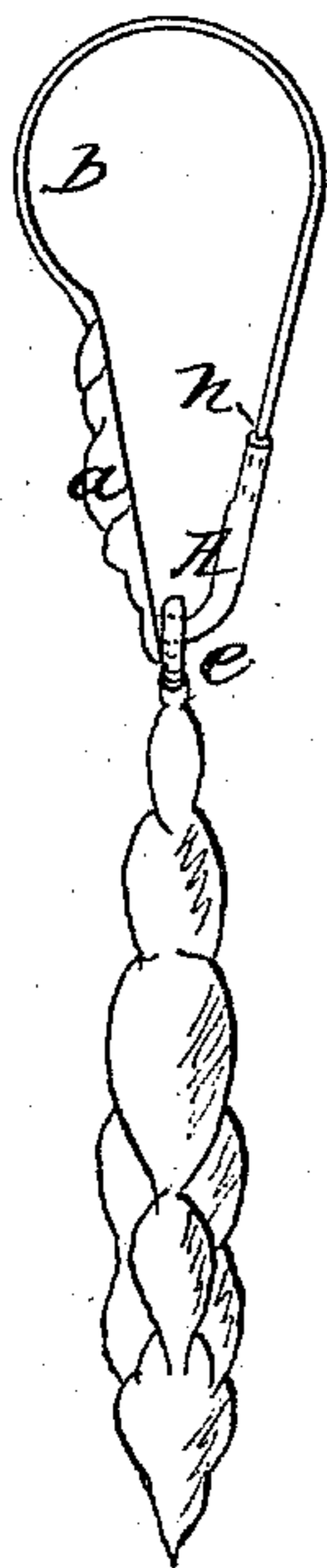


Fig. 2.

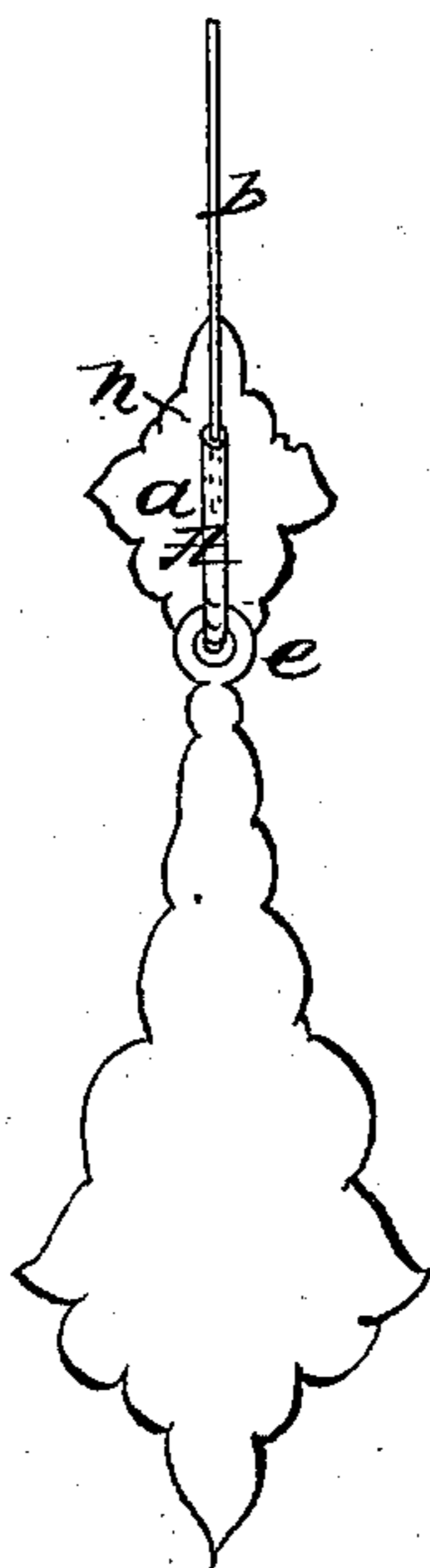
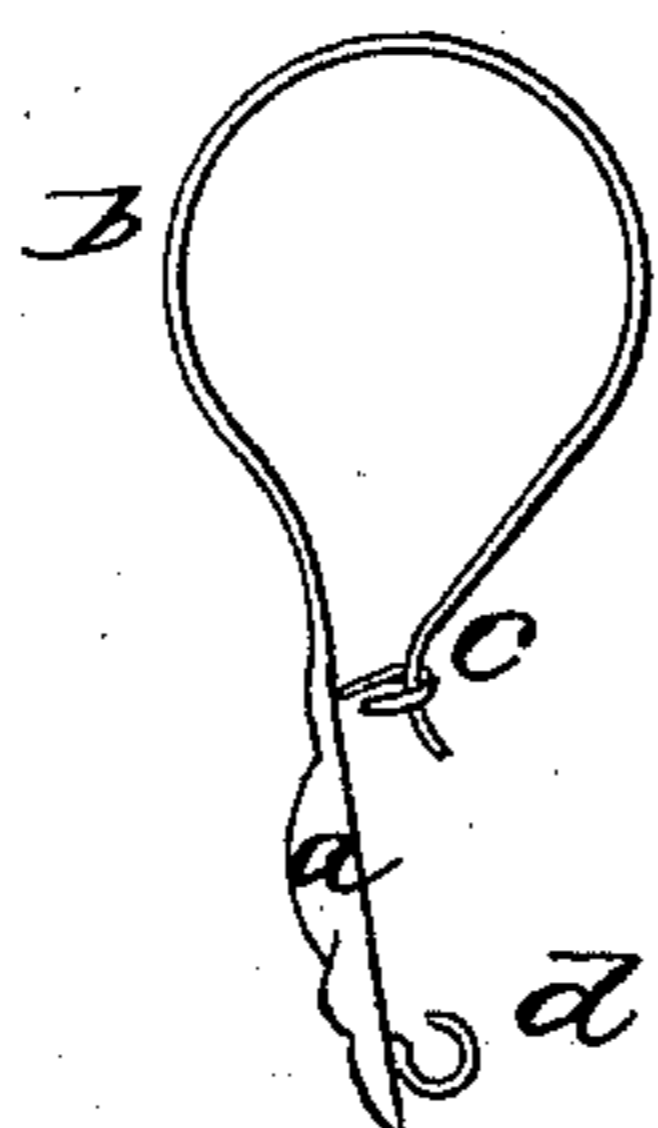


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE E. HIGGINS, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

FASTENING FOR EAR-RINGS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 10,921, dated May 16, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. HIGGINS, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ear-Rings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a side view of one of my improved ear-rings. Fig. 2, a back view of the same, and Fig. 3, is a section showing the construction of the catch, and the method of attaching the drop. Fig. 4, is a side view of the knob, and ear-wire of an ear-ring of the common kind, shown for the purpose of more clearly explaining my improvement.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, wherever they are used in the several figures.

The object of my invention is to provide a means of connecting the drop with the knob, which shall be more simple in construction, more secure, and shall afford greater facility for its attachment and detachment, and for the removal of the drop from the knob, while the latter is in the ear, than the means at present in use.

In the ear-rings now in most common use, a ring is attached to the knob to receive a similar ring on the drop for the purpose of connecting the drop with the knob, and there is another ring or catch on the knob for the purpose of receiving the end of the ear wire, but my invention consists in attaching to the knob, a post or standard, which serves at the same time to attach the drop and to receive and secure the end of the ear-wire, and gives facility for the removal of the drop from the knob, without taking the ear-wire from the ear.

In Fig. 4, of the drawing, which explains the old ear-ring, *a*, represents the knob, having the ear-wire, *b*, soldered to its upper part; *c*, represents the catch which is soldered to the knob for the purpose of receiving the end of the ear-wire, and *d*, the ring on which the drop is to be suspended.

In Figs: 1, 2, and 3, which exhibit my improvement, the ear-wire, *b*, is soldered to the knob, *a*, in the same way as before, but instead of the catch, *c*, and ring, *d*, there is the standard, *A*, which is soldered or otherwise secured to the lower part of the back

side of the knob, extending from the knob in a suitable direction to receive the ring, *e*, of the drop, and then upwards to receive the end of the ear-wire. The standard, *A*, is composed of an interior wire, *f*, of harder and more durable metal than gold, cased in an exterior tube, *g*, of gold, or other precious metal, as shown in Fig. 3. The wire, *f*, only extends a part of the way up the standard, so as to leave the upper part of the tube empty, and a slot, *h*, is cut in the upper part of the tube on the side next the knob, in order that it may receive the end of the ear-wire, in the manner represented in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. I prefer to construct the standard in this manner, but it may be made in any other way, provided the same form is preserved, and the upper part is hollow, or otherwise suitably formed to receive the end of the ear wire. The ear wire is removed from the tube by springing it out of the slot, and allowing it to pass out of the tube, and round one side thereof, when it will assume the position represented in dotted outline in Fig. 3, in which position it may be readily inserted in, or removed from the ear, and will allow the drop to be taken off, or put on the standard, with facility, either while the ear wire is in, or out of the ear.

The facility which this improvement affords for the removal of the drop while the ear ring is in wear, is of great importance, as it will save the unpleasantness of removing the knob from the ear before retiring to rest, or commencing any occupation during which the drop would be an encumbrance. The common ear-ring affords no such facility for the removal of the drop, as the ring, *c*, ought to be closed in order to make the drop secure. The facility which the straight smooth form of the end of the ear wire affords for its insertion in, and removal from, the ear, without giving pain, is also important.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

The standard, *A*, attached to the knob, and serving at the same time as a means of connecting the drop, and as a catch to receive and secure the end of the ear-wire, substantially as described.

GEORGE E. HIGGINS.

Witnesses:

S. H. WALES,

JNO. W. HAMILTON.