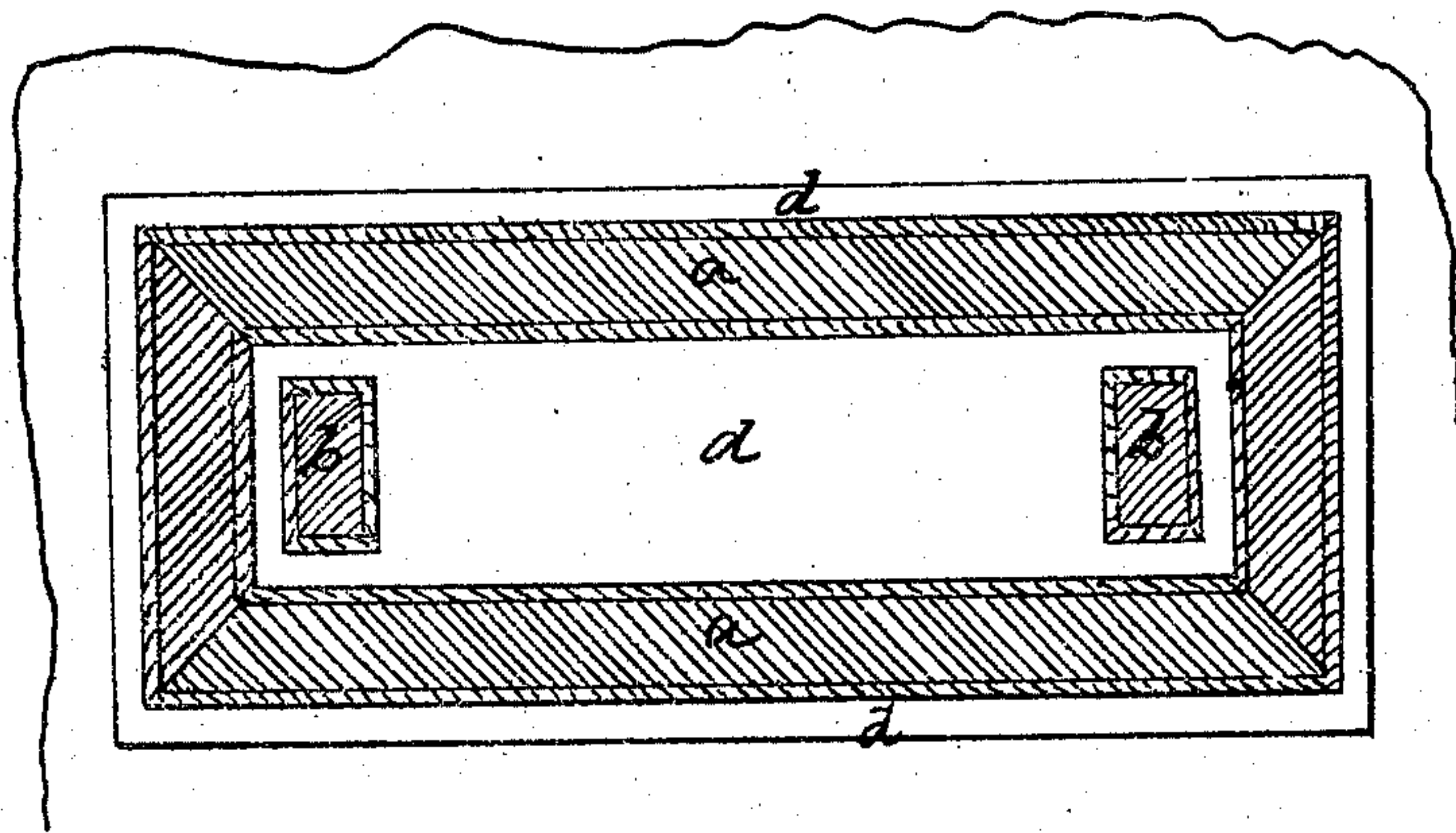


*J. S. Smith.*  
*Shoulder Strap.*

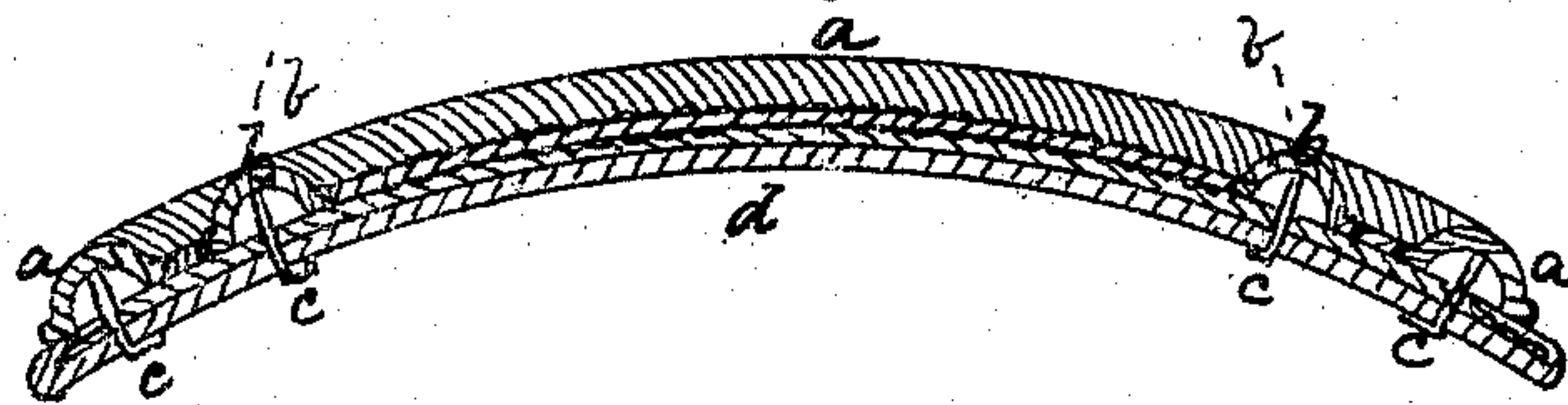
*N<sup>o</sup> 1584*  
*32588*

*Patented Jun. 18. 1861*

*Fig: 1*



*Fig: 2.*



*Witnesses*

*Mr. J. W. Kingston*  
*Lewis A. Tucker.*

*Inventor*

*James S. Smith*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES S. SMITH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## OFFICER'S SHOULDER-STRAP.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 32,588, dated June 18, 1861.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES S. SMITH, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Officer's Shoulder-Straps; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a top view of a shoulder strap, and Fig. 2, a longitudinal section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

The shoulder straps worn by commissioned military and naval officers, have heretofore always had the border and bars or other devices denoting the officer's rank embroidered upon them with bullion, which is very expensive and soon becomes disfigured by constant wear; and owing to the little demand for this kind of work, in ordinary times, and the consequently small number of persons capable of performing it, very much difficulty is found in meeting the demand at a time when like the present, a large military force has to be clothed and equipped with the utmost expedition.

My invention relates to a new article of manufacture to constitute a substitute for the embroidered bullion shoulder strap which will be cheaper, more durable, capable of being renovated when tarnished or otherwise disfigured by wear, and which can be quickly made in large numbers whenever required; such new article of manufacture consisting in a shoulder strap having its border and bars or other devices composed of plates of

metal stamped or otherwise wrought to give their surfaces the form of bullion embroidery and gilt or plated and burnished to give them the desired appearance.

The simplest way of producing the metal which is to take the place of the embroidery on the strap is to cut from sheet-brass or other suitable metal, pieces of the form of the devices *a*, *b*, *b*, commonly embroidered, and stamp up the said pieces in a suitably formed die to give their surface the requisite configuration representing the bullion. The pieces should then have soldered to their backs pieces of wire *c*, *c*, shown in Fig. 2, to pass through the cloth *d*, of which the strap is composed, and be bent under it to form clasps to secure them to the strap. They are afterward gilt or silvered, and finished by burnishing, when they are ready for application to the strap and whenever tarnished or disfigured, can be removed and re-gilt, and re-burnished at trifling expense. Instead of being attached to the strap by pins *c*, *c*, the pieces *a*, *b*, *b*, may be sewed on, either with fine wire or thread.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent as a new article of manufacture, is,

An officer's shoulder strap having its border and bars or other devices composed of plates of metal stamped or otherwise wrought to give their surfaces the form, and gilt or silvered and burnished to give them the appearance of bullion embroidery.

JAMES S. SMITH.

Witnesses:

M. M. LIVINGSTON,  
LEWIS A. TUCKER.