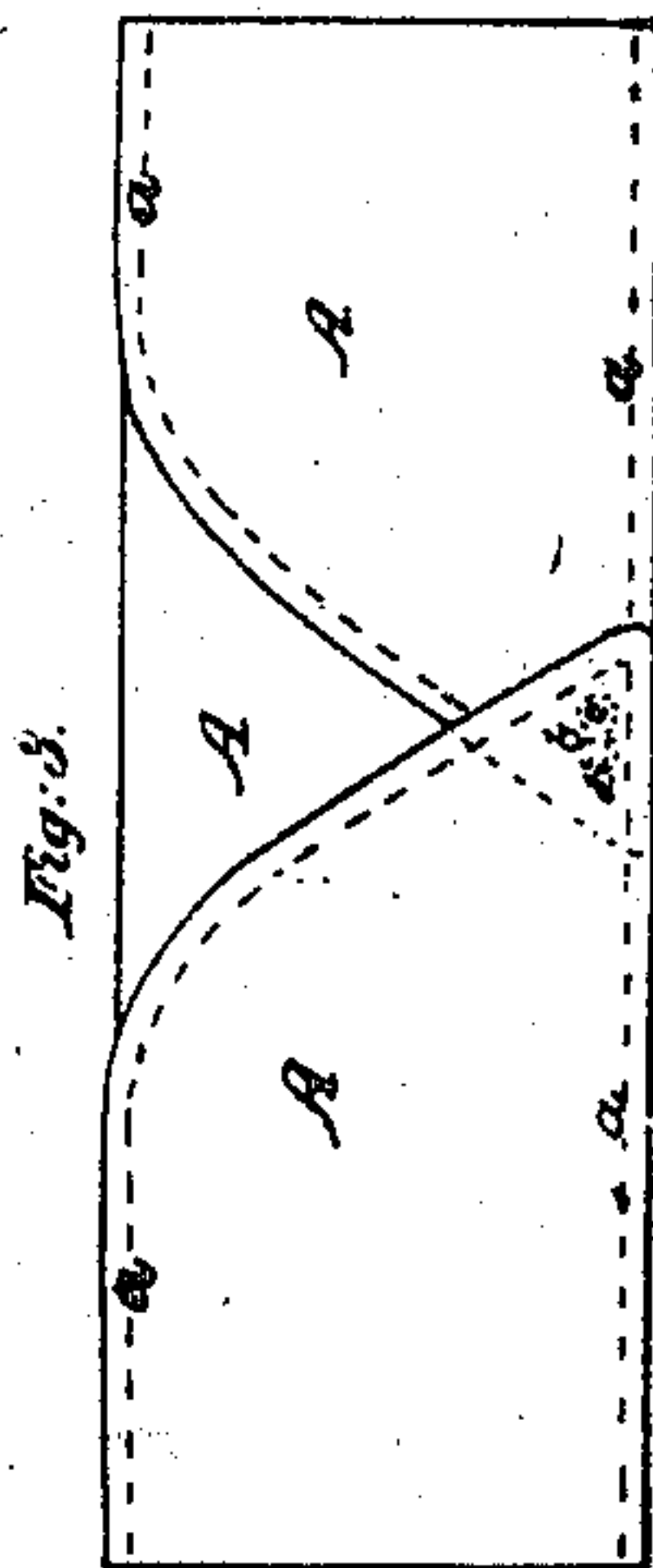
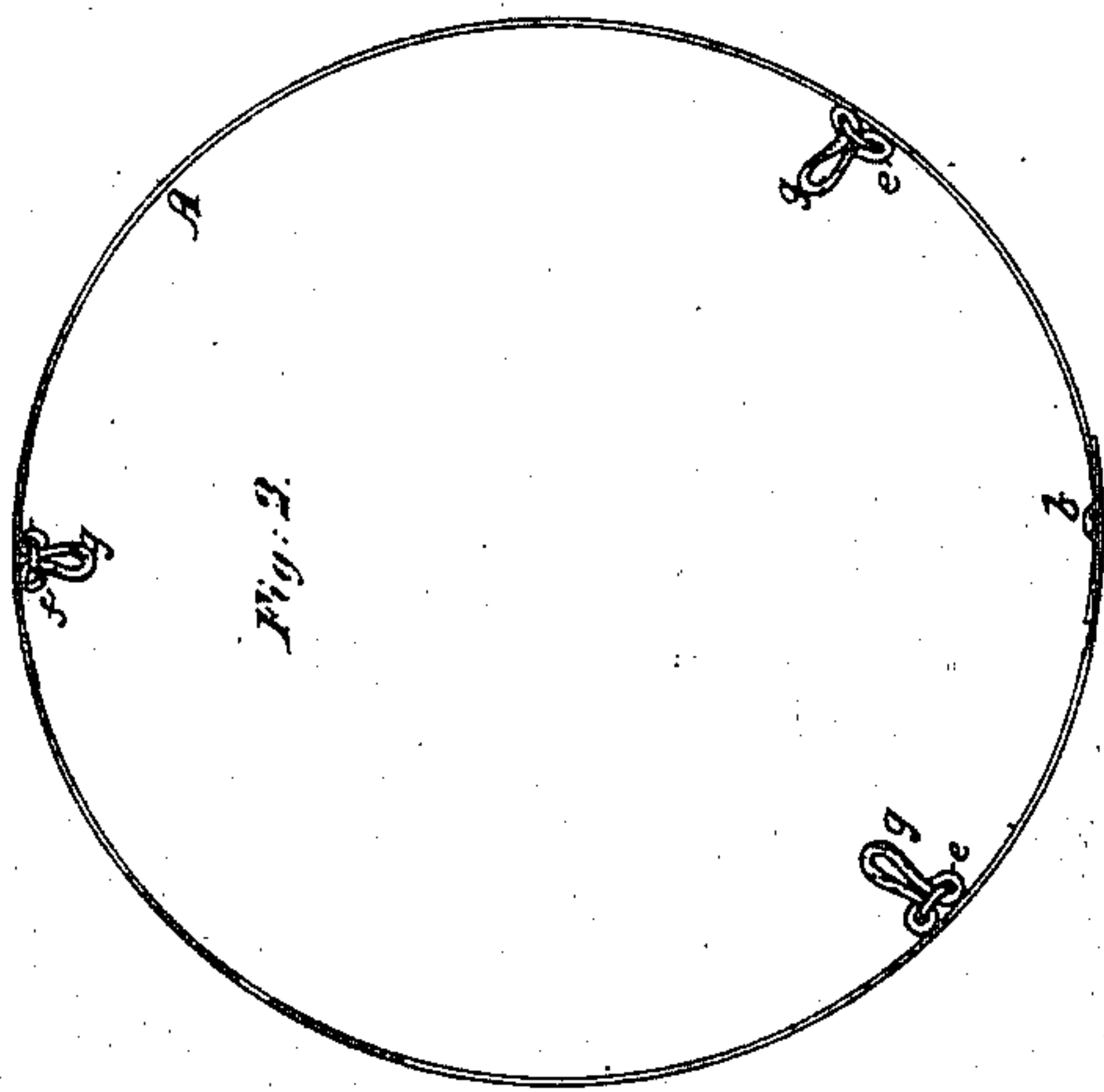
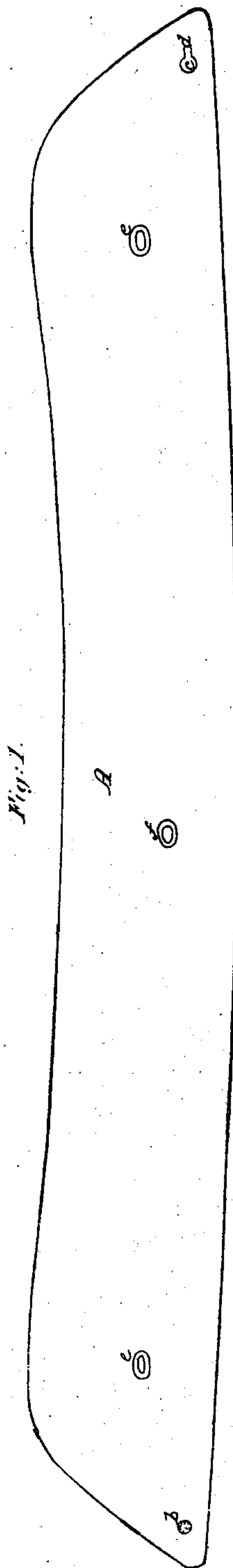


L. Billon.  
Collar.

No. 42,429.

Patented April 19, 1864.



Witnesses:  
M. J. Partridge  
James Robertson

Inventor:  
Louis Billon

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS BILLON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND JOHN FOGGAN, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN STEEL SHIRT-COLLARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 42,429, dated April 19, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS BILLON, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Steel Shirt-Collars; 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 an inside view of a collar constructed according to my invention, showing it laid out flat. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same in the condition in which it is worn. Fig. 3 is a front view corresponding with Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

To enable others to construct collars according to my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings.

A is the collar, made of a piece of steel-plate of any form, according to the fashion desired, and *a a* represent the imitation of stitching produced on its exterior by indenting it with a milling-roller or other tool in one or more lines parallel with and at a short distance from its edges before it is painted.

*b* is the metal stud, firmly secured by soldering or other means to the inner face of the collar, near one end, and *c d* is the hole near the other end for the reception of the said stud to fasten the collar around the neck, the said hole being in the form of a circle, *c*, large enough for the head of the stud to pass through it, with a narrow slit, *d*, on the side toward the end of the collar only wide enough for the shank or neck of the stud.

*e e* and *f* are the metallic eyes or loops, made of wire and soldered to the inner side of the collar, one at a short distance from each end and the other at the middle of its length. The stud and eyes are of course applied and secured before the collar is painted. The collar is painted inside and out with zinc or other white paint, and varnished with any spirit or oil varnish which is not liable to crack in the bending of the collar, and which will bear washing with soap and water.

*g g g* are the flexible rings or loops, composed, preferably, of vulcanized india-rubber

rings or endless bands, for attaching the collar to the shirt. These rings or bands are folded and passed through the eyes, and then one end of each is rove through the other to attach it to its respective metallic eye or loop.

To put on the collar, it is bent round the neck with the ends in front, and with either edge upward, according as it is intended to appear as a "stand-up" or "turn-down," and the stud being then slipped into the hole *c d* finds its way into the slit *d* and secures itself by the tendency of the collar to open or straighten. The back flexible ring or loop *g* is then slipped over the button at the back of the band of the shirt, and the two front flexible rings or loops slipped over the single button in front of the said band.

Some persons may prefer not to use these flexible rings or loops, and will find the stud and hole sufficient to keep the collar in place.

The collar is represented in Fig. 3 arranged as a stand-up, and in this position the cravat or necktie is to be arranged outside and tied in the usual way. When it is to be worn as a turn-down, it is merely turned upside down, and in this position the cravat or tie is placed under the collar below the metallic loops or eyes *e e f*, and it may be secured by making the first turn of a knot, then passing one end upward under the collar, bringing it over the stud and eyelet in front, and making the ordinary bow. It is not, however, necessary so to pass the cravat or tie through and over the collar, as the loops *e e f* will prevent the cravat from slipping up, and the stud and its hole are concealed without being covered by the bow of the cravat or tie.

I do not claim, broadly, the invention of steel shirt-collars; but,

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, as an improved article of manufacture—

A steel shirt-collar made with indented edges, concealed stud *b*, eyes *e f*, and flexible loops or rings *g*, in the manner herein shown and described.

LOUIS BILLON.

Witnesses:

M. S. PARTRIDGE,  
DANIEL ROBERTSON.