

W. H. Ferguson.
 Pocket Book Fastening
 No 70982. Patented Nov. 19. 1867

Fig. 1.

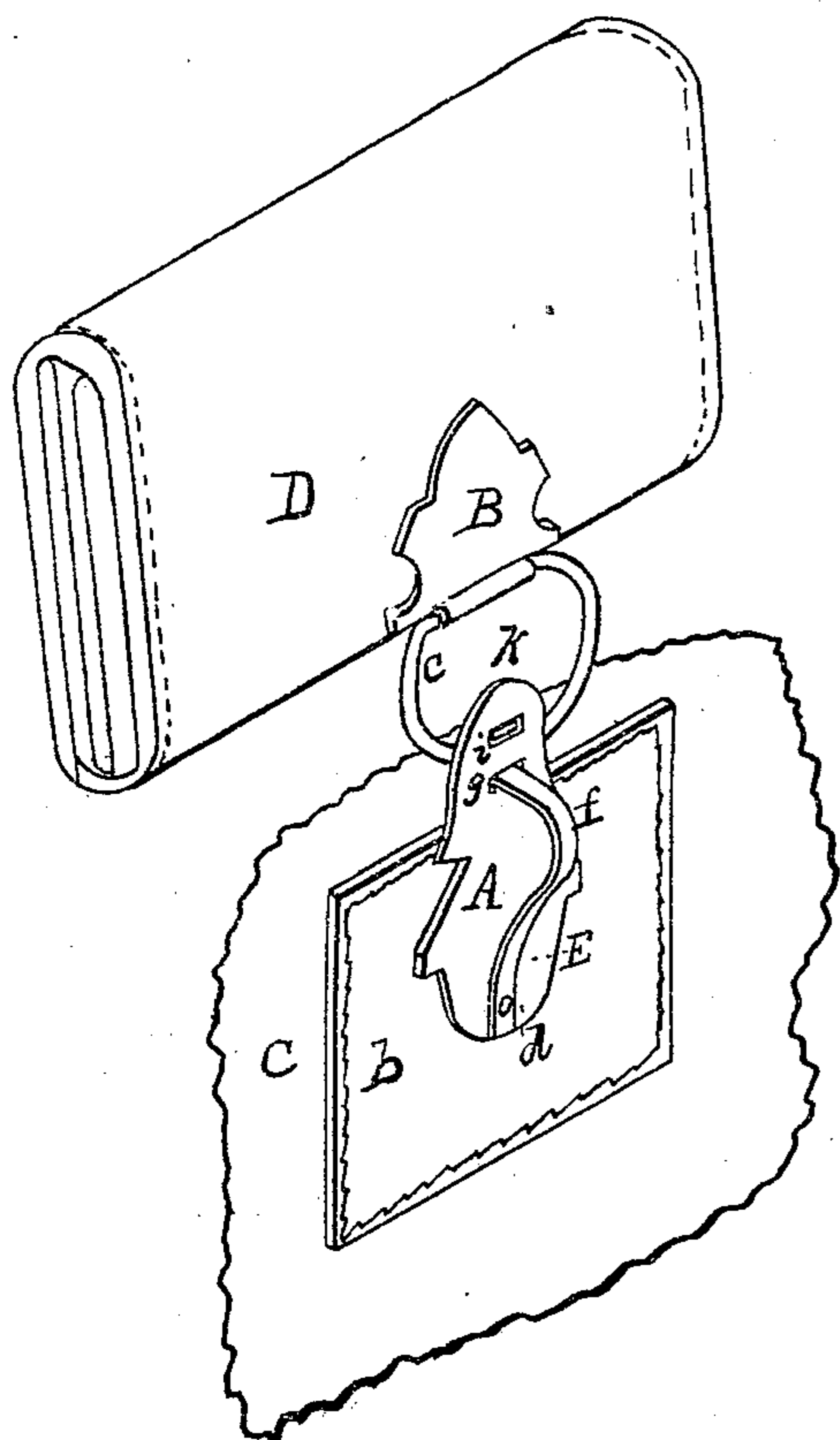


Fig. 2.

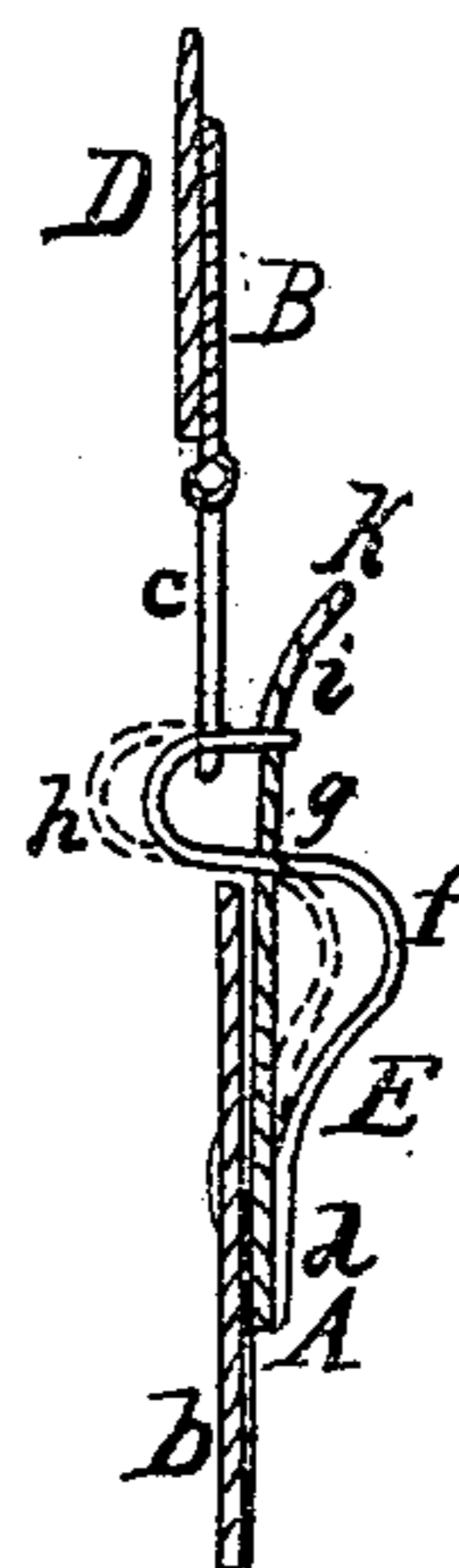
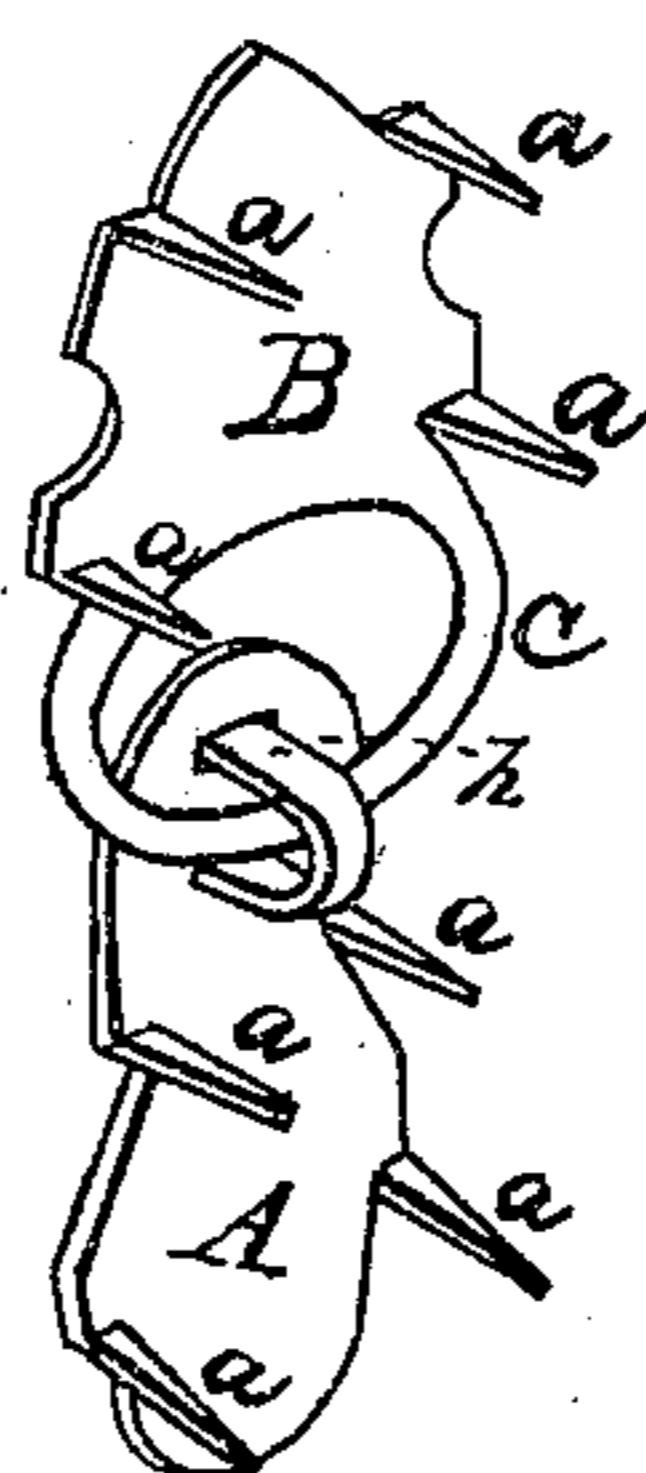


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

J. A. Davis.
 H. A. Coder.

Inventor.

Wm. H. Ferguson.
 By J. Fraser & Co.
 Attys.

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM H. FERGUSON, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO
HIMSELF AND CLARK D. PAGE, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 70,982, dated November 19, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN SAFETY ATTACHMENTS FOR POCKET-BOOKS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. FERGUSON, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fastenings for Pocket-Books; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fastening connecting a pocket-book with the pocket.

Figure 2, a longitudinal section of the same.

Figure 3, a reverse perspective view, showing a modification of the fastening.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This improvement is intended for securing pocket-books to the pocket as a safeguard against pickpockets.

The invention consists in combining and arranging with the plate attached to the pocket a spring so bent and connected as to form a finger-rest on one side for depressing the spring, and an eye or loop on the opposite side for catching the ring attached to the plate of the pocket-book.

The invention further consists in a fastening, as a new article of manufacture, having points for attaching to the material, and connected with a piece of leather capable of being sewed to the pocket, so as to be removable at pleasure, and applied a second time.

As represented in the drawings, the fastening is composed of two plates A B, connected respectively with the pocket C and pocket-book D by points or prongs *a a*, cut from the plates, and bent around at right angles, so as to be inserted easily, and then bent or headed down on the reverse side. The points of the plate B are simply headed directly into the leather of the pocket-book; but the points of A are headed into a separate strip or disk, *b*, of leather, which, in turn, is sewed or otherwise attached to the pocket. The plate B is provided with a ring, *c*, which may be loose, as in fig. 1, or stiff, as in fig. 3. The plate A is provided with a spring, E, riveted at *d*. This spring is bent on the outside into a bow, *f*, to form a convenient finger-rest; and it passes thence, through a slot, *g*, to the under side, where it is again bent in the reverse direction to form an eye or loop, *h*, to catch the ring *c*; and its loose end is then passed into another slot, *i*, which retains it in place.

To connect or disconnect the pocket-book, it is taken into the hollow of the hand, with the fingers encircling it. The middle finger is placed on the bow *f* of the spring, the front finger on the ring *c* of the pocket-book, and the thumb beneath, against the bend *k* of the plate A. Then, when the spring is depressed so as to open the eye *h*, as in red lines, fig. 2, the ring can be easily slipped in or out.

The great value of this invention consists in the special form and arrangement of the spring E with the fastening. The bow *f* serves as a convenient finger-rest in depressing the spring; and the eye *h* forms the necessary connection for the ring. These are formed complete by simple reverse bends of the spring itself. Besides this, the eye thus formed is much more secure than any other device with which I am acquainted, since any strain applied longitudinally will tighten it firmly against the stop *i*, and prevent disconnection of the parts, unless sufficient force is applied to break them. Such strain will be expended on the stop, and not on the spring. I am aware that several pocket-fasteners have before been known, but, so far as I am aware, none embodying these features of the spring.

The points or prongs *a* furnish a simple and secure connection of the fastening-plates to the pocket-book and pocket, and, being cut from the plates themselves, avoid much expense which would be incurred in riveting.

By connecting the fastening to the strip or disk of leather *b*, I am enabled to furnish the same as a new and complete article of manufacture, ready to be applied to the pocket and pocket-book. The disk of leather, with the points *a* headed down to it, enables the fastening to be sewed to the pocket, and removed when the parts are worn out, and applied to a second pair, &c. Were the plate applied directly to the pocket without the intervening leather, it might not be in condition when detached to apply a second time.

I am aware that a spring pocket-book fastener has before been known. Such, broadly, I do not claim.

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

1. The combination and arrangement, with the parts A B *c* of the fastening, of the spring E, provided

with the reverse bends *f h*, forming respectively the finger-rest and the eye, the whole operating in the manner and for the purpose specified.

2. As a new article of manufacture, the fastening for pocket-books, consisting of the plates A B, provided with the points *a a*, and attached to the leather disk *b*, the whole arranged as described, and operating in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WM. H. FERGUSON.

Witnesses:

R. F. OSGOOD,

C. D. PAGE.