

B. F. BRITTON.

COMB.

No. 174,059.

Patented Feb. 29, 1876.

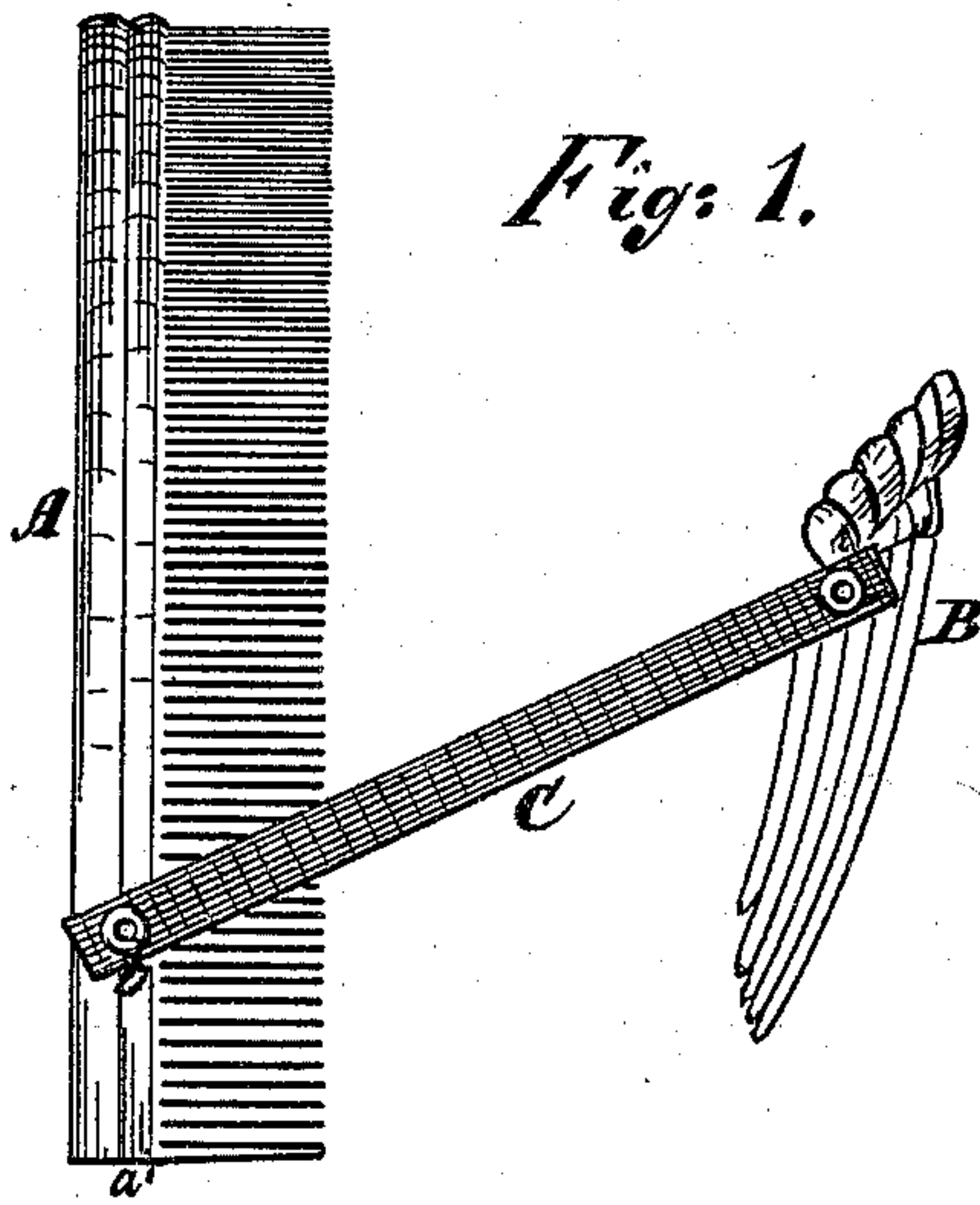
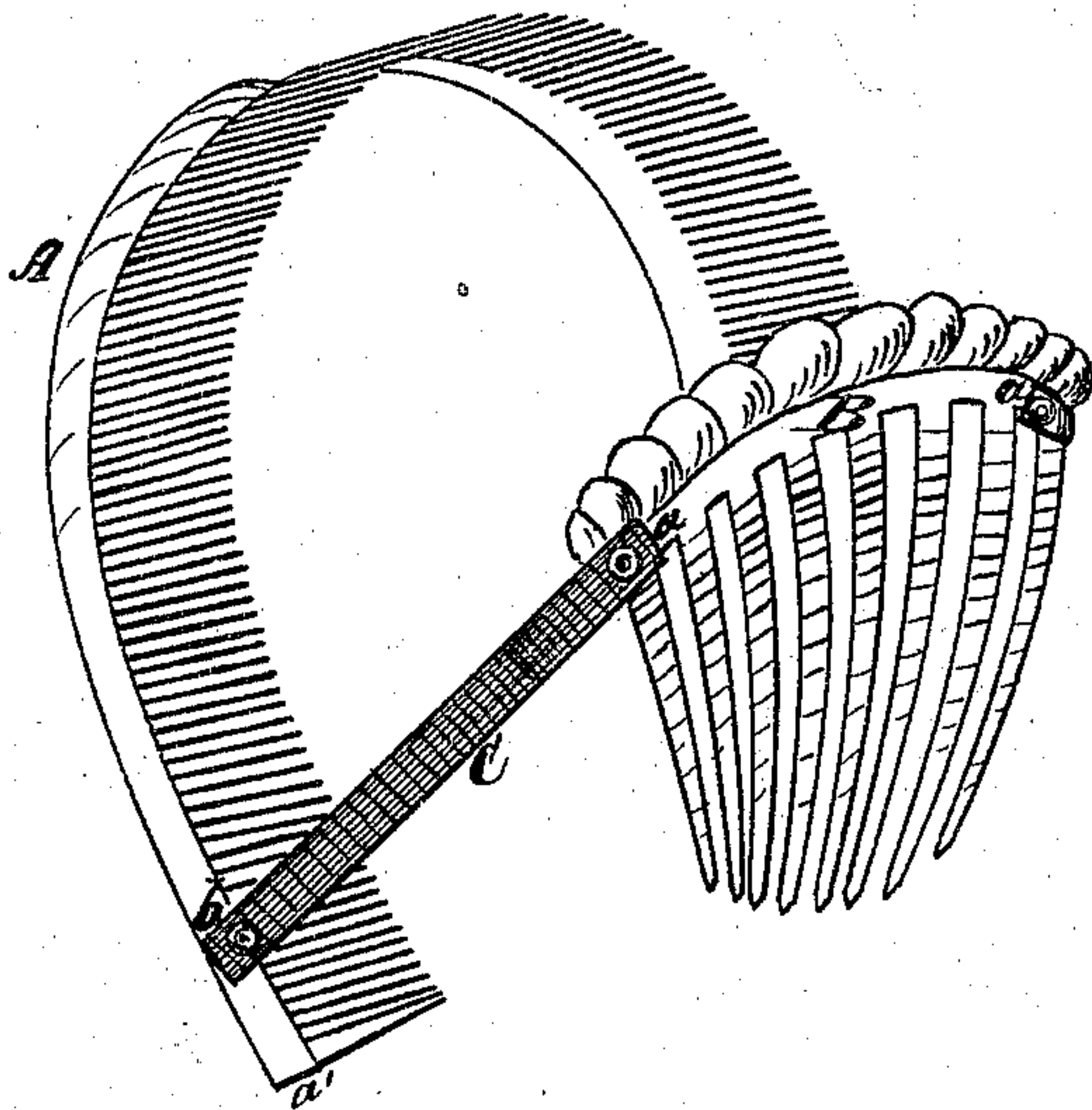


Fig: 1.

Fig: 2.



Witnesses:

H. Wells Jr

Elbert Dearborn

Inventor:

Benjamin F. Britton

per

James A. Whitney

Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

BENJAMIN F. BRITTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,059**, dated February 29, 1876; application filed August 11, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. BRITTON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Combs, of which the following is a specification:

This invention is designed to provide a means whereby the ordinary "back-comb," so termed, used by ladies may be made to assist in retaining the band or semicircular comb in place when the wearer stoops forward, and yet be capable of separate and independent use when desired.

To this end the invention consists in the combination of detachable side pieces with hooks or buttons provided upon the lateral portions of the back-comb, and also upon the corresponding lateral portions of the semicircular comb, whereby is secured, in a very effective and superior manner, the object sought.

Figure 1 is a side view representing my invention, and Fig. 2 is a perspective view thereof.

A is the band or semicircular comb, and B is the back-comb, so termed, both being of the ordinary or of any suitable form and construction, and with any preferred ornamental configuration. Upon the lateral portions of the back-comb B, at the rear side thereof, and, preferably, near its edges, are two studs, buttons, or hooks, *a*. Upon the lateral portions of the semicircular comb A, upon the outer surface thereof, and at any preferred distance, say from one to two inches, from the extremities *a'* thereof, are studs, buttons, or hooks *b*, corresponding to the studs, buttons, or hooks *a* on the back-comb. C are side pieces, which may be simple straps of light leather, such as morocco, &c., or of light woven fabric, or pieces of more rigid and stiff material, like vulcanized rubber or horn, but which, preferably, are made of elastic webbing or tape, or of elastic cord. As shown in the drawings, these pieces are flat, and each has a button-hole, *a'*, in each end. The said side pieces are placed one upon each side of the semicircular comb and the back-comb, as represented more fully in Fig. 2, the back-comb being, of course, placed behind the semicircular comb. Each side piece is buttoned at one end to the stud,

button, or hook *a* on the adjacent side of the semicircular comb, and at the other to the contiguous stud, button, or hook *b* of the back-comb, the two side pieces being thus more or less parallel, and connecting the back-comb with the semicircular comb with a more or less flexible or hinge-like connection.

In using the invention the semicircular comb is placed in its usual position upon the head of the wearer, and the back-comb is then strained slightly upon the side pieces C, and adjusted at the back of the head in the ordinary manner; and as the back-comb holds upon the semicircular comb by means of the side pieces C, it effectually prevents the displacement of the semicircular comb in a forward direction from the stooping of the wearer, or from other causes.

When it is desired, to use either the back-comb or semicircular comb alone, or both separately, the side pieces are detached, and each of the combs may be applied by itself in the usual manner.

I do not claim in this application a band or supplemental semicircular comb so attached to a semicircular comb as to pass around the back of the head of the wearer to keep the main semicircular comb from falling forward, as such have been hitherto devised, and differ materially from my invention. Neither do I claim a back and a semicircular comb made in one piece, as such have hitherto been made and differ materially from mine. Neither, so far as concerns this present case, do I claim the combination, with a semicircular comb, of studs or fastenings for a removable band, as such constitutes the subject-matter of another application of mine now pending, filed August 5, 1875; but

What I claim as my invention is—

The side pieces C, in combination with the buttons, studs, or hooks *a* of the back-comb B, and the buttons, studs, or hooks *b* of the semicircular comb A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

BENJAMIN F. BRITTON.

Witnesses:

HENRY SCHMITT,

ELBERT DEARBORN.