

A. WISNER.  
Fastening for Attaching Buttons to Boots and Shoes.

No. 197,957.

Patented Dec. 11, 1877

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

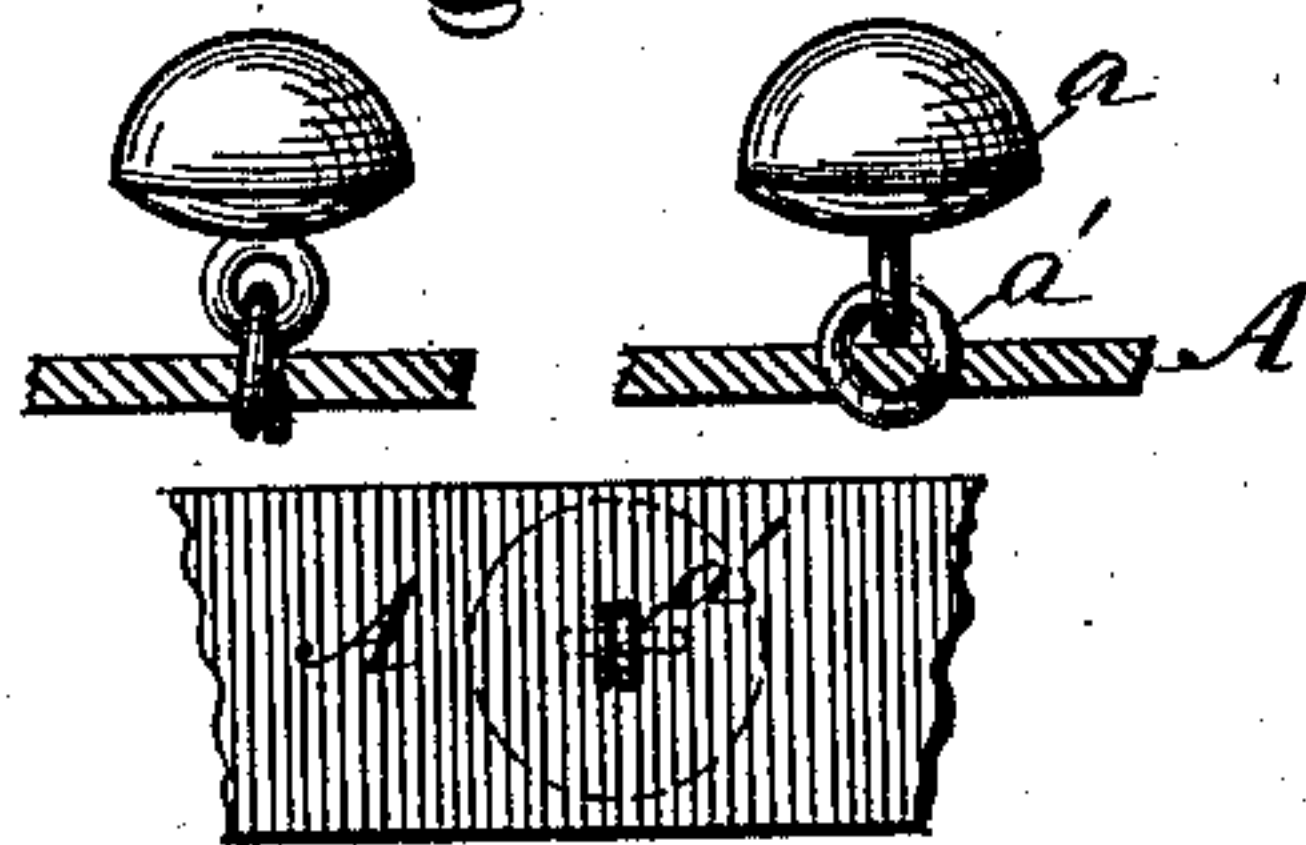
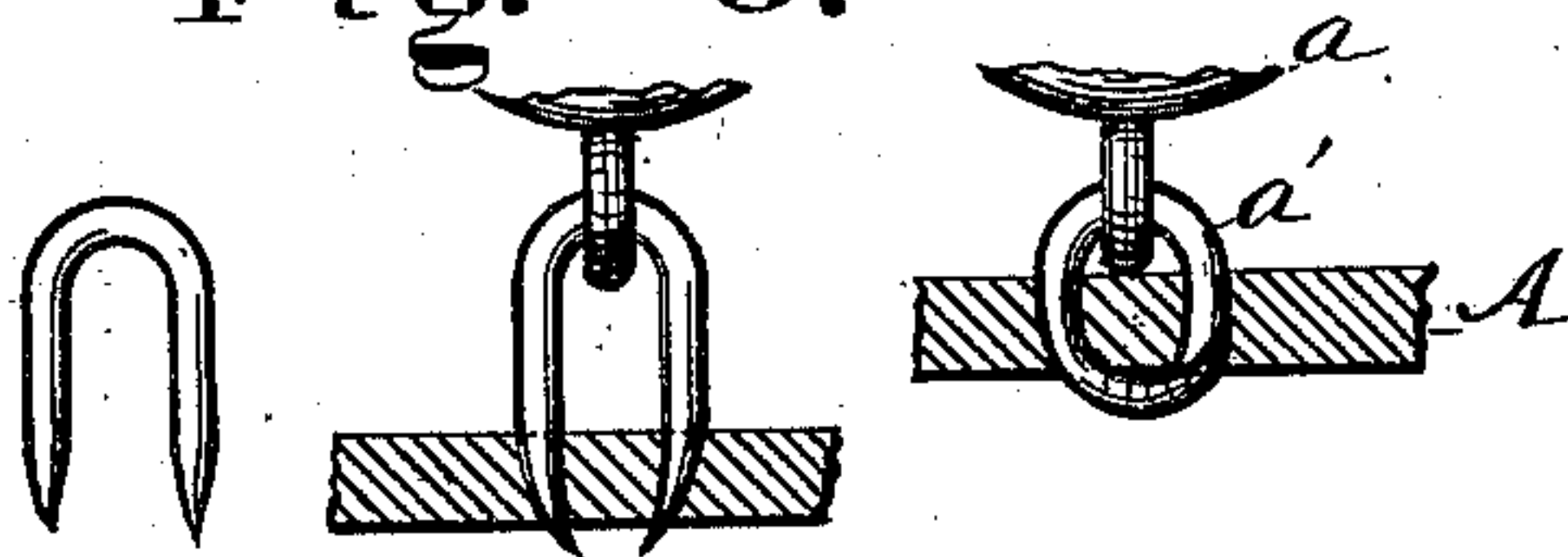


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT WISNER, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENINGS FOR ATTACHING BUTTONS TO BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **197,957**, dated December 11, 1877; application filed October 18, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT WISNER, of Bridgeport, county of Fairfield, and State of Connecticut, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fastening Devices for Uniting Buttons to Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of this invention is to unite by simple means, which can be readily and economically applied, the ordinary buttons to the shoe, in such manner that a minimum amount of the metal of the fastening is exposed upon the exterior surface of the shoe, and so also that the fastening may be readily removed, when it is desired to change the position of the buttons, without defacing or injuring the appearance of the shoe itself; and it consists in the employment, in connection with the ordinary button, of a round pin-pointed staple, which is passed through the material and clinched without a plate, in such manner as to cause the legs to lie side by side and each point to turn upward by the opposite leg.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a shoe to which my invention has been applied; Fig. 2, enlarged views of the buttons, the material of the shoe, and the staples clinched in the material; and Fig. 3, views of the staples in their various forms.

A represents a shoe-quarter of any proper form, and *a a* the buttons ordinarily employed. *a' a'* represent staples, by means of which the buttons are secured to the shoe. These consist, preferably, of suitable lengths of pin-wire, having pointed ends, which are bent in the usual U-shaped form, as shown. These then, after buttons have been slipped thereon, are united to the fabric or material of the shoe by passing their pointed ends through the same, and clinching them upon the inner side in such manner as to cause the legs to lie side by side upon the inner side of the fabric, and each point to turn upward by the side of the opposite leg, as shown in Figs 1 and 2.

The plate usually employed in connection with the staple is dispensed with.

Certain defects incidental to the use of the ordinary fastenings are remedied in my invention.

In one class of these an extended portion of metal is exposed upon the exterior of the shoe, by means of which its appearance is greatly injured.

In this class, also, the material of the shoe is perforated with three or more large openings, and hence, when the fastenings are removed to change the position of the buttons, these openings tend to deface the shoe and injure its appearance.

In another class plates are employed upon the interior surface, which, when the shoe is worn, act to hurt the foot and soil the stocking.

By my invention these defects are remedied. The excess of exterior metal is dispensed with. The material of the shoe is perforated by very small openings, so that no injury or defacement results if the fastening is removed. The interior plate also is dispensed with, so that the foot of the wearer is not injured, nor is the stocking soiled.

I am aware that a metallic staple has been used as a fastening device for doors, lids, and similar articles; but when thus used no special care has been taken to cause the clinched ends to assume any particular position. If thus used to attach buttons to shoes the invention will be of little or no value.

I am aware that staples have been employed to unite two-eyed buttons to clothing by bending the legs of the staple in opposite directions, and causing them to lie exposed upon the inner side of the fabric. This method of fastening is not applicable to shoes, because, first, the button would not answer the desired purpose; and, second, because the parts of the staple not being clinched into the material would injure the foot of the wearer.

I am aware, also, that staples have been employed to secure the ordinary shoe-button in place; but only in connection with a plate, the employment of which renders the whole valueless.

I am aware, also, that a pronged plate has been employed to secure the ordinary buttons in place, the prongs of which were clinched

into the material; but the employment of this plate upon the exterior surface impairs the value of the whole.

None of these combinations are claimed as my invention; but,

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A boot or shoe having its buttons secured by round pin-pointed staples passed through

the material and clinched without a plate, the legs lying side by side, and each point turning upward by the opposite leg into the body of the material, substantially as described.

This specification signed and witnessed this 3d day of October, 1877.

ALBERT WISNER.

Witnesses:

MAMIE E. STALLINGS,  
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