

W. BOURKE.
Sleeve-Button.

No. 204,706.

Patented June 11, 1878.

Fig. 1.

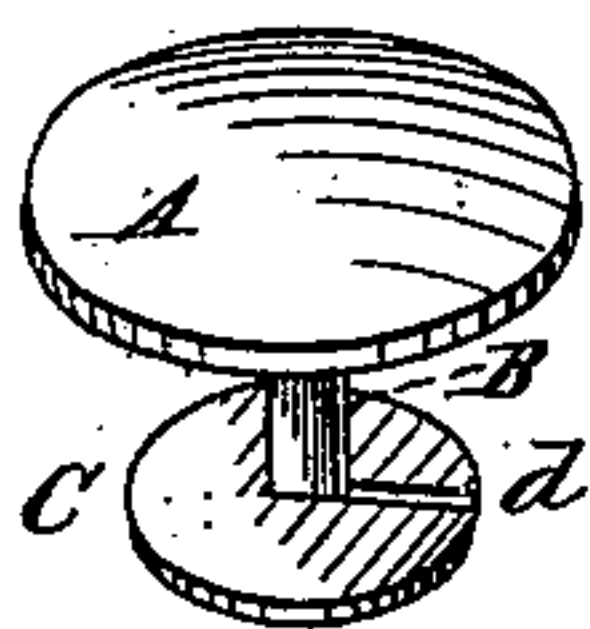


Fig. 2.

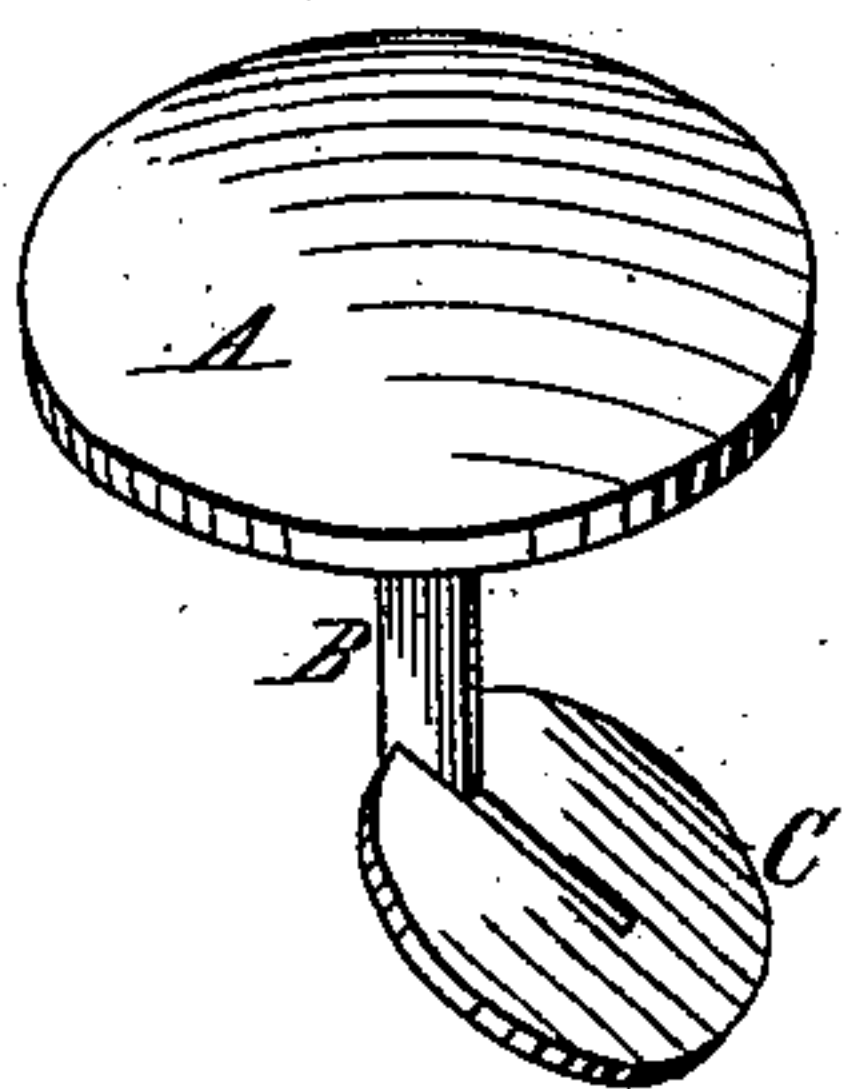


Fig. 3.

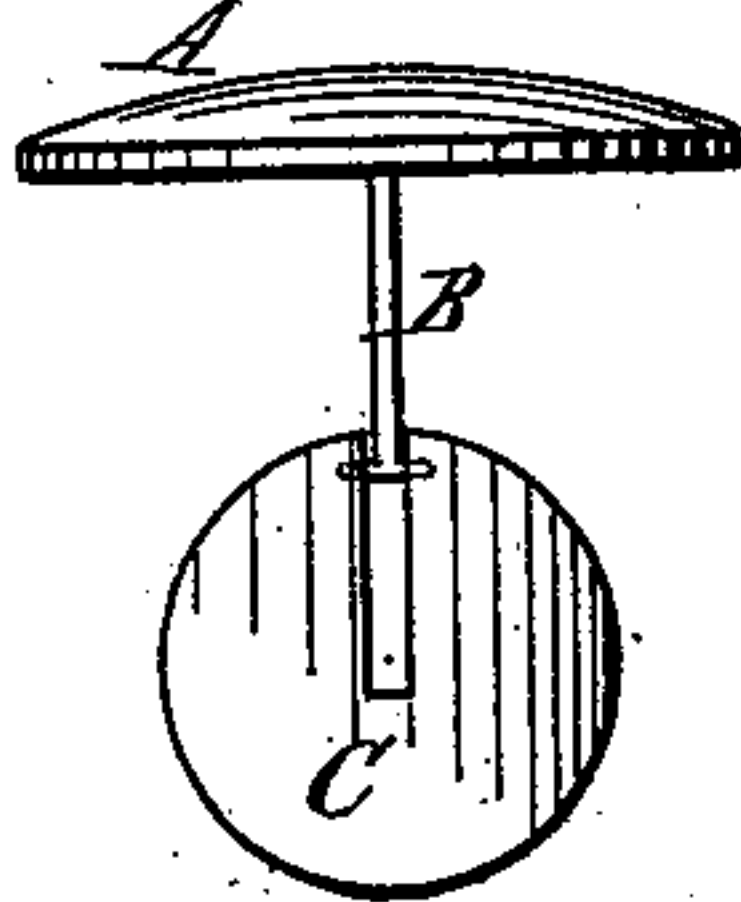


Fig. 4.

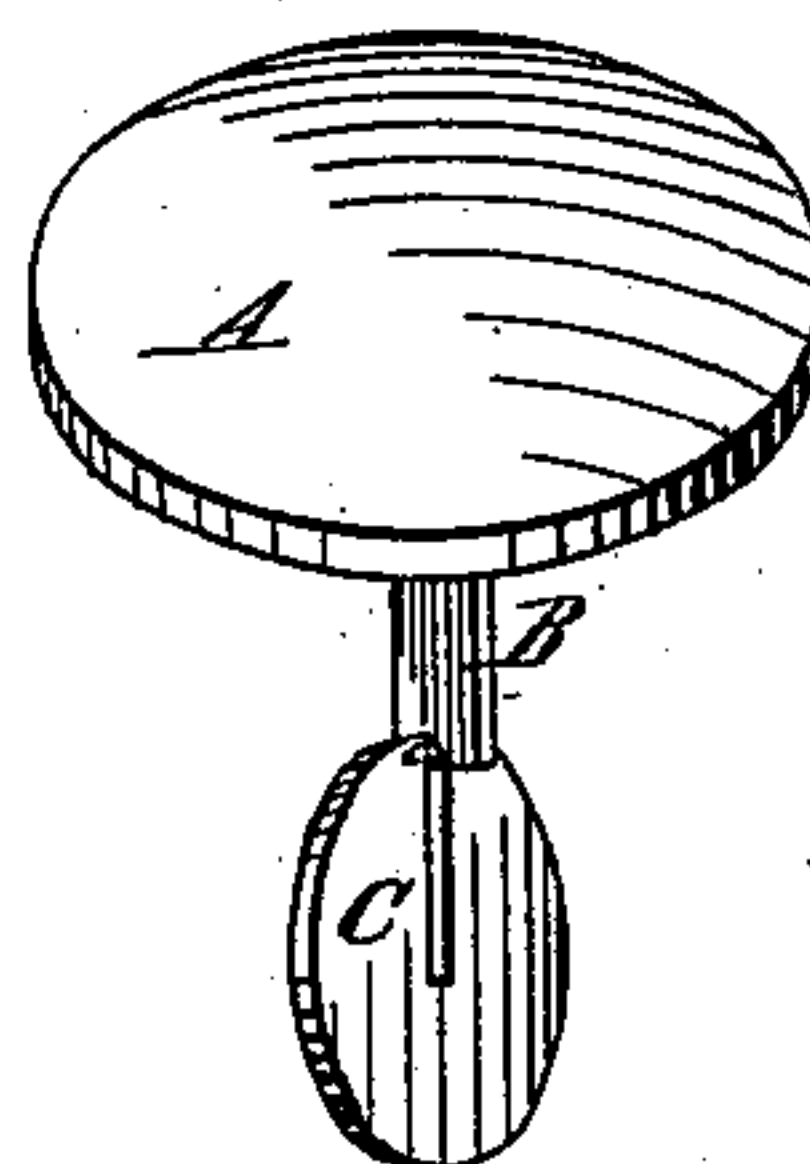


Fig. 5.

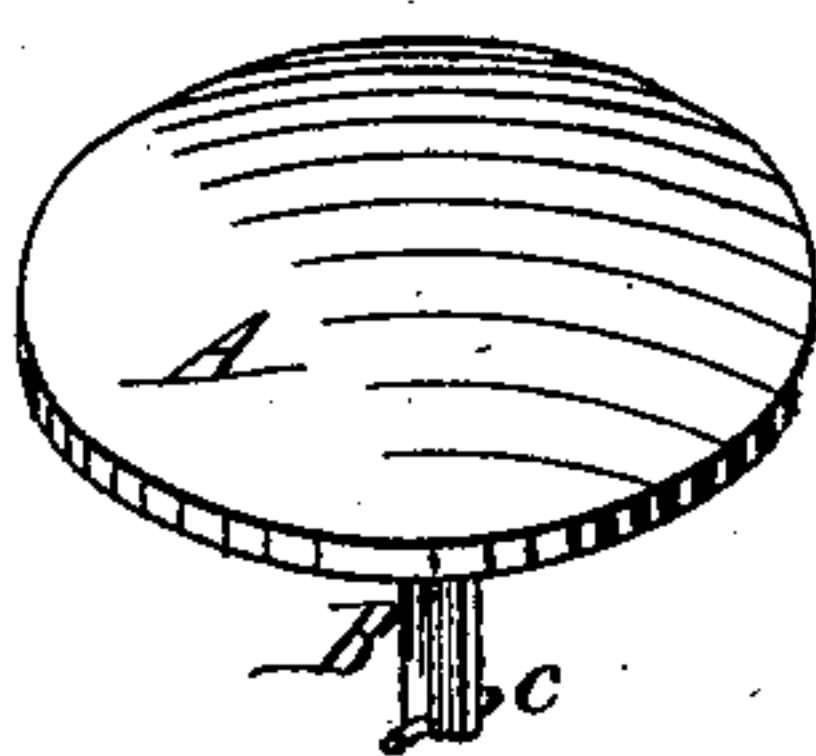


Fig. 6.

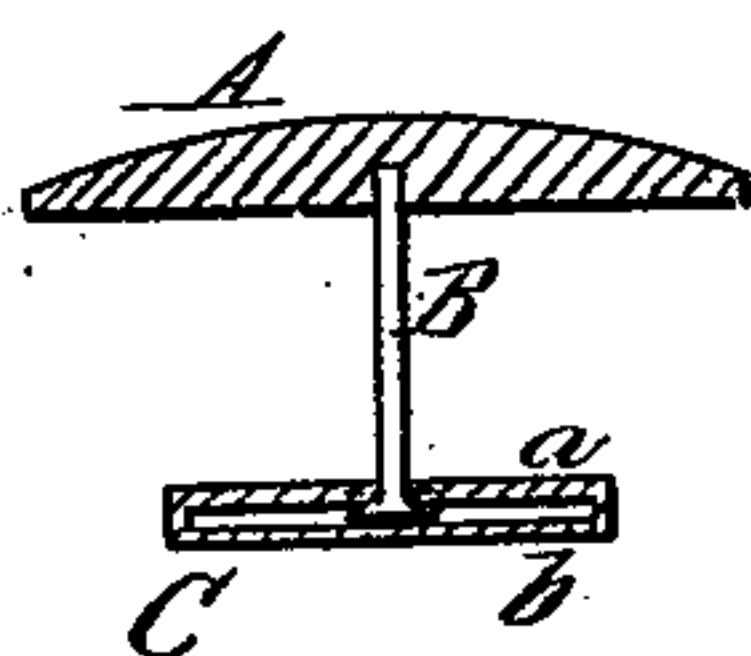
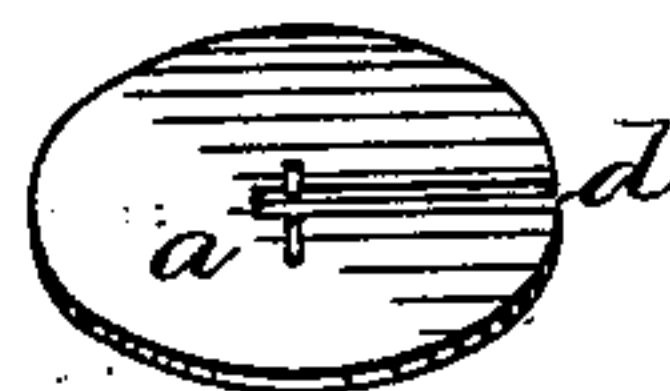


Fig. 7.



Attest:
Chas. H. Searle.
D. P. Cowl

William Bourke,
Inventor:
By North Osgood,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM BOURKE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SLEEVE-BUTTONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,706**, dated June 11, 1878; application filed January 28, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BOURKE, of New York city, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sleeve-Buttons, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved button, the upper and lower parts being arranged with respect to each other as they should be when the cuff or other article is properly buttoned. Fig. 2 is a perspective view; Fig. 3, a side elevation; and Fig. 4 another perspective view, showing the base-piece as it appears when moved along upon the shank for the purpose of passing it through the button-holes. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the top-piece and its shank, the base being detached therefrom. Fig. 6 is an axial section of the button complete, and Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the base-piece detached from the shank.

Like letters in all the figures indicate corresponding parts.

The object of my invention is to produce a simple and cheap button, which shall be capable of being readily used to connect cuffs or other similar articles, which, from their nature or thickness, render it difficult to insert the ordinary form of sleeve-button; and the invention consists in certain novel arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter first fully described, and then pointed out in the claims.

A is the top of the button, and B the shank. C is the base-piece, ordinarily made smaller than the top, and intended to be passed through the button-holes.

The difficulties experienced in the use of the ordinary sleeve-button, when attempting to connect the ends of highly-starched cuffs or similar semi-rigid materials, are very well understood; and they are well known to be attributable to the fact that the shank and base-piece are rigidly connected at right angles with each other. To overcome these difficulties, I make the base-piece C of two plates, *a* and *b*, separated a little distance, sufficient to accommodate the pin *c*, which is connected with the lower extremity of shank B. In the

plate *a*, which is nearest the top plate, I cut a slot, *d*, running from the perimeter to a point a little past the center, and sufficiently wide to accommodate the shank, but not wide enough to permit pin *c* to draw out. The two parts *a* and *b* are connected after the pin *c* has been properly located between them; and when the parts are all united, substantially as shown in the drawings, it will be observed that, in order to force the lower piece of the button through the button-hole, it will be only necessary to slide it along upon the shank, as represented in Fig. 2, allow it to drop down, as in Figs. 3 and 4, and then push it directly through. The material should then be crowded up upon the shank, and the base returned to position shown in Fig. 1.

The two plates composing the base are placed as near each other as necessary to properly retain the cross-pin, and, in order that the lower plate will not interfere with the dropping down of the base, it (the lower plate) is provided with a short slot cut in a radial direction, and a distance toward the center about equal to half the width of the shank.

By making the shank flat, as represented, it is prevented from revolving in the narrow slot *d*; and the base C being of two plates enables me to retain the lower one uncut, except a distance equal to half the width of the shank, which is necessary in order that said shank will not interfere with the dropping of the base, and thus make a neater article.

Should the pin *c* work too freely between plates *a* and *b*, one of them may be indented at or near the center, as shown in Fig. 7, and the pin *c* be confined in this indentation by pressure of the other plate when the shank is moved to its proper position.

The method of hinging the base to the shank—*i. e.*, so that it will drop down, as indicated in Figs. 2, 3, and 4—is found to render the button quite serviceable, and to be a veritable improvement upon other styles of button-fasteners.

Should occasion require, I propose to hinge the top plate to the shank instead of the base, preserving the general principles of the invention.

I am aware of various styles of button-fasteners, the most prominent of which are such

as have a removable base or top, or in which the base is made up of a continuation of the shank and a piece adjustable thereon.

I am also aware of a base having been hinged between two projecting arms of the shank, making the shank wider than the base, and of a base and shank united by a ball-and-socket joint, rendering it impossible to bring the base into a position directly in the prolongation of the shank.

To these forms I lay no claim; but,

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

1. In a sleeve-button, the combination, with plate A, of shank B, having cross-pin c, which is retained in a base, C, both plates of which are slotted in a radial direction, as explained,

said shank being adapted to be moved in said slotted base from center to circumference, substantially as shown and described.

2. The herein-described base for buttons, the same being composed of two plates, one of which is slotted from its circumference to its center, for the purpose of confining the end of the button-shank, and the other cut away, so as to permit the base to be moved along and dropped in line with the shank, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM BOURKE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

TRUMAN P. DOANE,
O. R. STANFORD.