

(No Model.)

I. SMITH.
Button.

No. 234,929.

Patented Nov. 30, 1880.

Fig. 1

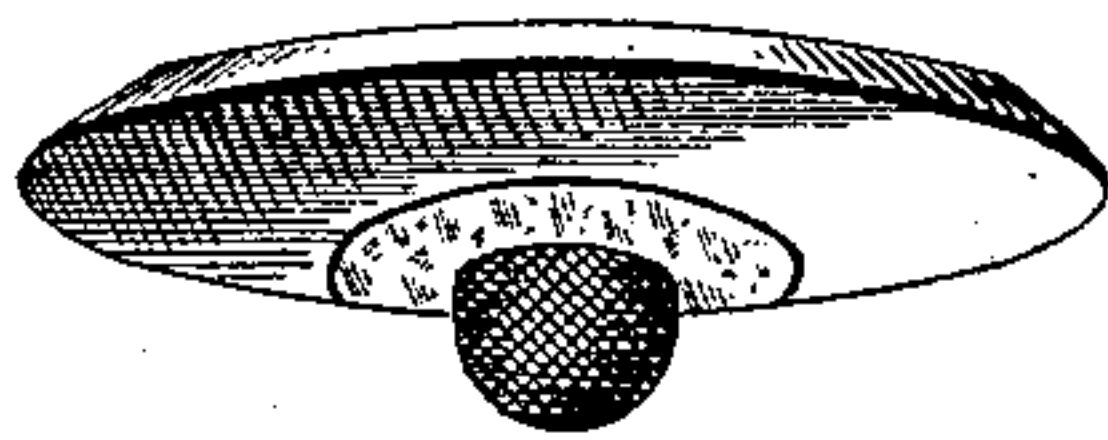


Fig. 2

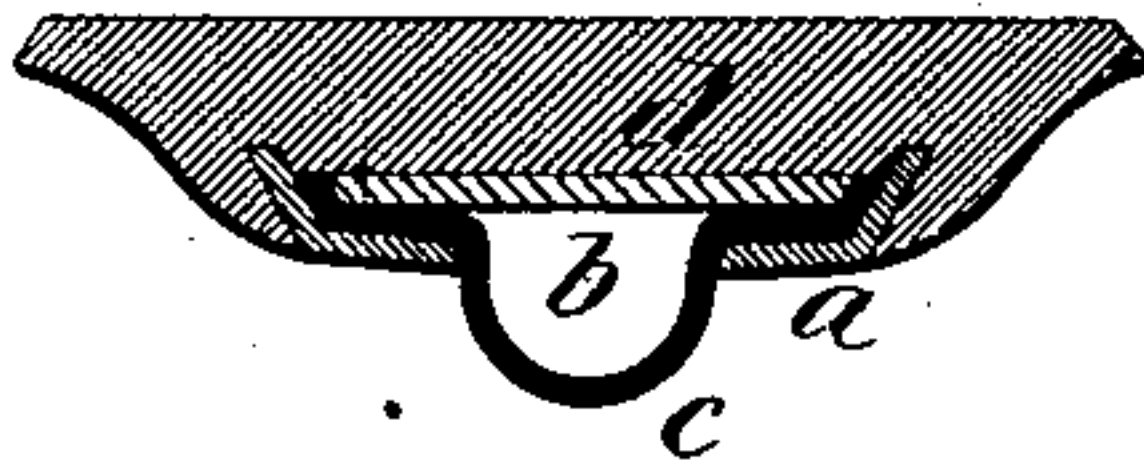
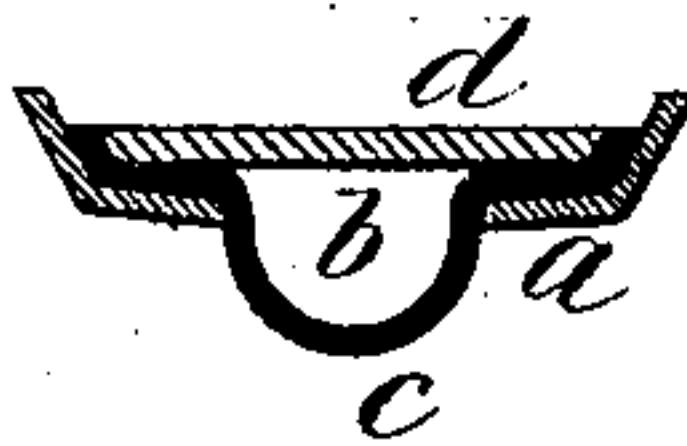


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

J. D. Rogers
L. D. Rogers

Isaac Smith
Inventor
By atty.
John E. Earle

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC SMITH, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
SAMUEL PECK & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

BUTTON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 234,929, dated November 30, 1880.

Application filed August 17, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC SMITH, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Buttons; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a perspective view; Fig. 2, a central section; Fig. 3, a section of eye part detached.

This invention relates to an improvement in the manufacture of that class of buttons which are made from composition or material made or pressed in molds, which is hardened after being shaped.

In the usual construction of this class of buttons they have been pierced at the center for sewing to the garment, or have been made with metal eyes. In the first case the method is objectionable, because for dresses or nice work the thread is exposed and the fastening disfigures the face of the button. In the latter case the button is adapted only to special uses or heavy work, so that for fine work covered buttons are preferred because of their flexible fastening, and for the neat and finished appearance which can be given to the button.

The object of this invention is to provide a molded button with a fastening presenting all the advantages of fabricated buttons, and overcoming all objections to molded buttons; and the invention consists in the manufacture of molded buttons by first inclosing the eye in a hard material, next placing it in the mold, and then pressing plastic compound into the mold upon the eye in the process of shaping the button, all as fully described.

The molds for forming the buttons may be of any of the known or desirable shapes in general outline. Previous to molding I prepare an eye of flexible material, preferably as shown in Fig. 3. This consists of a cup-shaped disk, *a*, with a central perforation, *b*. Into

this I place a fabricated or flexible material, with the center drawn through the perforation *b*, to form a fastening-projection, *c*, substantially like the fastening employed in fabricated or covered buttons. On this fabric I place a second disk, *d*, and close the parts sufficiently to secure them together, or prevent the material from which the button is made from being forced into the projection *c*; then place the fastening device so formed centrally in the under portion of the mold; then place upon it the material of which the body of the button is to be made, and press it hard thereon in the usual manner for making molded buttons. The body of the button thus pressed unites with the fastening device by any irregularity therein or adhesion thereto, and when the material is hardened the button is complete.

There being no perforation through the button the face may be ornamented to any desirable extent, and the button attached to the garment in the same manner as covered buttons, and thus present all the advantages of both covered and hard-material buttons.

I do not wish to be understood as confining myself to this particular construction of the fabric or flexible eye, as it may be made in various ways, the method described and shown being sufficient to enable those skilled in the art of button-making to construct molded buttons with a flexible eye.

I do not broadly claim a button of hard material provided with a flexible eye, as such, I am aware, is not new.

I claim—

The herein-described improvement in the manufacture of molded buttons, consisting in first inclosing the eye in a hard material, next placing it in the mold, and then pressing plastic compound into the mold upon the eye, thus uniting the body and flexible eye in the process of shaping the button.

ISAAC SMITH.

Witnesses:

J. H. SHUMWAY,
L. D. ROGERS.