

(No Model.)

W. P. DOLLOFF.

BUTTON.

No. 255,727.

Patented Mar. 28, 1882.

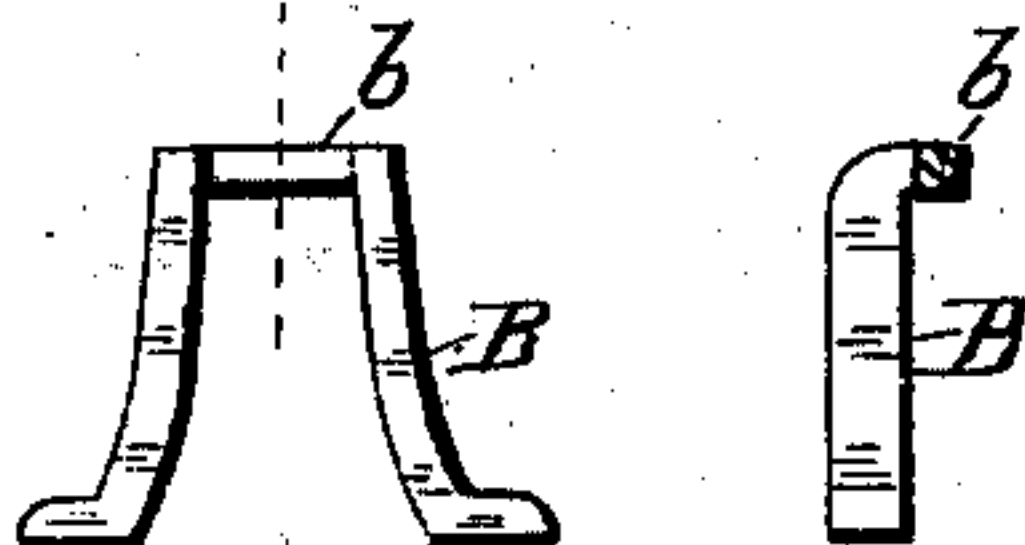
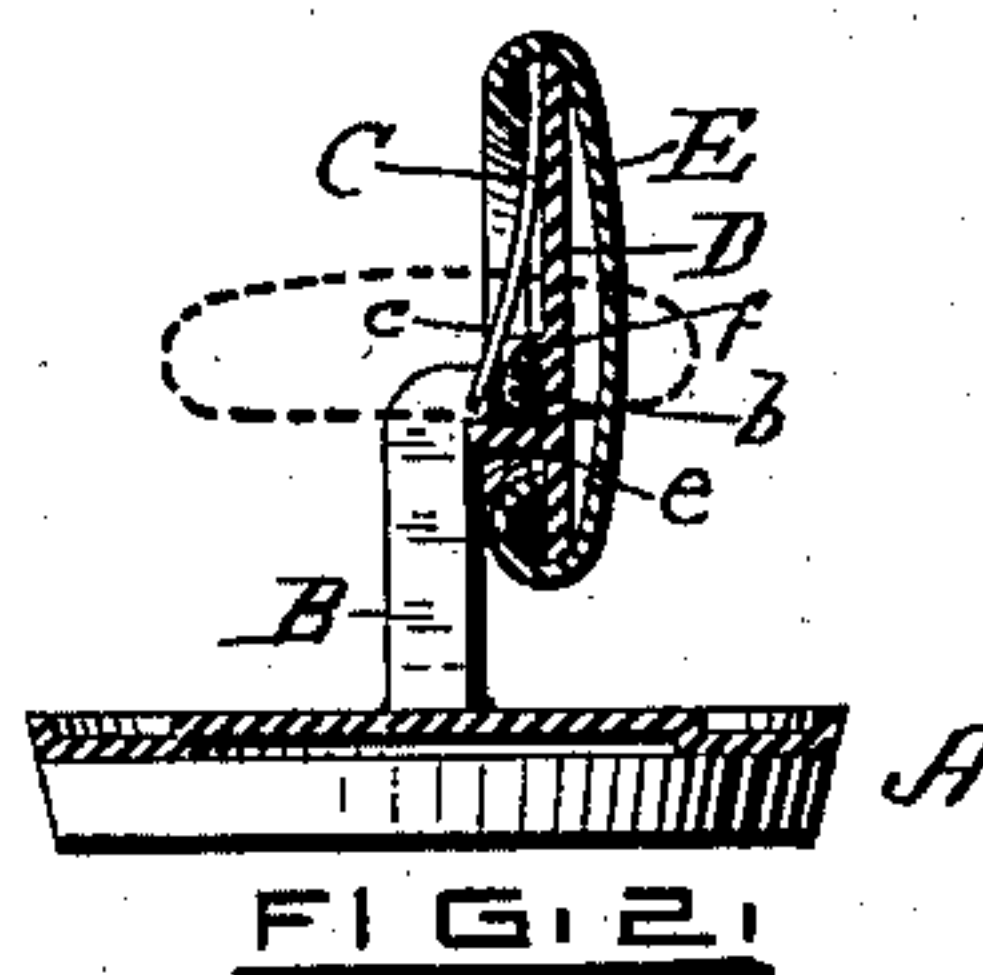
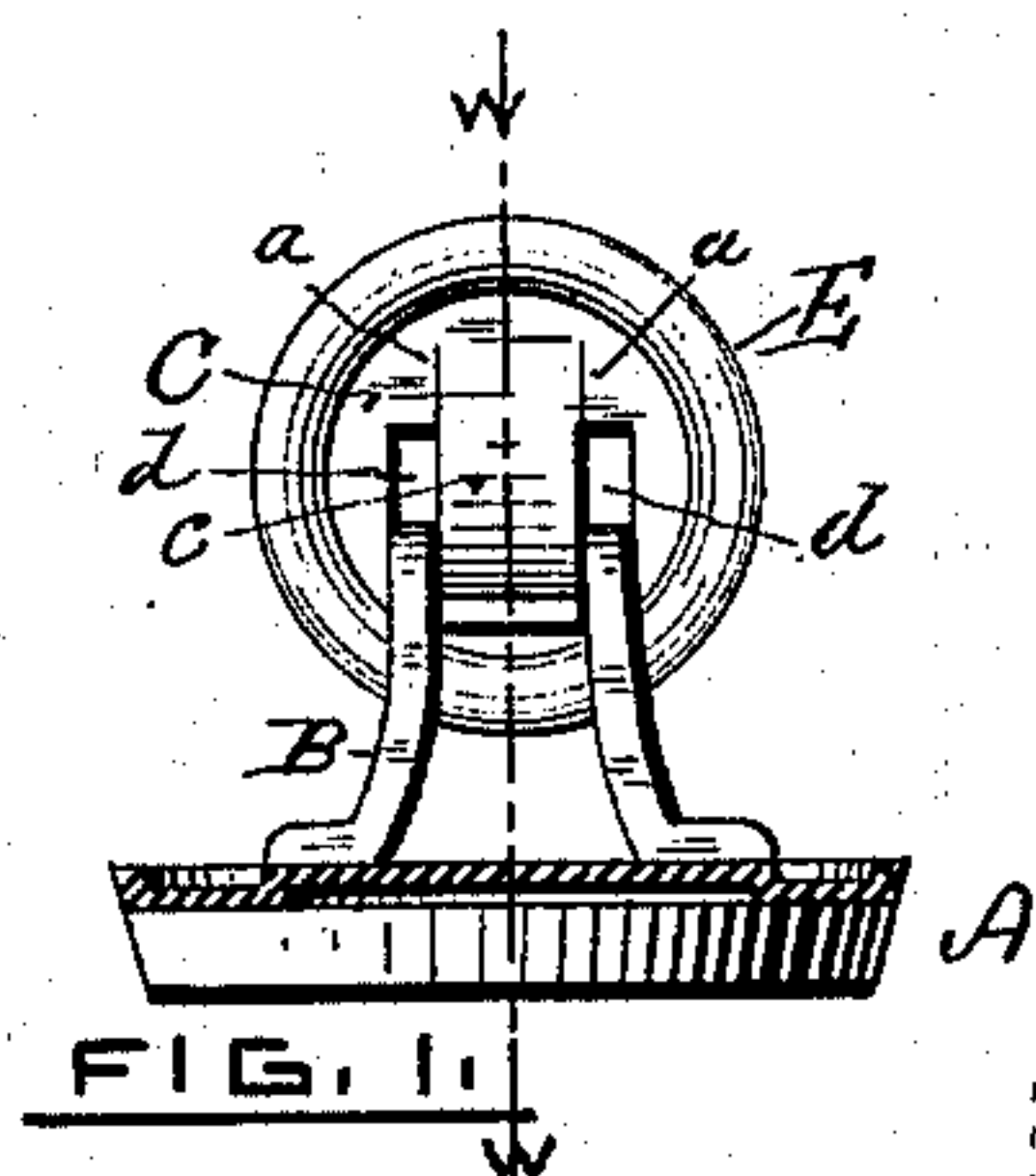


FIG. 3.

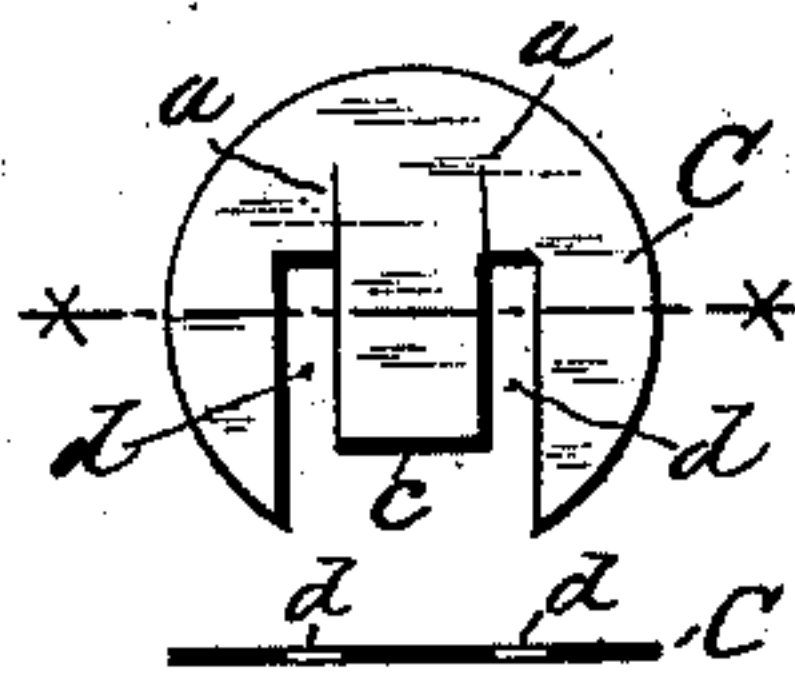


FIG. 4.

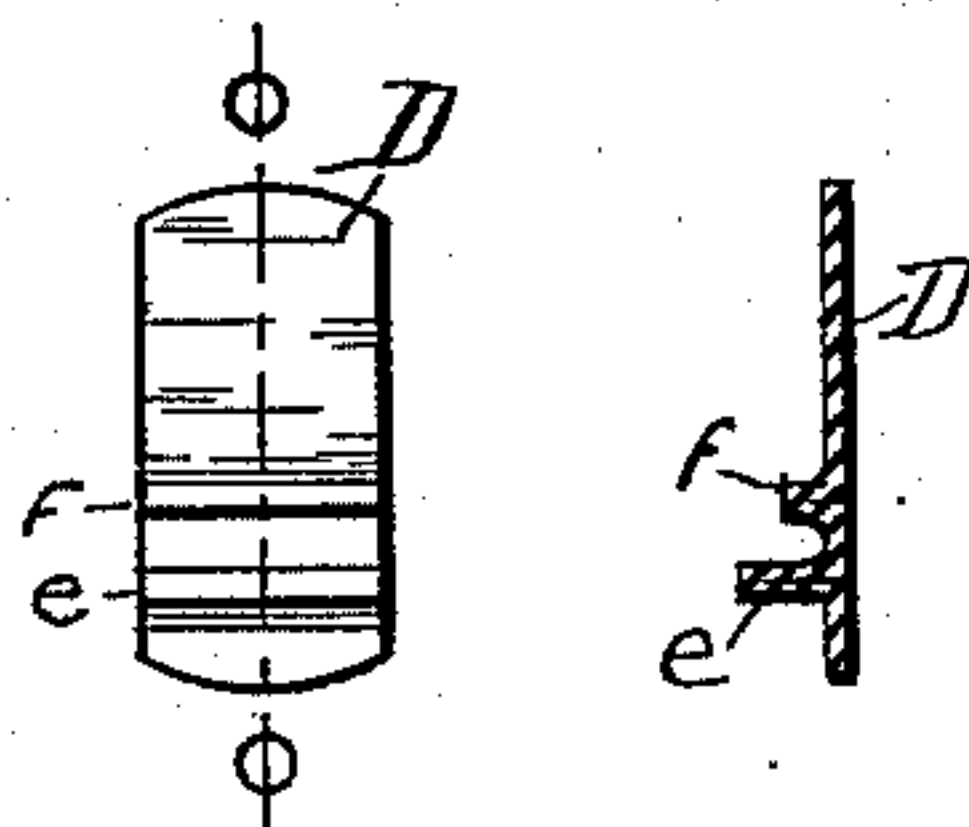


FIG. 5.

WITNESSES:

*Socrates Scholfield*  
*LeGrand Scholfield*

INVENTOR:

*Wellington P. Dolloff*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WELLINGTON P. DOLLOFF, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR TO  
VOSE & SOUTHWICK, OF SAME PLACE.

## BUTTON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,727, dated March 23, 1882.

Application filed December 27, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WELLINGTON P. DOLLOFF, of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented an Improvement in Buttons, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of buttons where the shoe is made to turn to one side of the post for insertion into the button-hole or removal therefrom; and it consists in the peculiar construction of the post and the several parts contained in the shoe, as hereinafter fully set forth.

Figure 1 represents an elevation of the button with the shoe turned to one side of the post, the hollow head of the button being shown in section. Fig. 2 represents a central section of Fig. 1, taken in the line *ww*. Fig. 3 represents an elevation and central section of the post. Fig. 4 represents a plan and central section of the spring. Fig. 5 represents a plan and central section of the piece for holding the joint end of the post in its proper position in the shoe.

In the drawings, A is the head of the button; B, the post; C, the spring; D, the retaining or joint piece for the post, and E the shoe-cap.

The post B may be either made of square wire or cut out of sheet metal of suitable thickness, the square or angular cross-bar *b*, upon which the tongue *c* of the spring is made to act, being offset to one side of the plane of the center of the post, as shown in Fig. 3, by which means the joint of the post with the shoe may be made to one side of the center of the shoe, and yet secure a central position for the post when the shoe is turned to its locking position. (Shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 2.)

The spring C is cut out of sheet metal in the form of a partial circular disk, as shown in Fig. 4, being cut away at one side, so as to form the tongue *c*, which does not extend to the continuation of the circular boundary of the disk. The two splits *a a* extend for a short distance beyond the ends of the slots *d d* at each side of the tongue *c*, and serve to increase the flexibility of the tongue *c* of the spring without causing an opening to be made in the spring other than necessary to receive the post, which opening would tend to render the inner portion of the shoe unsightly, and the inner ends of the

slots *d d* serve as a stop to the post, preventing further movement when the shoe is turned to its locking position.

The post-retaining plate D is provided with two lips, *e* and *f*, the outer lip, *e*, being made considerably higher than the inner lip, *f*. When the plate D and spring C are placed within the hollow of the shoe-cap E, and the angular cross-bar *b* of the post is placed in the space between the lips *e* and *f*, the lip *e* will extend to about the plane of the outer surface of the spring, the inner lip, *f*, being made much lower, so as not to interfere with the proper action of the spring, but serving simply to retain the cross-bar *b* and prevent it from slipping inward toward the center of the shoe under the tongue of the spring. By this arrangement of the post, spring, and retaining-piece, whereby the joint is made at one side of the center of the shoe, a short post may be employed, which is a desirable feature in buttons of this class.

The spring-plate C is first cut out in the form of a circular disk, after which the slots *d d* are made from the edge of the disk and the resulting spring-tongue *c* shortened, as above described. The plate so formed is then to be placed under the action of a cutter so constructed as to shear-cut the plate at the sides of the tongue beyond the end of the slots, thus forming the splits *a a* and increasing the flexibility of the spring-tongue *c* without removing the stock of the plate, which would form an undesirable opening to the inner portion of the shoe.

In buttons of this class, where both ends of the spring-tongue are confined by the rim of the shoe-cap, there can be but a very slight movement in the spring except under great strain, causing a rapid wear at the angular corners of the cross-bar upon which the spring is made to act, so that in a short time the shoe will be retained at any angular position on the cross-bar in which it may be placed; whereas after turning the corner it should automatically snap down to its locking or inserting positions; and in order to secure the desired lively action of the shoe, I so construct the spring and connect it to the shoe-cap that one end of the spring-tongue will be free, thus securing a greater range of movement without injurious



increase of pressure upon the corner of the cross-bar, and by making the lip *e* long enough to cover and protect the forward end of the spring-tongue I give a desirable finished appearance to the inner side of the shoe at the joint.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a button, the combination of the post B, having its angular cross-bar *b* offset to one side of the center of the post, retaining-plate D, provided with the lips *e* and *f*, made one longer than the other, and spring C, all arranged and operating substantially as described.

2. In a button, the spring-plate C, provided with the spring-tongue *c*, shortened, as described, and acting at its end upon the pivot-bar of the post, and having its flexibility increased by the shear-cut splits *a a*, made to extend beyond the slots *d d* at each side of the tongue, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

WELLINGTON P. DOLLOFF.

Witnesses:

SOCRATES SCHOLFIELD,  
LE GRAND SCHOLFIELD.