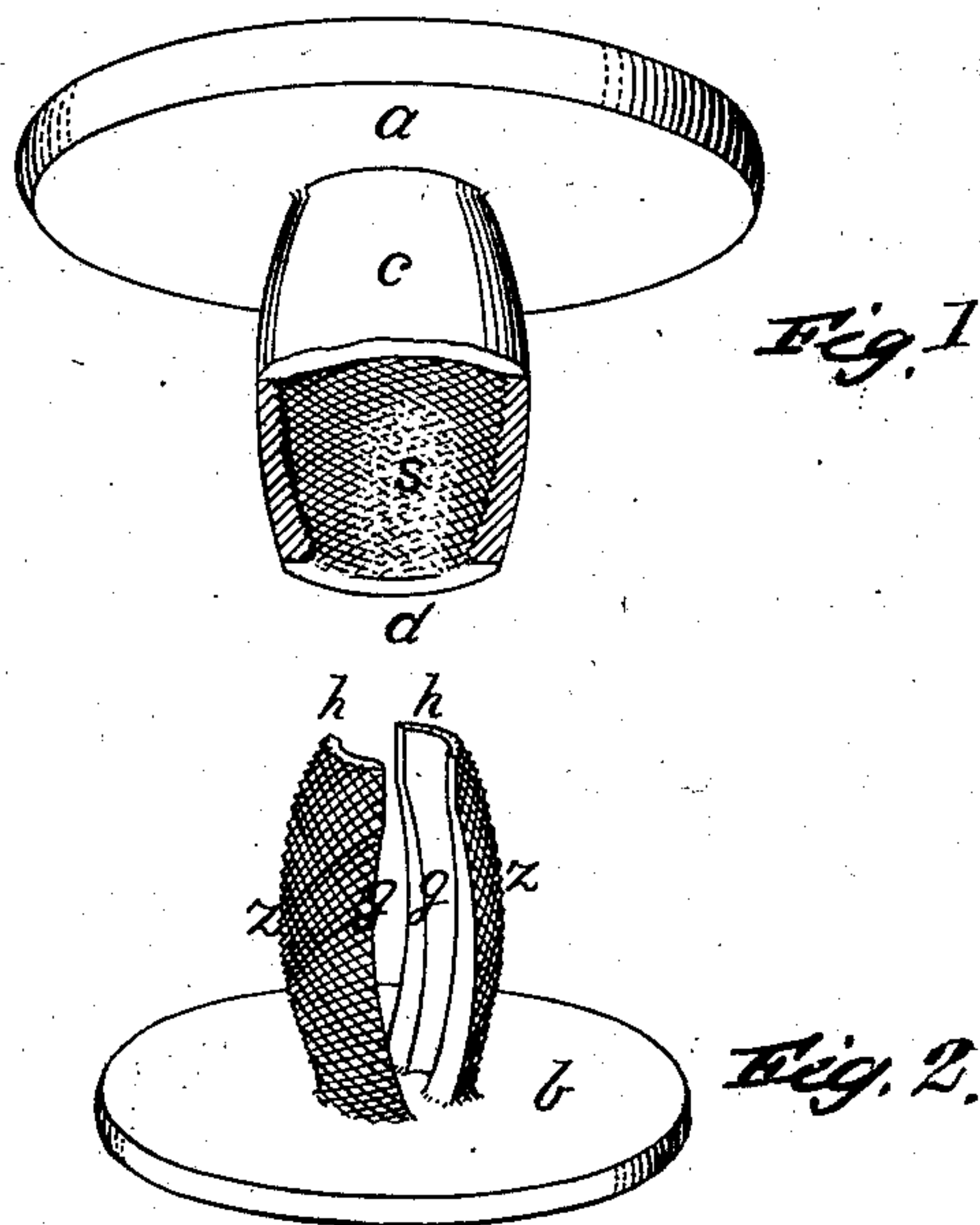


(No Model.)

D. HUMPHREYS.
SEPARABLE BUTTON.

No. 259,159.

Patented June 6, 1882.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID HUMPHREYS, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

SEPARABLE BUTTON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,159, dated June 6, 1882.

Application filed April 1, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID HUMPHREYS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Separable Buttons; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 is a perspective view, partially in section, of the face portion of my separable button; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the back portion of the same.

This invention has relation to separable buttons for fastening collars, cuffs, and other articles; and it consists in providing the face-disk or back disk with an open-end hollow convex or barrel-shaped stem, roughened on its inside, and the corresponding back-disk or face-piece with two or more elastic outwardly-bowed arms or prongs, roughened on their outer faces, and designed to enter said stem and expanding within the same, to hold the two parts in connection, all as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter *a* designates the head or ornamental piece or face-disk of the button or stud, and *b* the back or under plate or disk.

To the under side of the head or ornamental plate *a* is firmly secured a hollow stem, *c*, having an outwardly-convex or barrel-shaped wall converging to its open end *d*, where the metal is thicker than at any other portion of the stem.

To the back plate or disk, *b*, are firmly attached two or more outwardly-bowed arms or prongs, *g*, having convergent free ends *h*, which, when the back plate is to be united to the front or ornamented part of the button, are inserted into the opening *d* of the hollow stem of the latter, being pressed therein until the prongs *g* are entirely within the cavity of the stem. These prongs will then expand and engage by their convex faces the concave inner wall of the stem, impinging forcibly against the inner surface thereof, and forming a reasonably se-

cure fastening, sufficient to prevent the accidental detachment of the two parts of the button. This detachment is, however, readily effected, when necessary, by pulling the ornamental head portion in the direction of the prolongation of its stem, which will release the prongs *g* of the back plate. The outer faces, *z*, of the prongs are roughened, and the inner surface, *s*, of the barrel-shaped stem is also correspondingly roughened, in order to effect, when the parts are engaged, a strong frictional contact, which will increase the security of the fastening.

When the parts are engaged the connection is firm, so that there is no shaking, the button being in general feeling and appearance solid. It can be cheaply manufactured, and is recommended by the completeness of its adaptation to the end in view.

A separable button having one of its faces provided with a tubular spring-socket and the other with a solid post adapted to fit therein to connect the parts is not new. A separable button having one of its parts provided with a bifurcated shank having spring action and the other part provided with a shouldered tube is old; and a separable button formed of two parts, each having a shank upon the under side, the one shank consisting of a tube with one or more slots cut longitudinally through it and one or more flanges formed around its inner surface, and the other shank consisting of a solid bar somewhat thicker than the tubular shank, and having one or more grooves formed therein, so that when the bar is pressed into the tubular shank the latter expands and the flanges fall into the grooves, is also old; and neither of these constructions are claimed broadly herein.

A separable button having a straight spring-shank provided with an inward flange at its lower edge has been used in conjunction with a male shank provided with a number of annular grooves, into one of which the flange will enter when the male shank is inserted. Neither is this construction claimed herein.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a separable button, the face-plate *a*, hav-

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ing the hollow convex or barrel-shaped stem
c, open at its lower end and roughened on its
interior, in combination with the back plate,
b, provided with the outwardly-bowed prongs
5 g, having converging free ends h and rough-
ened exterior faces, z, substantially as de-
scribed.

In testimony that I claim the above I have
hereunto subscribed my name in the presence
of two witnesses.

DAVID HUMPHREYS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. BROUGHTON,
ARTHUR C. HUMPHREYS.