

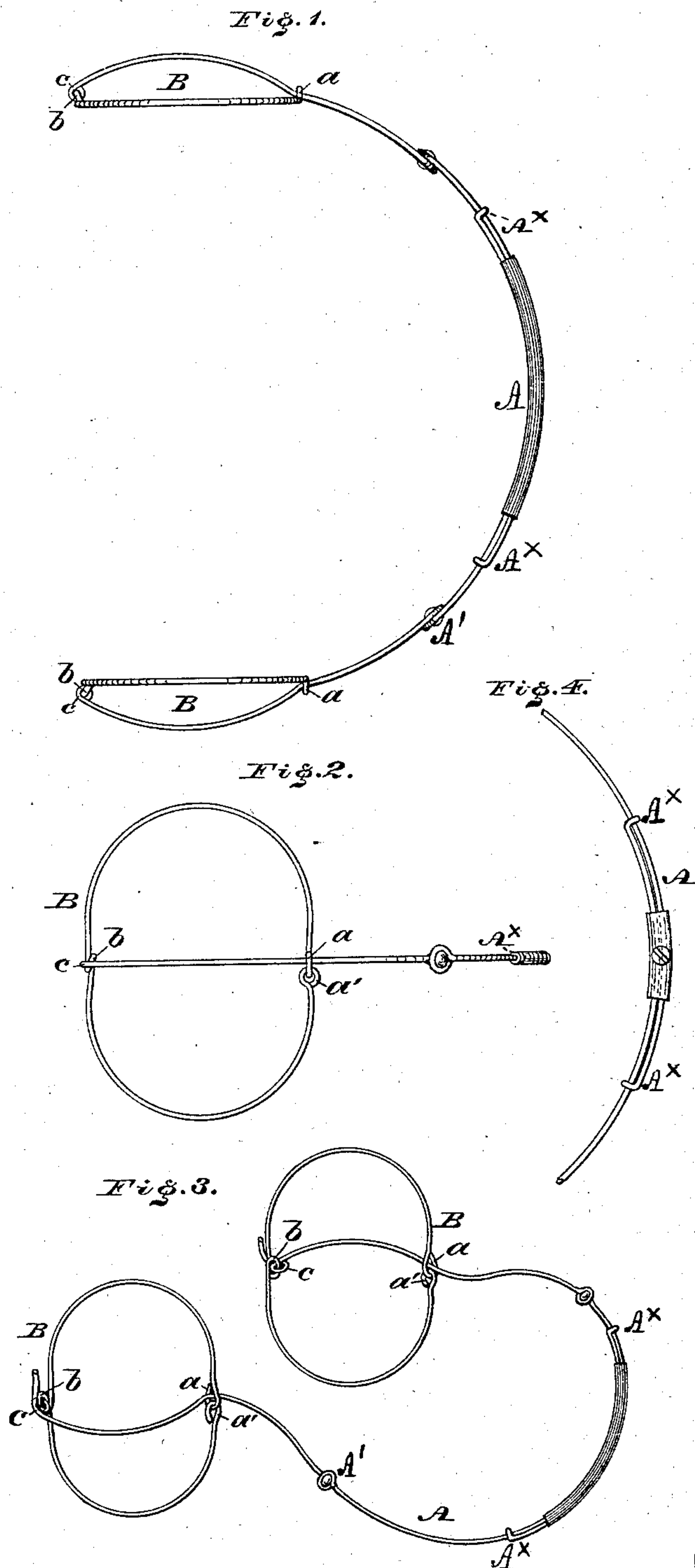
(No Model.)

A. L. BRITTON.

EAR MUFFLER.

No. 315,233.

Patented Apr. 7, 1885.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW L. BRITTON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

EAR-MUFFLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 315,233, dated April 7, 1885.

Application filed March 31, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW L. BRITTON, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ear-Mufflers, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of an ear-muffler embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion thereof. Fig. 4 is a view of a modification of the head-piece of the muffler.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

My invention relates to improvements in an ear-muffler having a head-piece and pad-frames at the end thereof; and it consists in making the head-piece adjustable by constructing it in two parts, each part having an eye on its end, through which the other part is passed, whereby it may be adapted to the size of the head of the person to wear the same, the eyes at the ends of said parts being integral with the metal of which the parts are formed, thus avoiding the employment of separate pieces of metal to form such eyes, and consequent soldering.

It also consists in forming the pad-frames with eyes integral with the same, thus rendering the frames stronger, better, and cheaper, and avoiding the employment of separate pieces of metal, and consequent soldering.

It also consists in adapting the muffler to be folded by forming the head-piece of parts pivoted or hinged together.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the head part or piece of an ear-muffler, and B represents the pad-frames thereof. The head-piece A, preferably of wire, is made adjustable in length, so that it may conform to the size of the head of the person who wears the muffler, be nicely fitted thereto, and remain securely in position. This is accomplished by making the head-piece in sections and forming on the end of each section an eye, A^x, through which the other section is passed, thus permitting the extension or reduction of the piece, the sleeve shown as encircling the contiguous lengths of the piece A serving to clamp said lengths; but it is not deemed

an essential feature, as it may be employed to conceal the contiguous parts or sections of the head-piece, including the eyes at the ends thereof, or made short and carrying a tightening-screw; but, as stated above, it is not an essential feature, as the eyes at the ends of the parts of the head furnish the necessary friction to hold said parts in adjusted position, and also prevent extreme separation of said parts. The head is also jointed or hinged, as at A', whereby the pad-frame, may be folded on said head and the entire device brought together in compact form, convenient for carrying or placing in the pocket or a bag. The pad-frames B are formed of wire bent into oval or other hoop shape, each having in its periphery eyes *a a' b*, the eyes *a a'* interlocking the ends of the wire, and the eye *b* being directly opposite. The piece A is passed freely through one of the eyes, *a*, and has its end formed with an eye, *c*, which is freely connected with the eye *b*, whereby the frame is jointed to the piece A, and is permitted to vibrate freely thereon and conform to the shape of the head about the ear.

It will be seen that while the eyes *a* or *a'* connect the end of the frame B one of said eyes receives the piece A, thus forming the bearings of one portion of the frame. It will also be seen that the eyes *a a' b* are integral with the frame, whereby they are not liable to be broken off or present sharp cutting-edges, and are also durable, easily constructed, and produced at small expense. The portions of the piece A within the frames B are bowed outwardly for properly distending the pads, and the ends of the piece are provided with hooks for holding the muffler in a folded condition.

I am aware that it is not new to form an ear-muffler of a head-piece which is passed around the head and formed of a single length of wire, and pads for covering the ears, the frames whereof have sheet-metal eyes soldered in position, and therefore do not claim the same; but,

Having fully described my invention, what I do claim is—

1. Pad-frames having eyes on opposite sides, in combination with the head-piece formed of sections hinged together, each end of one of the sections being passed freely through one

set of eyes of the pad-frames, and having eyes jointed to the other set of eyes thereof, said eyes being integral with the respective parts, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

- 5 2. An ear-muffler having a pad-frame formed with eyes $a a'$, and an eye, b , opposite thereto, the eyes $a a'$ interlocking, and a head-piece which is passed freely through one of the eyes $a a'$, and having an eye, c , which is freely connected with the eye b , substantially as and for
10 the purpose set forth.

3. The head part A, consisting of two wires, each having eyes A^x and c integral therewith, in combination with pad-frames B, having eyes b and a , substantially as and for the purpose
15 set forth.

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