

(No Model.)

A. G. WILKINS.

BUTTON FASTENER.

No. 345,562.

Patented July 13, 1886.

Fig. 1.

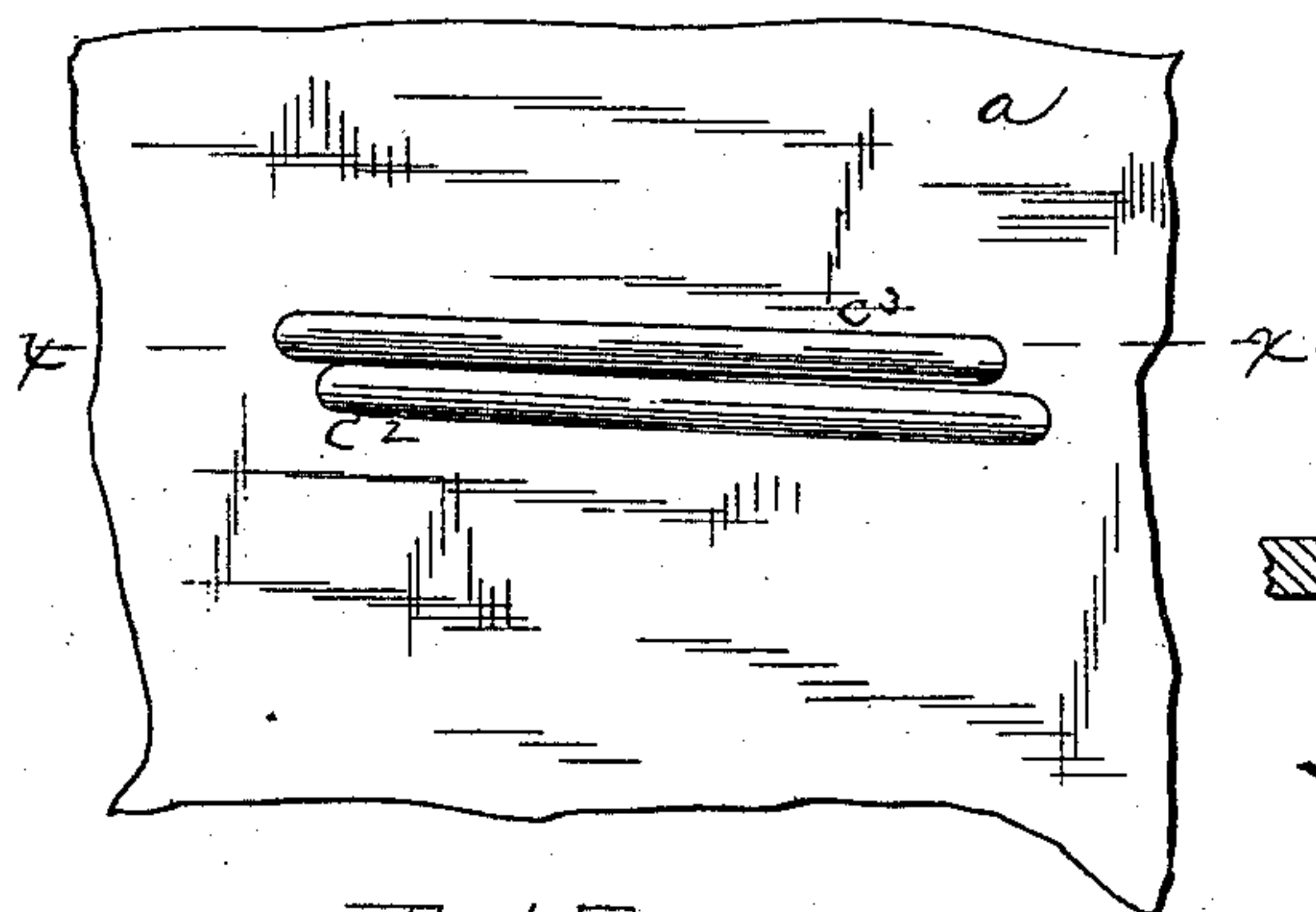
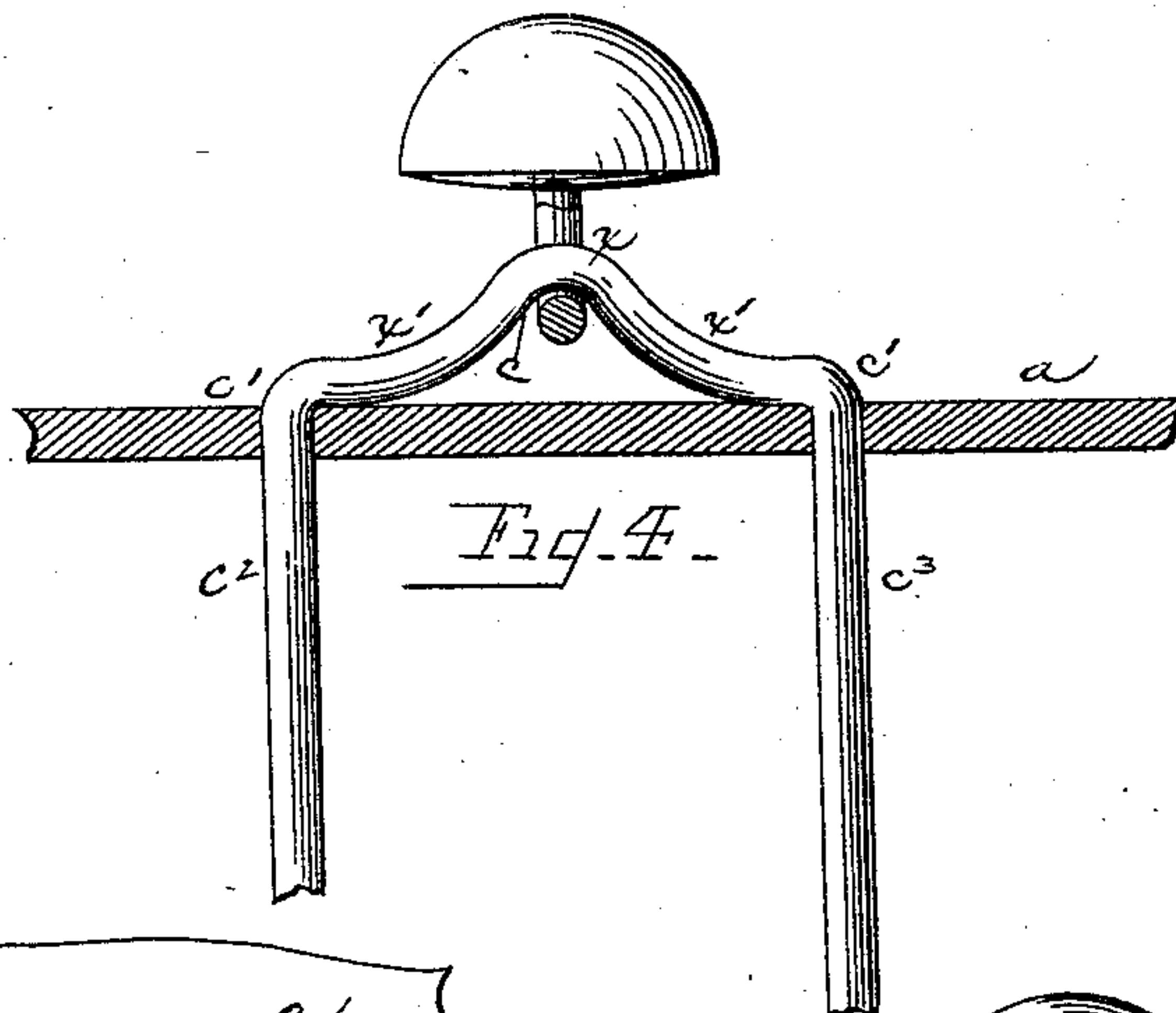
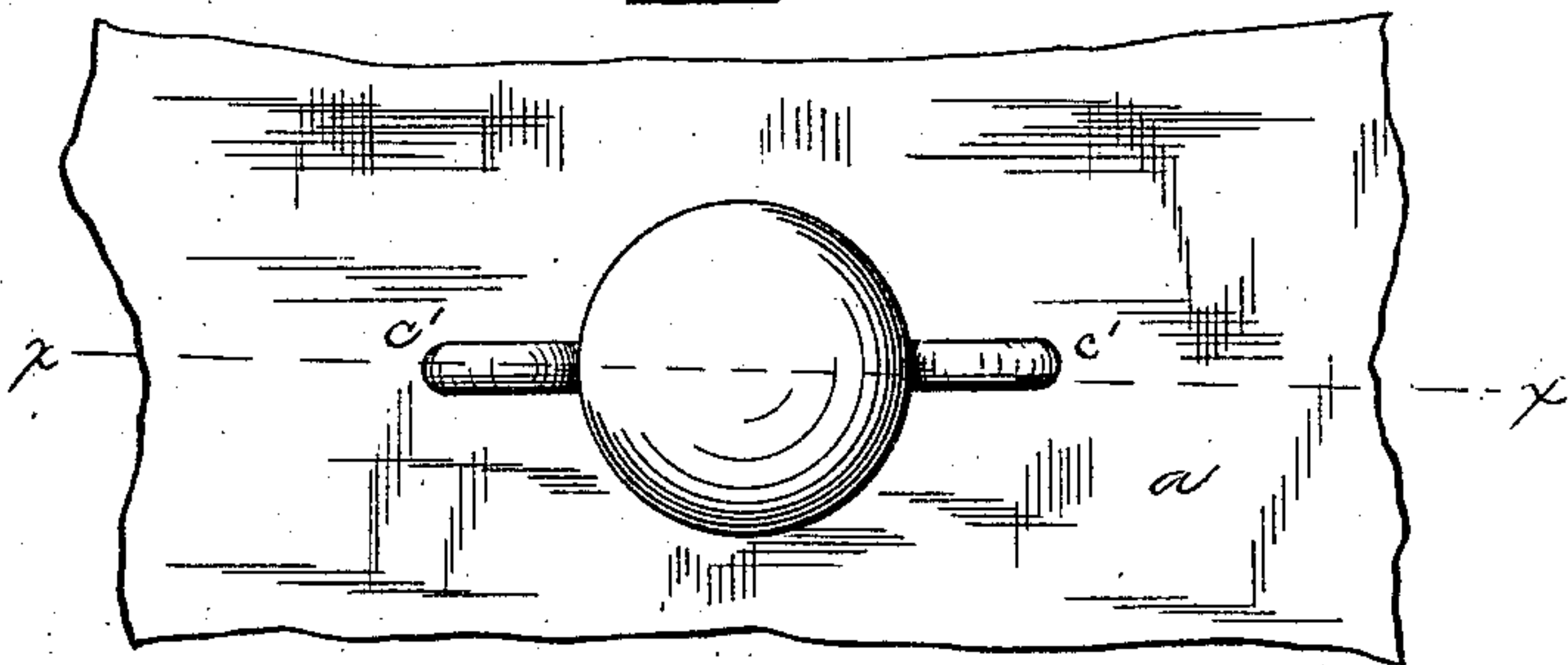


Fig. 2.

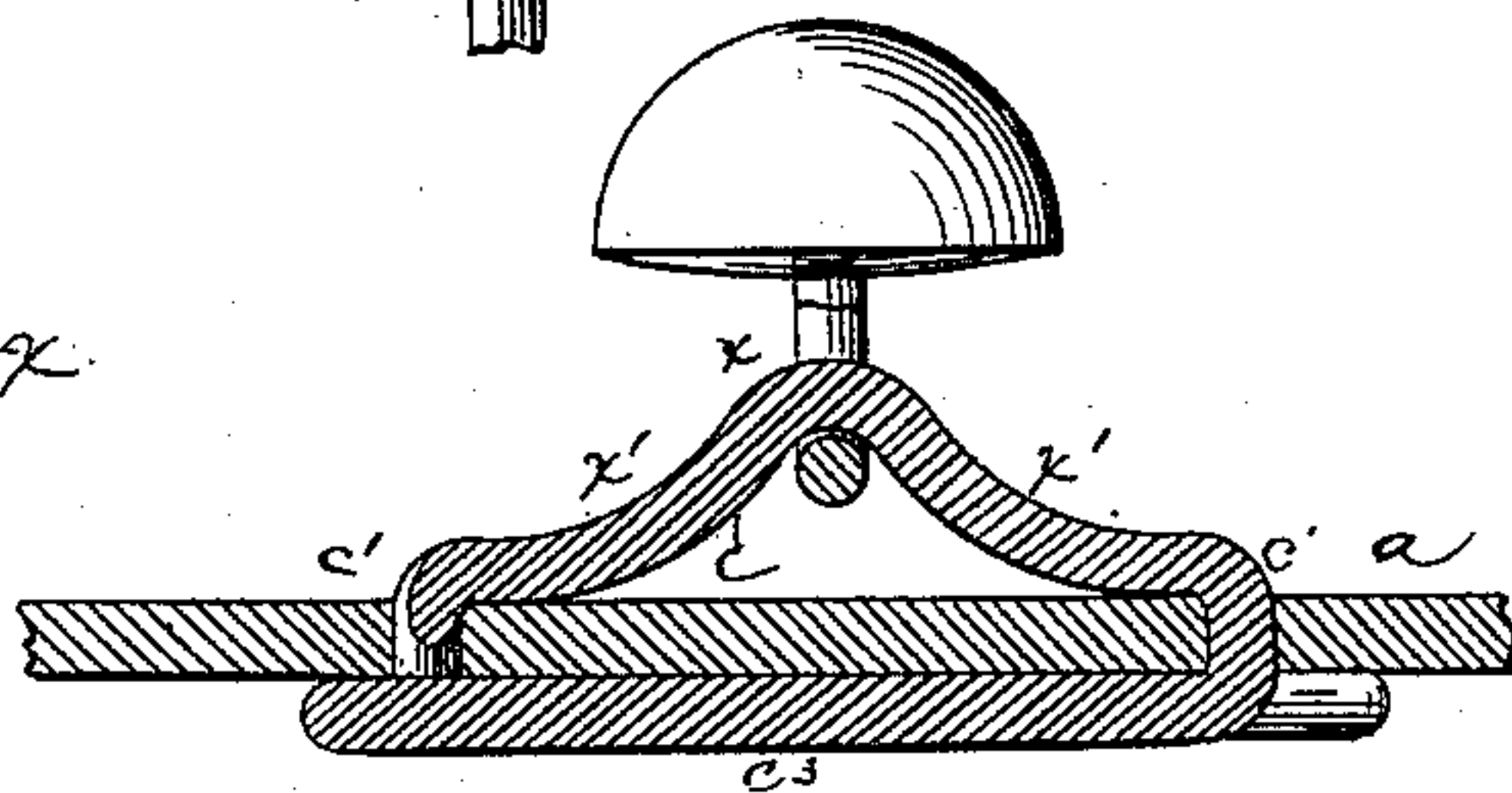


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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ALEXANDER GRACE WILKINS, OF MEADVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

BUTTON-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,562, dated July 13, 1886.

Application filed April 12, 1886. Serial No. 198,566. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER GRACE WILKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Meadville, in the county of Crawford and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Button-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 My invention relates to devices for attaching buttons to leather and other materials; and the object of my invention is to produce a fastening which shall be adapted for use in connection with various forms of buttons, and
15 which shall resist all strains incident to use and wear without being torn out of the fabric or opening, so as to be detached therefrom in any manner.

My invention consists in a button-fastening
20 composed of a single piece of wire extending along one surface of the material for a suitable distance, then passing through the material, and having its ends bent toward each other against the opposite surface of the material, in such manner that the two ends of the
25 wire shall extend past each other and lie flush with or beyond the points at which the wire penetrates the material, as hereinafter described and claimed.

30 My invention further consists in the peculiar curvature of that part of the wire or fastening which extends along the upper surface of the material, or the surface opposite to that against which the ends of the wire are bent, as
35 hereinafter described and claimed.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

40 Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved fastening applied to a piece of leather or other material. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the same on the line $x x$ of Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 4
45 is a view of the fastener applied without the prongs being upset.

In the said drawings, a designates a piece of fabric—such as the leather of a shoe at the point where the buttons are secured, or any
50 other material to which a button or similar device is to be secured.

b designates a button having an eye, through which my improved fastening extends. A button having an eye is shown simply for the purpose of illustration, as my device may be readily used in connection with other forms of buttons, or with clasps or other similar devices. 55

My improved fastening consists of a wire or metal strip, the part c of which extends along the upper or outer surface of the material a for a suitable distance. At $c' c'$ this wire or strip is bent at right angles to the part c , and extends through the fabric, as shown. The ends $c^2 c^3$ are then bent toward each other at right angles to the parts c' and extend past each other, so as to overlap the points where the parts $c' c'$ penetrate the fabric. It will now be clearly seen that a double and extended bearing-surface is provided beneath the fabric, and that it is utterly impossible to either bend the ends $c^2 c^3$ outward from the material, or to force said ends through the material by any strains incident to use or wear. 60 65 70

The part c of the fastener is preferably formed with a short central U-shaped curve, x , connected by two longer crowning curves, $x' x'$, extending from curve x to the parts $c' c'$ of the fastener, so that the material shall be held as in a bight between the upper part, c , and the ends $c^2 c^3$, as shown in Fig. 3. This peculiar curvature of the part c is not absolutely essential to the efficiency of the fastener, however, as the part c may have a single slight crowning curve or may be straight without departing from the spirit of my invention. Thus buttons or other fastening devices may be attached to shoes (to which my device is peculiarly adapted) without necessitating the use of particularly thick or extra strong leather, as has heretofore been the case, the fastener holding as firmly to weak or inferior leather as to leather of the best quality, owing to the double bearing afforded by the ends $c' c^2$. It will also be seen that a firm durable hold will be had upon other materials than leather by this fastening. 75 80 85 90 95

The parts $c c' c^2 c^3$ may be made of brass, steel, or other material, and form not only a strong and durable fastener, but one which may be supplied at a small initial cost. 100

Having thus described my invention, what I

claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 A button-fastener comprising a loop or bend, x , to receive the button-eye, the two reverse bends $x' x'$, to form a bearing against the fabric, and the two rectangular bends $c' c'$, to form the legs or tines $c^2 c^3$ of a length somewhat longer than the distance between the bends $c' c'$, whereby each free end of a tine or leg laps

by the opposite leg against the under side of the fabric to form a re-enforce, as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALEXANDER GRACE WILKINS.

Witnesses:

J. F. CALDWELL,
WIN S. ROSE.