

(No Model.)

L. D. RADZINSKY.

CHANGEABLE BUTTON.

No. 353,039.

Patented Nov. 23, 1886.

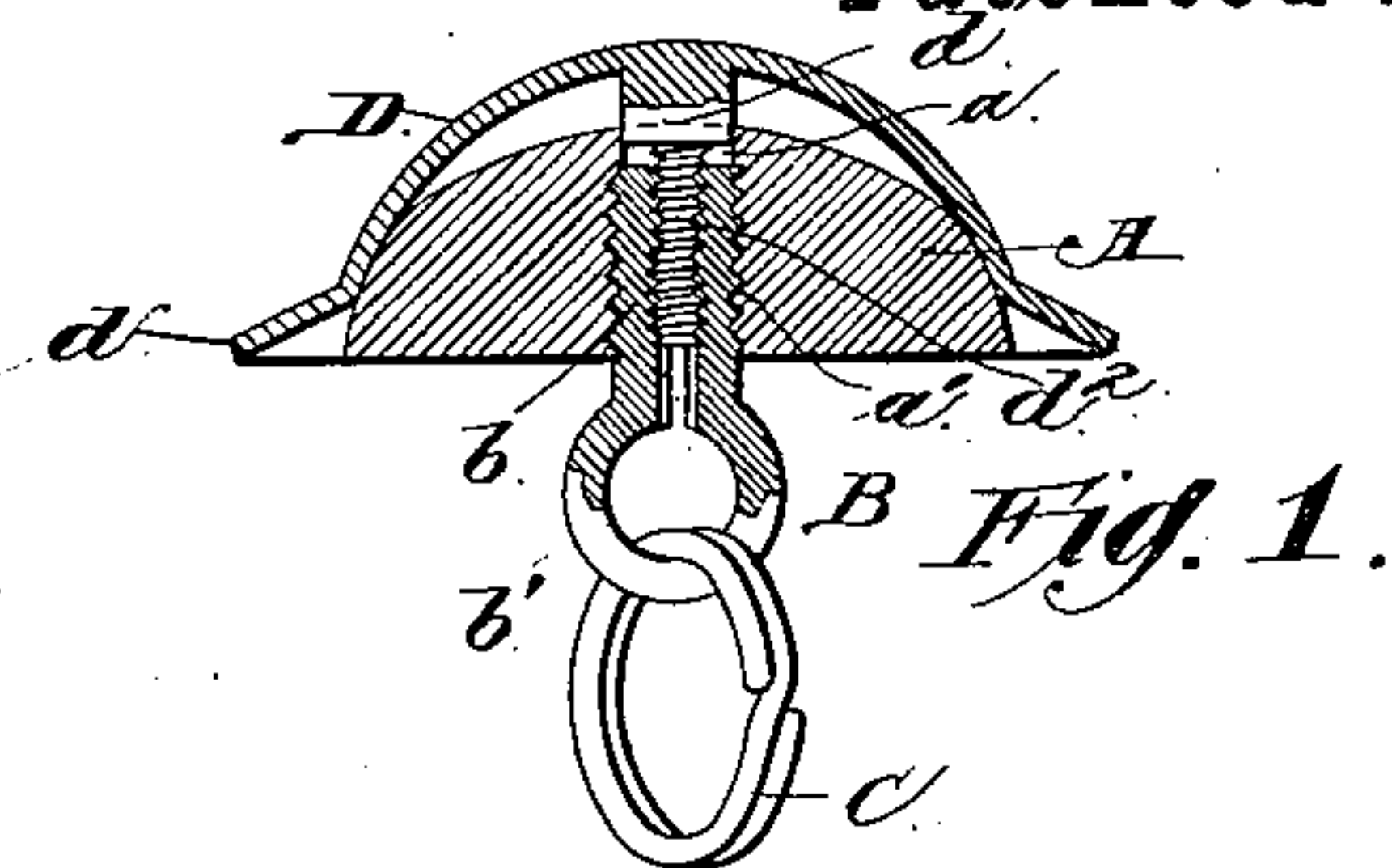


Fig. 2.

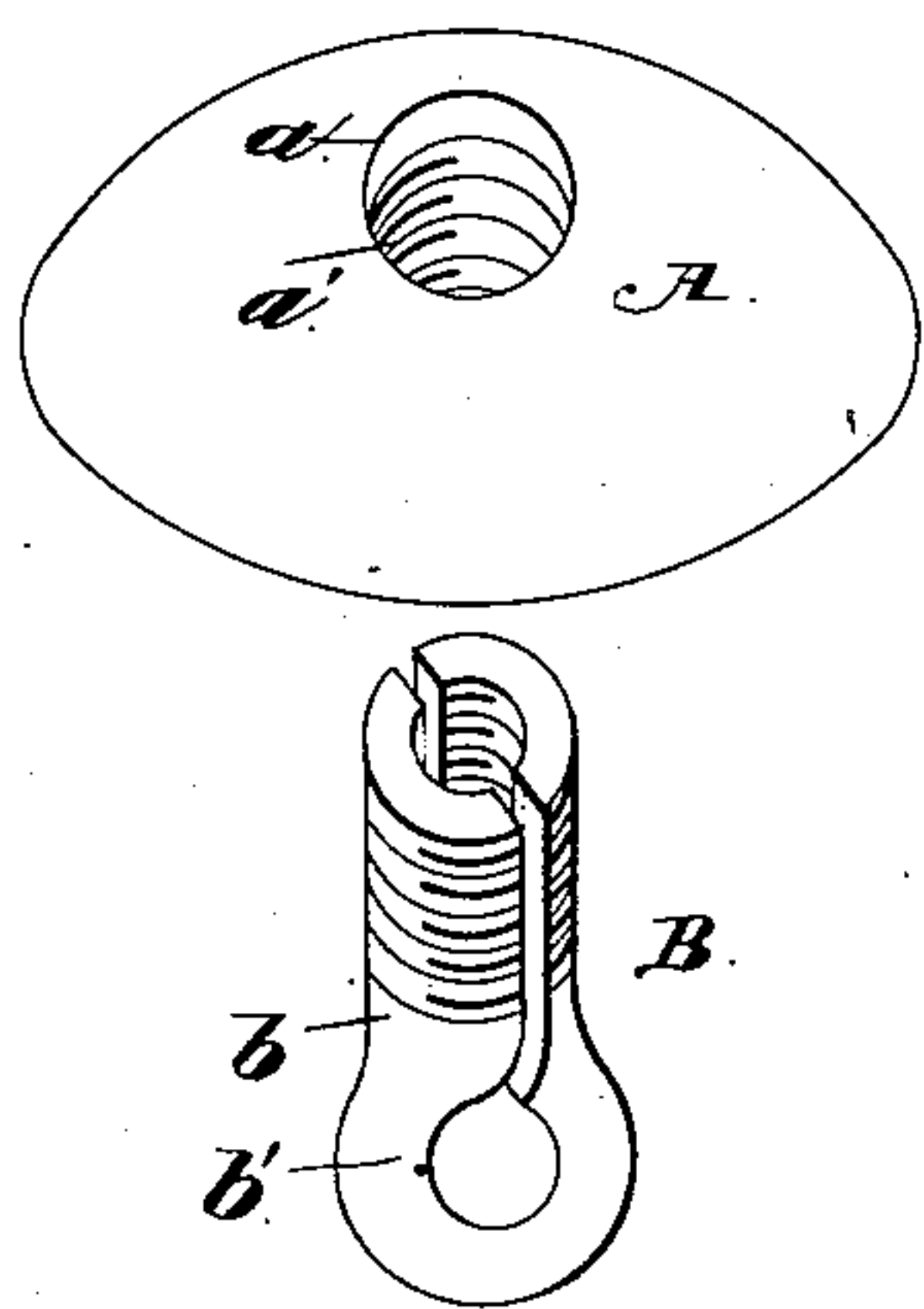


Fig. 3.

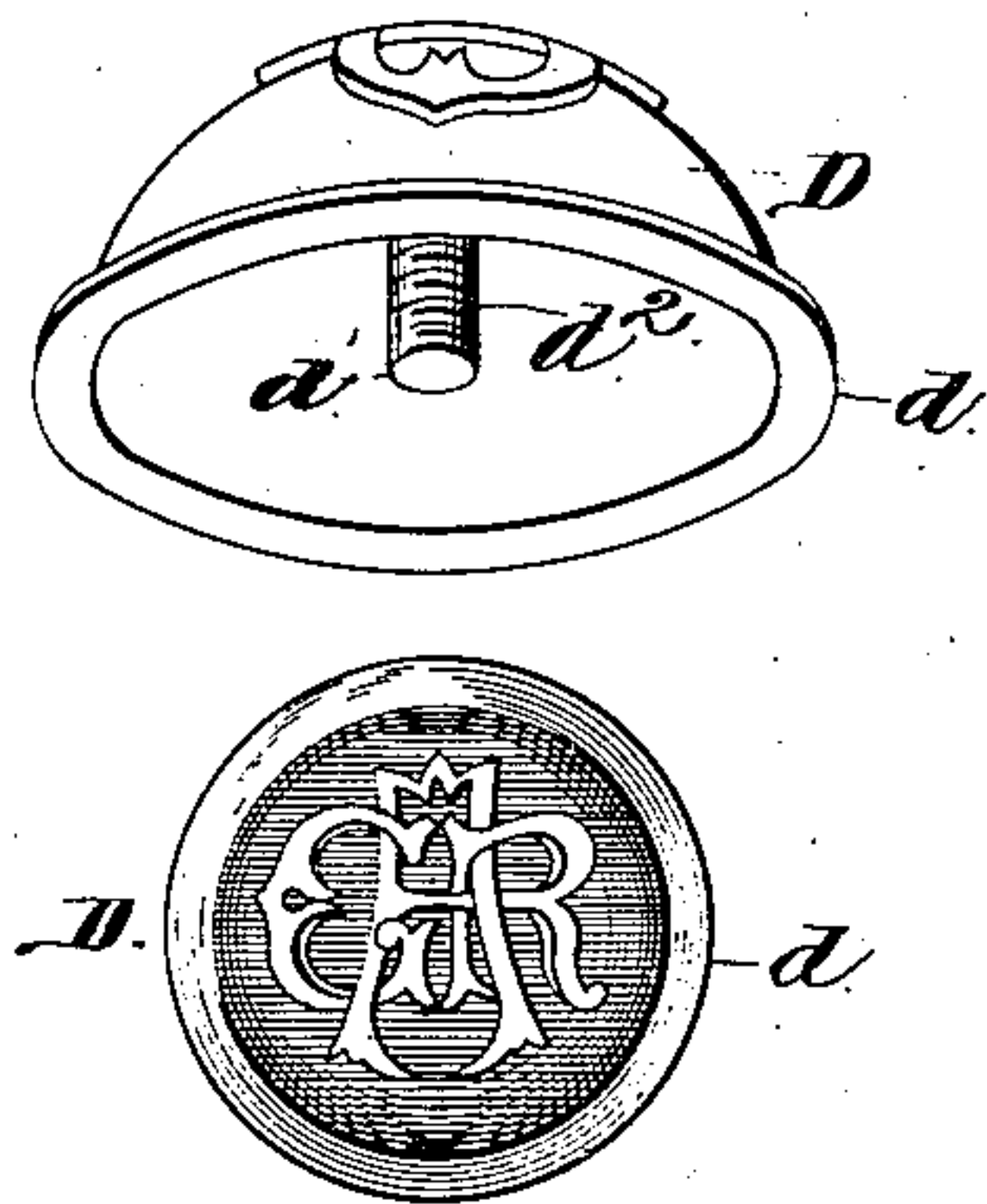
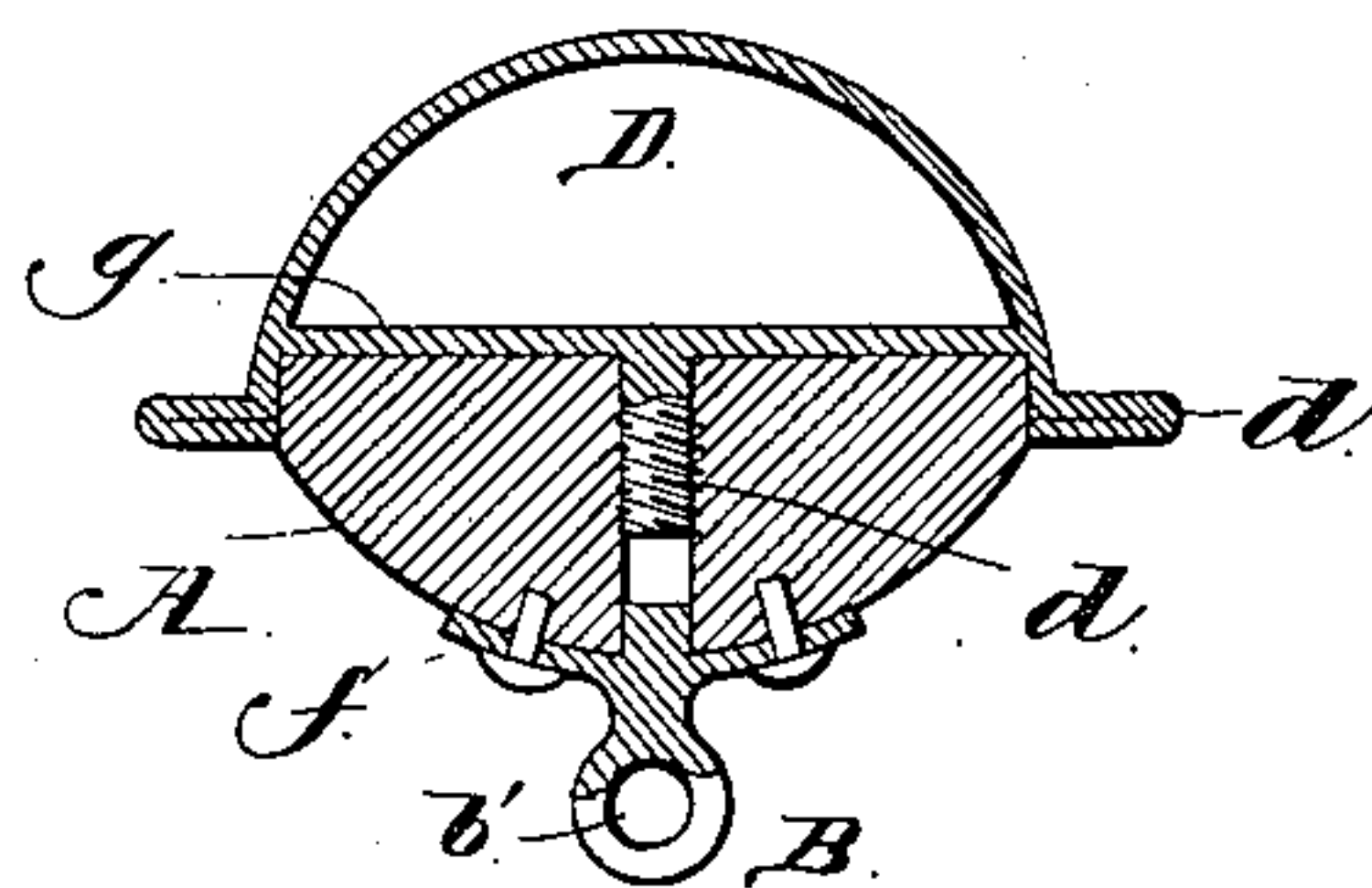


Fig. 4.



Witnesses  
*M. E. Fowler*  
*H. F. Peruchard*

Inventor  
*L. D. Radzinsky*  
By his Attorneys  
*C. A. Brown & Co.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS DANIEL RADZINSKY, OF McKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO C. A. SNOW AND E. G. SIGGERS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND AUSTIN CURTIN, OF ROLAND, PENNSYLVANIA.

## CHANGEABLE BUTTON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,039, dated November 23, 1886.

Application filed March 5, 1886. Serial No. 194,148. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS DANIEL RADZINSKY, a citizen of the United States, residing at McKeesport, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Changeable Buttons, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in changeable buttons; and it consists of the peculiar and novel construction and combination of parts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

Heretofore it has been proposed to provide a button of ordinary construction with exterior threads at its edges, so that a metallic shell having a military or other official symbol thereon can be detachably connected thereto, so that the clothing of the wearer can be converted from a civilian's suit into an official uniform, and vice versa. This construction is objectionable from the fact that the exterior threaded edge of the button is at all times exposed to view when the shell is removed, and they are liable to be chipped or broken, inasmuch as they are not protected in any manner. I am also aware that it has been proposed to provide a separable button which comprises back plate or disk, with a threaded standard or shank which engages a similarly threaded portion on a front or exposed disk or plate.

I propose to provide a changeable button which consists, essentially, of an ordinary button of gutta-percha, vulcanite, cloth, bone, metal, or other well-known materials of which buttons are manufactured with a centrally-arranged interiorly-threaded socket, that exactly imitates the holes in buttons that are provided for the passage therethrough of the thread, and a removable shell having a threaded stud that screws into the central socket of the button, and the shell wholly conceals the outer face and edges of the button.

My invention further consists of a peculiar form of shank for the button that is removably secured in the button, and has the threaded standard or lug of the shell secured thereto, as will be presently more fully described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical central sectional view of my improved changeable button. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the button and shank. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the detachable shell; Fig. 4, a central sectional view of a modification of my invention.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates a button, which is of any class known to the art, and made of gutta-percha or vulcanite, glass, wood, cloth, metal, or other material, and having a concave, convex, flat, or other ornamental shape. This button is provided with a hole or socket, *a*, at its center, and which extends transversely through the same, so that it very closely or exactly imitates the opening usually provided in buttons of this class for the passage therethrough of the thread that secures the same in place, and this hole or opening is provided with interior screw-threads, *a'*, with which engage an exteriorly-threaded end, *b*, of a shank, B, that is thus detachably secured in place to the button. This shank B is provided with an eye or loop, *b'*, which passes through an opening or hole made in the fabric or garment, and receives a split ring, C, to secure the button and shank detachably to the garment, or any other suitable fastening device may be substituted for the ring to detachably connect the shank to the garment. The threaded end of the shank is made tubular, and it is provided with interior screw-threads, and when the shank is connected to the button A the threaded tubular end thereof passes entirely or nearly through the opening *a* therein.

D designates the shell, cap, or cover, which is struck up from a single piece of metal, and is preferably curved or made semi-cylindrical in cross-section. The shell is provided with the symbol, monogram, letters, characters, or other marks adapted for its identification by the public, of police, detective, and "Grand Army of the Republic" societies or organizations, railroad officials, messengers, military companies, and the like; and at its free edges the shell is provided with a flaring or inclined rim, *d*, that fits or embraces the edges of the



button A and wholly and completely conceals the latter from view.

The metallic shell D is provided at its center with a depending post,  $d'$ , that is exteriorly threaded, as at  $d^2$ , and which is adapted to be screwed into the threaded socket of the tubular end of the detachable shank B, the flaring edges  $d$  of the shell bearing on the edges of the button A to conceal the latter, and relieving the threaded post of any strain or injury if the button should accidentally be violently struck. If preferred, however, the shank B may be provided with the bearing-plate  $f$ , that is rigidly secured to the button A in any suitable manner, and the threaded post  $d'$  of the removable cap or shell D may be screwed directly into the threaded opening  $a$  of the button. The post  $d'$  may also be secured to the center of a cross plate or bar,  $g$ , that is secured at its ends to the walls of the shell. (See Fig. 4.)

I prefer the construction shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, as there the convex face of the button is received and concealed in the cavity of the shell, and the button is caused to neatly rest close against the coat when applied.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings.

The button can be easily and readily applied to or removed from the shank, and the latter can likewise be connected or removed from the garment. When a member of an organization or society is to parade or otherwise appear in his uniform, or an official—such as a watchman or railroad officer—is to go on duty, the caps or covers D are screwed onto the buttons so that the threaded posts readily enter the sockets provided therefor, the covers or shells being securely fitted over the buttons so as to wholly conceal the latter in a very short time; and the shells can likewise be removed, so that an officer or member will appear in his civilian's clothing. The shells or caps can also be readily detached, so that they can be burnished or polished without soiling or otherwise injuring the garment or fabric.

The improvement is simple, strong, and durable in its construction, thoroughly effect-

ive for the purposes designed, easy and convenient to apply and remove, and can be manufactured and sold for a trifling sum.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a changeable button, the combination of a removable shell having a threaded stud or post with a button having a central hole or socket, the wall of which is threaded to receive said stud or post.

2. In a changeable button, the button having its body constructed with a screw-threaded hole or socket at its center, combined with a removable hollow cap or shell constructed with a central stud upon its inside, threaded correspondingly to the hole or socket of the body, the hollow interior or cavity of the cap or shell receiving the button-body therein so as to wholly conceal the button-body from view, as set forth.

3. A button the body of which is constructed with a screw-threaded hole at its center, combined with a metal cap adapted to be set upon and cover the said body, the cap constructed with a central concentric stud upon its inside threaded correspondingly to the screw-threaded hole in the center of the body.

4. The combination of a button having a central threaded socket, a shank provided with an exteriorly-threaded tubular end removably secured in button-socket, and a shell or cap having a threaded post screwed into the tubular end of the shank, substantially as described.

5. The combination, with a button-body provided with a central socket, a shank having a tubular socket removably secured in the button-socket, and a cap or shell adapted to be set upon and cover the said button-body, said cap having a central stud passing through the button-body and detachably fitted in the socket of the shank, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS DANIEL RADZINSKY.

Witnesses:

JAMES L. DELONG,  
THOMAS REYNOLDS.