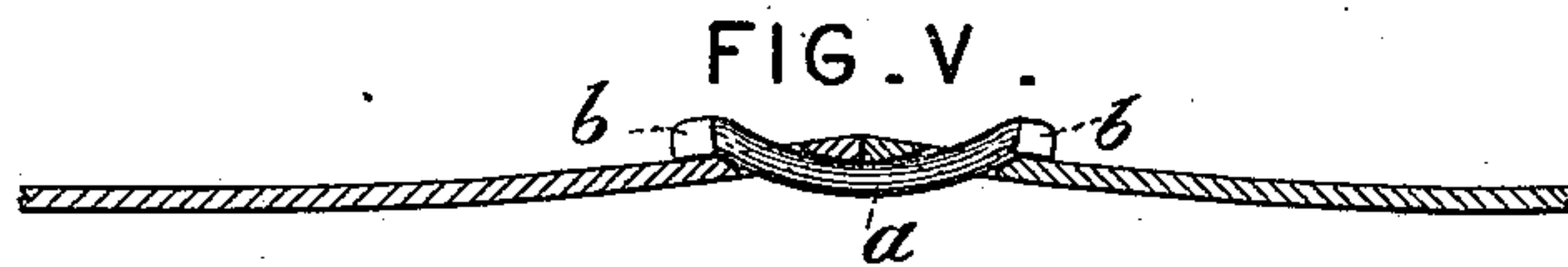
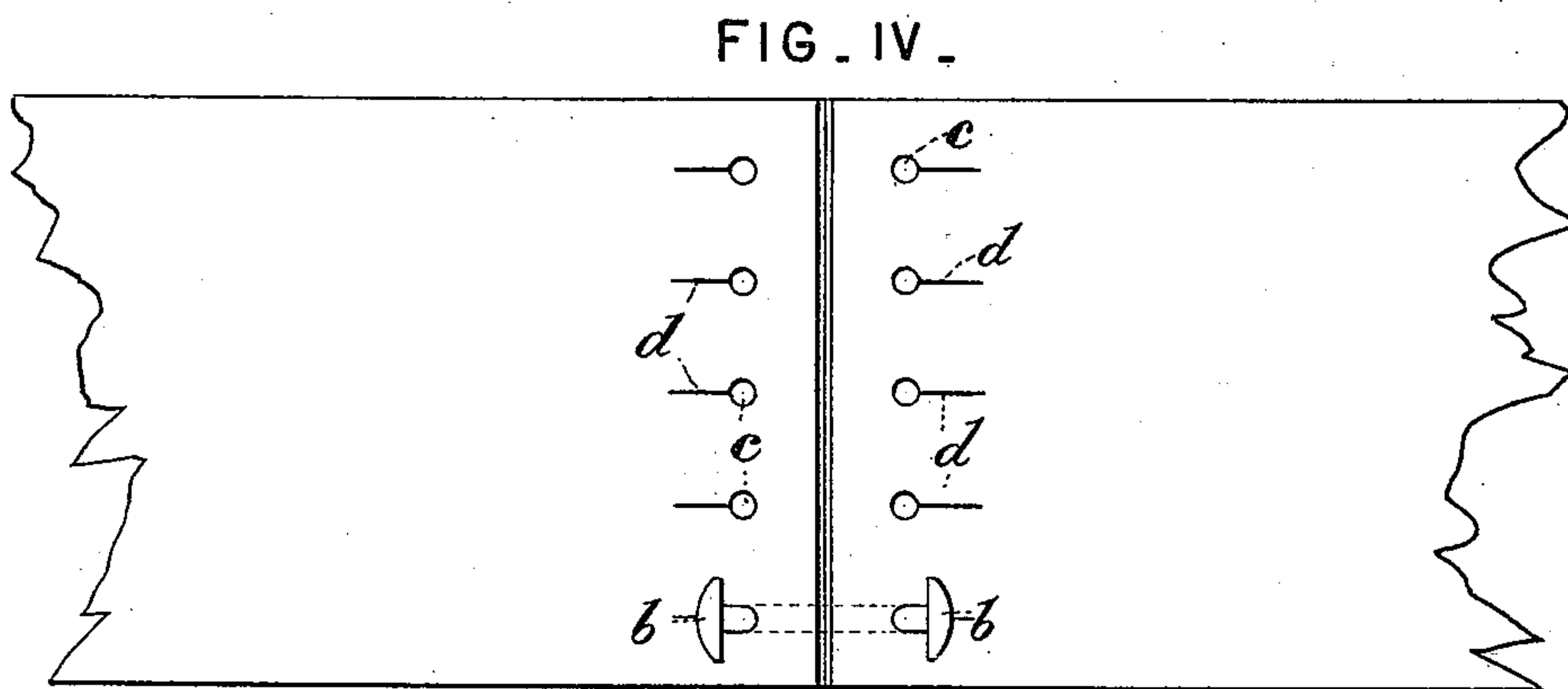
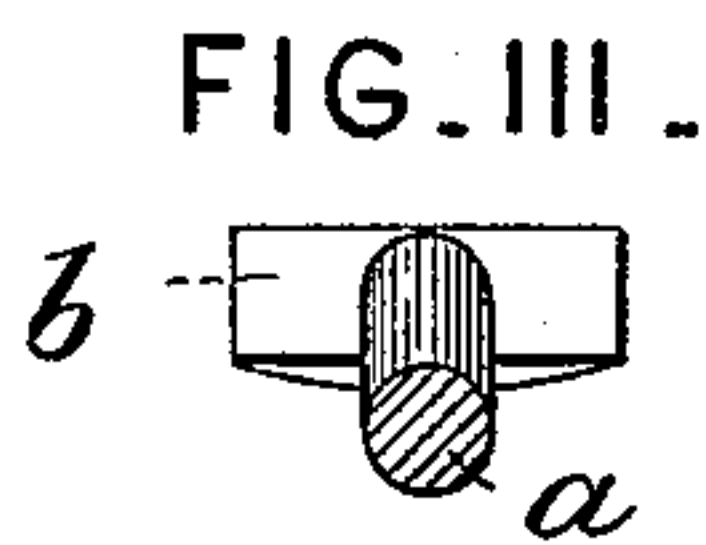
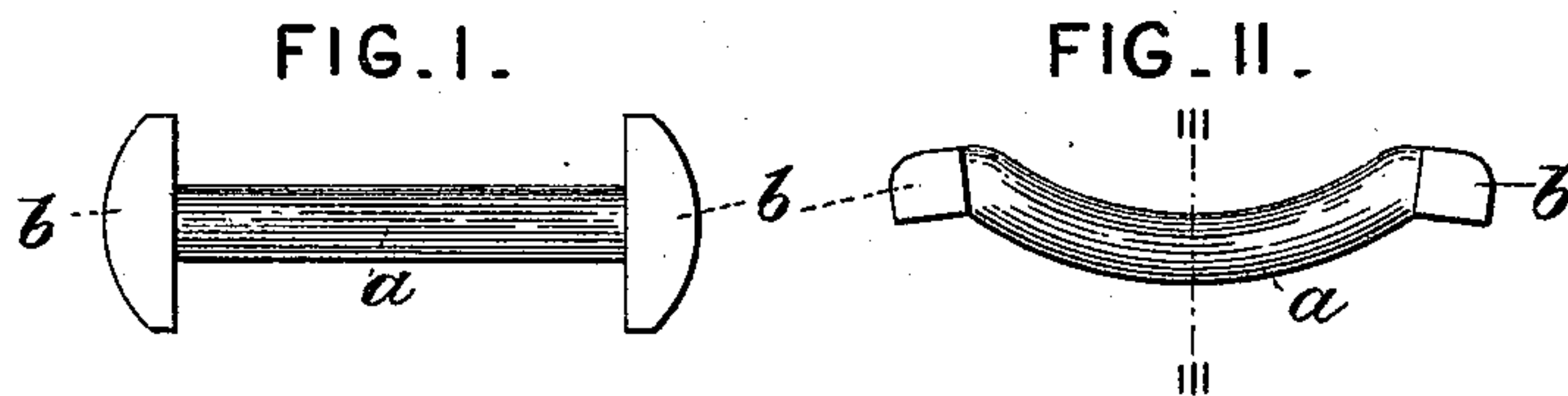


(No Model.)

H. BLAKE.
BELT FASTENER.

No. 396,528.

Patented Jan. 22, 1889.



Attest:

Geo. T. Smallwood,
C. J. Hedrick,

Inventor.

Henry Blake
by A. L. Lollar
his attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY BLAKE, OF EAST PEPPERELL, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, AND J. ASHTON GREENE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

BELT-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 396,528, dated January 22, 1889.

Application filed March 3, 1888. Serial No. 266,095. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY BLAKE, of East Pepperell, Middlesex county, Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Belt-Fasteners, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification.

This invention has reference to the construction of devices for fastening together the meeting ends of leather and other belting, and comprises certain improvements in the construction of belt-fasteners of the type described in Patent No. 31,859, to G. W. Blake, dated March 20, 1861; No. 76,861, to D. M. Weston, dated April 14, 1868, and No. 282,258, to myself, dated July 31, 1883. These belt-fasteners consist, generally, of a shank or bar having at each end a segmental head or cross-piece. In use the belts are provided with a number of slits near the ends, and the fastener inserted through the slits, and then turned, so as to bring the cross-heads at right angles to the slits. In the last-named patent, to wit, No. 282,258, dated July 31, 1883, a belt-fastener of this general character is described, the shank in that case being so curved downward toward the center and the heads held in such position that they lie flat upon the belt instead of projecting therefrom.

While the improved belt-fastener described in the last-named patent has been found advantageous in many respects, it has also been found that the shank, owing to the narrowness of its bearing-edge, sometimes cuts through the leather of the belt. To overcome this defect the shank is, according to the present invention, made cylindrical—i. e., circular in cross-section—and the belt is prepared for its use by punching a round hole with a slit extending therefrom away from the end of the belt. This hole gives a bearing-surface for the round shank and prevents the liability of tearing out the leather. Another advantage of the construction is that the fastener can be made of wire, the ends being upset to form the cross-heads. This is an economical way of producing the device, and makes a strong and tough fastener, it being well known that metal which has been wire-

drawn gains greatly in toughness and tensile strength. The improved fastener may, however, be made in other ways, as by stamping from a sheet of metal and afterward compressing or swaging the shank into a cylindrical shape, or it may be cast.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure I is a top view of a belt-fastener constructed in accordance with the invention; Fig. II, a side view; Fig. III, a cross-section thereof, and Figs. IV and V views illustrating its application to a belt.

The fastener consists of a shank, *a*, and heads or cross-pieces *b*, the former being cylindrical in shape, as best shown in Fig. III. The shank *a* is curved in the course of manufacture, as shown in Fig. II.

To apply the device, a number of round holes, *c*, are punched in the belt near its ends, and from these holes extend slits *d*, as common in making button-holes in cloth. The hole *c* should be about the same size as the shank *a*, so that the latter will fit tightly therein. The edge of the hole furnishes a bearing-surface for the fastener, and there is no tendency of the fibers to sever at a particular point as is the case with a material that has been simply slit, particularly if a thin shank with two comparatively sharp edges is constantly bearing on the end of the slit. As shown in the drawings, the segmental heads or cross-pieces *b* are formed with square shoulders.

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, a belt-fastener consisting of a curved bar or shank circular in cross-section, having on each end and in one piece with it a T-shaped or segmental head formed with square shoulders, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY BLAKE.

Witnesses:

C. A. BATCHELDER,
C. F. WORCESTER.