(No Model.)

J. J. FITZGERALD.

COLLAR BUTTON.

No. 547,376. Patented Oct. 1, 1895.

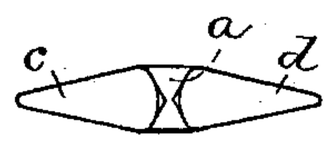

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

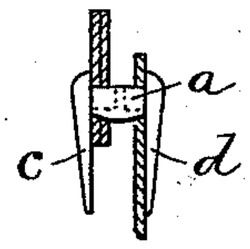

Fig. 3.

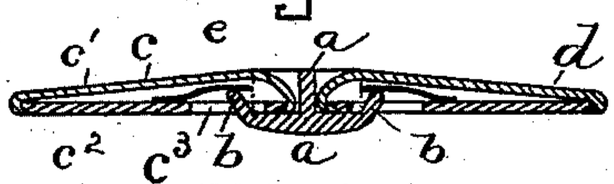

Fig. 4.

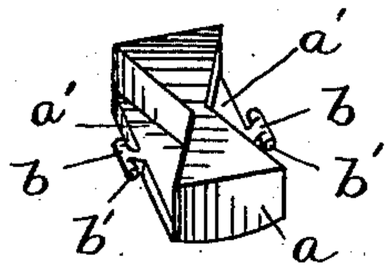

Fig. 5.

WITNESSES.

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By ATTY:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. FITZGERALD, OF EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS.

COLLAR-BUTTON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 547,376, dated October 1, 1895.

Application filed January 15, 1895. Serial No. 534,950. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. FITZGERALD, of Everett, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collar-Buttons, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in buttons for collars or cuffs, the object being to provide a button which can be easily slipped into place and as readily detached.

The invention consists in a button having a head pivoted to the end of a shank, which has a recess for the reception of one end of the said head, so that when the head is bent for insertion into the collar the shank and head lie in the same horizontal planes, the overlapping end or side of the head fitting in the said recess, all as I will now proceed to describe in detail, and point out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the button, actual size, the heads being bent into parallelism with the shank. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view of the button when inserted in place, the collar and shirt-band being shown in section. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of the button enlarged to about twice the actual size. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the shank detached.

The shank of the button is indicated by *a*, it being rectangular in plan view and of a width somewhat greater than its length. The shape of the shank, however, is immaterial, as it may be constructed in any shape, of any material, or of any dimensions that may be desired. It is formed with a triangular recess *a'* at each end for the reception of one end of each head. It is also provided at each end with a lug *b*, bent upward somewhat and having laterally-extending projections *b' b'*, which form the pivot and fastening for the head. The heads may be constructed of any desired material, as gold, or brass washed with gold, or they may be made of bone, pearl, or some other similar substance. Those shown in the drawings are merely for the purposes of illustration, and are constructed in one of the well-known ways. The heads are diamond-shaped with one end elongated, and are indicated by *c* and *d*, respectively. As they are similar, I shall describe only one of them. It is hollow, having the top face *c'* and bottom face c^2 secured together in any suitable way, so as to have a small central open space between them. The bottom face-plate, which is preferably flat, has a straight slot c^3 through which the lug *b* projects, the projections or pins *b' b'* lying on either side of the slot in the open space between the face-plates *c' c²*. Thus it will be seen that the head *c* can be swung around the pins or projections *b' b'* as a pivot, there being a spring at *e* to hold it in either of two positions—that is, either in a position at right angles to the shank, or in parallel or the same horizontal planes. It will be further observed from the drawings that the inner end of each head lies snugly in the recess *a'* of the shank, and that the face-plate *c* thereof is flush with the top face of the shank *a*, so that when the head is in the position shown in Fig. 4 it lies in the horizontal planes of the shank. The reason for such an arrangement of parts—namely, the recessing of the shank for the reception of the head—is to enable a person to easily insert the button in the buttonhole, which is usually tightly closed after the garment has been starched and ironed. The outer end of the head acts as a wedge to separate the edges of the fabric, (the head being in the position in Fig. 1,) so that the shank slips easily into place, after which the head is bent to occupy a position at right angles to the shank.

A button constructed in accordance with my invention can be easily inserted from without the shirt-band inward, and is easily removable when once in place by slipping it either outward or inward. A great many of them can be packed in a small space, for when the heads are in the position in Fig. 1 the buttons can lie side by side and each one occupies but very little room, and a spare one can be readily carried in the vest-pocket, as it lies flat in the bottom thereof and does not cause any bulging of the pocket.

It will be understood that I do not limit myself to a button with diamond-shaped heads, as round heads may be used as well; nor do I limit myself to the particular form of fastening for securing the head to the shank, as any other fastening may be employed.

While I have described the button as best adapted for use on collars, yet it will be seen

that it can be used as a cuff-button, in which case the face-plates *c'* of the heads may be made as ornate as desired.

I have described the button as being provided with two movable heads, and while I prefer to so construct it, yet at the same time I do not limit myself to such a construction, as one of the heads may be rigidly connected to the shank at right angles thereto, the other head being pivoted, as above set forth.

For some purposes I find that a button with one rigid head is preferable to a construction in which the heads are both movable.

Having thus explained the nature of the invention and described a way of constructing and using the same, though without attempting to set forth all of the forms in which it may be made or all of the modes of its use, it is declared that what is claimed is—

A button comprising in its construction a shank provided in one of its faces with recesses extending inward from its ends, and a head pivoted to each end of the said shank, the construction and arrangement being such that the heads may be turned to extend at right angles to the shank or in the same longitudinal plane therewith, and the form or shape of the ends or sides of the heads overlapping the shank when the heads are in the latter position being such as to adapt them to fit in the said recesses in the shank.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 8th day of January, A. D. 1895.

JOHN J. FITZGERALD.

Witnesses:
ARTHUR W. CROSSLEY,
C. C. STECHER.