

No. 618,883.

Patented Feb. 7, 1899.

O. W. KETCHUM & W. W. VARNEY.
BUTTON AND BUTTON FASTENER.

(Application filed July 27, 1897.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

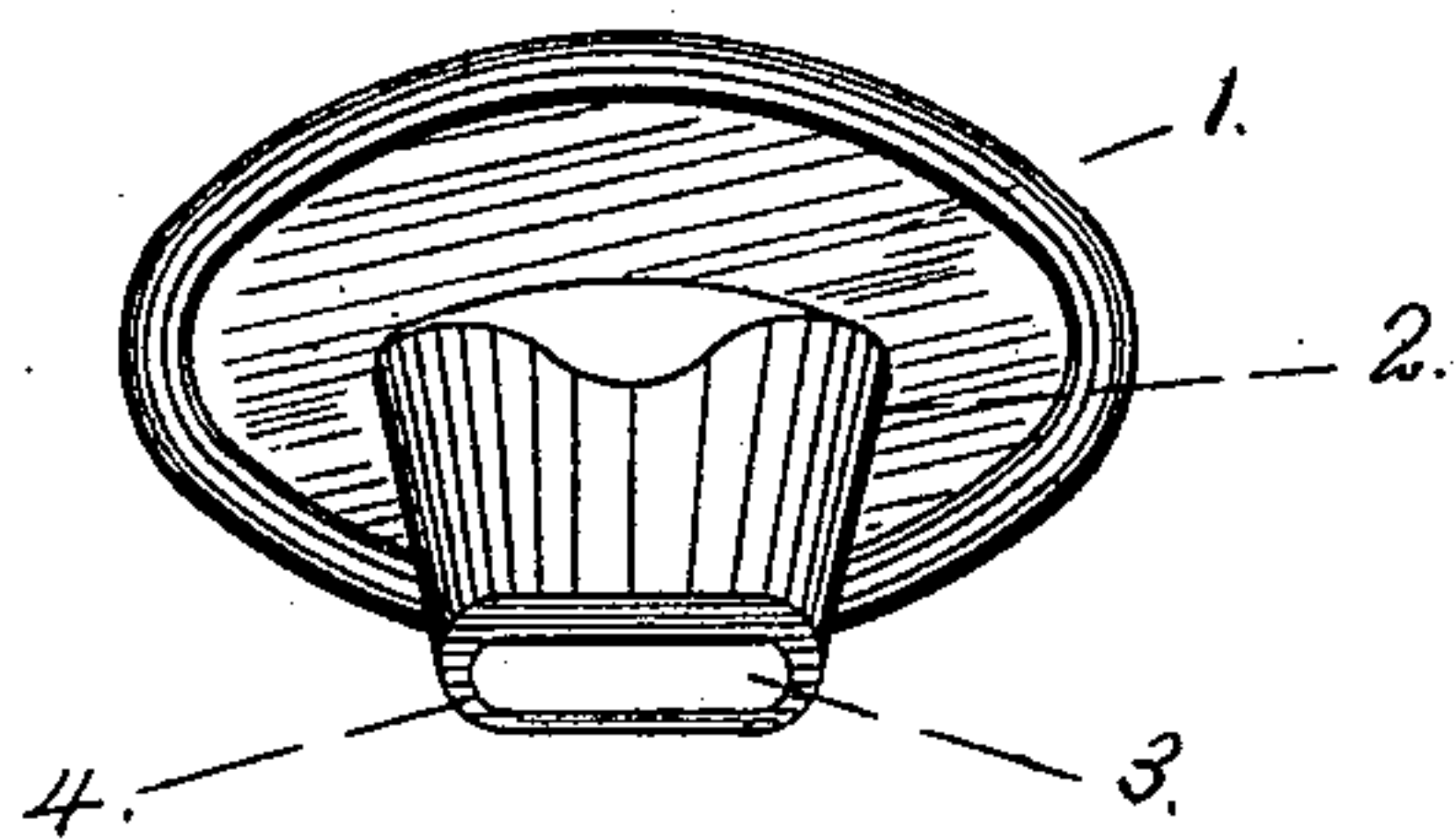


FIG. 2.

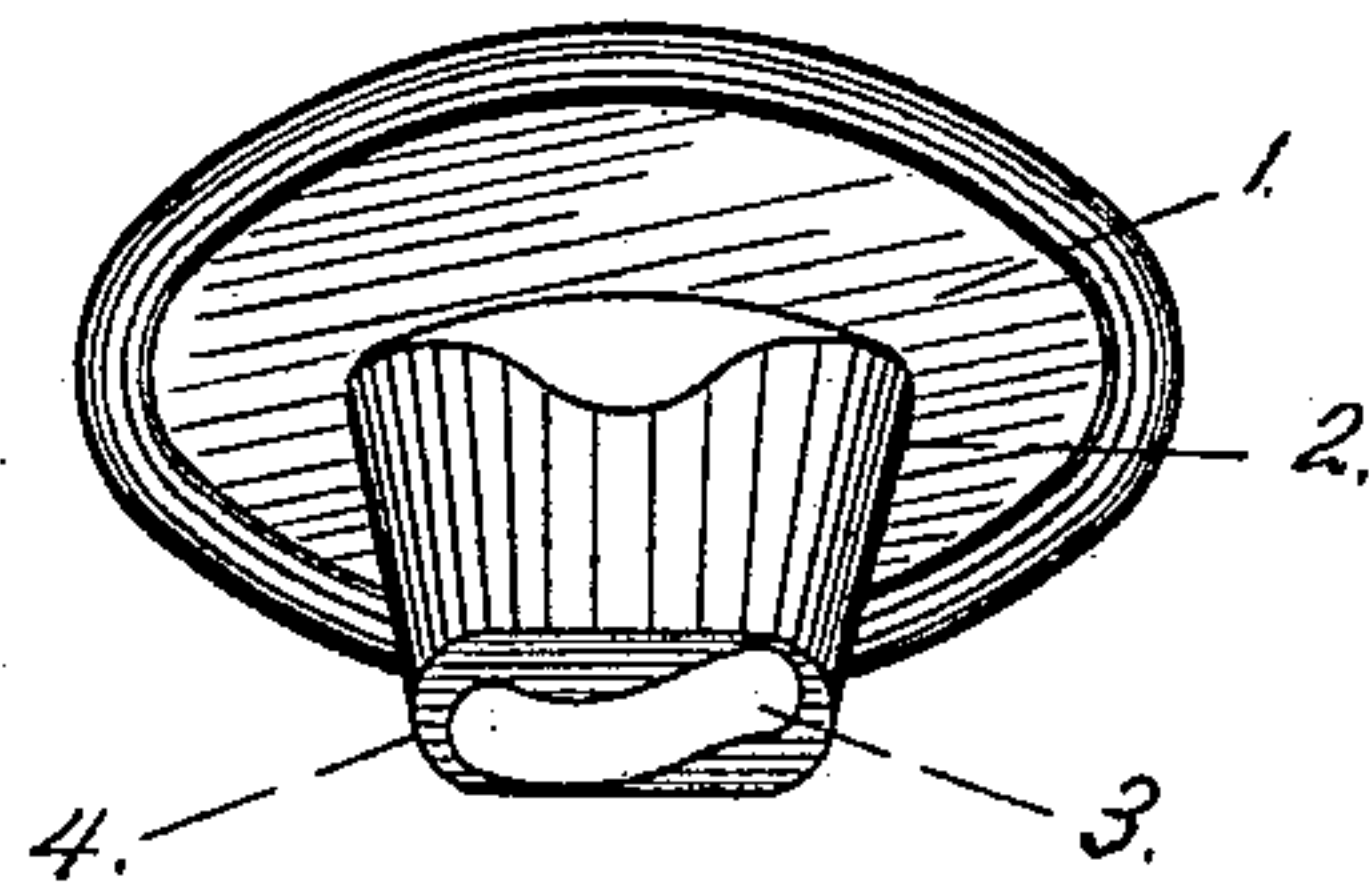


FIG. 3.

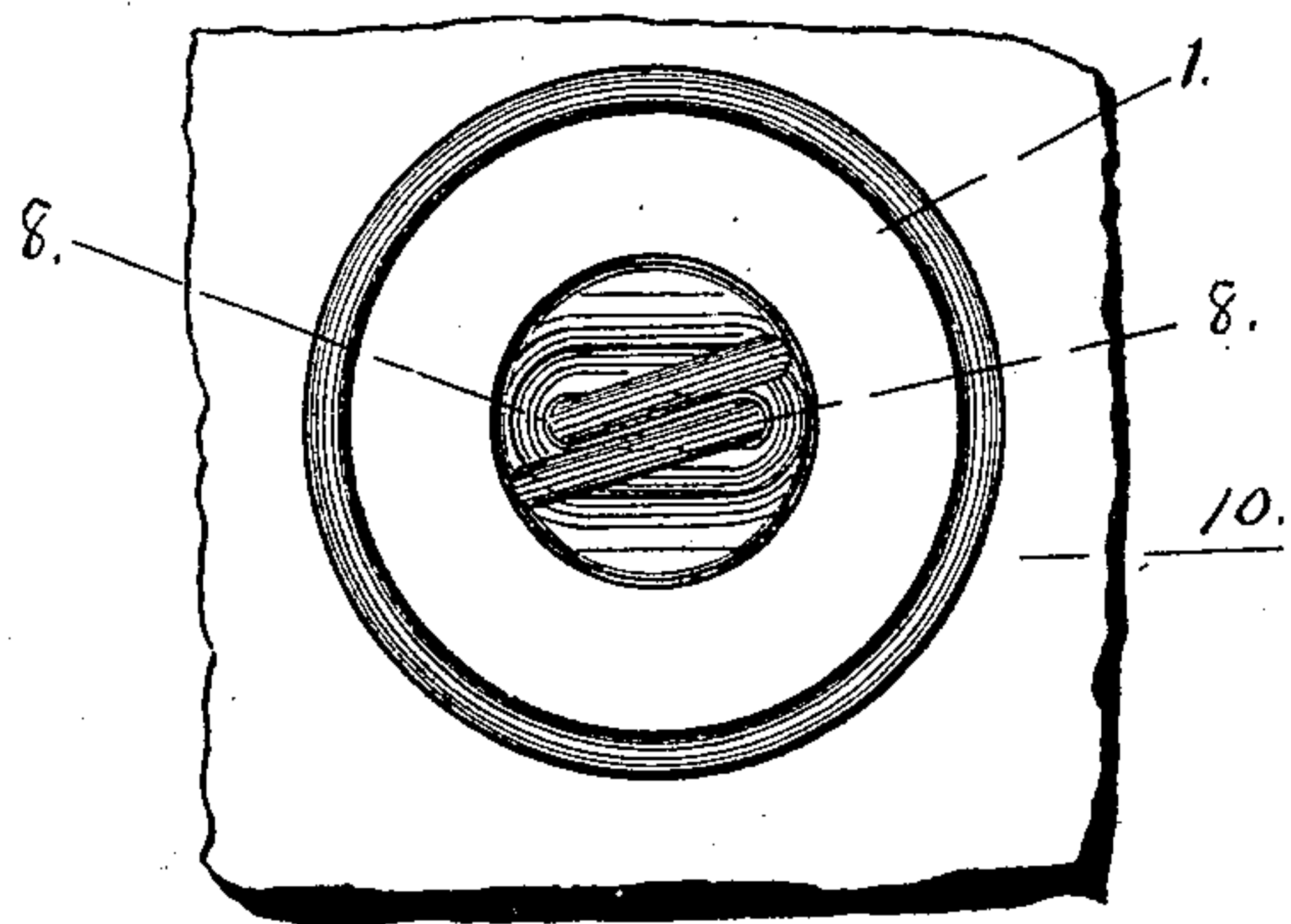


FIG. 4.

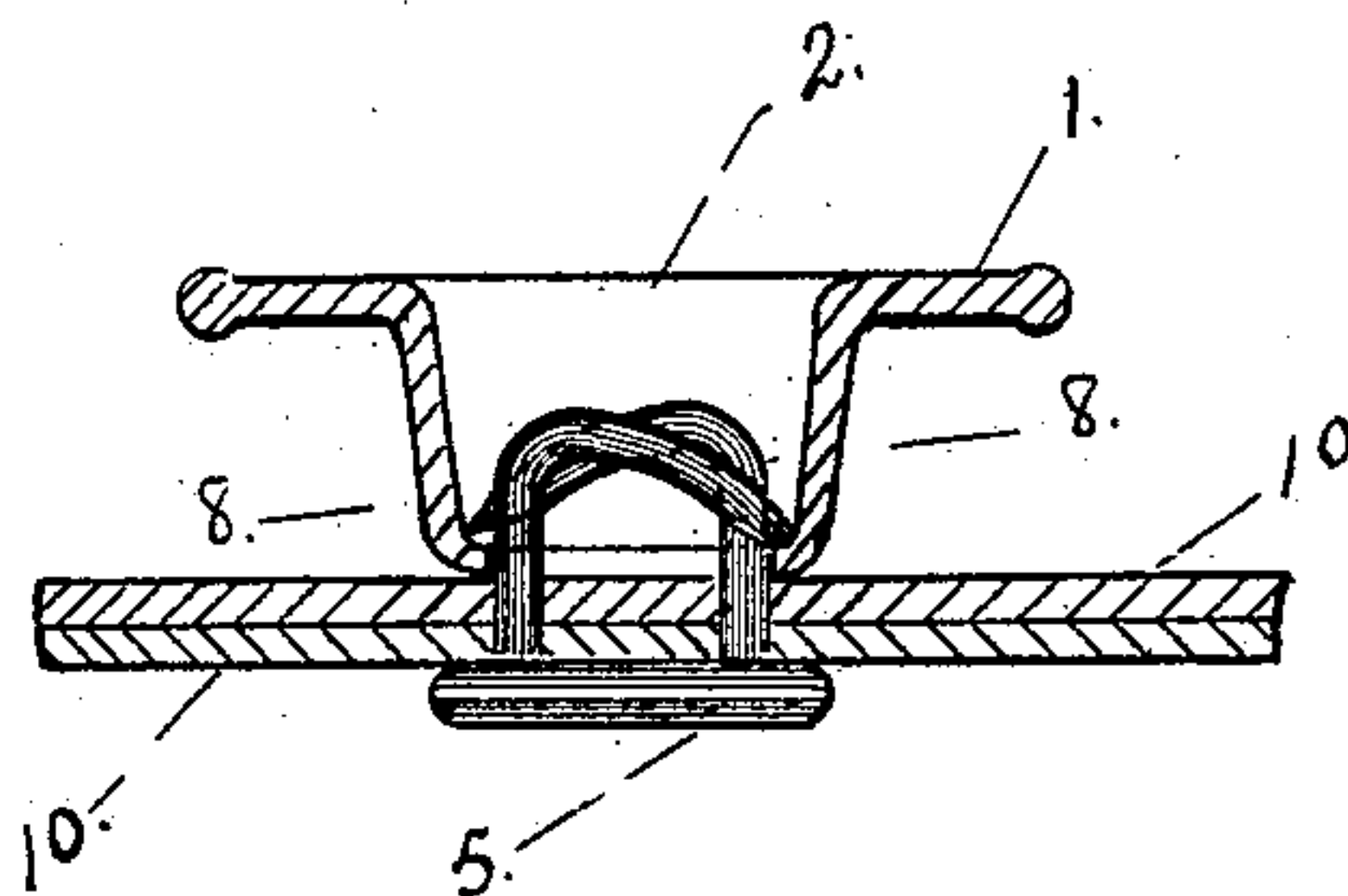


FIG. 5.

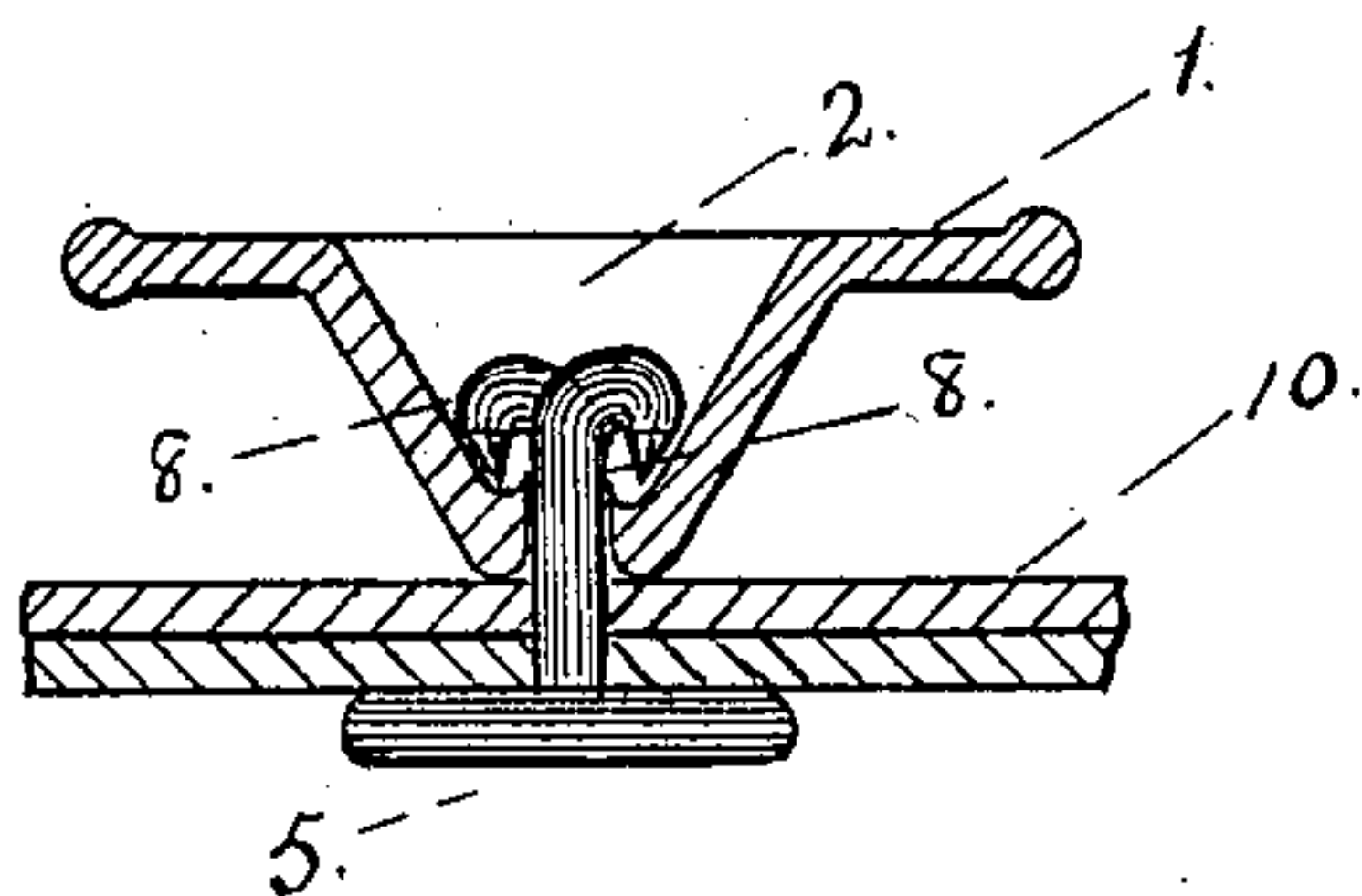
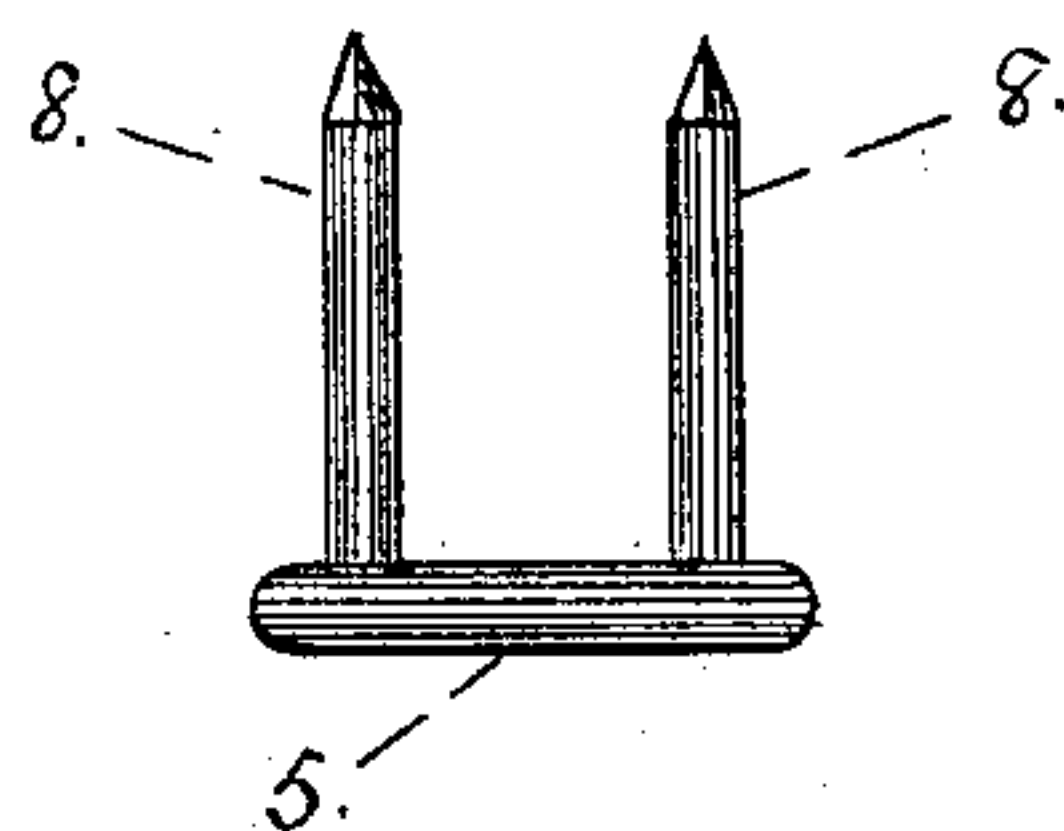


FIG. 6.



Oliver William Ketchum

WITNESSES

Herbert Burton.
Harry C. Auld.

William Wesley Varney

INVENTORS

BY

William W. Varney Their ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLIVER WILLIAM KETCHUM AND WILLIAM WESLEY VARNEY, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNORS TO THE RAYMOND BUTTON COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

BUTTON AND BUTTON-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 618,883, dated February 7, 1899.

Application filed July 27, 1897. Serial No. 646,104. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, OLIVER WILLIAM KETCHUM, a subject of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, and WILLIAM WESLEY VARNEY, a citizen of the United States, both residing in Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buttons and Button-Fasteners; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to that class of buttons provided with hollow oblong shanks having an opening in the extremity thereof, with an inwardly-projecting ledge formed at said opening; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter more particularly described, and then definitely claimed.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of our button, showing the opening in the bottom with straight parallel side edges, forming an oblong slot. Fig. 2 is a similar view of another form of the same, showing the opening in the bottom with S-shaped parallel side edges, forming an S-shaped opening or slot. Fig. 3 is a plan view looking down upon the face of the button shown in Fig. 1 attached to a garment by a metallic fastener or staple. Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken through Fig. 3 parallel to the bent prongs of the fastener. Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken at right angles to the sectional view presented in Fig. 4 and looking toward the bent prongs of the fastener, showing the same in position after having been fastened. Fig. 6 is a view of the fastener.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

1 represents the body or head of the button, to which is secured one end of a hollow oblong shank 2, the end of which has an opening 3. At the edges of this opening 3 is ledge 4, which is in substance a contraction of the end of hollow oblong shank 2 and is formed

to furnish a seat for the bent prongs of the fastener to seat in. These ledges 4 are bent up to form a guide at the parallel side edges, while at the ends of the slots the ledges are not bent up in such a manner, as indicated in Fig. 4.

Opening 3 may be an oblong slot with parallel side edges at the bottom of the shank, the width of which is slightly larger than the diameter of the wire of which the fastener is made, and the length of said slot is made to accommodate the fastener, whose prongs are separated sufficiently to embrace a requisite quantity of fiber of the goods to which they are attached, or the slot may be oblong and S-shaped with parallel side edges. The fastener consists of two parts—a head 5 and prongs 8—the details of the construction of which we have omitted, as we claim nothing concerning them in this application.

To fasten a button to a garment, the prongs 8 of the fastener are passed through the fabric 10 and into the opening 3, around which are formed ledges 4. The ends of the prongs are then bent diagonally downward and toward each other, which results in their parallel and side-by-side location, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, by the aid of any suitable tool, and thereby the button is securely fastened to the garment.

The flattened or oblong shank of the button has the following advantages:

First. It forms a means for guiding the button through an attaching-machine, so that the prongs of the fastener will be sure to enter the shank in the proper position.

Second. The sides of the oblong shank form guides for the prongs of the fastener, so that they will lie parallel in the shank when turned down, thus forming a neat finish, whereby the necessity of a cap to cover up the prongs is avoided.

Third. If the opening between the sides of the hollow shank is rather narrower than the combined width of the two prongs, the sides of the shank will tend to bind on the sides of the prongs and hold them fast when

pressed down, whereby smaller wire may be used for forming the prongs, which in turn will allow of a narrower shank being used.

Fourth. An oblong shank does not distort the buttonhole so much as a round shank, inasmuch as the former may be secured to the garment lengthwise of the buttonhole.

While we prefer that the sides of the shank shall bear against the ends of the prongs after they are turned down, we do not limit ourselves to this feature, as the fastener will hold without it.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A button consisting of, a body, an oblong hollow shank attached to said body and an oblong opening in the bottom of said oblong hollow shank with ledges projecting in-

wardly and upwardly on the sides of said oblong opening thus forming a guide for the entering fasteners, substantially as described.

2. A button consisting of a body, a shank, an opening at the bottom of said shank of such shape that ledges are formed to receive a multipronged fastener in combination with such fastener whose inwardly-projecting ends are turned toward and substantially parallel to each other, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

OLIVER WILLIAM KETCHUM.
WILLIAM WESLEY VARNEY.

Witnesses:

EDWD. GRIFFITH,
HARRY E. AULD.