

(No Model.)

G. W. MILLS.

METAL BUTTON CLEANING SHIELD.

No. 366,676.

Patented July 19, 1887.

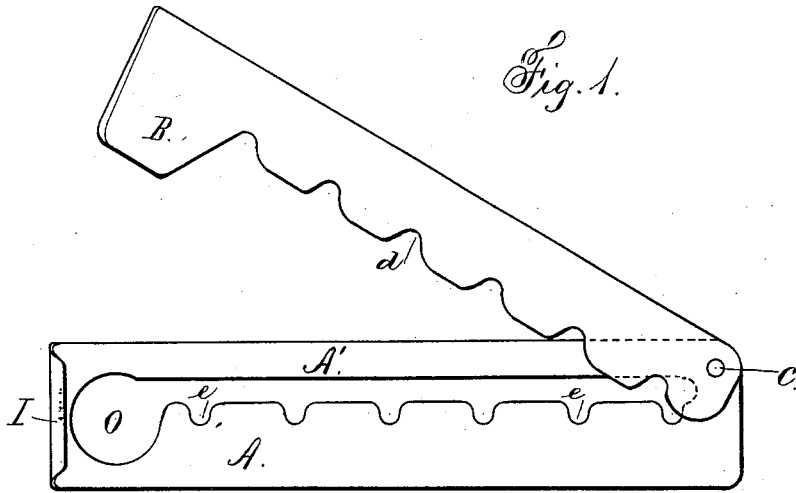


Fig. 2.

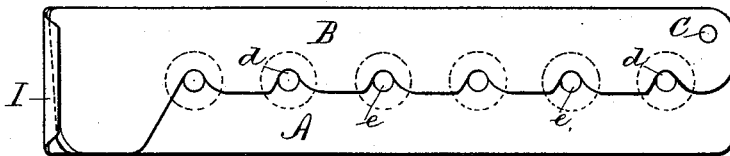
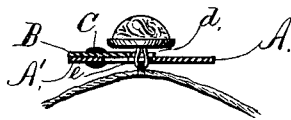


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
Harold Serrell
Chas H. Smith

Inventor
George W. Mills
per
Lemuel W. Serrell
Cddy

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. MILLS, OF ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO FRANCIS R. FAST AND FLOYD B. WILSON, BOTH OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

METAL-BUTTON-CLEANING SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 366,676, dated July 19, 1887.

Application filed August 31, 1885. Renewed September 14, 1886. Serial No. 213,540. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. MILLS, of Elizabeth, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Metal-Button-Cleaning Shields, of which the following is a specification.

Brass and other metallic buttons are extensively used upon the coats and clothing of military men, carriage-drivers, railroad employes, and others, and these brass buttons require to be frequently cleaned, and the rouge, whiting, or other cleaning material is liable to soil the cloth. Besides this, it is difficult to hold the button while being polished.

The object of my invention is to hold the buttons in position while being cleaned and to shield the cloth, so that it does not become soiled. With this object in view, I make use of a slotted and notched plate for the reception of the shanks of the buttons and a hinged locking-plate to close against the opposite sides of the shanks and hold the buttons in position while being cleaned, the plates intervening between the buttons and the garment to prevent the latter becoming soiled.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the shield as opened and ready for the reception of the buttons. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the shield closed, the positions of the buttons being indicated by dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the shield as closed around the shank of a button.

The shield is made of the two parts A and B, hinged together at C. These parts are preferably of sheet metal, and there are notches *d* in the edge of the plate B, and notches *e* in the adjacent edge of the plate A, so that these two parts A and B can beswung toward each other and closed around the shanks of the buttons as placed in the respective notches, thereby holding said shanks and buttons while being

cleaned, and at the same time protecting the fabric of the garment from being soiled by the material employed in cleaning the buttons. The notches are to be sufficiently far apart for the reception of buttons of the largest sizes, and it will be apparent that the fabric of the garment will usually be puckered up or folded more or less, as the button-shanks are introduced into the notches.

In order to hold the two plates A and B in the proper relative positions at the distant end from the pivot C, I make a lip or flange, I, upon the plate A, so that the end of the plate B may pass in beneath the same.

It is usually preferable to form a slot in the plate A for the passage of the button-shanks, the same being represented as formed between the plate A and the bar or portion A' of said plate, and in order to introduce the button itself an opening, O, is made through the plate A at the end of the slot. This opening O is covered by the end portion of the plate B when the two parts of the shield are closed for grasping the button-shanks.

I claim as my invention—

1. The metal-button-cleaning shield, composed of the plates A and B, notched in the edges and hinged together, there being a lip or flange upon the plate A for the reception of the end of the plate B, substantially as set forth.

2. In a metal-button-cleaning shield, the combination, with the plate B, notched upon one edge, of the plate A, slotted longitudinally, and having notches at *e*, and an opening, O, at the end of the slot, substantially as specified.

Signed by me this 28th day of August, 1885.
GEORGE W. MILLS.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,
WILLIAM G. MOTT.