

W. J. Horstmann,

Esquire.

No. 111,456.

Patented Jan. 31, 1871.

FIG. 1.

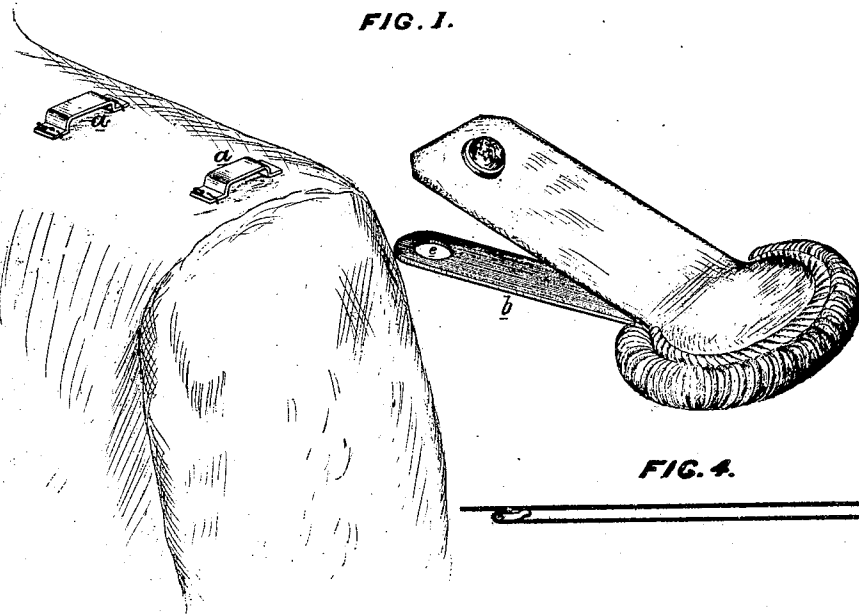


FIG. 4.

FIG. 2.

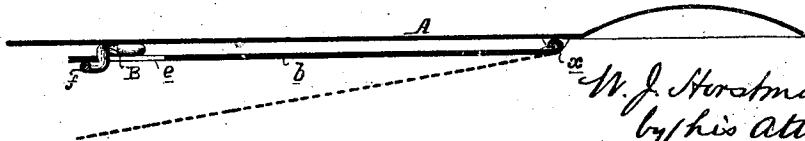
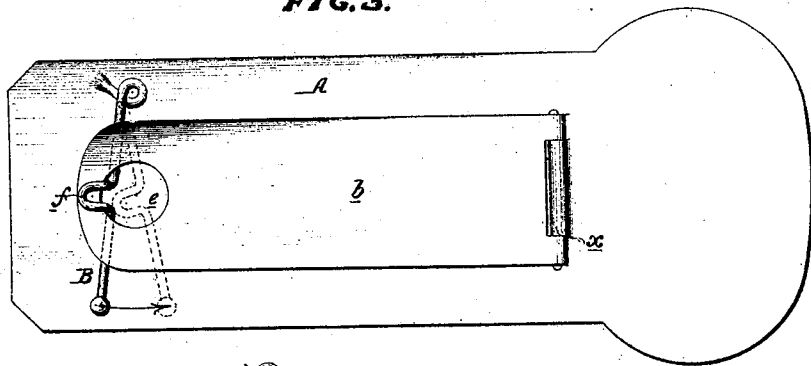


FIG. 3.

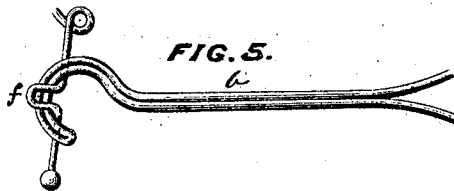


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WITNESSES

J. B. Harding
John Parker

FIG. 5.



United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM JULIUS HORSTMANN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 111,456, dated January 31, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENINGS FOR EPAULETTES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, WILLIAM JULIUS HORSTMANN, of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Epaulette-Fastener, of which the following is a specification.

Nature and Object of the Invention.

My invention consists of a device, too fully described hereafter to need preliminary explanation, for retaining and releasing epaulettes.

Description of the Accompanying Drawing.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved epaulette, detached from the shoulder of the coat; Figure 2, a vertical section of the same; Figure 3, an inverted plan view; and Figures 4 and 5, views of modifications.

General Description.

Two staple-like projections, *a a*, or strips of cloth or other fabric, are stitched to the shoulder of the coat, and are such as to admit freely a tongue, *b*, hinged at *x* to the under side of the epaulette.

This tongue has near its outer end a hole, *c*, for the admission of a catch, *f*, formed on a spring, *B*, secured to the under side of the epaulette, near one edge of the same, the outer end of this spring extending nearly to the opposite edge of the epaulette.

On moving this spring in the direction of the arrow, fig. 3, the tongue *b* will be at liberty to be depressed, as shown by dotted lines, fig. 3, and can then be passed through the staples *a a* on the coat, after which, while the spring is still held in the position shown by dotted lines in fig. 3, pressure is applied to the top of the epaulette, and the catch *f* necessarily passes through the hole *c* in the tongue; the spring being now released, its catch *f* will underlap a portion of the tongue, and the epaulette will be secure in its place until the spring

is again moved back, thereby releasing the tongue from the catch, and permitting its withdrawal from the staples.

One of the main advantages of my improved epaulette-fastener is its freedom from disturbance by the fire-arm held against the shoulder.

As the epaulette cannot be released without first manipulating the spring *B*, and as the whole of the spring is beneath the epaulette, the fire-arm cannot disturb it; by inserting a finger, however, beneath the tongue, so as to reach the end of the spring, the latter may be easily operated.

In the present instance, the spring-catch is made of a simple piece of bent wire, but it may be otherwise made, providing it is furnished with a catch for retaining the tongue.

The tongue also can be variously modified and adapted to the spring catch. The hole *c* might, for instance, be dispensed with, and the end of the tongue be bent over, as shown in fig. 4, so as to form a hook for the reception of the spring catch; or a hook of the character shown in fig. 5, might be formed at the end of the tongue for the same purpose.

Claim.

The combination, with an epaulette, of a hinged tongue, *b*, having a recess, *c*, at its outer end, and a spring, *B*, having a projection or catch, *f*, substantially as described.

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

WM. J. HORSTMANN.

Witnesses:

WM. A. STEEL,
F. B. RICHARDS.