T. P. MARSTON.

Tag Fastener.

No. 168,267. Patented Sept. 28, 1875.

Fig. 1.

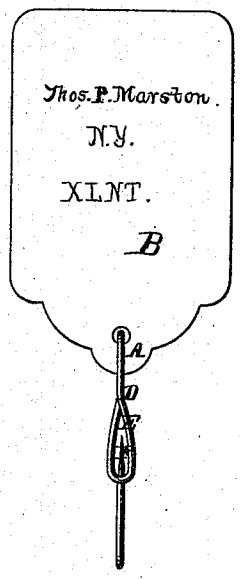
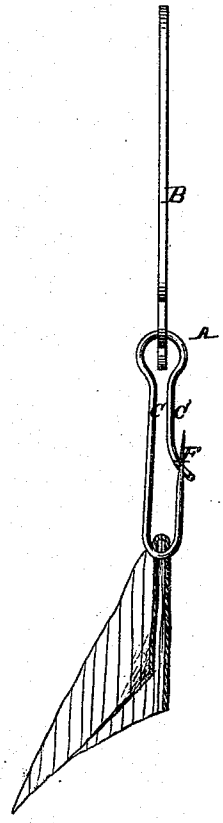


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS P. MARSTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO PHILIP HAKE, OF HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN TAG-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,267**, dated September 28, 1875; application filed June 2, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS P. MARSTON, of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tag-Fasteners, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section, showing the fastener attached to a piece of cloth.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to fasteners for fastening tags and labels to cloth or other articles; and it consists in a fastener composed of a single piece of wire bent in such a manner that a loop-guard is formed, into which the pointed end or pin of the fastener springs of its own elasticity, so as to lock the fastener to the article through which the pin has been inserted.

In order to insert the pin into or through any article or piece of cloth, the cloth is pushed or pressed between the loop-guard and the pin, and as both the loop-guard and the pin are elastic, they are readily separated, so as to allow the entrance of the cloth between them, and when the edge of the cloth has passed the point of the pin the pressure is released, and the pin and loop-guard are allowed to approach each other. The fastener being then drawn in the opposite direction, the point of the pin penetrates the cloth, and the cloth slides upon it toward the outer end of the fastener, allowing the pin-point to spring up again into the loop-guard, where it is kept by the joint elastic action of the loop-guard and the pin.

My fastener is made from a single piece of wire bent over upon itself at both ends. One portion of the wire is bent so as to form a circular loop, A, at the upper end, in which the tag or label B is placed. The wire strands are bent inward and brought close together at C C, near the loop A, so as to stiffen them and increase their elasticity. The upper end of the wire, observing Fig. 1, is bent sidewise at D, and is then brought around so as to form a loop-guard, E, that extends in the direction of the length of the fastener, and whose opening comes opposite the pin. The extremity of that portion of the wire which forms the loop-guard is bent sidewise, so as to come snugly against the curve D, and so as to form a symmetrical loop-guard, and so that its extremity will not project and render the implement liable at that place to interfere with or catch hold of the cloth. The lower end of the wire is sharpened to form a pin-point, F, and is bent upon itself to the position represented in Fig. 2, so that the part of the wire which forms the pin extends below and past the free end of the loop-guard, into whose opening it springs by its own elasticity, the sides of the loop-guard serving to prevent the pin from being drawn out of the loop-guard by a lateral movement. The free end of the loop-guard is bent upward, as is represented in Fig. 2, so that where the loop-guard and pin approach each other there is an inclined edge, which will readily admit the entrance of the cloth edge or other article between them.

I do not claim a clasp or fastener formed from a piece of wire with parallel sides, one of the sides constructed with a loop-guard and the other with a point, said fastener being bent at junction into a coil to serve as a spring, as such is old, and the coiled portion prevents the seating of the tag, which is the characteristic feature of my invention, and designates its construction in the market.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The fastener for tags herein shown and described, made from a piece of wire, constructed with the circular loop A to receive and seat the tag, and with the inwardly-bent sides C C for stiffening the fastener, and with the point F and the loop-guard E, as and for the purpose described, the outer end of said loop-guard being turned up to form a guide for passing the material onto the piercing-pin.

In testimony that I claim the above I hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of May, 1875.

T. P. MARSTON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
W. HAUFF,
E. F. KASTENHUBER.