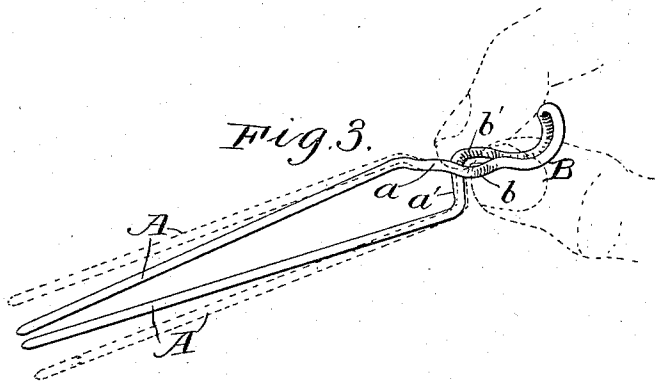
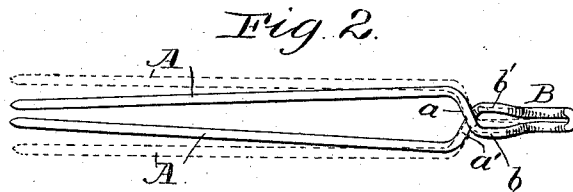
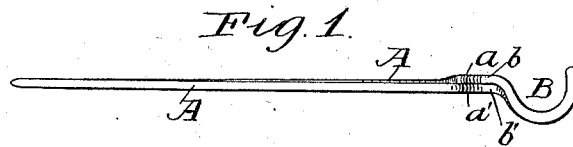


(No Model.)

J. BERKEY.
HAIR PIN.

No. 558,871.

Patented Apr. 21, 1896.



Witnesses,
Chas. W. Parker.
T. A. Pennington

Inventor,
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att.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS BERKEY, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO FRED MACY, OF SAME PLACE.

HAIR-PIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 558,871, dated April 21, 1896.

Application filed July 18, 1895. Serial No. 556,405. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS BERKEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety Hair-Pins; and I 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 an improvement in hair-pins, and it is embodied in the construction hereinafter described, and definitely pointed out in the claim.

Figure 1 is an elevation of the improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan view, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view.

In the drawings, A A designate the arms or prongs normally converging toward the points, which approach closely. The upper ends of the arms are bent inwardly at an incline, as at *a a'*, and are crossed one above the other at a point substantially the center of the inclined portions *a a'*. At the ends of the portions *a a'* the wire is bent substantially straight, as at *b b'*. The wire is then bent down, both sections converging toward each other and curved downward, outward, and upward, as at B, in substantially a semicircle, both branches *b b'* being on the same plane. The ends of the parts *b b'* are united in the looped end and constitute the head of the pin. The hooked or curved portion constitutes an extension, the sides of which are in part parallel or on the same plane, while the space between gradually increases from the curved portion to the crossing sections.

It will be noticed that the curved extension projects out in line with the center of the space between the prongs and extends laterally at its curved point below and above the plane of the prongs.

By the position and formation of the extension there will be a positive finger and thumb hold provided, which can be easily and naturally grasped on opposite sides, and when so grasped there will be no danger of the pin turning or twisting as pressure is placed on the sides of the extension.

In operation by compressing the sides *b b'* the prongs are thrown out, as shown in dot-

ted lines, Fig. 3, the limit of movement being the distance between the parts *b b'*, which, being on the same plane, engage each other at a time when the prongs are spread to parallelism. The prongs are then forced into the hair. As soon as the pressure is released the spring of the parts *b b'* will tend to draw the prongs in and thus tightly compress and hold the hair located between.

In addition to the curved extension acting as a grasping-point, by its peculiar shape the end of the hook or curved part will engage the hair and further assist in retaining the pin in place.

The pin described is very easily and naturally operated and the act of inserting the prongs is not essentially more laborious or confusing than with the ordinary pin. It will further be noticed that there are no abrupt turns or acute angles in the extension, the bends being so formed that the hair will quickly slide off from and out of the space formed by the adjacent or contacting parts. The curved portion serves also as a finger-hold, over which the finger can be readily placed when it is wished to remove the pin.

I am aware that pins have been formed so that by compressing certain extensions the prongs will be separated, and I do not broadly claim such a structure.

I am also aware that minor alterations and changes can be made without in the least departing from the nature and principle of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

A safety hair-pin, consisting of a head formed of looped wire having its outer end portion bent laterally outward and thence back to or near to the plane of the head, the inner ends of the wire being inclined outwardly in opposite directions, and prongs formed of continuations of the inclined portions of the head wire and converging to their points, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JULIUS BERKEY.

Witnesses:

L. S. BACON,

G. A. PENNINGTON.