

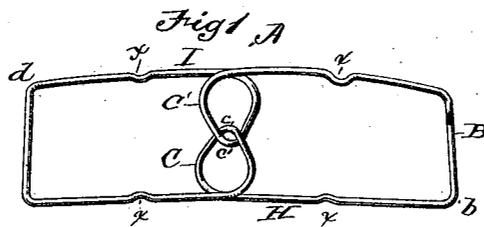
(No Model.)

A. THOMSON.

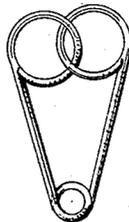
SPRING HOLDING DEVICE FOR BUTTONS.

No. 251,318.

Patented Dec. 20, 1881.



*Fig. 2.*



*Attest.*  
*W. H. Knight*  
*Wm. A. Blackstock*

*Inventor,*  
*August Thomson*  
*by his atty's*  
*Edson Bros.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST. THOMSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## SPRING HOLDING DEVICE FOR BUTTONS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 251,318, dated December 20, 1881.

Application filed April 6, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, AUGUST. THOMSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at No. 61 Bond street, Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring Holding Devices for Buttons; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a spring fastening-frame adapted to grasp the shank of a button or the thread which secures an ordinary button and hold said shank with the constant force of the spring inherent in the frame itself, adapted for service in many portions of wearing-apparel; and the novelty consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out the invention I employ a single piece of spring-wire, and by welding or otherwise secure the ends together. Previous to the welding, however, the wire is bent upon itself to form two loops, which preferably interlock with each other, as shown.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe its construction and mode of operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my invention, and Fig. 2 a modification.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the single piece of wire of which the device is formed.

For convenience I will describe the device shown in Fig. 1, commencing at the welded end B, from the plane of which the wire is bent at right angles at *b* to form a plane, H.

Near the center of the plane H the wire is bent inward upon itself to form a loop, C, having an acute inner portion, *c*. After the loop C is formed the curvature reaches the plane of the portion H and extends to a point equidistant from the loop as the loop is from the corner *b*, from whence it is bent upward at right angles to a point, *d*, where it is again bent inward to form a plane, I, at the center of which it is bent inward upon itself, the free end passed through the loop C and formed into a loop, C',

corresponding with the loop C, and having a similar acute portion, *c'*. From the loop C' it extends along and is bent so as to approach the other free end, and the two ends welded together. To increase the spring of the wire slight bends are made at different points, as shown at *x x x*.

A modification is shown in Fig. 2 which is simpler in construction, and may be used with success in some cases.

The invention may be employed in many ways; but it is peculiarly adapted to ladies' underwear, where the button may be liable to slip through a worn or too large button-hole, in stockings-supports where buttons are used, in garters, bustles, drawers, &c. As shown in Fig. 1, it may be used as a scarf holder.

The device is light, cheap, and conveniently applied, and may be used with great success in ladies' underwear, hose, garters, bustles, &c., where the disengagement of a button would cause much embarrassment. For such use the shape of the frame may be varied to suit.

Various modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of my invention, the essential features of which are the loops formed of a single piece of wire, sprung as described, and adapted to interlock with each other and grasp the shank of a button, for the purposes described.

I deem it important to have the loops interlock with each other permanently, as the action of the sides thereby is limited in one direction, and the device is less liable to be rendered useless from strain or the like.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The button-support described, consisting of a spring-frame having loops which are permanently interlocked with each other to form an eye adapted to receive the button and engage the shank or thread by which it is secured by a constant force, as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination of the sides H I, having interlocking loops C C', bent, as shown, to form acute portions *c c'*, and sprung at *x x x x*, the whole formed of a single piece of wire, A, and welded at B, as and for the purposes specified.

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

Witnesses: AUGUST. THOMSON.  
LIVEI GOTTPOTE,  
JOHN H. TIMMERMAN,