W. P. GERBER.

GARMENT BUTTON.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 8, 1915.

1,160,591. Patented Nov. 16, 1915.

Fig. 1.

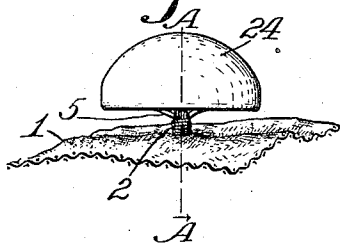


Fig. 2.

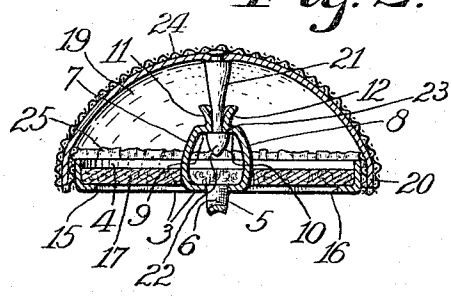


Fig. 3.

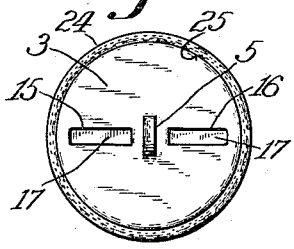


Fig. 4.

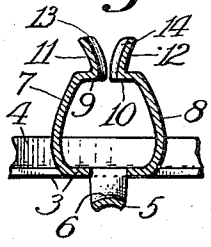


Fig. 5.

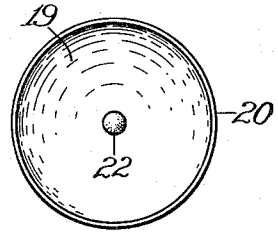


Fig. 6.

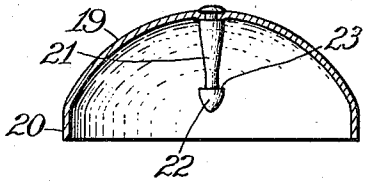


Fig. 7.

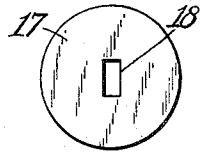


Fig. 8.

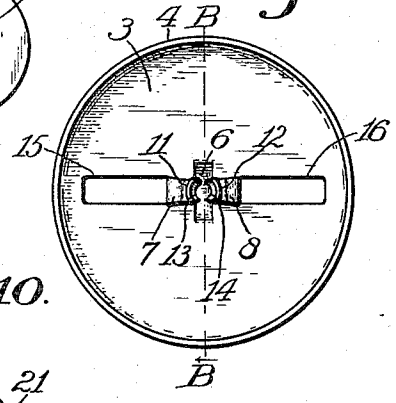


Fig. 9.

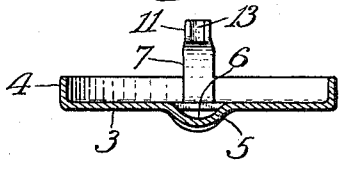
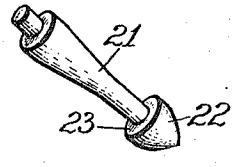


Fig. 10.



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GARMENT-BUTTON.

1,160,591. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 16, 1915.

Application filed April 8, 1915. Serial No. 19,928.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER P. GERBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Garment-Button, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to garment-buttons that are of light weight and hollow, of the shankless type that is designed to be used on the garments of women and children, more especially on coats and covered with fabric, the invention having reference more particularly to a button having a plurality of parts connected together.

An object of the invention is to provide an improved button that shall be suitably composed of parts that may be manufactured and furnished by factories to those who may desire to supply the covering material, as may be required by the garment manufacturers.

Another object is to provide a button of such construction as to be inexpensive, strong and durable and permit of being conveniently completed by those who may be required to supply buttons having cloth covers corresponding to the cloth of the garments on which the buttons are required.

With the above-mentioned and other objects in view, the invention consists in a built-up garment button having novel features of construction, more especially with respect to means for locking the parts of the button together, the invention consisting further in the parts, and combinations and arrangements of parts, as hereinafter particularly described and further defined in the accompanying claims.

Referring to the drawings,—Figure 1 is a side view of the improved button attached to a fragment of fabric, as when in position for use; Fig. 2 is a section of the improved button on the line A A on Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view of the button; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view reproducing a portion of Fig. 2 on an enlarged scale; Fig. 5 is an internal plan view of the front part of the button; Fig. 6 is a section of the front part of the button; Fig. 7 is a plan view of the inner member of the back part of the button; Fig. 8 is an internal plan view of the outer member of the back part of the button; Fig. 9 is a section on the line B B on Fig. 8 but on a slightly smaller scale; and, Fig. 10 is a perspective view of one of the elements for locking the front and back parts of the button together.

Similar reference characters on the different figures of the drawings indicate corresponding elements or features of construction herein referred to.

In practically carrying out the objects of the invention the buttons are made in various sizes and shapes as may be fancied or required, and they are designed to be fastened or sewed to fabric 1 by means of thread 2. Each button comprises an outer back member or plate 3 composed of sheet metal, preferably very thin sheet steel, so as to be of light weight, the member having an upturned flange 4 thereon. The middle portion of the plate or member has an eye 5 on its normal outer side, or the side opposite to that which has the flange, the eye preferably being formed integrally with the plate by pressing out a portion of the metal by means of a die so as to form a loop. The eye preferably has a transversely convex inner face 6. One of the principal parts of the button is provided with a single locking member and the other principal part with a socket, whereby the two principal parts are permanently locked together. Preferably the back part of the button is provided on its middle portion with a socket which is suitably composed of two spring arms 7 and 8 that are on the normal inner side of the back plate, or that side which has the flange, the arms extending each toward the other and having shoulders 9 and 10 on the inner portions thereof, the shoulders facing toward the back plate, guide fingers 11 and 12 being formed on the end portions of the arms beyond the shoulders, the fingers extending outwardly each from the other and having concave inner faces 13 and 14, respectively. The arms with the several portions thereof are designed to act as two coöperating clutch members. Preferably the arms are composed of integral portions of the plate stamped out and leaving slots 15 and 16 in the back plate. Preferably the slots are practically closed by means of an inner back member 17 of disk-like form and preferably composed of light weight material, such as straw-board, box-board, or paper pulp composition. The inner member is pressed into the flange 4 and has an aperture 18 in its middle portion to clear the socket arms and

permit the member to be pressed close to the plate 3.

The front part of the button is composed of thin metal and comprises a main portion 19 which may be variously shaped for ornamental purposes, being approximately dome-shaped and having an approximately cylindrical portion 20 to loosely receive the flange 4 of the back part. A lock bar 21 is fixedly secured on the inner side of the middle of the main portion 19 and it has a tapering head 22 on its end provided with a shoulder 23 at the back of the head. A fabric cover 24 is placed on the outer side of the front part and is turned inward on the inner side of the cylindrical portion 20 so as to form a lining 25 therein.

The front parts may be supplied without the covering and the garment manufacturer may have the fronts covered with cloth harmonizing with or identically like the cloth of which the garments are made that are to be provided with the buttons. After the front is covered the two parts are pressed together, the flange 4 of the back part being forced tightly into the lining 25 and tending to draw the cover tightly over the front part. When the back part is brought to the front part the head 22 enters between the fingers 11 and 12 and forces them apart while passing, until the shoulder 23 passes by the fingers and becomes engaged by the shoulders 9 and 10 of the elastic clutch arms whereby the locking bar is permanently secured against withdrawal. Therefore the front and the back parts of the button are firmly locked together and prevented from separating when in use.

The improved buttons are used for a variety of purposes, either to be inserted through button-holes for connecting portions of garments together or for decorative purposes, and in suitable sizes are suitable for upholstering purposes.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A button comprising a front part and a back part formed of sheet metal and connected together, one of the parts having a socket formed of portions of the metal pressed inward from the plane thereof, the interior of the socket having a shoulder facing toward the plane of the part, a locking bar fixed on the other one of the parts and having a head thereon engaging the shoulder of the socket, and an eye fixed on the outer side of the back part.

2. A button comprising a front part, a locking bar fixed on the middle of the inner side of the front part and having a head thereon, a back part connected to the front part, a clutch connected to the middle of the inner side of the back part and engaging the head of the locking bar, an eye fixed on the outer side of the back part, and an inner back member on the inner side of the back part.

3. A button comprising a back part having two elastic arms adjacently arranged on the middle portion thereof, each arm having a shoulder on its inner side facing toward the back part and having also a guide finger extending outwardly from the shoulder, the inner face of the finger being concave, and a front part connected to the back part and having a locking bar on the inner side of its middle portion, the bar having a tapered head for engaging and spreading the fingers, the head having a shoulder engaged by the shoulders of the arms.

4. In a garment button, a back part comprising a plate, an inner member on the plate having a central aperture, and two elastic arms connected to the back plate and extending through the aperture, each arm having a clutch device thereon, in combination with a front part covering the inner member and the arms, and a locking bar secured to the front part and engaged by the clutch devices.

5. In a garment button, the combination with a front part, a back part inserted partially into the front part, and an inner back member on the inner side of the back part, of an eye on the outer side of the back part formed of a portion of the metal of the part pressed out, two arms on the inner side of the back part formed of portions of the metal pressed up and leaving openings in the back part that are covered by said inner back member, the arms extending through said back member and having each a clutch device thereon, and a locking bar fixed on the middle of the inner side of the front part and extending between said arms, the bar having a head thereon engaged by said clutch devices.

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

WALTER PERRY GERBER.

Witnesses:
J. J. RUVANE,
JOHN HYATT.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."