(No Model.)

G. W. PRENTICE.

METALLIC STOCK FOR BUTTON FASTENERS.

No. 306,102. Patented Oct. 7, 1884.

Fig. 1.

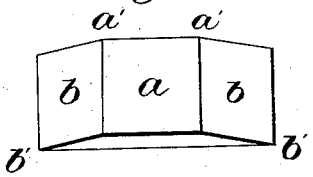

Fig. 2.

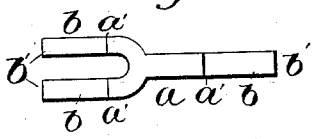

Fig. 3.

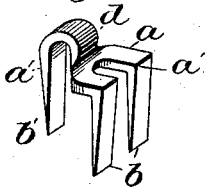

Fig. 4.

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. PRENTICE, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

METALLIC STOCK FOR BUTTON-FASTENERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 306,102, dated October 7, 1884.

Application filed March 20, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. PRENTICE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Stock for Button-Fasteners; and I do 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 and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in the formation of the metal stock from which button fasteners, staples, or other devices which depend on penetrating prongs or spurs for attachment to a fabric are made.

Heretofore it has been the custom to cut the blanks for such devices from sheet metal of a uniform thickness, the prongs being subsequently sharpened by swaging or drawing during the process of manufacture, requiring the use of costly machinery, also unnecessary manipulation to obtain the desired result.

My present invention has for its object to provide a form of stock from which these devices may be manufactured in the cheapest and most expeditious manner, so as to dispense with a portion of the aforesaid machinery and manipulations.

To this end my invention consists, primarily, of a strip of metal rolled or planed in such a manner as to have a parallel central portion, tapering from thence to a thin or sharp edge on each side, all as will be hereinafter more fully described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of my improved form of stock. Fig. 2 is a view of a blank cut from my improved stock. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a fastener formed from the said blank. Fig. 4 is a side view of the same.

In carrying out my invention I first pass the metal through suitable machinery, which reduces it to the form substantially like that shown in Fig. 1, which consists of a parallel central portion, *a*, tapering from thence to the edges *b'*, thus forming the angles *b*, as shown.

To illustrate the use of my improved form of stock, I have shown a three-prong button-fastener, the blank of which is shown in Fig. 2, and is cut from the stock shown in Fig. 1, it being subsequently bent into form, as shown in Fig. 4, the table *a* and loop *d* being of a uniform thickness, the prongs being bent at the lines *a'*, thus forming a fastener with sharp penetrating-prongs, the angles commencing at the lower portion of the parallel portion of the fastener and terminating at the ends of the prongs. I am thus enabled to furnish a form of stock for the manufacture of articles with penetrating-prongs without the usual expense of swaging or drawing the prongs from parallel stock, as heretofore. The whole strength and temper being thus retained, the prongs are not as liable to break in attachment to fabric as if swaged or drawn to an edge.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An improved blank from which metallic fasteners may be cut, consisting of the metallic block or bar having a central portion, *a*, of uniform thickness, and tapering sides *b*, terminating in thin or sharpened edges *b'*, all substantially as set forth.

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

GEORGE W. PRENTICE.

Witnesses:

FRANKLIN A. SMITH, Jr.,

WM. R. DUTEMPLE.