

G. W. PRENTICE.
Lacing Button.

No. 201,445.

Patented March 19, 1878.

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Witnesses:
Edw. W. Down
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. PRENTICE, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN LACING-BUTTONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,445**, dated March 19, 1878; application filed February 19, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. PRENTICE, of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lacing-Button, for fastening wearing apparel by means of a lacing; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my complete invention. Fig. 2 represents a vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 represents a rear view. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of the metallic connecting-prongs. Fig. 5 represents a detail view of the lacing portion detached from the connecting-prongs, and Fig. 6 is a transverse section taken on the line *x* of Fig. 5.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in all the said figures.

My invention relates to improvements in that class of lacing-buttons, or devices resembling a button or stud, which have penetrating-prongs at their base for attaching the lacing portion or head to wearing apparel, instead of by sewing in the usual way; and the invention consists of an oval or rounded head, having a curved neck or shank projecting at right angles from a base-plate, said neck or shank being provided with a suitable opening for the introduction of the rear prong of a metallic connection, for attaching the lacing portion to wearing apparel, all as will be hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, A denotes the convex-concave head, having the curved neck or shank portion *b*, projecting at right angles from the base-plate *c*, the whole being struck up or formed from a single piece of sheet metal by suitable mechanism adapted for that purpose.

B represents the metallic connection or fastener described in Letters Patent granted to David Heaton, under date of July 21, 1874,

and numbered 153,220, and which is so constructed as to provide a staple at one side over the single prong *d*, which is inserted through the opening *a* in the neck or shank portion *b* of the head A, which operation brings the base-plate *c* directly under the table formed by the front prongs *e e*, a projection, *f*, at the front of said base-plate *c* fitting in the opening between the two front prongs, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, thereby securely locking the lacing-head in position.

It will be observed that by thus connecting the lacing-head to the metallic fastening connection, and then attaching the same to wearing apparel in the usual manner, the lacing-head is held securely and firmly in an upright position from the face of the material, the same as if both head and prongs were formed of a single piece of metal.

The neck or shank *b* is preferably constructed of a curved shape, as shown in Fig. 6, the object of which is such as to make the said neck stiff and inflexible, to withstand the lacing-strain, as also to present no sharp edges or angles to cut or wear the lacing, which passes around the said neck, and which is kept in place thereon by the overlapping head A.

In place of the metallic connection or fastener already referred to, it may be observed that my invention is equally applicable to other forms of fastenings, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

By means of my present improvements, I am enabled to produce a lacing-button possessing the necessary requisites of strength and durability, combined with a greater economy of the stock employed, and which can be constructed much cheaper than those heretofore used for the same purpose, which are formed of a double quantity of material, and more difficult of manufacture.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and useful is—

1. The herein-described lacing-button, consisting of the head A, having curved neck or shank *b*, with central opening *a*, and base-plate *c*, provided with the projection *f*, the whole being formed of a single piece of material, and adapted for operation in connec-

tion with the metallic connection or fastening B, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a lacing-button, the head A, constructed as described, in combination with a suitable metallic connection or fastener, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEO. W. PRENTICE.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. EARLE,
JAS. F. THAYER.