

VIRGINIA V. BALMFORTH.  
Button-Hole Casing.

No. 160,504.

Patented March 9, 1875.

FIG. 1.

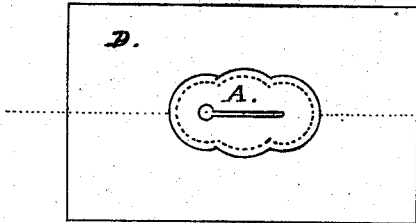


FIG. 2.



FIG. 3.

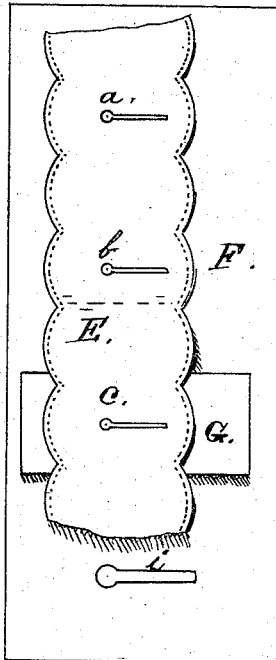


FIG. 4.

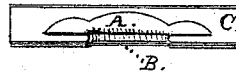
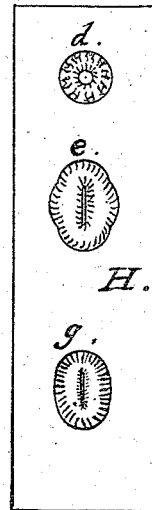


FIG. 5.



Attest:

*Wm. P. Benton.*  
*John H. Redstone.*

Inventress:

*Virginia Beard Balmforth*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VIRGINIA VIARD BALMFORTH, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HER RIGHT TO MRS. M. P. BENTON, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTON-HOLE CASINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 160,504, dated March 9, 1875; application filed December 18, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, Mrs. VIRGINIA VIARD BALMFORTH, of Oakland, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented certain Improved Button-Holes, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figures 1, 2, and 5 are plan views; and Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views, showing the button-hole cut through the center of Fig. 1.

In Figs. 1, 3, and 4, A represents the outer surface of the button-hole; B, the shank or part connecting with the inner face, which is designed for attachment to the under surface of the garment. D represents a section of a garment or other article where a button-hole is required. In Fig. 2, *a*, *b*, and *c* represent the button-holes combined by the strip E, which is attached to the strip or section F at *a* and *b*, while the button-hole *c* has the lower or inner face G withdrawn to show its construction. *i* represents the hole or perforation cut in the cloth to receive the button-hole and allow the attachment of the same. In Fig. 5, H represents the under faces, combined in a single strip, and the outer faces separate for insertion. *d* represents an outer surface for shirt-studs, and *e* and *g* represent the faces or borders suitable for the ordinary shirt-buttons.

The following is the mode of carrying out my invention: The outer face is constructed of suitable ornamental appearance, and attached to the inner face G by working the button-holes through both, thus forming the shank or connection B. It will be seen that it is necessary to have one of the surfaces of the button-hole casing, A or G, separately constructed, or both may be so constructed. The separate face is drawn through the hole cut to receive the same in the garment, the outside face being arranged to present an ornamental appearance. They are then stitched around by ordinary

stitching, so as to attach the same firmly to the garment, shoe, or other article where the button-hole is attached. The button-hole may, however, be constructed of any suitable pliable material, either india-rubber or other material composing the outer and inner face, and having the connection B, so as to form a border to the button-hole upon both sides of the garment material to which it is attached. It might be attached by rivets where the material is sufficiently heavy and stiff, the main feature of the invention being the construction of a ready and complete button-hole as an article of manufacture, which is composed of an outer face and an inner face, connected at the edge of the hole, so that the faces or borders may be attached the one upon the outside and the other on the inside of the garment.

The advantages are, first, they are purchasable, and may be applied to any garment. Secondly, the wear does not come upon the garment, but upon the applied button-hole; therefore, when worn or soiled, it can be removed and replaced at pleasure. Thirdly, they may be applied to fabrics in which, from lack of strength or tendency to ravel, or from heaviness of material, it is difficult or impossible to make the ordinary button-hole. Fourthly, they are ornamental in appearance, admitting of such diversity of styles and application as to give the purchaser an almost boundless field for the exercise of taste.

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

The attachable and removable button-hole casing or lining, consisting of the outer ornamental piece A, in combination with the inner strengthening-piece G, the same being stitched or worked, substantially as set forth.

VIRGINIA VIARD BALMFORTH.

Witnesses:

M. P. BENTON,  
JOHN H. REDSTONE.