

E. Breat.
Button.

No. 77443.

Patented, May 5, 1868.

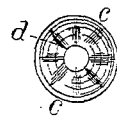
Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



E. Breat

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Witnesses.

Chas. H. Smith

Geo. Trauer

United States Patent Office.

ERNST BREDT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 77,443, dated May 5, 1868; antedated April 25, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTONS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ERNST BREDT, of the city and State of New York, have invented and made a certain new and useful "Improvement in Buttons;" and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of my said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is a section of a button with my improvement.

Figure 2 is a detached section, and

Figure 3 is a face view of the ornamental shell of the button.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

In the manufacture of buttons, it has been usual heretofore to employ a wooden or metal mould, over which the silk or other ornamental woven fabric is stretched. This mould is sometimes grooved in such a manner that a corrugated appearance is given to the covering, but this ornamental appearance is limited to such shapes as will receive the silk as drawn into folds or plaits; thus, the ornamental surface of said buttons has heretofore been limited to a certain class of shapes or configurations.

The nature of my said invention consists in a button-shell, formed of a woven material, stiffened and pressed between dies, so that any desired ornamental shape or form can be given to such shell. The button is very light and handsome, and particularly adapted to use as dress-trimming for ladies, because it is not liable to hang down, from its weight. The said shell is very cheap, easily made, and durable.

In the drawing, *a* is the base of the button, *b* the shank, of cloth or metal. *c* is the flanged ring connecting my improved shell, *d*, with the base, *a*. These parts, except the shell *d*, are to be of any desired or usual character.

The button-shell *d* is shaped between dies of the desired form, either hot or cold, according to the nature or condition of the material operated upon, and I employ stiffening-material that will cause the ornamental surface of the shell to maintain the shape given to it by the dies, and be sufficiently rigid to withstand injury under ordinary circumstances.

I employ one, two, or more thicknesses of material to form the shell, the outer one being of the ornamental character required. I stiffen the same, by saturating or coating such materials with a suitable sizing or cement, that also causes the thicknesses to adhere together, if there is more than one thickness.

Where more than one thickness of material is used, the two or more sheets should be stuck together, and pressed, in a dry or partially-dry condition, to form the button-shell or face, and if but one sheet is employed, it is to be saturated or coated on one side with such size or stiffening, and pressed between dies, in a dry or partially-dry condition, as aforesaid, so that, under all circumstances, the stiffness of the button-shell results from the sizing or stiffening-material and pressure, instead of from the metal or wood mould heretofore employed, and the dies consolidate the materials employed, and simultaneously form, harden, and stiffen them.

The stiffening may be effected by a sheet of buckram, sized cotton-fabric, or similar material, next to the silk or other woven material forming the exterior of the shell, and a sheet of paper on the other side of such stiffened fabric, which paper will generally aid in preventing adhesion of the material to the dies.

The shell *d* is secured at its edges to the base, *a*, of the button by the ring *c*, and the button thus formed is light, cheap, durable, and highly ornamental, and the same is a new article of manufacture.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A button-shell, formed of stiffened woven or fibrous material, pressed up to the required shape between dies, as specified, in combination with a base or shank, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this 12th day of July, A. D. 1867.

ERNST BREDT.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. SMITH,

GEO. D. WALKER.