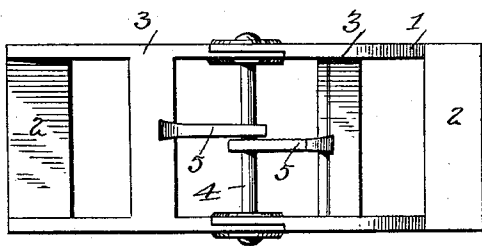
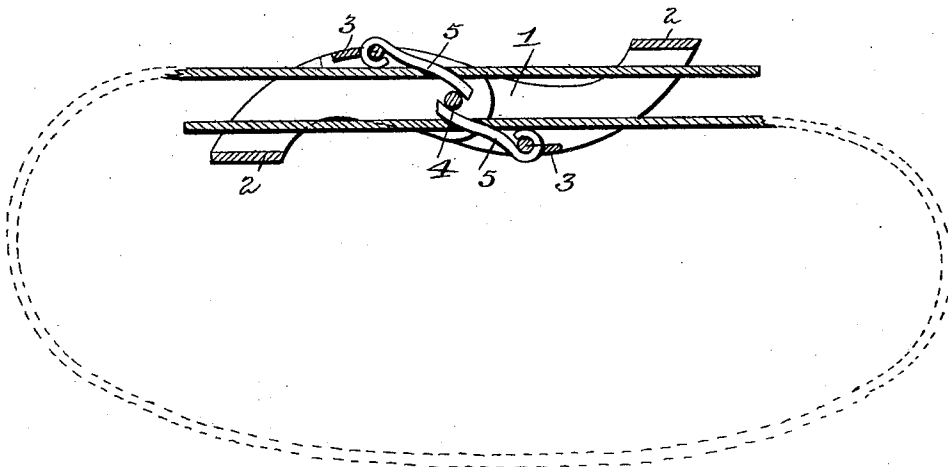


(No Model.)

T. J. CLARK.
BUCKLE.

No. 480,397.

Patented Aug. 9, 1892.



Attest
Walter Donaldson
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Inventor
Thomas J. Clark
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. CLARK, OF GILA, TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,397, dated August 9, 1892.

Application filed April 29, 1892. Serial No. 431,140. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. CLARK, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Gila, in the county of Grant and Territory of New Mexico, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a buckle capable of a wide range of use and adapted to be detachably connected with the part to be held without the use of rivets or stitches and without requiring any special form of strap or construction of the end thereof. It is my purpose, also, to provide a buckle in which the strain will be equalized, thus adding to the durability of the parts, and to provide for fitting the buckle to the stiff parts of the harness without requiring much effort. The buckle is in double form, and is intended to detachably connect with both ends of the strap, either end being utilized as the permanent fastening to the buckle.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section with the strap in place. Fig. 2 is a plan view.

The buckle consists of two side pieces 1, the ends of which are curved in opposite directions and connected by cross-bars 2, preferably rectangular in cross-section. Other bars 3 of substantially similar form extend between the side bars at points intermediate of the end bars, there being thus two upper and two lower bars in the same plane with a channel between them to receive the ends of the strap, which when passed through extend on opposite sides of a central cross-bar 4. The tongues or hooks 5 of the buckle are pivoted to the cross-bars 3, and thus extend from their pivotal points at the outer edges of the side bars inwardly toward each other, their ends resting upon opposite sides of the central cross-bar. It will be noticed that the ends of the strap are passed through the buckle from opposite ends thereof, and either end may be used as the permanent attachment to the

buckle, the other end being unfastened when it is desired to loosen the strap, it being, however, obvious that the permanent end is also equally detachable and may be utilized in this way, if desired. The ends pass upon opposite sides of the central cross-bar, and the strain exerted through them in opposite directions pulls the tongues toward each other and thus upon the central cross-bar, the strain of the tongue upon one side of said bar being neutralized by that exerted upon the other side. It will be observed, also, that by reason of the reversed-curve form of the side bars and the arrangement of the cross-bars the ends of the strap can readily be passed through the buckle and directed on opposite sides of the cross-bar to be engaged by the tongue. Any number of tongues may be used and the buckle made sufficiently wide to receive any desired size of strap or other part to be held. In many instances it will be found desirable to use a buckle of flexible character, particularly in heavy harness, and I therefore form each side bar in two sections and pivot them together at their meeting ends upon the central cross-bar, which thus answers the twofold purpose of a pivotal connection for the side bars and a straining bar or rest for the tongues.

I claim as my invention—

In a buckle, the combination of the side bars connected at their ends by cross-bars 2, the intermediate cross-bars having pivoted thereto the inwardly-extending tongues, and the central cross-bar intermediate of the free ends of the tongues, the said side bars being formed in sections and hinged to the central cross-bar, substantially as described.

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

THOMAS J. CLARK.

Witnesses:

WM. H. KANE,
O. BAILEY.