A. POLLAK.

INITIALED BUCKLE, PLATE, AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 18, 1922.

1,438,550. Patented Dec. 12, 1922.

Fig. 1.

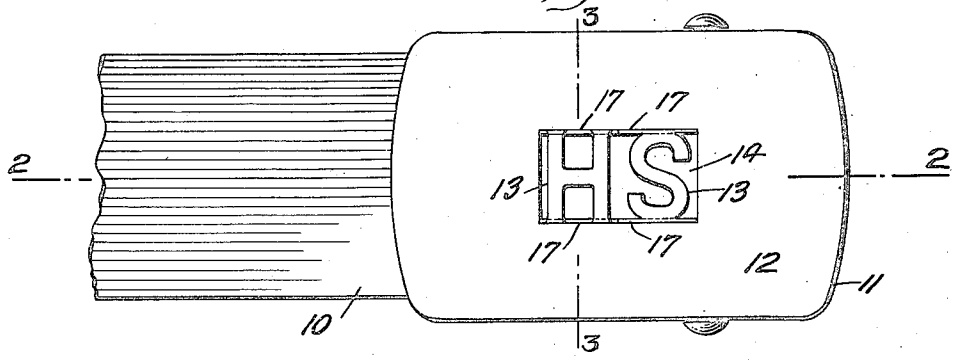


Fig. 2.

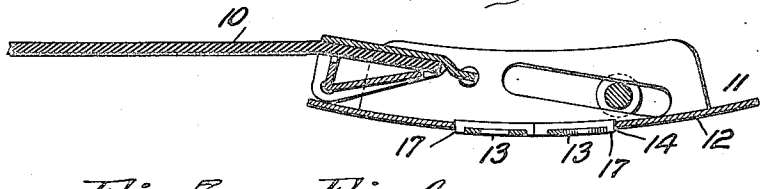


Fig. 3.

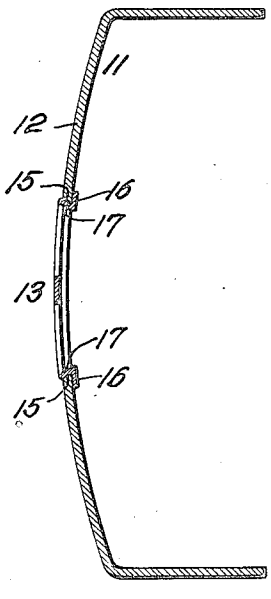


Fig. 4.

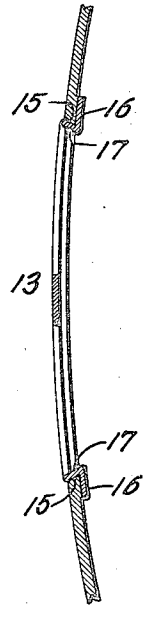


Fig. 5.

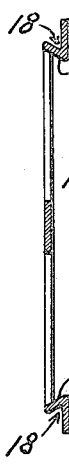
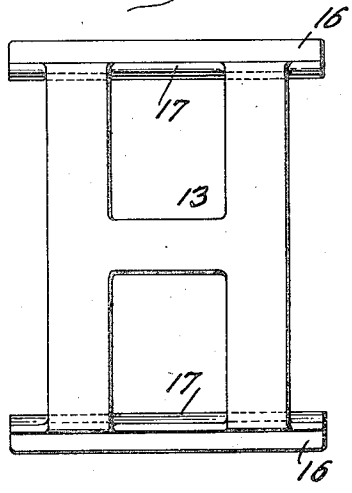


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM POLLAK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

INITIALED BUCKLE, PLATE, AND THE LIKE.

Application filed August 18, 1922. Serial No. 582,656.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM POLLAK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Initialed Buckles, Plates, and the like, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates more particularly to certain novel features of construction pertaining to the face-plate of a buckle or other article and initial letters or the like to be applied thereto, whereby the letters may be pressed in position from the back of the face-plate and there held without the aid of clamping plates and other extra devices at present in use for securing initials on buckles. In accordance with my invention the initial letters may be carried in stock and denote any or all of the letters of the alphabet, and in any suitable combination or grouping these letters may be forced into position in the opening in the face-plate with a snap or spring effect and be securely held by their engagement with the face plate of the buckle or the like. A further important feature of my invention resides in the provision at the upper and lower ends of the letters of certain bars which aid in securing the letters in place and also abut against one another in series at their ends and serve, in addition to other duties, to accurately space the letters apart.

My invention is applicable to the initialing of belt buckles, belt pins, initial plates for automobiles and other plates to which it may be desired to apply initial letters or numbers or emblems or combinations thereof. The features of my invention are applicable alike to letters, numbers and other emblems, and in any use thereof the letters, numbers or emblems will be snapped into position across the opening in the plate.

The present invention involves a further development or improvement relating to my invention made the subject of Letters Patent No. 1,430,682 granted to me October 3, 1922, and resides more particularly in the construction of the bars at the upper and lower ends of the letters and in the coacting edges of the slot formed in the face plate of the buckle.

The invention will be fully understood from the detailed description hereinafter presented, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a portion of a belt equipped with an initialed buckle embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the same, taken on the dotted line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section on a larger scale, through the buckle, taken on the dotted line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a corresponding section, partly broken away, on a still larger scale, through the same;

Fig. 5 is a vertical section corresponding with the dotted line 3—3 of Fig. 1 and on an enlarged scale, through one of the initials of the buckle, Fig. 5 illustrating the initial in its primary flat condition and prior to being arched or bowed forwardly by its application to position in the slot of the buckle, and

Fig. 6 is a front elevation of the initial represented in Fig. 5.

In the drawings, 10 designates a portion of a belt of ordinary character and 11 a buckle thereon embodying my invention, said buckle being of any usual or suitable construction except as to the features of the face-plate 12 and initial letters 13 which embody my invention.

The face-plate 12 has formed therein a rectangular opening or slot 14, around which said plate constitutes a frame, which may be plain or embellished as may be desired. The edges of the plate 12 at the top and bottom of the opening or slot 14 are beveled inwardly or toward the rear on converging lines, as at 15, the bevel at the upper edge of the slot 14 inclining downwardly and inwardly and the bevel at the lower edge of said slot inclining upwardly and inwardly, as shown in Fig. 4, and in other respects the plate 12 is or may be of ordinary construction. The plate 12 when used on a buckle will be bowed or arched forwardly so as to present a convex outer surface, as shown in Fig. 3.

The initials 13 shown denote "H" and "S", respectively, but said initials are representative only, since I propose to provide for this feature all the letters of the alphabet and also, whenever desired, numbers to be used with or as substitutes for the letters. I

have shown a group of two initial letters, but the invention is not limited to the use of two initials, since without departure from, or modification of, my invention any appropriate number of letters may be made use of.

The letters, numbered 13, are alike with respect to the novel features of my invention, and these letters are each in one integral piece of material, preferably sheet steel, silver or gold, and of skeleton formation, and each letter is formed at its upper and lower ends with horizontal spacing bars 16 which are of special character and utility. The letters 13 are offset frontwardly from the bars 16 and at their upper and lower ends are integral with flanges 17 constituting integral portions of said bars and forming angular recesses 18 to snugly engage the beveled edges 15 at the upper and lower sides of the slot 14. The bars 16 have a body portion to fit against the inner face of the front plate 12, as shown in Fig. 4, and the flanged portions 17 which carry the letters 13 are pressed into the slot 14 of the front plate 12; normally the letter with its bars 16 and flanges 17 is greater in height at said flanges than the slot 14 in the front plate 12, and hence when pressure is applied to the letter at its rear sides to force the letter into the slot 14, the letter becomes convexed frontwardly and the flanges 17 approach one another sufficiently to enter the slot 14 and engage the beveled edges 15 of said slot. The bars 16 extend upwardly and downwardly beyond the legs of the letter 13 and also extend laterally beyond the body portion of said letter so as to project at opposite sides thereof, as shown in Fig. 6, and said bars and flanges connect the legs of the letters when said letters have legs, as shown. When the letter has no legs, as those present for illustration in "H," the bars 16 and flanges 17 will be integral with and extend along and beyond the upper and lower edges of the letter, as represented in connection with the letter "S" in Fig. 1. The flanges 17 are angularly disposed and joined to the bars 16 throughout the entire length thereof, this construction resulting in the letters being very durable and firmly held. The fact that the flanges 17 extend beyond the vertical planes of the side edges of the letters is of considerable importance in that with such construction the adjoining ends of said flanges, when the letters are assembled, may abut against each other at the upper and lower edges of the slot 14 and keep the letters properly spaced apart. A further important purpose accomplished by the extension of the flanges 17 beyond the vertical planes of the edges of the letters is that for the end letters of a group said flanges will engage the end edges of the slot 14, and thereby aid in keeping the letters properly positioned within the slot, whereas in the absence of said projecting portions of the flanges 17 a letter, such as the letter "S" (looking at Fig. 1) might slide from engagement with the letter "H" and only become arrested when the right hand edge of the letter "S" becomes resisted by the right hand edge of the slot 14. If the flanges 17 should not project laterally beyond the vertical planes of the edges of the letters, and only the body portion of the bars 16 engaging the rear face of the plate 12 were made use of, said bars, while spacing a group of letters apart, would not prevent the end letters from sliding against the vertical end edges of the slot 14, and to prevent this movement of said end letters, is one of the purposes of the present invention. I regard the flanges 17 connecting the legs of the letters, as shown in Fig. 6, as of particular importance in adding strength to the letters. The angular flanges 17 and beveled edges 15 of the plate 12 serve to efficiently engage the letters with said plate, and when said letters are by pressure applied to their rear faces, pushed into the slot 14, said letters become arched, as shown in Fig. 4, and can only with destructive force applied to their front faces, be pushed out of said slot. One aim of my invention is to provide a buckle having the insertable letters which will be of very durable character and in which the letters will resist such pressure as might be exerted against them by a person leaning against some object at the front of the letters.

It may be noted on reference to Fig. 6 that the legs of the letter extend to the upper and lower edges of the flanges 17, and that hence the letters extend the full height of the slot 14, and this is preferable in that the letters are permitted to have their maximum height in proportion to the slot 14.

It is intended that the initial letters 13 shall be carried in stock and applied to the buckle 11 or the like in accordance with the wishes of a purchaser. When the purchaser has selected the initials he desires for the buckle, the dealer will apply those initials to the buckle, and in doing so will, by pressure, at the back of the letters, snap the same through the opening 14 so that the outlines of the letters will appear at the front of the buckle, while the body portions of the bars 16 will engage the rear face of the plate 12 and the flanges 17 will engage the beveled edges 15 of the opening 14. The body portion of the bar 16 prevents the letters from being pushed entirely through the opening 14, and they also serve as spacing bars for the letters. The flanges 17 also serve as spacing means in addition to strengthening the letters and efficiently engaging the upper and lower edges of the opening 14. The letters 13 will vary in

size and shape in accordance with the size of the buckle and the dimensions of the opening 14 therein. The letters will also vary in width so that, if desired, three initials might be applied to the opening 14 in the plate 12 instead of two initials at present shown in Fig. 1.

I do not limit myself to all of the details of construction described, since some of these details may be modified within the spirit of my invention and the scope of the appended claims. I employ the word "initials" in the claims in a generic sense, meaning thereby letters, numbers, or other emblems.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A plate having an opening in the face thereof and an initial applied thereto, said initial being adapted for exposure at said opening and to be directly sprung into position thereat, said opening having opposite inwardly converging beveled edges, and said initial having at its opposite ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and angular flanges to interlock with said beveled edges and extending laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of the initial and lying within said opening.

2. A plate having an opening in the face thereof and an initial applied thereto, said initial being adapted for exposure at said opening and to be directly sprung into position thereat, said opening having opposite inwardly converging beveled edges, and said initial having at its opposite ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and angular flanges to interlock with said beveled edges and extending laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of the initial and lying within said opening, said flanges integrally connecting the ends of the leg members of the initial within the said opening when the initial has leg members, such as are present in the letter "H" and at the lower end of the letter "A."

3. A plate having an opening in the face thereof and an initial applied thereto, said initial originally being greater in height than said opening and adapted to be directly sprung into said opening, whereby said initial becomes convexed forwardly, said initial having at its opposite ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and flanges to interlock with the edges of said opening for securing the initial in place and said flanges being extended laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of said initial and lying within said opening.

4. A plate having an opening in the face thereof and an initial applied thereto, said initial originally being greater in height than said opening and adapted to be directly sprung into said opening, whereby said initial becomes convexed forwardly, said initial having at its opposite ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and flanges to interlock with the edges of said opening for securing the initial in place and said flanges being extended laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of said initial and lying within said opening, and said flanges integrally connecting the ends of the leg members of the initial within said opening when the initial has leg members, such as are present in the letter "H" and at the lower end of the letter "A."

5. A plate having an opening in the face thereof and initials applied thereto, said initials being adapted for exposure at said opening and to be directly sprung thereinto, and said initials having at their upper and lower ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and flanges to interlock with said plate at the opposite edges of said opening, said flanges being extended laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of the initials and lying within said opening and also adapted at their contiguous ends to abut against one another and thereby maintain the initials properly spaced apart.

6. A plate having an opening in the face thereof, and initials applied thereto, said initials being adapted for exposure at said opening and to be directly sprung thereinto, and said initials having at their upper and lower ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and flanges to interlock with said plate at the opposite edges of said opening, said flanges being extended laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of the initials and lying within said opening and also adapted at their contiguous ends to abut against one another and thereby maintain the initials properly spaced apart, and said flanges integrally connecting the ends of the leg members of the initial within said opening when the initial has leg members, such as are present in the letter "H" and at the lower end of the letter "A."

7. A plate having an opening in the face thereof and initials applied thereto, said initials originally being greater in height than said opening and adapted to be directly sprung thereinto, whereby said initials become convexed forwardly, and said initials having at their upper and lower ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and flanges to interlock with said plate at the opposite edges of said opening, said flanges being extended laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of the initials and lying within said opening and also adapted at their contiguous ends to abut against one another and thereby maintain the initials properly spaced apart.

8. A plate having an opening in the face

thereof and initials applied thereto, said initials originally being greater in height than said opening and adapted to be directly sprung thereinto, whereby said initials become convexed forwardly, and said initials having at their upper and lower ends bar members to engage the back of said plate and flanges to interlock with said plate at the opposite edges of said opening, said flanges being extended laterally beyond the vertical planes of the outer edges of the initials and lying within said opening and also adapted at their contiguous ends to abut against one another and thereby maintain the initials properly spaced apart, and said flanges integrally connecting the ends of the leg members of the initial within said opening when the initial has leg members, such as are present in the letter "H" and at the lower end of the letter "A."

Signed at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 14th day of August, A. D., 1922.

ABRAHAM POLLAK.