J. A. PRYOR.

BELT BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 20, 1913.

1,278,747. Patented Sept. 10, 1918.

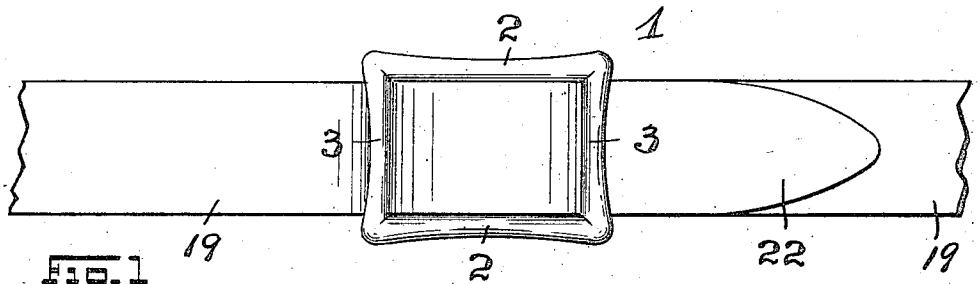

Fig. 1

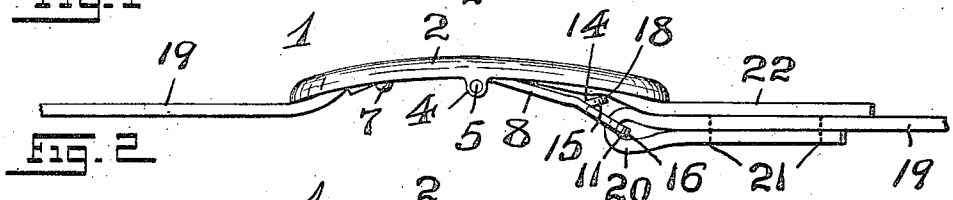

Fig. 2

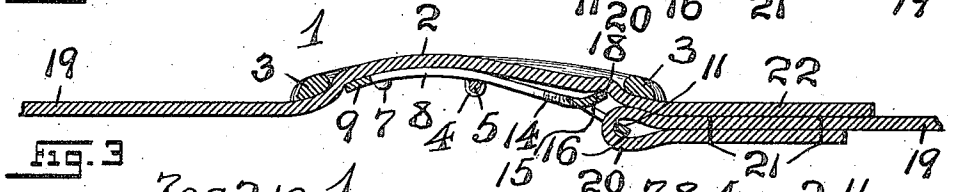

Fig. 3

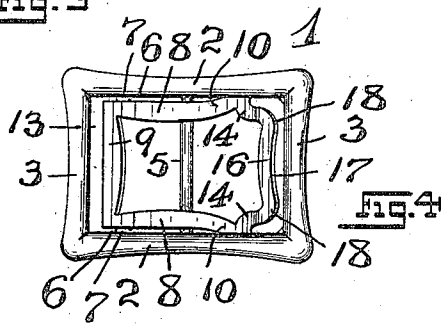

Fig. 4

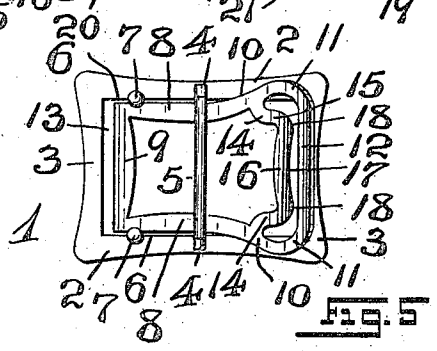

Fig. 5

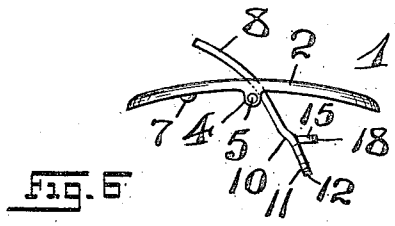

Fig. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BELT-BUCKLE.

1,278,747. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 10, 1918.

Application filed June 20, 1913. Serial No. 774,738.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. PRYOR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belt-Buckles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as 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 characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates, generally, to improvements in buckles; and, the present invention has reference, more particularly, to a novel buckle which is more particularly adapted for use with belts, such as are worn with and form a part of wearing apparel, and relates especially to such forms of belt-buckles which are made from the more precious and softer metals, such as silver, gold, and the like.

The present invention, therefore, has for its principal object to provide a neat, simple and strong belt-buckle made of the softer metals, for use with belts which are worn about the body, and with which, when the belt is tightened, the buckle is subjected to great strain.

The main purpose of the invention is to provide an ornamental belt-buckle of the general character hereinafter set forth which can be readily tightened without providing the strap or belt-body with the usual perforations, and which can be made to firmly and securely engage any portion of the strap or belt-body, to provide a better adjustment to any desired degree, and without the least danger of bending or distorting the parts or members of the soft metal buckle, when the belt is tightly pulled and secured in place.

The invention has for its further object to provide a belt-buckle which is of such a construction, that the greater the strain upon the belt or strap, or the greater the tendency of the belt or strap to pull away from the clasped relation of the buckle, the stronger or firmer will be the grip exercised by the buckle upon the belt or strap, without bending or distorting the parts of the buckle, but still the gripping and holding relation of the buckle and the belt or strap is such, so that the buckle can be easily and quickly released for the removal of the belt from the body, or when adjusting the belt to the body of the wearer.

Other objects of this invention not at this time more particularly enumerated will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the present invention.

With the various objects of the present invention in view, the invention consists, primarily, in the novel buckle hereinafter set forth; and, the invention consists, furthermore, in the novel arrangement and construction of the several parts of the buckle, all of which will be more fully described in the following specification, and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claims which are appended to and which form an essential part of this specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front view of the connected end-portions of a belt or strap, and a belt-buckle connected therewith, said buckle being made according to and illustrating one embodiment of the principles of the present invention; and Fig. 2 is a top-edge view of the parts represented in said Fig. 1, the various parts, however, being represented on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal vertical section of the parts represented in said Fig. 1, said view being also made on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 4 is a top face view, and Fig. 5 a rear view of the belt-buckle, detached from the end-portions of the belt or strap; and Fig. 6 is a side-edge view of the buckle, with the movable parts of the buckle shown in their relative positions ready to receive the end portions of the belt or strap.

Referring now to the several figures of the drawings, the reference-character 1, in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive, indicates a complete buckle showing one embodiment of the principles of the present invention, the same comprising a main frame-like element consisting of a pair of longitudinally extending side-members 2 and connecting members 3, the said frame-like element being preferably outwardly curved or convexed, and said frame-like member having any suitable marginal configuration. It will also be evident, that while the general configuration of the buckle is that illustrated in said Figs. 1 to 6

inclusive, this general configuration of the buckle may be departed from and the buckle may be of any other shape.

Extending rearwardly from the central portions of the back of said side-bars or members 2 are suitably formed pintle-receiving ears, as 4, in which are pivotally arranged the end-portions of a pivot-pin or pintle 5 in such a manner that the said pin lies below the rear face of the said main frame-like element. Suitably connected with the backs of said side-bars or members 2, and extending downwardly from said backs and inwardly from the marginal edges 6 of said side-bars or members 2 are suitably shaped stop-lugs, as 7. Suitably mounted upon said pivot-pin or pintle 5 is a suitably formed clamping frame consisting, essentially, of the longitudinally extending and outwardly curved or convexed side-members or bars 8, said members or bars 8 being connected at one end by a laterally extending end-bar or member 9. At their other end-portions, the said side-members or bars 8 are formed with the outwardly curved parts 10 and the inwardly curved parts 11, said parts 11 being connected by a laterally extending end-member or bar 12, and the parts 10 and 11, being located directly beneath the rear faces of the said side-bars or members 2, with which the said parts at times may be made to engage, while the remaining and narrower portions of the clamping frame are located and are movable within the open space 13 formed by the side-bars 2 and the end-bars 3 of the main frame-like element of the buckle, as will be clearly evident from an inspection of Figs. 4, 5 and 6 of the drawings. Connected with the outwardly curved parts 11 of the clamping frame are inwardly extending and forwardly projecting portions 14, said portions being suitably bent so as to extend in upward directions, as at 15, and then being connected by a laterally extending bar 16, the outer marginal edge of which is made concave, as at 17, and is formed with the high clamping portions 18.

The herein-above described belt-buckle is connected with the end-portions of a belt or strap in the following manner:—

The one end-portion of the belt or strap 19 is looped, as at 20, said looped portion being passed around the end-bar 12 of the pivoted clamping frame, and being suitably secured by means of the usual stitching, as 21, or other suitable fastening means.

The other or free end-portion of the belt, after the belt has been placed about the body, is passed beneath the one end-bar 3 of the main frame-like element, into the open space 13 and directly over the end-member 9 and the bar 16 of the clamping frame, and then finally passed beneath the other end-bar 3 of the main frame-like element, so that the free end-portion 22 of the belt or strap will lie directly over the looped portion 20, substantially as illustrated in said Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings.

It will be readily understood from an inspection of Fig. 3, that any pull upon the looped end of the belt or strap causes that portion of the belt arranged over the members 9 and 16 to be firmly clamped or locked between the bars 3 and 9, while the raised portions 18 of the bar 16 positively force the belt-portion into clamped or locked engagement of the other bar 3 of the main frame-like member, nearest the bar 16. At the same time, the tendency of the clamping frame is to swing upon its pivotal support, whereby the one part of the frame is brought into stopping engagement with the lugs or stops 7, while the curved portions 10 and 11 of the other part of the clamping frame are brought against the rear faces of the side-members 2, and, no matter, how great the pull and strain is upon the buckle, when tightening the belt about the body, all possibility of bending or distorting the clamping frame, which is usually made of a soft metal, such as silver or gold, is positively overcome.

From the foregoing description of the present invention it will be clearly evident that I have devised a simply constructed buckle for belts, straps and the like, which possesses a very simple and highly efficient clamping action no matter how great the strain or pull upon said belt, strap or the like, but which may be easily and quickly released from its clamping relation to said belt or strap.

I am aware that some changes may be made in the general arrangements and combinations of the several parts of the device without departing from the scope of the present invention as set forth in the foregoing specification. Hence, I do not limit my present invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of the several devices and parts as described in the said specification, nor do I confine myself to the exact details of the construction of the said parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I claim:—

1. A belt buckle comprising a main open frame-like structure consisting of longitudinally extending side-bars and laterally extending end-bars, said side-bars being provided with downwardly projecting pivot-ears, a pintle-rod mounted in said ears, and a two-part clamping frame mounted upon said pintle-rod, said clamping frame consisting of curved longitudinally extending side-bars, a connecting and laterally extending strap-loop receiving end-bar, said end-bar being connected with the side-bars of said clamping frame by means of curved portions located beneath the side-bars of the said

main frame-like structure, curved portions extending inwardly from the side-bars of the said clamping frame, upwardly projecting portions extending from the said inwardly projecting portions, and a laterally extending clamping bar connected with said upwardly extending portions, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A belt buckle comprising a main open frame-like structure consisting of longitudinally extending side-bars and laterally extending end-bars, said side-bars being provided with downwardly projecting pivot-ears, a pintle-rod mounted in said ears, and a two-part clamping frame mounted upon said pintle-rod, said clamping frame consisting of curved longitudinally extending side-bars, a connecting and laterally extending strap-loop receiving end-bar, said end-bar being connected with the side-bars of said clamping frame by means of curved portions located beneath the side-bars of the said main frame-like structure, curved portions extending inwardly from the side-bars of the said clamping frame, upwardly projecting portions extending from the said inwardly projecting portions, and a laterally extending clamping bar connected with said upwardly extending portions, and stop-lugs extending inwardly from the said longitudinally extending side-bars of the main frame-like structure with which the said side-bars of the said clamping frame are adapted to be brought into engagement, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of June, 1913.

JOHN A. PRYOR.

Witnesses:

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FRED'K H. W. FRAENTZEL.