W. S. GRAHAM.

BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 31, 1910. RENEWED JULY 24, 1912.

1,040,187. Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

Fig. 1

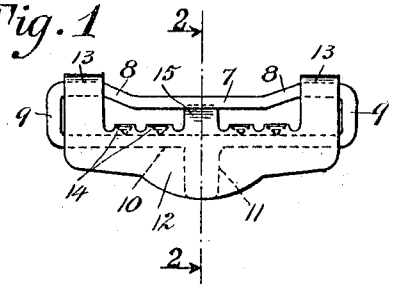


Fig. 4

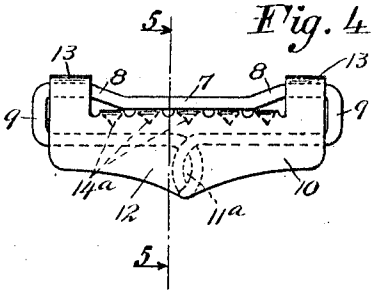


Fig. 2

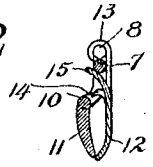


Fig. 5

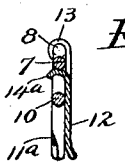


Fig. 3

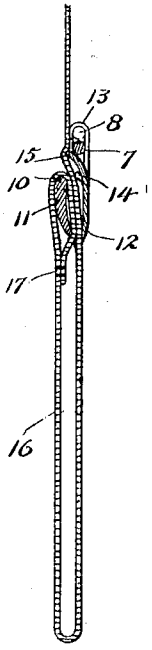
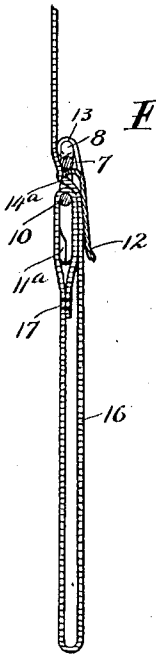


Fig. 6



Witnesses:
H. G. Le Card
John T. Kerr

William Stuart Graham
Inventor

By his Attorneys
Binney & Mashek

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM STUART GRAHAM, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE WARNER BROTHERS COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

BUCKLE.

1,040,187. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

Application filed August 31, 1910, Serial No. 579,903. Renewed July 24, 1912. Serial No. 711,345.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. GRAHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, Fairfield county, Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in buckles of the rustless back type and the objects of my invention are to produce a buckle of such type which will be thin, easily manipulated and inexpensive of manufacture. My buckle is furthermore of the two part type comprising a front or lever member, preferably of sheet metal and a back or loop member preferably of wire.

In the following, I have described, in connection with the accompanying drawings, a buckle, with modifications, illustrating my invention, the particular features thereof being hereinafter more specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a front elevation of one kind of buckle illustrating my invention, the lever being shown in closed position; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the buckle shown in Fig. 1 along the line 2—2 looking in the direction of the arrows; Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the buckle strung with webbing as it would be in operation; Fig. 4 is a front elevation of another buckle illustrating a modification of my invention, the lever being shown in closed position; Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view of the buckle shown in Fig. 4 along the line 5—5, looking in the direction of the arrows, and Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 showing the buckle strung with webbing as it would be in operation.

Similar numerals of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several views.

As herein shown and referring to the buckle illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the loop member comprises an upper bar 7 downwardly bent or deflected intermediate its ends 8, 8, end bars 9, 9, and a lower horizontal bar 10, the ends of the wire forming the loop being brought together at approximately the center of lower bar 10 to form a downwardly projecting finger piece 11 concavely curved with relation to the front of the buckle as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The ends of the wire forming the finger piece may be soldered or otherwise secured together. The lever member comprises an operating arm 12 and ears 13, 13 by means of which the lever is pivotally connected to the loop member on ends 8, 8 of upper bar 7. Arm 12 is cut away intermediate ears 13, 13 and provided with teeth 14, 14 and a tongue 15, the teeth 14 being adapted to press the web 16 against the front edge of lower bar 10, when the parts are in operative position and the tongue 15 being adapted to take under or snap under the bent or deflected portion of upper bar 7 and to act as a lock to hold the parts in operative position.

To web the buckle one end of webbing 16 is passed through the threading opening in the loop member from back to front and secured to itself by stitches 17, the webbing loop thus formed inclosing lower bar 10 and finger piece 11. The other end of webbing 16 is then passed through said threading opening from front to rear, after which the lever member is pressed down and locked by tongue 15 as described. Teeth 14 on the lever member, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, are in such position that when the buckle is locked, they are in approximately the same horizontal plane with lower bar 10 of the loop member, thus acting to press the webbing against the front edge of bar 10 as described. When the buckle is open tongue 15 swings clear from the bent or deflected portion of upper bar 7, thus permitting a ready adjustment of the webbing. The concavely curved configuration of finger piece 11, permits the end of the finger piece to lie away from the back of the webbing when under strain in operative position thus overcoming, in a measure, the objectionable bunching at this point.

In Figs. 4, 5 and 6 the loop member ends forming finger piece 11^a are secured together by causing one end to pass over and under the other and then pressing or stamping them together. Finger piece 11^a is here shown in substantially the same vertical plane as that of the loop member. The lever member of Figs. 4, 5 and 6 has no tongue 15 as in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 but in place thereof teeth 14^a are adapted to take under or snap under the bent or deflected portion of upper bar 7, the teeth 14^a in this case, when in locking position against webbing 16, acting to clamp the webbing in the threading opening between the lower and upper bars of the loop.

It is obvious that the constructions shown and described may be further varied and I do not limit myself to the exact constructions herein disclosed further than the state of the art and the scope of my claims compel me.

What I claim is:

1. In a buckle the combination of a loop member having a downwardly bent or deflected upper bar with a lever member pivotally connected with said upper bar and provided with locking means adapted to snap or take under said downwardly bent or deflected upper bar and to be in contact therewith when in locking position.

2. In a buckle the combination of a loop member having a downwardly bent or deflected upper bar, a lower bar, a finger piece downwardly projecting from said lower bar, a lever member pivotally connected with said loop member and provided with a clamping edge and locking means on said lever member adapted to snap or take under said downwardly bent or deflected upper bar and when locked to be in contact therewith.

3. In a buckle the combination of a loop member having a downwardly bent or deflected upper bar, a lower bar, a concavely curved finger piece downwardly projecting from said lower bar, a lever member pivotally connected with said loop member and provided with a clamping edge and locking means on said lever member adapted to snap or take under said downwardly bent or deflected upper bar and when locked to be in contact therewith.

4. In a buckle the combination of a loop member having a downwardly bent or deflected upper bar, side bars and a lower bar, with a lever member pivotally connected with said upper bar and having a tongue adapted to snap or take under said downwardly bent or deflected upper bar and when locked to be in contact therewith and teeth adapted to coact with the front edge of said lower bar.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM STUART GRAHAM.

Witnesses:
LUCIEN T. WARNER,
W. PERCY ALLEN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."