

(No Model.)

C. W. WHEELER.

BUCKLE.

No. 340,469.

Patented Apr. 20, 1886.

Fig. 1.

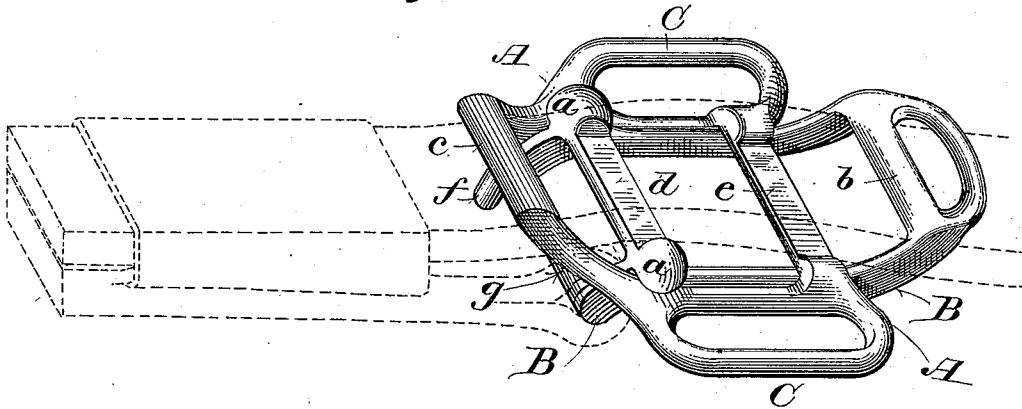


Fig. 2.

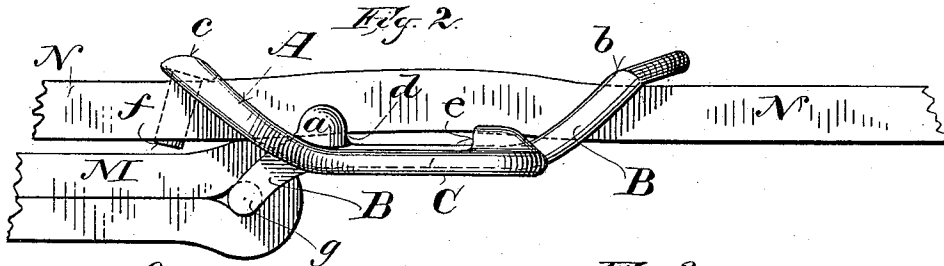


Fig. 3.

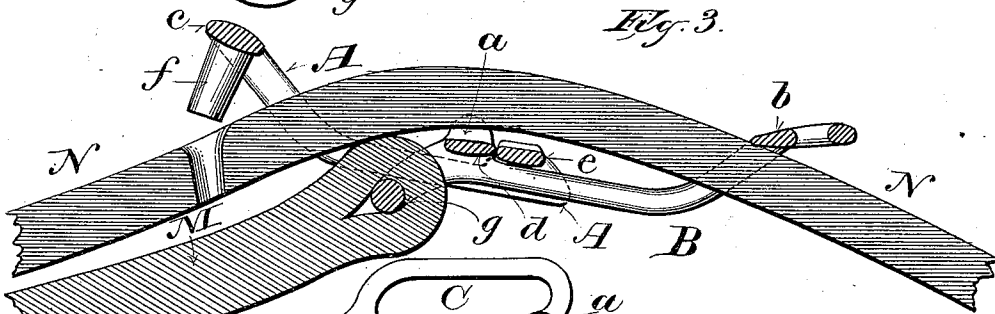
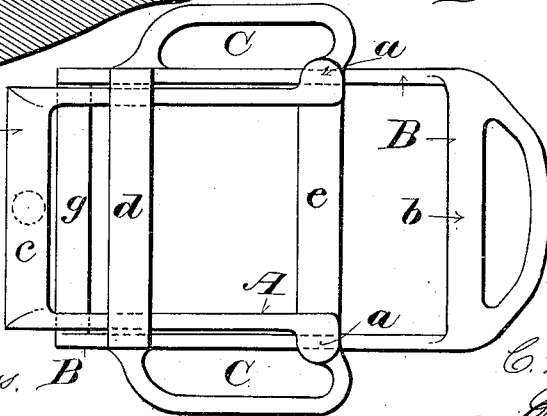


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

Chas. L. Goss.
George Goll

Inventor:

C. W. Wheeler
By *[Signature]*

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARK W. WHEELER, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS
TO HERMANN F. HOEHN AND DANIEL TONER, BOTH OF SAME PLACE.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 340,469, dated April 20, 1886.

Application filed December 24, 1885. Serial No. 186,602. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARK W. WHEELER, of Kenosha, in the county of Kenosha and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The objects of my invention are, first, facility in changing and adjusting the trace; second, to relieve the tongue of strain and to prevent the breaking of the trace about the buckle-holes; and, third, simplicity and cheapness in the manufacture of the buckle. These objects I attain by a buckle constructed and operating in the manner hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings like letters designate the same parts in these several figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved buckle, particularly designed for use as a trace-buckle, the position of the hame-tug and trace being shown by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical section illustrating the method of changing the trace; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of a modification.

Although for the purposes of illustration I have selected a trace-buckle, my invention is equally applicable to buckles for many other uses.

B is the section of the buckle permanently attached by means of the cross-bar *g* to the hame-tug M, from which the side sections are curved outwardly or upwardly. It is provided at the rear end with the cross-bar *b*, and near the front end with the cross-bar *d*, adjacent to the ends of which are formed the lugs or projections *a a*. The sides of said section B are upwardly and outwardly turned or curved at or near its rear end.

A is the remaining section of the buckle, the sides of which are upwardly or outwardly turned or curved at its front end and connected by the cross bar *c*, which is provided at the center of its under face with the tongue or pin

f. It is provided at the rear end with the cross-bar *e*, which rests upon the sides of section B. It is also provided with the side loops, CC, by means of which the buckle is attached to the pad and girth.

When properly placed, the trace passes from the rear underneath the cross-bar *b*, over the cross-bars *d* and *e*, and at the front end of the buckle underneath the tongue bearing cross-bar *c*, where the tongue *f* engages with one of the holes in said trace, as seen in Fig. 2. When the trace is drawn taut and the buckle subjected to draft, the section A is carried back until its curved sides near the front end engage the projections *a a* on section B, and the cross-bar *e* bears upon the upwardly-curved sides of said section B near its rear end, thereby drawing the cross-bars *c* and *d* at the front end of the buckle and the cross-bars *b* and *e* near the rear end thereof toward each other and clamping the trace firmly between them. In this way the greater the draft upon the trace the tighter it will be gripped between the cross-bars on the buckle-sections, thus relieving the tongue *f* of strain and preventing the tearing or breaking of the trace around the buckle-holes.

When it is desired to change or disengage the trace N from the buckle, it is thrust forward until the cross-bar *e* on section A is brought close to the cross-bar *d* on section B, as shown in Fig. 3. In this position a slight cramping or bending of the trace will throw the cross-bar *c* out from the trace and withdraw the tongue *f* from the buckle-hole without pulling said trace from the loop on the hame-tug M. Although the tongue *f* is thus easily withdrawn from the trace N when desired, the ordinary and natural movements of said trace and the shifting of the buckle-sections forward and back upon each other will not release the trace. The tongue *f* may be dispensed with, if desired, and one or more of the cross-bars *b c d e* roughened or provided with teeth to engage the trace N, and instead of the arrangement of the sections shown in the first three figures of the drawings I may make the section A to fit within the sides of section B, form the loops CC on section B, and the lugs or projections *a a* on section A

adjacent to the ends of the cross-bar *e*, although I prefer the construction previously described.

It is obvious that the size and design of the buckle may be variously modified to adapt it to the several purposes for which it may be used without departure from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, in a buckle, of the section A, having its sides upwardly inclined at one end and provided with cross-bars *c* and *e*, and a section, B, having its sides upwardly inclined at the opposite end and provided with cross-bars *b* and *d*, the curved sides of each of said sections being arranged to engage with the other section, and when draft is applied

to the trace to draw said cross-bars *b* and *c* toward said cross-bars *d* and *e* and clamp said trace at different points between them, substantially as and for the purposes set forth. 20

2. The combination, in a buckle, of the section A, upwardly or outwardly curved at its front end and provided with cross-bars *c* and *e* and depending tongue *f*, and the section B, upwardly or outwardly curved at its rear end and provided with the cross-bars *b* and *d* and the lateral projections *aa*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth. 25 30

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CLARK W. WHEELER.

Witnesses:

MICHAEL HARKIN,
G. GILLET.