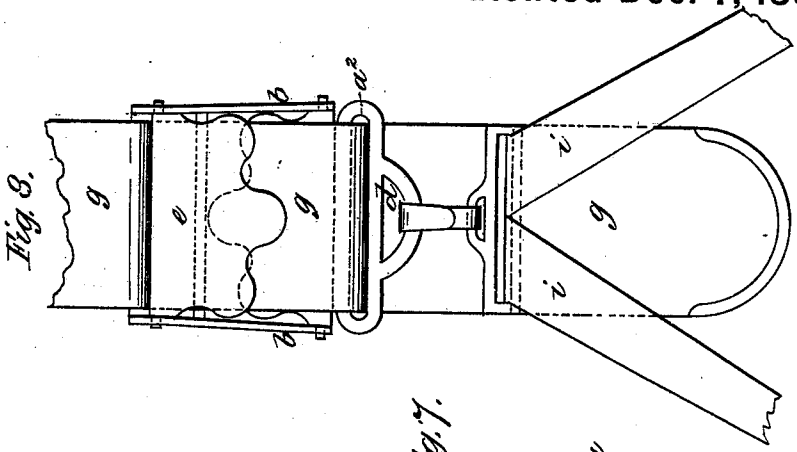
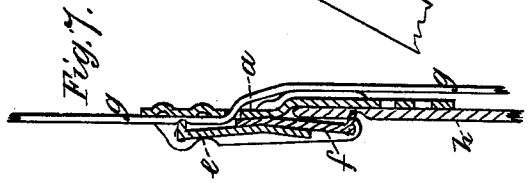
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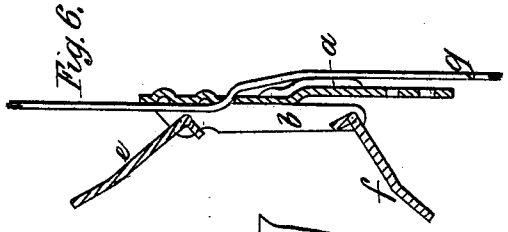
R. H. BISHOP.

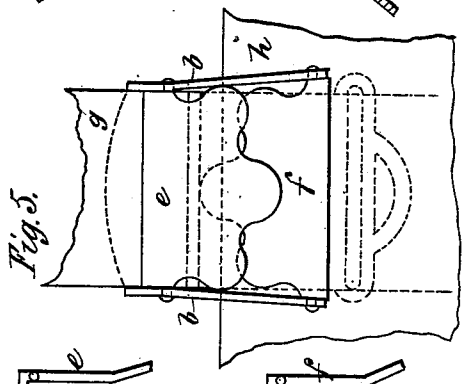
Buckle.

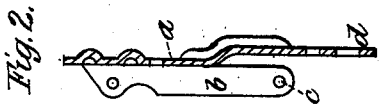
No. 235,200. Patented Dec. 7, 1880.

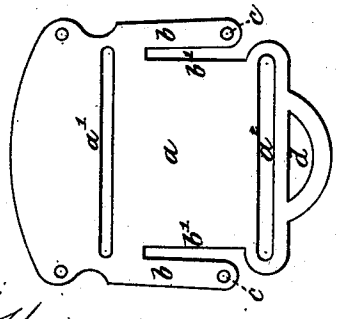


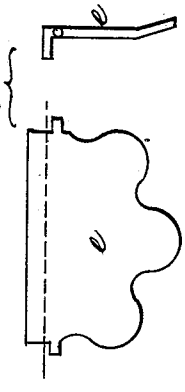


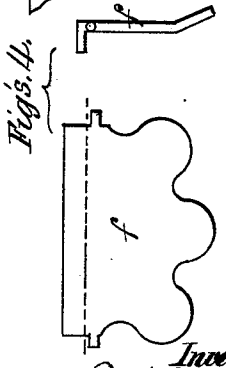












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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 235,200, dated December 7, 1880.

Application filed August 2, 1880. (No model.) Patented in Great Britain February 23, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT HODGES BISHOP, of Liverpool Road, Islington, in the county of Middlesex, England, have invented a certain Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to what are commonly known as "lever-buckles" or "lever-clip buckles," in which two lever-clips are hinged to a single frame or shell, one of said lever-clips being employed to secure the buckle to a strap, while the other is employed to grasp a strap or other article.

The invention is particularly intended for suspender-buckles having attached button-hole tabs or ends, one of the lever-clips serving to grasp the end of the suspender and the other to grasp the waistband of the trousers in case of a button being lost or the button-hole tab or end breaking. The invention is, however, applicable to buckles for other purposes.

The invention consists in the combination, in a buckle of this character, of two lever-clips and a frame or shell, to which said clips are hinged, one above the other, and which is constructed with two slots, one between the lever-clips, and through which the strap or suspender may be passed from the back to the front of the buckle, and the other below both clips, and through which the strap or suspender may be passed from the front to the back of the buckle, the said frame or shell being also constructed with a loop for the attachment of a button-hole tab or end.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown in several views my improved brace attachment and the parts composing the same. The buckle is composed of sheet metal, and the frame or shell is stamped out from a rectangular piece of sheet metal.

Figure 1 represents a blank for a double-lever buckle before it is bent into shape. *a* is the body of the blank, and *a'* is a transverse slot cut therein near its upper edge, of any desired length, to receive the brace or strap. *b' b'* are two taper cuts made in the blank parallel with, or nearly parallel with, the side edges thereof, for the purpose of forming side strips, *b b*. Through the opposite ends of these strips holes *c c* are pierced to form bearings for two lever-clips, one above the other, as will be presently explained. In the blank, below the position which the lever-clips will occupy, is formed a second transverse slot, a^2, which permits of the brace end, when brought over the face of the buckle, being led to the back of the buckle. Below this slot a^2 is a loop, *d*, for receiving the metal hook of a tab, by which the brace is or may be attached to the trousers.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the blank, the strips *b* having been bent up into position and the body of the blank having been corrugated longitudinally to impart to it increased stiffness. The shell thus formed is fitted with lever-clips, which have their bearings in the side pieces, *b b*. These lever-clips are shown detached at Figs. 3 and 4, Fig. 3 representing, in plan view, the blank from which the clip *e* is formed and the formed clip in edge view, and Fig. 4 representing, in plan, the blank from which the clip *f* is formed and the formed clip in edge view.

Fig. 5 is a front view of the buckle complete, with the brace *g* applied thereto in the manner proper for enabling the buckle to receive the waistband *h* of the trousers.

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section of the buckle, the lever-clips being open or in the position they would assume when the brace and the waistband of the trousers are intended to be inserted in the buckle; and Fig. 7 is a similar section, showing the brace and trousers firmly clipped on the buckle.

The lever-clips, it will be seen, are formed with pivot-projections to enter their bearings *c*, and in line with these pivots the edge of the metal is bent over, so as to form a clipping edge, which, when brought into contact with the brace or the trouser-waistband, as the case may be, will hold the same firmly, as indicated in Fig. 7.

To prevent the side strips, *b*, from springing under the pull put upon the lower lever-clip, *f*, and thereby allowing that clip to become displaced, I form rivet-heads on the pivot-projections of that lever-clip, as shown at Fig. 5; but no such provision is requisite for securing the upper clip-lever.

Fig. 8 shows the ordinary way of using the buckle. In this case the brace *g* is passed under the lever-clip *e*, brought down through the slot *a'* to the front of the buckle, and then

led through the slot a^2 to the back of the buckle, thereby covering the greater portion of the face of the buckle. In this figure, *i* is an ordinary double tab, provided with a metal hook for entering the loop *d* of the buckle, and it is only when by the giving way of a brace-button or the breaking of one of the tabs that the griping of the waistband by the buckle, as shown at Fig. 7, is resorted to. It will be seen that the free end of the strap or brace is thus secured in the buckle without interfering at all with the use of the lower lever-clip, *f*.

It will be also understood that the buckle may be employed for connecting together the ends of straps or bands, as thought desirable.

Having now explained the nature of my invention, I wish it to be understood that

claim—

The combination, in a buckle, of the lever-clips *e f* and the shell *a b*, constructed with a loop, *d*, and with a slot, a', through which a strap may be passed from the back to the front of the buckle, and a second slot, a^2, below said lever-clips, through which said strap may be passed from the front to the back of the buckle, substantially as specified.

Dated the 6th day of July, 1880.

ROBERT H. BISHOP.

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