

L. SINGER.

BUCKLE.

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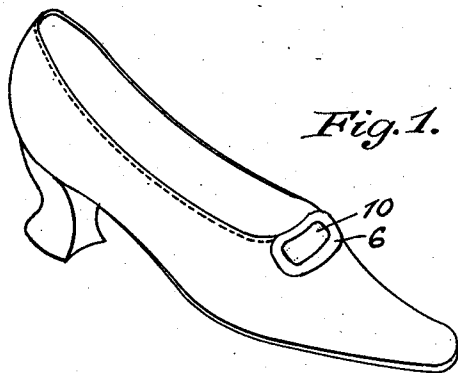


Fig. 2.

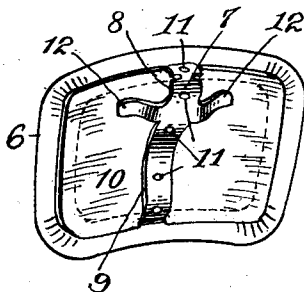
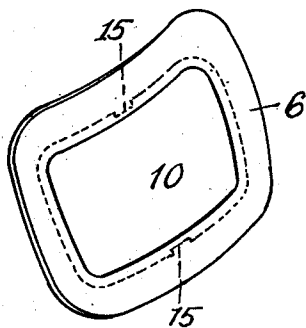
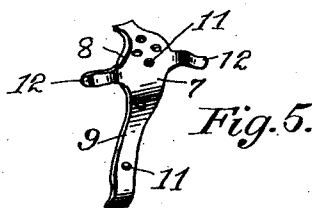
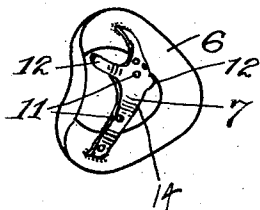


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BUCKLE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LÁZÁR SINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Manhattan, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buckles, and particularly to ornamental buckles for footwear, such as shoes known as "pumps" and the like. This buckle usually consists of an open frame, that is, having a central opening; a filler piece or tab usually of the same material of which the shoe is constructed is provided for the opening to enhance the appearance of the buckle and shoe, and supported in back of the frame by a bar extending transversely and centrally of the opening; by means of this bar the buckle is also fastened to the shoe. It has been found, however, that by the action of the shoe in walking the filler piece or tab is laterally displaced, not only marring the appearance of the buckle but is also liable to be lost.

It is the principal object of the present invention to overcome the above disadvantage and to provide the buckle with means to support and positively retain the filler piece or tab in position without any liability of lateral displacement thereof. For this purpose the buckle is constructed in the usual form of an open frame with a transversely extending bar in the rear having laterally extending prongs projecting toward the opening with the ends adjacent the edge of the frame opening, the filler piece passing between the frame and said prongs and frictionally clamped in position.

In the drawings accompanying and forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a pump with my improved buckle applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the buckle looking at the front. Fig. 3 is a perspective view looking at the rear. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of buckle with my improvement applied thereto; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the tab supporting and retaining bar.

Similar characters of reference designate like parts throughout the different views of the drawings.

In the embodiment of my invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3 of the drawings it comprises an open frame 6 of any suitable metal,

which may be covered with a material to correspond to the material and color of the shoe, and bent to conform to the contour of the shoe. This frame is provided in the rear thereof with a bar 7 spaced therefrom at each end to form a channel and extending transversely and substantially centrally across the opening, as shown in Fig. 3. This bar is preferably bent or curved outwardly from one end to substantially midway, as at 8, and then bent or curved inwardly to the other end, as at 9, with the outer contour of said latter curve substantially in a plane tangent with the inner surface of the frame. This bar is in the nature of a support for a filler piece or tab 10 for the opening in the frame, which filler piece is somewhat larger than the opening and may consist of the same material and color as the shoe thereby enhancing the appearance thereof. The bar 7 also serves as a means for fastening or sewing the buckle to the shoe, and for this purpose is provided with a plurality of openings 11 for the engagement of the fastening thread. The outwardly curved portion of the bar facilitates the sewing of the buckle to the shoe.

To retain the filler piece in position I provide the bar with a pair of oppositely extending prongs, said prongs projecting toward the opening in the frame with the ends adjacent to the edge of the frame opening. The ends are preferably slightly curved backwardly in a plane parallel with the contour of the buckle although this is not absolutely essential. As the filler piece 10 is inserted in the channel between the bar and frame the curved portions or ends of the prongs, as well as the curved portion 9, will bear against the filler piece and frictionally clamp it between said prongs, curved portion 9 of the bar and the edges of the opening firmly retaining it in position without any liability of lateral displacement through the action of the shoe in walking.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a modified form of buckle and filler piece supporting and retaining means. In this construction, which is particularly adapted to buckles of small size, the bar is bent or curved outwardly from the frame from end to end and widened as at 14 to provide it with a plurality of openings to permit of the ready and secure fastening of the buckle to the shoe. The laterally extending prongs pro-

ject inward toward the buckle and are located to slightly extend or overlap the edge of the opening in the frame, the ends of the prongs bearing on the filler piece and thereby clamping it between the edges of the frame opening and the ends of said prongs.

The retaining bar shown in Fig. 5 is substantially similar to that shown in Fig. 4 except that it is also provided with the inwardly curved or bent portion 9 as the bar in Fig. 3 to bear against the filler piece and aid the prongs in retaining the filler piece in place. This bar, as well as the bar shown in connection with the buckle in Fig. 3 is particularly adapted for large buckles, which buckles have a relatively large opening.

The filler piece 10 is preferably made slightly wider than the length of the bar and provided with oppositely recessed portions 15 in which the bar engages when the filler piece is in position. It will be obvious that while the connection of the bar to the frame will act as stops and prevent any upward or downward movement of the filler piece, the prongs 12 and inwardly bent portion 9 of the bar bearing against the filler piece will prevent any endwise movement.

Variations may be resorted to within the scope of my invention and portions thereof may be used without others.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

1. A buckle comprising an open frame; a bar fixed to and spaced from the frame extending transversely across the opening of the frame; a filler piece for the opening in the frame to engage between said frame and bar; and prongs extending laterally from

the bar to bear against the filler piece to clamp it between the frame and prongs to retain it in position.

2. A buckle comprising an open frame; a bar fixed to and extending transversely across the opening in the frame, said bar spaced from the frame to form a channel therewith; a filler piece for the opening in the frame to engage in the channel between the frame and bar; and prongs extending laterally from the bar, said prongs projecting toward the opening with the ends bent to lie in a plane adjacent to and parallel with the contour of the frame, and adapted to bear against the filler piece to prevent endwise or lateral movement of the filler piece.

3. A buckle comprising an open frame; a bar fixed to and extending transversely across the opening in the frame, said bar at each end spaced from the frame to form a channel therewith, and said bar bent or curved outwardly from one end to substantially midway thereof and then curved inwardly toward the other end, and said outwardly curved portion of the bar having oppositely extending prongs projecting inward toward the frame to a point adjacent thereto; and a filler piece for the opening of the frame engaging between the frame and bar with the prongs and inwardly curved portion of the bar bearing against the same to frictionally clamp it against the frame to prevent endwise or lateral displacement of the filler piece.

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