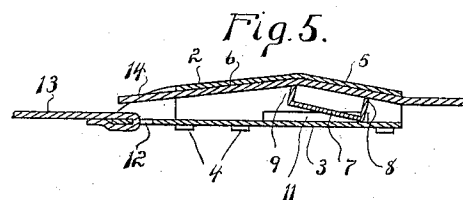
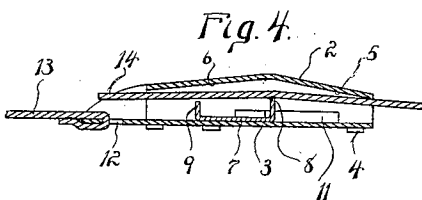
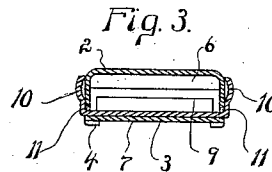
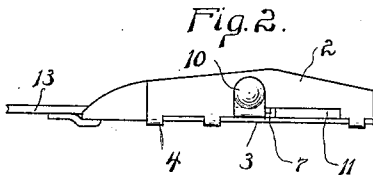
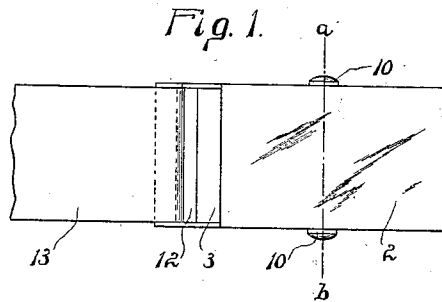


T. F. MOLLOY.  
BUCKLE.  
APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1912.

1,052,083.

Patented Feb. 4, 1913.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BUCKLE.

1,052,083.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 4, 1913.

Application filed May 13, 1912. Serial No. 696,985.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS F. MOLLOY, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Buckles; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the characters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this application, and represent, in—

Figure 1 a top or plan view of a buckle constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 a side view of the same. Fig. 3 a sectional view on the line *a—b* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 a sectional view showing the free end of the strap inserted into the housing but free to move therein. Fig. 5 a similar view showing the free end of the strap engaged by the gripping edge of the lever.

This invention relates to an improvement in buckles, and while adapted for many purposes, is particularly intended as a belt buckle and is of the wedge type, the object of the invention being to produce a buckle in which a firm grip will be had upon the strap, and yet one in which the strap may be readily released when desired; and the invention consists in the construction hereinafter described and particularly recited in the claims.

In carrying out my invention I employ a top plate or housing 2 the sides of which are connected with the flat bottom plate 3. As herein shown, the connection is made by forming the lower edges of the side walls with fingers or prongs 4 which are folded beneath the bottom plate 3. The top of the housing inclines in opposite directions from about the central point forming a downwardly inclined front wall 5 and a downwardly inclined rear wall 6. Located within the housing is a lever 7 having a front gripping edge 8 and a rear gripping edge 9. Preferably the forward gripping edge 8 will be slightly higher than the gripping edge 9. This lever is formed on opposite sides with finger-pieces 10 which project through slots 11 formed by notching the lower edges of the side walls of the housing. The bottom plate 3 is formed at its rear end with a slot 12 for the attachment of a strap 13, the free end 14 of which is passed

into the front end of the housing and over the lever 7. If, now, the lever be moved forward, the forward gripping edge 8 will clamp the strap between the upper edge of the gripping edge 8 and the inclined front wall 5 of the housing; and tension on the strap will rock the lever into the position shown in Fig. 5, and so that the lever is tilted and the rear gripping edge 9 is raised so as to crowd the strap against the top of the housing. Under tension, therefore, the strap is gripped in two places, and as long as tension is maintained, the lever will stand in a tilted position, and as it cannot be drawn forward out of the housing, continues to exert an increasing gripping action on the strap, crowding it against the top of the housing. By slightly releasing the tension on the strap and moving the slide rearward, the strap is free to be removed from the housing or adjusted therein.

I claim:—

1. A buckle comprising a housing having a flat bottom plate and an upper plate having reversely inclined walls the ends of which extend toward the bottom plate, and a lever inclosed by said housing and bearing on the bottom plate and formed at its front and rear ends with upwardly projecting jaws, said lever adapted to be tilted, whereby the jaws co-act with the forwardly inclined wall of the upper plate the forward jaw being slightly higher than the rear jaw.

2. A buckle comprising a housing having a flat bottom plate and an upper plate having reversely inclined walls the ends of which extend toward the bottom plate, and a lever inclosed by said housing and bearing on the bottom plate and formed at its front and rear ends with upwardly projecting jaws, said lever adapted to be tilted, whereby the jaws co-act with the forwardly inclined wall of the upper plate the forward jaw being slightly higher than the rear jaw, said lever also formed with finger-pieces projecting beyond the opposite sides of the housing.

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

THOS. F. MOLLOY.

Witnesses:

LEON M. MOLLOY,  
CHAS. A. MENGE.