April 12, 1932. T. RUSSELL 1,853,884

SEPARABLE BUCKLE

Filed Nov. 14, 1931

Fig. 1.

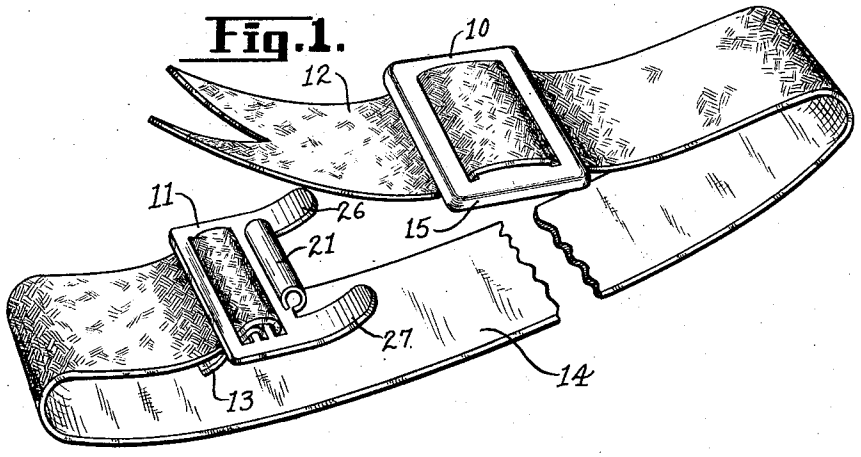


Fig. 2.

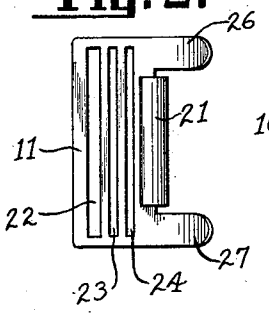


Fig. 3.

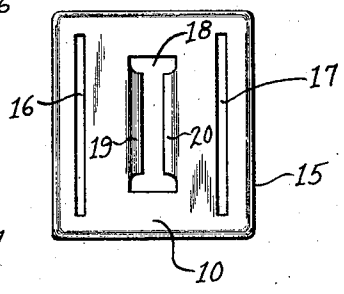


Fig. 4.

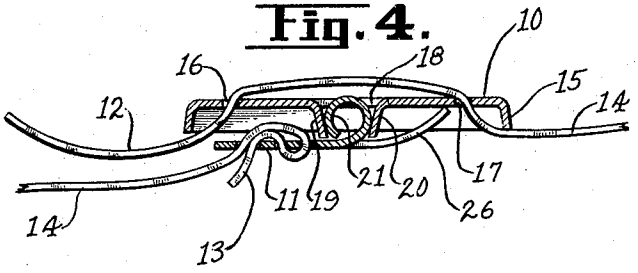
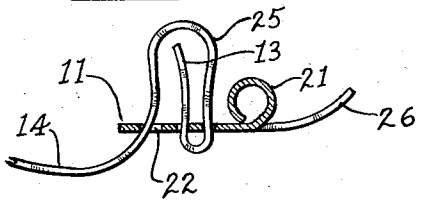


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SEPARABLE BUCKLE

Application filed November 14, 1931. Serial No. 575,019.

This invention relates to buckles, and more particularly to an improved type of two-part snap buckle comprising a pair of detachable cooperating tongue and socket members to which the ends of a flexible belt are respectively attached.

One object of this invention is to provide a two-part snap buckle of the above nature in which the socket member is provided with a transverse slot having a pair of depending resilient strips extending from the side edges thereof for engagement with an upstanding cylindrical tongue formed on the tongue member, whereby said members may be positively locked by forcing said tongue into said slot.

A further object is to provide a buckle of the above nature in which said tongue member has three parallel transverse slots within which the associated belt end may be threaded in such a manner that the greater the pull on the belt, the tighter the belt will be held therein.

A further object is to provide a device of the above nature which will be simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, easy to assemble and manipulate, compact, ornamental in appearance, and very efficient and durable in use.

With these and other objects in view there has been illustrated on the accompanying drawings, one form in which the invention may be conveniently embodied in practice.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 represents a perspective view of the two-part belt buckle as it appears when the two parts thereof are attached to the ends of the belt, which is shown in open position.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the tongue member.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the socket member.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view of the assembled buckle and belt.

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view of the tongue member showing the appearance of the belt end after it has been inserted through the slots of the tongue member but before it has been pulled tight.

Referring now to the drawings in which like reference numerals denote corresponding parts throughout the several views, the buckle as herein disclosed comprises a rectangular socket member 10 adapted to be detachably secured to a substantially rectangular tongue member 11, both of said members being detachably connected to the ends 12 and 13, respectively, of a belt 14 of conventional form. The edges of the socket member 10 are provided with downturned flanges 15 to stiffen the construction and add to the ornamental appearance of the buckle. Adjacent the end edges of the socket member 10 provision is made of a pair of narrow transverse slots 16 and 17 through which the adjustable end 12 of the belt is adapted to be threaded, as shown in Fig. 4.

In order to permit the socket member 10 to be detachably secured to the tongue member 11, said socket member 10 has a relatively wide central transverse slot 18, at the sides of which are a pair of converging downturned resilient lugs 19 and 20, which are slightly shorter than the length of said slot 18 and are adapted to be snapped over a curled up cylindrical tongue 21 inwardly offset from the forward edge of the tongue member 11.

By means of this construction it will be obvious that the greater the longitudinal pull exerted upon the belt 14, the tighter will the tongue 21 be clamped within the slot 18 of the socket member 10. The fixed end 13 of the belt 14 is adapted to be detachably secured to the tongue member 11 by threading it through three transverse slots 22, 23 and 24 formed therein, the rear slot 22 being about twice as wide as the other two slots 23 and 24 for a purpose to be described later.

The extremity 13 will be passed through the rear slot 22 from underneath the tongue member 11, then down through the front slot 24, and up through the central slot 23, thus forming a large double loop 25 as illustrated in Fig. 5. By then pulling on the body of the belt 14 with one hand while holding the tongue member 11 with the other, the double loop 25 may be reduced from the size shown in Fig. 5 to that shown in Figs. 1 and 4, it being understood that the end 13 of the belt which extends upwardly into the loop 25 will be carried downwardly and pass through the rear slot 22 underneath the body of the belt 14 as shown. The end 13 of the belt

14 will thus be permanently held tightly in fixed position within the tongue member 11 so that it cannot be accidentally loosened therefrom by any longitudinal force which is likely to be exerted thereon in use.

In order to permit the socket member 10 to be readily released from the tongue member 11 whenever desired, the tongue member 11 is provided with a pair of forwardly extending upwardly curved integral arms 26 and 27 which are adapted to lie in close proximity to the under surface of the socket member 10. It will thus be seen that said under surface is adapted to serve as a fulcrum for said arms 26 and 27 when the front end of the socket plate member 10 or belt end 12 is pulled upwardly with respect to the tongue plate 11. The cylindrical tongue 21 will thus be caused to move out from the resilient converging strips 19 and 20, thus permitting the socket member 10 to be separated from the tongue member 11 of the buckle.

Operation

In operation, in assembling the belt and buckle, the belt ends 12 and 13 will first be attached to the socket member 10 and the tongue member 11 in the manner previously described. The socket member 10 will then be placed upon the top of the tongue member 11 with the central slot 18 in alinement with the cylindrical tongue 21. The buckle members 10 and 11 will next be forced together until the converging resilient side lugs 19 and 20 have snapped over the cylindrical tongue 19 into the position shown in Fig. 4.

To separate the buckle members it will only be necessary to hold the tongue member 11 in one hand and pull the socket member 10 or belt end 12 upwardly with the other hand in the manner indicated above.

While there has been disclosed in this specification one form in which the invention may be embodied, it is to be understood that this form is shown for the purpose of illustration only, and that the invention is not to be limited to the specific disclosure but may be modified and embodied in various other forms without departing from its spirit. In short, the invention includes all the modifications and embodiments coming within the scope of the following claims.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new and for which it is desired to secure Letters Patent, is:

1. In a belt buckle, a socket member having a pair of longitudinal slots for engagement with one end of a belt, a central slot having a pair of resilient depending lugs, and a tongue member having a curled up tongue for engaging in said central slot between said lugs, said tongue member being detachably secured to the opposite end of said belt.

2. In a belt buckle, a rectangular socket member having a downturned strengthening rim, said socket member having a pair of transverse slots through which the end of a belt member is adapted to be adjustably threaded, a central slot having a pair of inturned resilient converging lugs, a cooperating member having a tongue adapted to be snapped into said central slot between said lugs, said tongue member having a plurality of transverse slots for attaching the opposite end of the belt, and means for permitting the unsnapping of said socket member from said tongue member when said members are moved apart.

3. In a belt buckle, a rectangular socket member having a downturned strengthening rim, said socket member having a pair of transverse slots through which the end of a belt member is adapted to be adjustably threaded, a central slot having a pair of inturned resilient converging lugs, a cooperating member having a cylindrical tongue adapted to be snapped into said central slot between said lugs, said tongue member having a plurality of transverse slots for attaching the opposite end of the belt, and means for permitting the unsnapping of said socket member from said tongue member when said members are moved apart.

4. In a belt buckle, a rectangular socket member having a downturned strengthening rim, said socket member having a pair of transverse slots through which the end of a belt member is adapted to be adjustably threaded, a central slot having a pair of inturned resilient converging lugs, a cooperating member having a tongue adapted to be snapped into said central slot between said lugs, said tongue member having a plurality of transverse slots for attaching the opposite end of the belt, and means for permitting the unsnapping of said socket member from said tongue member when said socket member is tipped up with respect to said tongue member.

5. In a belt buckle, a socket member having a pair of depending resilient parallel lugs, a tongue member having a curled tongue bent up therefrom and a pair of legs extending upwardly for pivotal engagement with the under surface of said socket member, whereby said members may be separated by flexing said socket member with respect to said tongue member.

6. In a belt buckle, a socket member having a pair of depending resilient lugs, a tongue member having a curled tongue bent up therefrom and a pair of legs extending upwardly for pivotal engagement with the under surface of said socket member, whereby said members may be separated by flexing said socket member with respect to said tongue member.

7. In a belt buckle, a socket member having a pair of depending resilient parallel

lugs, a tongue member having a curled cylindrical tongue bent up therefrom, and a pair of legs extending upwardly for pivotal engagement with the under surface of said socket member, whereby said members may be separated by flexing said socket member with respect to said tongue member.

8. In a belt buckle, a socket member having a pair of depending resilient parallel lugs, a tongue member having a curled tongue bent up therefrom, and a pair of legs extending upwardly for pivotal engagement with the under surface of said socket member, whereby said members may be separated by flexing said socket member with respect to said tongue member, said tongue being offset inwardly from one end of said tongue member.

9. In a belt buckle, a socket member having a pair of depending resilient parallel lugs, a tongue member having a curled tongue bent up therefrom, and a pair of curved legs extending upwardly for pivotal engagement with the under surface of said socket member, whereby said members may be separated by flexing said socket member with respect to said tongue member.

In testimony whereof, I have affixed my signature to this specification.

THEODORE RUSSELL.