L. H. FISHEL.

BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 6, 1908.

941,702.

Patented Nov. 30, 1909.

Fig. 1

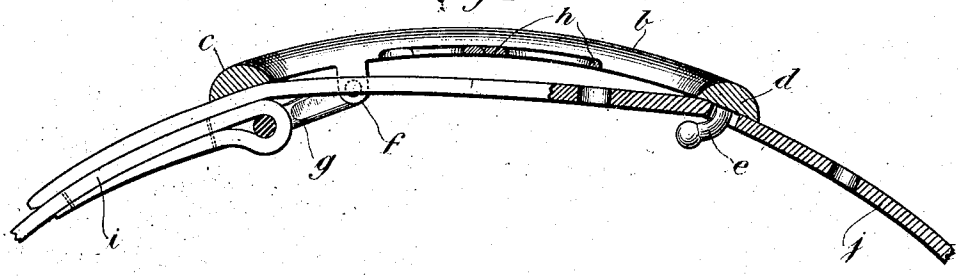


Fig. 2

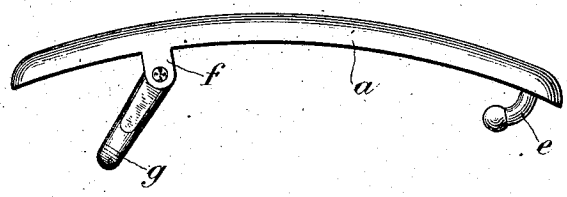
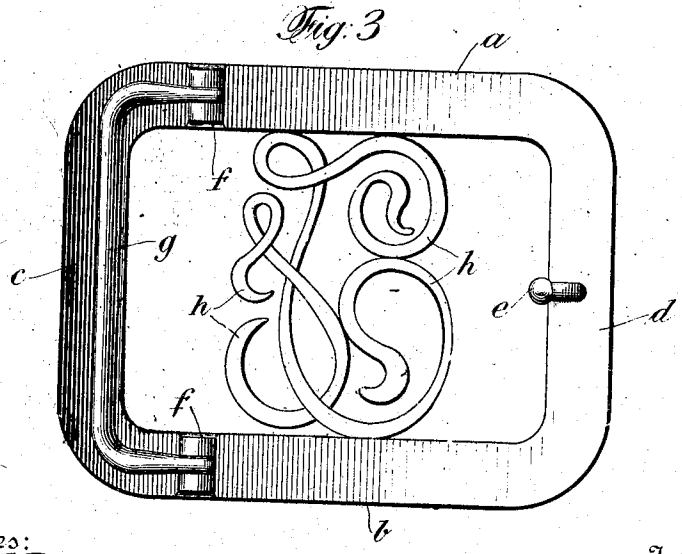


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LESLIE H. FISHEL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HENRY W. FISHEL AND THEODORE H. FISHEL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., COPARTNERS TRADING AS FISHEL, NESSLER & COMPANY.

BUCKLE.

941,702. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 30, 1909.

Application filed August 6, 1908. Serial No. 447,231.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LESLIE H. FISHEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at the borough of Manhattan, city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings, forming part thereof.

My invention relates to buckles or adjustable fastening devices for securing together the ends of leather belts, ribbons or like articles, and has for its objects, simplicity of construction, durability and strength, ease of adjustment and effective gripping action.

My invention also has for its objects the adjustment and the gripping of the belt in such a manner that the perforations of the belt into which the engagement stud of the buckle is inserted will not be enlarged or distorted by the stress upon the belt.

My invention also has for its object the gripping and securing of the belt behind the frame of the buckle, so that there will be no protrusion through the frame of any part of the belt or any moving or other part of the buckle, permitting monograms or other ornaments to be provided in the frame with a smooth surface of the belt as a background, and concealing the fastening devices so as to enhance the neatness and beauty of the buckle and belt.

My invention has other features of advantage which will appear from the following description.

I will now describe the embodiment of my invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings and will thereafter point out my invention in claims.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal horizontal section of a belt buckle embodying my invention, showing the belt secured thereto. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same omitting the belt. Fig. 3 is a rear view of the belt buckle.

The frame of the belt buckle is shown as of rectangular outline, comprising side bars *a* and *b* and end cross-bars *c* and *d*, the side bars being convexly rounded on longitudinal lines to conform to the body of the wearer. An ornamental monogram *h* is located within the frame. The cross-bar *d* is provided on its rear face with a bolt-engaging or belt-adjustment hook or stud *e*, which projects rearwardly from the cross-bar and is curved or bent, ending in a small rounded knob. The stud *e*, as shown in Fig. 1, is located centrally of the cross-bar *a* and enters one of the perforations of the belt. In proximity to the cross-bar *c*, the side bars *a* and *b* are each provided on their rear faces with rearwardly projecting hinge lugs *f*. The ends of the belt-gripping bar *g* are pivotally connected to the hinge lugs *f* so that the gripping bar may be swung forwardly to approach and press against the rear face of the cross-bar *c*.

The fastened end *i* of the belt, as shown in Fig. 1, is looped around the gripping bar *g* and permanently secured thereto. The other or tab end of the belt *j* is carried around the body of the wearer and passed in back of or behind the buckle frame. The belt-engaging or adjustment stud is then made to enter the particular hole in the belt which will give the desired adjustment. The tab end *j* of the belt is then advanced beyond the cross-bar *d* across the opening of the frame and behind the cross-bar *c*, and thus the tab passes between the fastened end of the belt and the cross-bar *c* so that pressure on the gripping bar *g* to move it against the cross-bar *c* will be exerted through the fastened end of the belt. Thus the pull of the fastened end *i* of the belt will cause the gripping bar *g* to approach the cross-bar *c* of the buckle frame. The tab end *j* of the belt is gripped against the cross-bar *c* as the maximum pull on the fastened end of the belt is reached and is tightly held in a firm grip and prevented from being pulled backward. This gripping of the belt by the gripping bar partly relieves the belt of the strain at the point of engagement of the stud therewith and it also causes the buckle frame to rest closely against the belt, and thereby enhances its neat appearance.

In the ordinary usage of the belt, to readjust the belt or to take it off, it is only necessary to relieve the pressure of the gripping bar against the tab so as to afford sufficient slack to enable the wearer to remove the stud from the perforation in the belt.

While the improved buckle embodying my invention is capable of use for holding the

ends of any suitable fabric or material, I have, for convenience, employed the word "belt" in the claims to designate a belt proper or any part of a fabric or material with which my improved buckle is capable of coöperating for the performance of its functions.

It is obvious that various modifications may be made in the embodiment of my invention shown and herein described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention as defined by the appended claims.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A belt buckle comprising a forwardly-bowed open frame provided at one end with a rearwardly-projecting belt-engagement stud, and with a belt-gripping bar, said bar being movably mounted in the rear of the frame near the opposite end from the stud and operating, when secured to one end of the belt and subjected to tension thereby to move toward the back of the frame so as to grip the other end of the belt.

2. In combination with a belt having a perforated end, a buckle comprising a forwardly-bowed open frame provided at one end with a stud engaging one of the perforations in the belt, and a gripping bar pivotally mounted to the rear of the frame near the opposite end from the stud and secured to the end of the belt, the gripping bar being arranged to swing toward the back of the frame when subjected to the tension of the belt so as to grip the perforated end of the belt between the bar and the back of the frame.

3. A belt buckle comprising a forwardly bowed frame of a general rectangular form with an open center and with backwardly-projecting ears on its side members near one end member, means at the back of one end of the frame for securing the belt adjustably, and a U-shaped gripping bar having the ends of its side members pivotally connected with said ears, so that the middle portion of the bar may coöperate with said end member to grip the tab end of the belt.

4. A belt buckle comprising a frame of a general rectangular form with an open center and with backwardly-projecting ears on its side members near one end member, a rearwardly-projecting stud at one end of the frame for securing the belt adjustably, and a U-shaped gripping bar having the ends of its side members pivotally connected with said ears so that the middle portion of the bar may coöperate with said end member, the pivotal points being located in front of a straight line connecting the rear of the extremities of the frame to cause the gripping bar to be pressed forwardly against the tab of the belt.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LESLIE H. FISHEL.

Witnesses:
BERNARD COWEN,
VICTOR D. BORST.