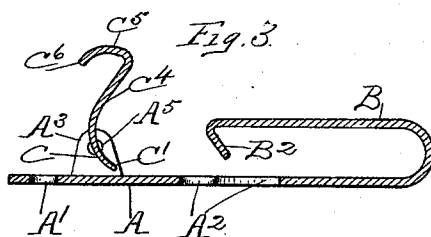
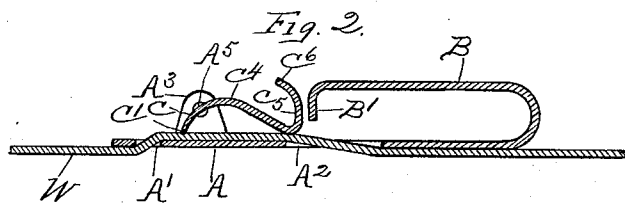
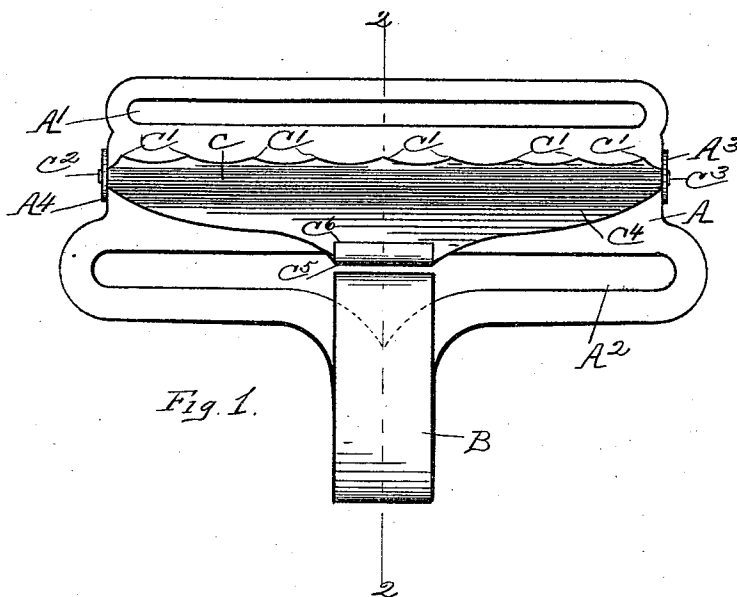


(No Model.)

W. F. ANTHONY.
BACK BAND BUCKLE.

No. 538,059.

Patented Apr. 23, 1895.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER F. ANTHONY, OF WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA.

BACK-BAND BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,059, dated April 23, 1895.

Application filed February 5, 1895. Serial No. 537,362. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER F. ANTHONY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Williamsport, county of Lycoming, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Back-Band Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to such improvements and consists of the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and subsequently claimed.

Reference may be had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Similar letter refer to similar parts in the several figures therein.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a top plan view of my improved buckle. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal vertical section of same taken on the broken line 2—2, in Fig. 1, showing the buckle attached to the webbing. Fig. 3 is a similar section showing a modification of the hook and the wedge-piece lever swung out to open the hook.

My improved buckle is preferably made of sheet-metal, cut and swaged by suitable dies, although some or all the parts may be formed of malleable castings.

I have shown in the drawings my improved buckle made of two pieces of sheet-metal. One part comprises the web-plate A—having the transverse web-slots A'— and A²—, the bearing-lugs A³— and A⁴— bent up from the opposite sides of the plate and containing bearing-apertures A⁵— and the depending hook B—. The other part comprises the wedge-piece C—having the teeth C'—adapted to engage the webbing W— and pivots or trunnions C²— and C³—adapted to enter the bearing apertures, and the lever C⁴— for operating the wedge-piece. The depending hook B— is adapted to receive one of the links of a trace-chain and thereby support the chain. The upper end of the hook is provided with an inwardly projecting offset B'— which partially closes the hook-opening and reduces the liability of the link to accidentally escape from the hook. As a further means for guarding the hook-opening against the accidental escape of the link, I provide the wedge-piece lever with an offset C⁵— which projects out-

wardly over the mouth of the hook-opening and occupies a position approximately parallel with the offset on the hook, when the buckle is in use. The two offsets are separated from each other by a small space sufficient to permit of the free operation of the lever, but less in width than the diameter of the wire forming the link. The outer end of the offset C⁵— is provided with an upwardly projecting offset C⁶— serving as a catch or handle in operating the lever to loosen the grip of the wedge-piece upon the webbing, and to open the hook for the insertion or removal of the chain-link, as shown in Fig. 3. The pressure of the webbing upon the toothed end of the wedge-piece holds the offset on the lever in the proper position to close the hook-opening, the lever resting upon the webbing, as shown in Fig. 2.

When desired, the offset on the hook can be made to project downwardly as well as inwardly, as shown in Fig. 3, whereby the link is prevented from slipping off the hook-offset B²— to engage the lever-offset. By projecting the lever-offset at right angles to the plane of the body-part of the buckle, the pressure of the link upon such offset does not tend to loosen the wedge-piece, but rather to secure it more tightly, because the contracted hook-opening through which the link must pass to engage the lever-offset is located nearer the plane of the body part of the buckle than is the axial line of the wedge-piece, so that the upward pressure of the link, while in the contracted hook-opening upon the lever-offset, tends to force the lever more closely against the web instead of out away from the web, thereby affording a certain guard or lock for the hook-opening. By means of the handle-offsets C⁵— and C⁶— the lever can be easily operated to open the hook or to adjust the buckle upon the webbing. The lower web-slot which neighbors the hook, is enlarged midway of its ends opposite the hook, so as to permit the link to partially enter such enlargement when the link is passed by the hook-offset to insert it in the hook.

I am thus able to provide a back-band buckle which will securely retain and support a trace-chain, and which can be easily operated to connect and disconnect the chain, or

to readjust the position of the buckle on the webbing.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

- 5 1. In a back-band buckle, the combination with an introverted offset on the upper end of the hook, of an offset on the wedge-piece lever projecting outwardly over the mouth of the hook and closing the mouth opening, substantially as described.
- 10 2. In a back-band buckle, having on its web-plate a depending trace-hook, a wedge-piece

having the end of its operating lever bent outwardly and upwardly by successive offsets, whereby the first offset serves as a guard 15 for the mouth of the subjacent hook, and both offsets afford a convenient lever-operating handle, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of January, 1895.

WALTER F. ANTHONY.

Witnesses:

GEO. A. MOSHER,

FRANK C. CURTIS.