To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Karl Rode, a subject of the King of Prussia, residing at 13 Holenzollerstrasse, Crefeld, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clamping Buckles or Clasps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention.

My invention relates to a novel clamping buckle or clasp.

The novelty of my invention consists in the provision of a clamping tongue formed of a flat resilient ring of wire, the free ends of the wire being inclined toward the clamping edge of the tongue and being rotatable in the sides of the buckle-frame, and the said clamping edge being adapted to be inserted in a groove in that side of the frame to which it comes opposite. By this means the buckle can be employed for belts of various thicknesses and, when stout belts are in use, the pivoted parts or tongue cannot spring out of its bearings.

One illustrative embodiment of my invention is represented by way of example in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a plan of my novel buckle, Fig. 2 a section on the line A—B in Fig. 1, Fig. 3 a sectional view showing the front side of the frame as seen from within, and Fig. 4 a sectional view of the buckle with the belt clamped therein.

The new buckle consists of the frame a and the tongue b. The tongue is journaled in recesses c of the frame. The front edge d of the frame has at its rear side a groove f. The lower edge e of this groove projects somewhat inwardly of the frame. The groove f is roughened by corrugations being pressed therein. The edges of the groove are smooth and rounded. The tongue b consists of a flat, resilient member formed of steel wire, and having extended ends g which overlap and are journaled in the recesses c. These ends g are brought level with the clamping side of the tongue h by being upwardly and downwardly bent (Figs. 2 and 4), and they preferably so intersect that the outer angle is obtuse. In this manner when the tongue is sprung back, as is occasioned by the use of the buckle, the pivots formed by the ends g of the tongue will be pushed in an outward direction because the said obtuse angle then becomes greater. Hence the ends of the pivots press firmly in their bearings, whereby the tongue cannot spring out of the frame, such as would occur when employing very thick belt material, with pivots whose axes were normally in line. The length of the tongue from the axis of rotation thereof to the outer side of the part h is so dimensioned, that there is a small intervening space between the groove f and the side h. When the buckle is closed, the tongue while under spring tension passes the upper edge of the groove and thereupon lies loosely on the projecting lower edge e, it is thus prevented from slipping through the rear side.

The above-described buckle operates in the following manner: The end k of the belt or strap is made fast in the usual manner on the bar s arranged therefor at the rear of the buckle (Fig. 4). The other free end k of the belt is inserted from below into the frame of the buckle, and drawn around the front side d of the frame. The belt thus slides over the smooth edge of the groove f. The tongue b is now pressed somewhat toward the frame and the end of the belt is drawn in the opposite direction over the tongue. The latter thereby springs back and slips into the groove. Owing to the rough inside of the groove and to the belt being bent in the groove, the friction so produced between buckle and belt is so great that it insures adequate resistance to a very considerable tension.

To undo the buckle the free end of the belt is drawn in the opposite direction over the front side d of the frame whereby the tongue comes out of the groove and the belt is released.

I claim:

1. A buckle for belts and the like consisting of a frame having a groove on the inner side of its front edge, a clamping member journaled in said frame and having a clamping side loosely fitting in said groove the journaled ends of said member consisting of portions crossing one another and each inclined to said clamping side.

2. A buckle for belts and the like consisting of a frame having a groove on the inner side of its front edge, a clamping member journaled in said frame and consisting of a resilient wire, the central portion of which loosely fits in said groove and outer portions which cross each other and terminate.
in straight portions each inclined to said central portion and forming at their ends the journals of said member.

3. A buckle for belts and the like consisting of a frame having a groove on the inner side of its front edge, the lower edge of the said groove projecting somewhat inwardly of the frame, a clamping member journaled in said frame and consisting of a resilient wire, the central portion of which loosely fits in said groove and outer portions which cross each other and terminate in straight portions each inclined to said central portion and forming at their ends the journals of said member.

4. A buckle for belts and the like consisting of a frame having a groove on the inner side of its front edge, the said groove roughened by corrugations and having a lower edge which projects somewhat inwardly of the frame, a clamping member journaled in said frame and consisting of a resilient wire, the central portion of which loosely fits in said groove and other portions which cross each other and terminate in straight portions each inclined to said central portion and forming at their ends the journals of said member.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

KARL RODE.

Witnesses:
FRANZ BUNENSKI,
ELIZE KALBURSH.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C."