No. 702,082. Patented June 10, 1902.

D. E. WHITE.

BUCKLE.

(Application filed May 11, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG 1

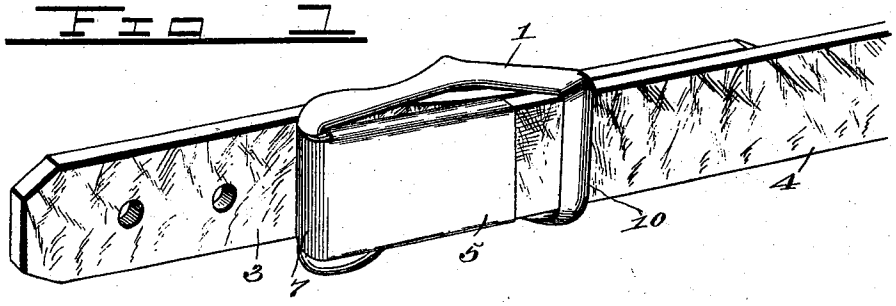


FIG 2

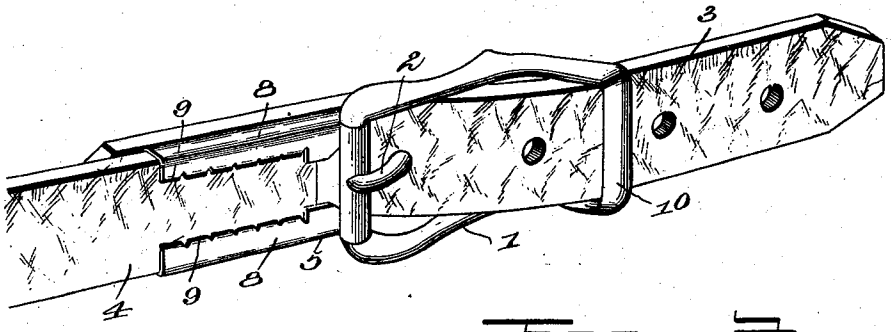
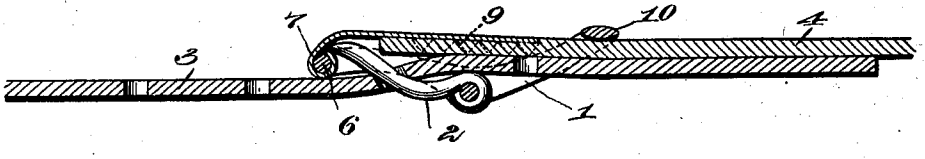


FIG 3



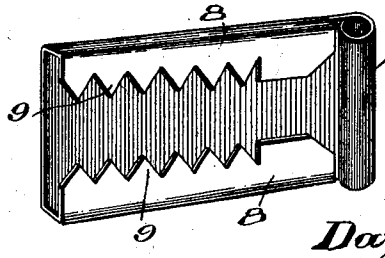


FIG 4

David E. White, Inventor:

By E. G. Siggers

Attorney,

Witnesses:

John Maupin

R. M. Elliott.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID E. WHITE, OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,082, dated June 10, 1902.

Application filed May 11, 1901. Serial No. 59,857. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID E. WHITE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Winchester, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Buckle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buckles, and more particularly to a buckle to be used on harness.

The object of the invention is to provide a shield having means at one end for securing it to the frame of the buckle, the other end being adapted to be secured beneath a loop.

A further object is to provide a shield which may be applied to buckles of the ordinary make without changing their construction and which may be used with any preferred form of buckle.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists, generally stated, in a metallic plate provided with means of attachment to the end bar of a buckle and also means for holding a supplemental strap, whereby a flexible end is provided for the shield.

As a matter of further improvement I may construct the shield in such manner as to permit the strap carried thereby to be readily detachable, or I may construct the shield in such manner that the strap will be permanently held in place therein.

By the employment of this shield, especially in connection with harness, not only will the tongue be held in place, but it will be prevented from catching the hairs of a horse's tail or from becoming entangled with a fly-net or with a blanket.

The device may be sold as an article of manufacture and be assembled with buckles already in use or may be manufactured in connection with the buckle at the factory, the additional cost of this device to a buckle being so slight as not to make this offer an obstacle to its adoption.

Further and more specific details of construction will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts, I have illustrated a form of embodiment of my invention applied to an ordinary buckle, it being understood that the construction of the shield and the manner in which it is applied to an ordinary buckle or to a peculiar kind of buckle employed may be varied or changed without departing from the spirit of the invention, and in these drawings—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective, showing the buckle with the shield down over the tongue. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the shield turned outward away from the tongue. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken through the buckle, shield, and straps. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view of the shield detached from the buckle and from the strap.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the buckle; 2, the tongue; 3, an ordinary strap; 4, a supplemental strap or the flexible end of the shield, and 5 the combined shield and strap attachment. The buckle and tongue may be of any preferred or usual construction, and therefore need no detailed description. Upon the end bar 6 of the buckle, usually engaged by a roller, is secured the shield, the same being here shown of less length than the buckle, although it may be of the same length, as will be readily apparent, the manner of assemblage between these parts being in this instance to form one end of the shield with a tubular offset 7 to be clamped around the said bar. This mode of assembling the shield with the buckle will be found highly effective and will be simply and easily accomplished; but it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to this precise manner of assembling the parts, as other procedures may be employed and still be within the scope of my invention. The shield is constructed of sheet metal, having its sides 8 bent in toward each other to form a recess, in which the strap 4 is housed, and where the union between the strap and shield is to be a permanent one the strap is to be secured between the side members in any suitable manner, as in this instance by providing the edges of the overturned portions 8 with prongs or teeth 9 to be clenched or sunk into the strap, or any other manner of securing the strap with the shield may be adopted that may be firm and stable. When the strap 4 is to be detachable from the shield, the strap will be inserted between the overturned members 8, and these will be pinched down

upon the strap with sufficient firmness to hold the parts assembled. As shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the overturned portions are rigidly secured to the strap; but it will be understood that by omitting the teeth or prongs 9 the detachable assemblage of the shield and the strap above referred to may readily be effected. In making this shield it may be nickel-plated or gold-plated to correspond to the character of the buckle and will be found in use to impart a highly-ornamental finish to the harness. By reason of the fact that the shield completely covers the tongue and is held over the same by the strap 4 or flexible end of the shield passing under a loop 10, which in this instance is the end bar of the buckle, the tongue cannot ride upward when tension from the strap 3 is removed, and thus present an obstruction upon which the net, blanket, or the hairs of the horse's tail will catch. Any means may be provided for holding the flexible end of the strap; but the loop of the buckle is preferred. Moreover, this shield will operate to prevent the strap 3 from working loose from the tongue 2, as it will be readily apparent that the tongue will contact with the under side of the strap 4 and will thus be safely held in place.

It will be understood that I do not desire to confine this invention to the employment of a tongue-buckle, as it will be equally adaptable for use with a pivoted clamp-buckle or with a buckle having one or more tongues.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

What I claim is—

1. In a buckle, the combination with a frame having an intermediate cross-bar, of a tongue hinged to said cross-bar and having its free end adapted to rest upon one of the end bars, and a tongue-shield comprising a metal plate having one end formed into a tubular offset which pivotally embraces the end bar against which a tongue is adapted to rest, and a flexible strap applied to the plate and adapted to be inserted beneath the other end bar of the frame to hold the shield entirely over the tongue, the opposite sides of the plate being folded over and engaged with the strap to hold the same to the tongue.

2. In a buckle, the combination with a frame having an intermediate cross-bar, of a tongue hinged to said cross-bar and having its free end adapted to rest upon one of the end bars, and a shield hinged to said end bar and having a flexible strap secured to its free end and adapted to be inserted beneath the other end bar, so as to hold the shield entirely over the tongue.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

DAVID E. WHITE.

Witnesses:

OMER O. CLARK,

HARRY LILLIE.