

H. KERNGOOD.
CAST-OFF BUCKLE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1912.

1,059,303.

Patented Apr. 15, 1913.

Fig. 1.

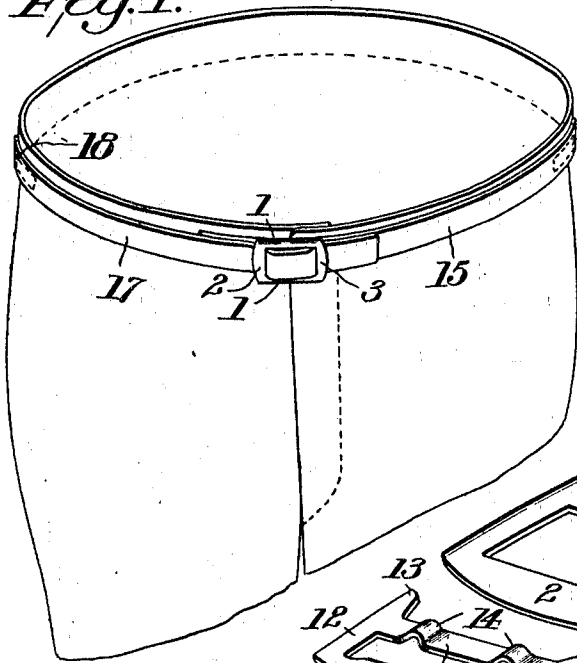


Fig. 2.

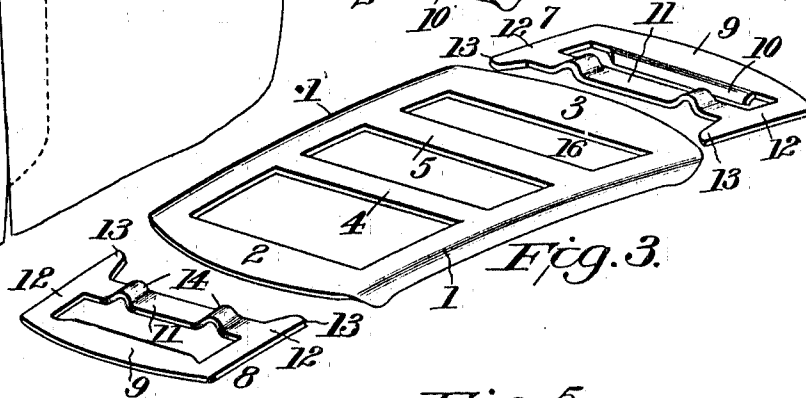
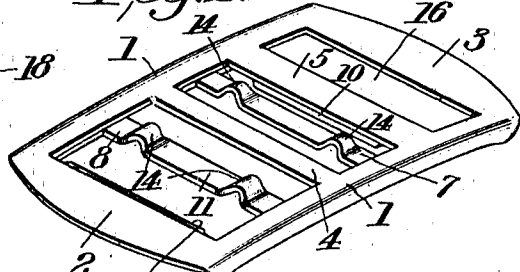


Fig. 4.

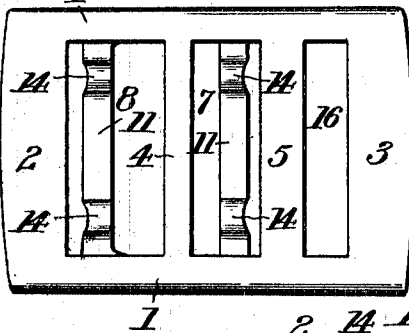


Fig. 5.

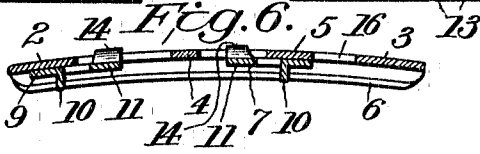
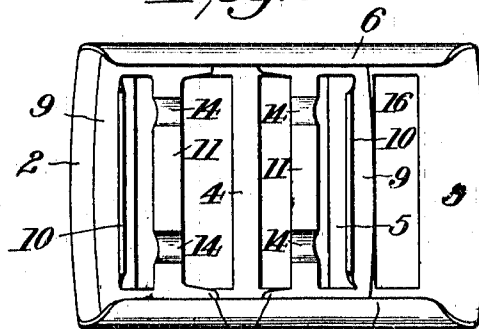


Fig. 8.

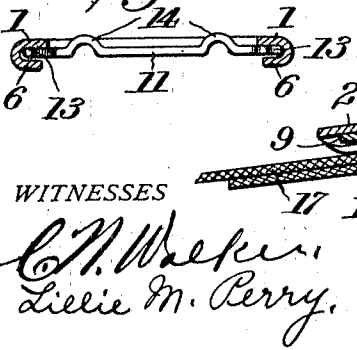
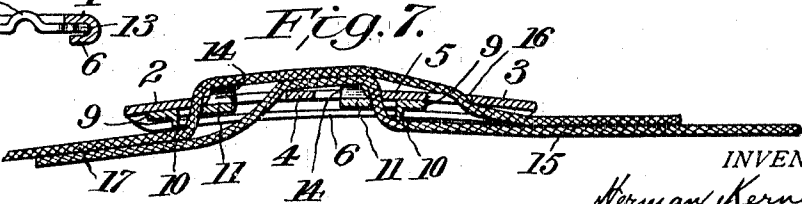


Fig. 7.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CAST-OFF BUCKLE.

1,059,303.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 15, 1913.

Application filed May 31, 1912. Serial No. 700,835.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN KERNGOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have
5 invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Cast-Off Buckles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

A present fashion is to make the belt of
10 the same material as the trousers. The belt is sometimes made to extend entirely around the waist, and again it is composed of two independent strap ends, attached at the side
15 seams of the trousers and having their free ends long enough to be secured together at front. In this latter class of belts it is quite desirable that the buckle should be
20 so that it can be located at the front and in the middle whatever changes in adjustment may be made. It is, therefore, impracticable to permanently attach the buckle to
25 either strap end and at the same time permit of the centering of the buckle in any adjustment.

The object of the invention is to provide a buckle, or, to be exact, a cast-off, designed primarily and principally to meet
30 these conditions.

The invention consists of a cast-off or buckle having reversely arranged similar
35 strap-end engaging devices, so that both of the strap ends may be taken up at pleasure and the buckle centered with any adjustment, all as I will proceed now more particularly to explain and finally claim.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating the invention, in the several figures of which like parts are similarly designated,
40 Figure 1 is a perspective view of the body portion of a pair of trousers having this invention applied. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device detached. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the three component parts of the device detached. Fig.
45 4 is a top plan view; Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view, and Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 7 is a longitudinal section with the strap ends in engaged position in the buckle.
50 Fig. 8 is a transverse section.

While the buckle may be used for other than the hereinabove specified purpose, I will confine this explanation to a buckle for
55 use in connecting the ends of a strap, or strap ends, without sewing or otherwise un-

adjustably securing one such end to the buckle, and so that both ends may be adjusted to take up slack or for other purposes. It is also to be noted that while the device is herein referred to as a buckle,
60 it is more exactly described by the term "cast-off," owing to its arrangement upon the goods.

The frame comprises side bars 1, connected by end bars 2 and 3, and any suitable
65 number, usually two, cross bars 4 and 5; and in the preferred construction, these elements are all arranged on the same level; that is to say, for the purposes of the present invention, it is unnecessary to elevate
70 or depress the cross bars, for example, or either of them, with relation to the side bars and end bars. The side bars have the introverted flanges 6, which form guideways for the sliding tongues, presently described.
75 The buckle frame thus constructed is by preference bent to an arc of a circle, or given any other contour to conform to the body upon which it is designed for use.

If desired, the cross bar 5 may be somewhat wider than the cross bar 4.

Two sliding tongues 7 and 8 of like construction are used, one of them being arranged between the bars 4 and 5, to co-
85 operate with the cross bar 5, and serve as a medium for adjustably securing the under strap end, and as a substitute for sewing or other means for unadjustably fastening the strap end to the frame; and the
90 other sliding tongue being arranged between the end bar 2 and cross-bar 4, to coöperate with said end bar 2 to clamp the other strap end in any adjusted position; and these sliding tongues slide in opposite
95 directions in order to effect their respective functions.

The sliding tongues 7 and 8 are of identically or substantially the same construction as the sliding tongue of my application for
100 patent filed May 10, 1912, Serial No. 696,417, (patented January 7, 1913, No. 1,049,782) and the description in that case of the tongue therein shown may be repeated here, with the necessary changes, and while the description refers to one tongue
105 only, it is equally applicable to the other.

Each sliding tongue has an end bar 9 with a depending finger-hold 10 on its inner edge; and another end bar 11 is connected
110 with the end bar 9 by the side bars 12 and

these side bars are extended at 13 beyond the end bar 11 so as to elongate the side bearings and prevent the tilting of the tongue in the frame. Between these end bars is an opening for the passage of the strap end. The end bar 11 is provided with any number of ridges 14 running fore and aft and upstanding sufficiently to serve as stops, which by coming into contact with the transverse members of the frame when moved in opposite directions arrest the outward and inward movements of the tongues and hence prevent the escape of the tongues from the frame when once in position. Thus, the ridges 14 on the tongue 7 cooperate with the cross-bars 4 and 5, and the ridges 14 on the tongue 8 cooperate with the cross bar 4 and end bar 5 for this purpose.

The tongue may be inserted in the frame in the first instance in a number of different ways, but preferably by springing it into place within the supporting guideways or introverted flanges. After the sliding tongue is once in place in the guideways, it is held from escape from the frame in any direction; the introverted flanges of the sides of the frame holding it against escape faceward, backward and laterally, and its own stops cooperating with the adjacent transverse bars preventing it from escape lengthwise.

It will be observed that the ridges 14 fall short of the forward or leading edge of the end bar 11 on which they are made, and this then leaves portions of this end bar extending forwardly beyond the ridges so that this leading edge of the sliding tongue will have a tendency to crowd or bend the strap against the adjacent transverse bar of the frame, and if the strap be thin this forward extension will crowd it underneath the adjacent edge of the transverse bar of the frame, thus rendering the ridges doubly efficient in gripping the strap between themselves and their supporting bar and the adjacent edge of the transverse bar of the frame.

As already indicated, the upstanding ridges are interposed as obstacles to the escape of the strap end when once it is engaged between the sliding tongue and the adjacent part of the frame, and they thus operate by virtue of the fact that they put as many crimps in the strap as there are ridges. Ordinarily two parallel ridges are sufficient.

The supporting grooves or guideways formed by the introverted flanges on the side bars of the frame are of a width to take easily the side bars of the tongue, and in such way as to permit the tongue to move therein lengthwise without cramping. The flat straight edge character of the sides of the tongue peculiarly fits the tongue for free movement in said grooves or guideways.

As shown, the tongue 7 is located between the cross bars 4 and 5, and its end bar 11 is arranged to underlie the cross bar 5 so as to grip the strap end under that bar, while the sliding tongue 8 is arranged between the cross bar 4 and end bar 2 and so as to grip its strap end between itself and the end bar 2.

As shown in Figs. 1 to 7, one of the strap ends 15, herein referred to as the under end, is passed up through the opening in the sliding tongue 7 and thence between the cross bars 4 and 5 and then down over the cross bar 4 beneath the buckle frame. A pull upon the buckle in one direction and the strap on the right-hand in Fig. 7 in the other, will result in drawing the tongue toward the cross bar 5 and hence cramping the strap firmly and immovably in position. This then will serve as the buckle anchoring strap. The other strap 17 would then have its leading end passed up through the opening in the tongue 8 and thence through the opening between the cross bar 4 and end bar 2 and thence down through the opening 16 between the cross bar 5 and end bar 3 when it would be engaged by the tongue at that end of the frame next to end bar 2. The end bar thus serves as a hold-down for the outer end of the strap 17. In these positions any pull upon the strap ends in opposite directions would serve to tighten the hold of the buckle upon the strap ends, and yet in such a way that the necessary adjustment may be given to the strap ends without impairing the central position of the buckle with relation to the body of the wearer.

As one illustration of the use of the invention, attention is directed to Fig. 1, where the strap ends 15 and 17 are secured to the sides of a pair of trousers, as at 18, and the necessary adjustment in such an arrangement may be made by drawing up the strap 15, or under strap, and then drawing up the over strap 17 through the buckle.

By virtue of the fact that the buckle is attachable to its anchoring strap or strap end without sewing, or other permanent fastening, and by virtue of the further fact that the buckle may be secured in an adjustable manner upon its anchoring strap, I have herein referred to the buckle as a cast-off buckle and it may be described also as a self-attaching buckle.

It is to be observed that the buckle of this invention engages the strap ends without looping them, and that these strap ends overlie one another flatwise.

What I claim is:—

1. A cast-off buckle, comprising a frame having side bars, an end bar, two intermediate cross-bars, and guideways and supports for two tongues, combined with such tongues slidably mounted in said guideways and supports, one of said tongues arranged between the cross-bars and retained

thereby in the frame and adapted to co-
operate with one of said cross-bars to receive
and engage an anchoring strap end, and the
other tongue arranged at the other end of
5 the frame between the end bar thereat and
the adjacent cross-bar and retained thereby
in the frame and adapted to coöperate with
said end bar to receive and engage the other
strap end, whereby the buckle may be ad-
10 justed equally on both strap ends and a cen-
tral location of the buckle on the body of
the user insured.

2. A cast-off buckle, comprising a frame
having side bars, tongue-supporting means,
15 end bars, and two intermediate cross-bars,
combined with two sliding tongues provided
with means to retain the tongues in longi-
tudinal engagement with the frame and
crimp the strap ends engaged thereby and to
20 grip the strap ends transversely, said
tongues adapted to be moved in opposite di-
rections in said tongue-supporting means,

one of the said tongues arranged between
the two intermediate cross-bars and adapted
to grip an anchoring strap end between itself 25
and one of the intermediate cross-bars
so that said buckle may be held in definite
position on said strap end, and the other
tongue arranged between the other inter-
mediate cross-bar and the adjacent end bar 30
and adapted to engage the other strap end
between itself and the adjacent end bar, the
other end bar serving to hold down the outer
end of the last-mentioned strap, the strap
ends being otherwise unfixedly engaged with 35
the frame, thereby permitting of the adjust-
ment of the buckle to a predetermined de-
sired location on the wearer.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand this 29th day of May A. D. 1912.

HERMAN KERNGOOD.

Witnesses:

NATHAN I. HECHT,
NELLIE DOYLE.