

(No Model.)

A. J. McCORD.

BUCKLE.

No. 392,962.

Patented Nov. 13, 1888.

Fig I.

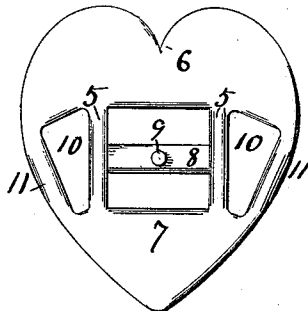


Fig II.

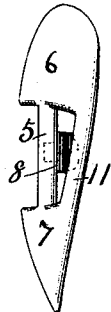
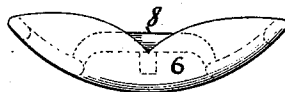


Fig III.



Witnesses,
S. E. Stevens,
P. E. Stevens.

Inventor,
Andrew J. McCord.
By his Attorney W. B. Stevens.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. McCORD, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO J. F. McGREGOR, OF COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 392,962, dated November 13, 1888.

Application filed June 23, 1888. Serial No. 277,943. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. McCORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Buckle and Shield; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to buckles for harness; and its object is a combined buckle and shield adapted to connect the hip-strap with the breeching-braces in such a manner that the horse's tail and the reins will not be caught at the juncture of these parts.

To this end my invention consists in a fixed-tongue buckle and a shield all in one piece, constructed as hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure I is a front elevation of a combined buckle and shield according to my invention. Fig. II is a side elevation of the same, and Fig. III is an end view thereof, looking downward upon it.

5 represents the two side bars, 6 the upper end bar, 7 the lower end bar, and 8 the cross-bar, of the buckle. 9 is a stud standing from the face of the cross-bar at its center, serving as a fixed tongue to the buckle. This buckle is to be placed on the hip-strap of harness, and it is provided with side loops, 10, for attaching the breeching-braces. The upper end bar, 6, is spread outward and upward and slanted backward and made with thin smooth edges. The lower end bar, 7, is similarly extended downward and backward, its edges be-

ing made thin and smooth. These broad bars, shaped as described, constitute the shield, which is a convex plate, here shown as heart-shaped. By being thin and having their edges bent backward they pinch closely upon the hip-strap and prevent the horse's tail from being caught above the buckle, and the lower bar presses so closely upon the free end of the hip-strap as to lay it back flat against the horse, where it usually projects outward and catches the reins. To carry out the same idea fully, I curve the buckle backward at its sides, leaving the center the fullest, thereby carrying the outer bars, 11, of the loops 10 back to the plane of the cross-bar 8, or a little to the rear of it. By this means the smooth finished surface of the shield is interposed between all the parts which usually project and anything moving over them, thus avoiding the danger and annoyance consequent to catching the reins or the horse's tail while in service. The shield—here shown heart-shaped—may be given any fanciful or ornamental form.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I believe to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is the following:

A buckle comprising a convexo-concave plate having the top portion, 6, and the bottom portion, 7, connected by the parallel side bars, 5 5, and the oblique side bars, 11 11, having the side openings, 10 10, and the central opening crossed by the bar 8, having the stud 9, substantially as shown and described.

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

ANDREW J. McCORD.

Witnesses:

T. E. WILSON,
JNO. Y. ROUT.