No. 687,730. Patented Dec. 3, 1901.

W. W. COVELL.

BELT BUCKLE.

(Application filed Mar. 11, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

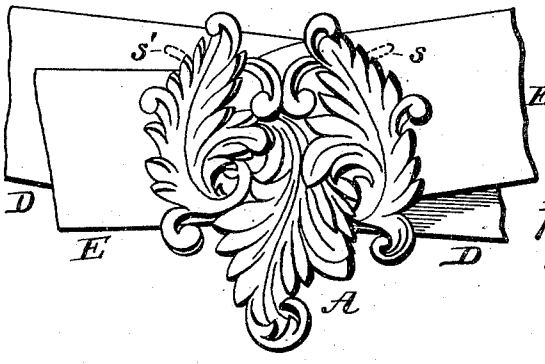


FIG. 2.

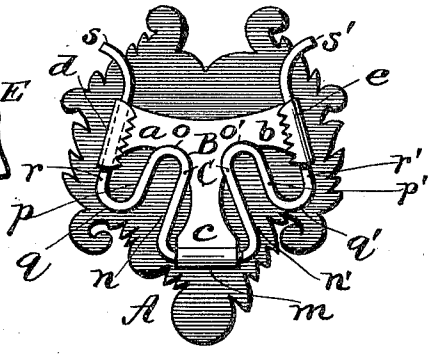


FIG. 3.

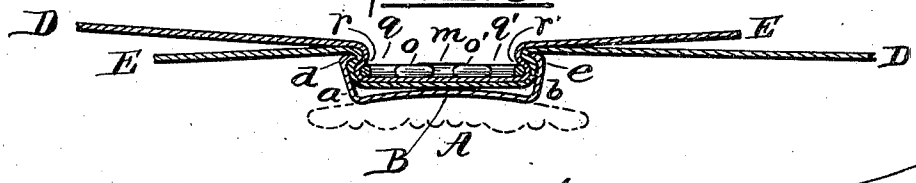


FIG. 4.

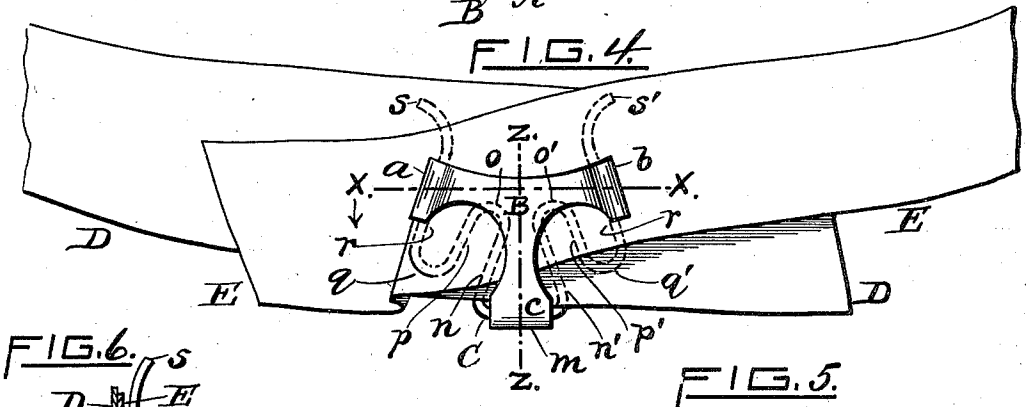


FIG. 6.

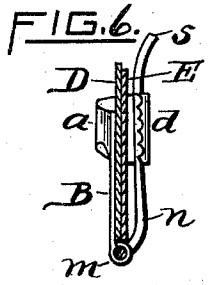
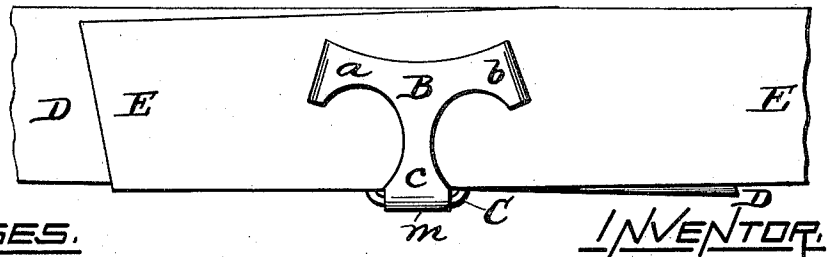


FIG. 5.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. COVELL, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR TO RALPH S. HAMILTON AND ROBERT M. HAMILTON, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, COPARTNERS AS HAMILTON & HAMILTON, JR.

BELT-BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 687,730, dated December 3, 1901.

Application filed March 11, 1901. Serial No. 50,613. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. COVELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belt-Buckles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Like letters indicate like parts.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a belt and belt-buckle, the latter being provided with my improved fastening device. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of said buckle and fastening device. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the belt, buckle, and fastening device as seen on line *x x* of Fig. 4. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the belt, buckle, and fastening device. Fig. 5 is a rear elevation of the same when the belt is worn straight. Fig. 6 is a sectional view of the buckle and fastening device as seen on line *z z* of Fig. 4.

My invention relates to belt-buckles; and it consists of the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as hereinafter particularly described, and as specifically set forth in the claim.

In the drawings, A represents the ornamental front of a buckle. This ornamental front may be of any desired pattern or design. To the back of this ornamental portion of the buckle is attached the fastening device which constitutes my invention. B is a plate which is secured to the ornamental portion A by soldering, riveting, or in any suitable manner. This plate B has three arms *a*, *b*, and *c* and is slightly curved in cross-section, as indicated in Fig. 3. The ends of the arms *a* and *b* are bent or curved backward to form catches, and the inwardly-turned edge of each end *d e* is serrated or toothed, as shown in Figs. 2 and 6.

The lower portion of the arm *c* is bent over into a tubular form, as shown at *m*, and a clamping spring-wire C, inserted in said tubular part *m* of the arm *c*, turns loosely therein. This wire C is straight at its center, where it passes through the tubular portion *m* of the arm *c*, then is bent in acute angles to form the straight portions *n n'*, then the semicircular bends *o o'*, then the straight portions *p p'* parallel with the portions *n n'*, respectively, then the semicircular bends *q q'*, then the straight portions *r r'*, and terminating with the outwardly-curved ends *s s'*.

D E are the ends of the belt, which are to be fastened together.

As the wire C is a spring-wire, it is engaged by its resilience in the inwardly-bent ends *d e* of the arms *a b* of the plate B and can be disengaged therefrom by placing the thumb on one of the flaring ends *s s'* of the wire C and the forefinger on the other flaring end of said wire and pressing said ends inwardly. When the arms *r r'* are in this manner moved out of the bent ends *d e* of the plate B, the wire C, loosely mounted in the bend *m* of the arm *c*, is capable of a swiveling or turning movement therein.

The manner of fastening the belt-buckle to the belt is as follows: The ends D E of the belt are crossed, as in Fig. 1, or lapped straight, as in Fig. 5. The wire C, then hinged loosely in the tubular bend *m*, is moved, so as to extend angularly from the plate B. Said crossed or lapped ends of the belt are inserted between the plate B and the wire C, and the ends *s s'* of said wire C are moved inwardly toward each other, as before described, and are then pushed toward the plate B, and being then free to spread apart by their resilience push the portions of the belt adjacent to said ends *s s'* respectively into the bent ends or catches *d e* of the arms *a b* of the plate B, as illustrated in Fig. 3. The serrations or toothed edge of each of the catches *d e* serve to prevent the belt ends from slipping out of their engagement with said catches while so in position.

It is evident that the serrations on the edges of the bent ends *d e* of the plate B may be dispensed with, as also that the clamping-wire may be made substantially in a U shape, thus dispensing with the intermediate bends *n o p q*; but such modifications would be within my invention.

I claim as a novel and useful invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The improved fastening attachment for belt-buckles herein described, consisting of

the combination of a T-shaped plate whose lower end is bent into a tubular form and whose two opposite ends are bent to form catches, which catches are serrated on their inwardly-turned edges and an integral clamping-wire loosely mounted at its center in the tubular bend of said plate and formed with two spring-arms engageable with said catches, respectively, and each bent into three substantially straight parallel portions with two intermediate semicircular curves and terminating with a flaring outward bend, substantially as specified.

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

WILLIAM W. COVELL.

Witnesses:
N. M. DOUGLAS,
WARREN R. PERCE.