Jan. 18, 1927. 1,615,085

E. LE R. JAMES

BELT AND BUCKLE CLASP

Filed Jan. 31, 1925

Fig. 1.

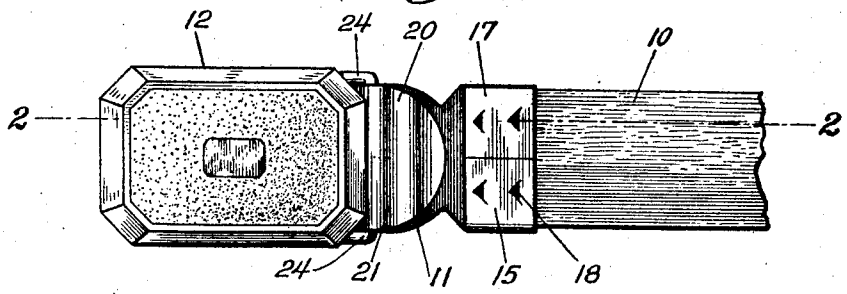


Fig. 2.

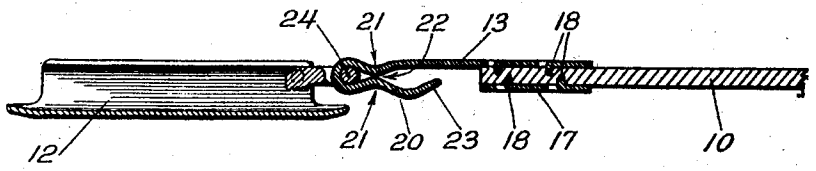


Fig. 3.

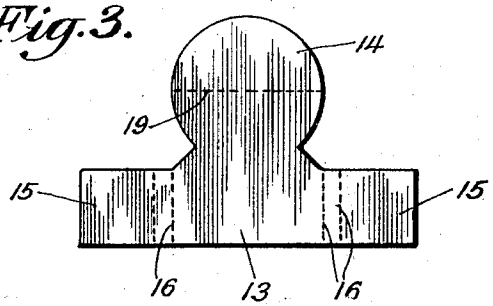


Fig. 4.

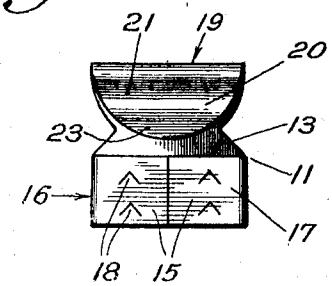
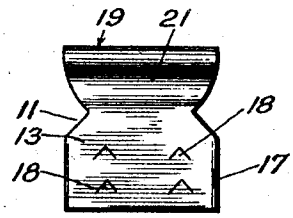


Fig. 5.



Edmund LeRoy James
INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

WITNESS:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMUND LE ROY JAMES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BELT AND BUCKLE CLASP.

Application filed January 31, 1925. Serial No. 5,953.

This invention relates to improvements in belt and buckle clasps and has for its primary object, the provision of a means for detachably connecting a buckle with one end of a belt so that the buckle may be quickly removed and retained when the belt has become worn and the buckle again used in connection with a new belt.

Another object of the invention resides in a clasp adapted to be fixedly connected with one end of a belt and which includes a self locking means for engagement with the connecting link or eye of a buckle when the link is inserted therein.

A further object is the provision of a belt and buckle clasp which is relatively flat and which forms an integral part of the belt when fixedly connected therewith, thus eliminating the bulky appearance at the point of connection with the buckle.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a belt and buckle clasp which is simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture, the clasp being constructed from a single piece of material and which is efficient for the purpose intended.

With these and other objects in view, the invention resides in certain novel construction and combination and arrangement of parts, the essential features of which are hereinafter fully described, are particularly pointed out in the appended claims, and are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved clasp in use for connecting a buckle with the end of a belt.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the blank from which the clasp is bent.

Figure 4 is a front elevation of the clasp per se.

Figure 5 is a rear elevational view of the clasp per se.

Heretofore, it has been the practice in detachably connecting a buckle with a belt by passing the belt through an eye or link carried by the buckle and bending the end of the belt upon itself, in which position it is held by the use of snap fasteners. This construction has been found objectionable as the doubling of the belt provides a plural of plies of material, which causes a bulky appearance and does not allow the belt to assume the normal flat position when worn. Another manner of connecting the buckle with the belt as now commonly used is to bend the belt upon itself after insertion through the eye of a buckle and stitching the same. These methods all produce an unsightly appearance to the belt and it is therefor my aim to provide a clasp which will eliminate these objections and add greatly to the attractive appearance of the belt and buckle as the same lies in alignment with the belt and buckle.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the reference numeral 10 designates a portion of a flexible belt to which my improved clasp 11 is shown applied and which is adapted to detachably connect a belt buckle 12 with the belt.

The clasp 11 is stamped from a single piece of flat springy resilient material in the shape shown in Figure 3 of the drawing. The clasp in its blank form includes a body 13 from whch extends a rounded head 14 and oppositely disposed outwardly extending arms 15. The arms 15 are bent upon the body 13 on the dotted lines 16, and are disposed in spaced relation thereto so as to provide a collar 17 for receiving the end of the belt 10. Spurs 18 are struck from the body of the arms and are adapted to enter the belt so as to fixedly connect the clasp thereto. The rounded head 14 is bent upon the dotted line 19 so as to provide a hook 20. The front and rear walls of the hook are bent inwardly as at 21 so as to provide a restricted portion 22 between the closed end of the hook and the open mouth of the same. The bill 23 of the hook is normally disposed in spaced relation to the opposite wall at the mouth of the hook so as to receive the flat side of a link or eye 24 carried by the belt buckle 12, and to guide the same toward the restricted portion 22.

In effecting connection of the bluckle with the belt, the flat side of the link 24 is inserted into the mouth of the hook from where it is moved through the restricted portion 22 and into the space between the restricted portion and the closed end of the hook. In order to cause the link to pass the restricted portion, it is necessary to apply pressure to the link or clasp so as to force the walls of the hook apart, but the walls will automatically return to normal position by reason of its stringy nature so that the inwardly bent portions are disposed in close proximity to each other to prevent accidental separation

of the link from the hook. It will be appreciated that the buckle may be separated from the clasp at will, as it is only necessary to spread the inwardly bent portions by lifting up the bill or lip 23 or by forcing the link past the inwardly bent portions 21.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. In combination with a belt, a buckle having an eye, and a clasp member fixedly carried by one end of the belt and engageable with said eye, and oppositely disposed inwardly bent portions provided in the opposed walls of and adjacent to the mouth of the said clasp member for retaining and locking the eye of the said buckle in the said clasp.

2. In combination with a belt, a one piece plate non-separable buckle having a passage therethrough for slidably receiving the free end of the belt, a clamping bail pivoted to said buckle and disposed within said passage adjacent the outlet end thereof, and a clasp member fixedly carried by the opposite end of said belt and engageable with said bail, said clasp member comprising a hook having oppositely disposed inwardly bent portions provided in the opposed walls of said hook and constituting a restricted portion adjacent the mouth of said hook for retaining and locking said bail in said clasp.

3. A clasp for detachably connecting a buckle with one end of a belt, comprising a resilient body, a portion of said body bent upon itself to form a hook for engagement with a buckle having an eye, oppositely disposed inwardly bent portions provided in the opposed walls of said hook and constituting a restricted portion adjacent the mouth of said hook for retaining and locking said eye in said clasp and attaching means formed on said body for fastening the clasp to one end of a belt.

4. A clasp for detachably connecting a buckle with one end of a belt comprising a body portion, a hook formed by bending a portion of said body portion upon itself so as to dispose the same on but one side of said body portion, oppositely disposed inwardly bent portions provided in said body portion and the opposed walls of the bill of said hook to provide a restricted portion in axial alignment with the bight portion of said hook, an inwardly bent lip provided on said bill and which inwardly bent portions co-act to provide a normally closed eye for the reception of a part to be held thereby, and attaching means carried by said body portion for fastening the clasp to one end of a belt.

5. A clasp for detachably connecting a buckle with one end of a belt comprising a single piece of flat resilient material formed to provide a body portion, a portion of said material being bent over one face of said body portion to overlie the same in spaced relation thereto, and inwardly bent portions provided in said body portion and in the oppositely disposed wall of the overlying portion to provide a restricted portion between the body and said overlying portion, and which inwardly bent portions co-act to provide a normally closed eye for the reception of a part to be held thereby, the restricted portions being disposed in axial alignment with said eye, and attaching means carried by said body portion for fastening the clasp to one end of a belt.

6. A clasp for detachably connecting a buckle with one end of a belt comprising a single piece of flat resilient material formed to provide a body portion, a portion of said material bent over one face of said body portion to overlie the same in spaced relation thereto, and inwardly bent portions provided in said body portion and in the oppositely disposed wall of the overlying portion to provide a restricted portion between the body and said overlying portion, and which inwardly bent portions co-act to provide a normally closed eye for the reception of a part to be held thereby, attaching means carried by said body portion for fastening the clasp to one end of a belt, the restricted portions being disposed in axial alignment with said eye, for retaining and locking the said part in the said clasp in longitudinal axial alignment with said attaching means.

7. A clasp for detachably connecting a buckle with one end of a belt comprising a single piece of flat resilient material formed to provide a body portion, a portion of said material being bent over one face of said body portion to overlie the same in spaced relation thereto, and inwardly bent portions provided in said body portion and in the oppositely disposed wall of the overlying portion to provide a restricted portion between the body and said overlying portion, and which inwardly bent portions co-act to provide a normally closed eye for the reception of a part to be held thereby, the restricted portions being disposed in axial alignment with said eye, and arms extending from opposite edges of said body portion and bent upon the same in spaced relation thereto to provide an attaching collar for receiving one end of the belt, and inwardly bent teeth extending from the opposed walls of said attaching collar.

EDMUND LE ROY JAMES.

Certificate of Correction.

Patent No. 1,615,085, granted January 18, 1927, to

EDMUND LE ROY JAMES.

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above-mentioned patent requiring correction as follows: Page 1, line 53, for the word "plural" read *plurality;* line 71, for "provided" read *proved;* line 78, for the misspelled word "whch" read *which*, and line 99, for "bluckle" read *buckle;* and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 22d day of February, A. D. 1927.

[SEAL.]

M. J. MOORE,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.