P. WHITNEY.

BUCKLES.

No. 170,037. Patented Nov. 16, 1875.

Fig. 1.

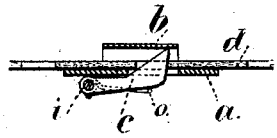


Fig. 3.

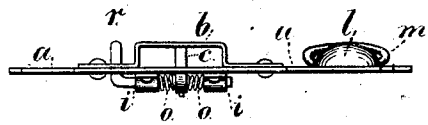
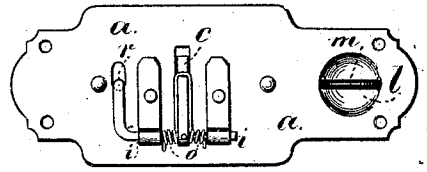


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

Chas. H. Smith

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL WHITNEY, OF NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO LOUIS SANDERS, OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUCKLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **170,037**, dated November 16, 1875; application filed October 11, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL WHITNEY, of the city and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Automatic Buckles, of which the following is a specification:

Buckles have been made with a plate, to which one end of the strap is attached, and with a second spring-plate, having hooks entering holes in the waist-belt or strap. This, however, is not adapted to a shawl-strap, and is costly to manufacture. A shawl-strap has also been made with a loop, through which the strap passes, and a spring beneath that carries a stud, which passes through a hole in the strap; but the spring is easily bent or broken, and the stud loses its hold in consequence of the tension of the strap tending to bend the stud and its spring.

I combine, with the buckle-plate and loop, a spring-pawl that is hinged at one end, and provided with a bent arm, the swinging end of which projects through a hole in the plate. By this construction the pressure of the strap against the pawl is received upon the hinges of the pawl, independent of the pawl-spring, and the arm that moves such pawl is connected directly to it, and they move together without the risk of injuring the spring.

This buckle may be used upon shawl-straps, belts, or wherever convenient.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a cross-section of the automatic buckle. Fig. 2 is a view of the pawl at the back of the plate, and Fig. 3 is a side elevation.

The plate *a* is adapted to be secured to the bar of the shawl-strap, or to one end of a waist-belt, or otherwise. The metallic loop *b* is attached to this plate *a*, and it is of a shape to receive the strap *d*. The pawl *c* is hinged at *i*, and the swinging end thereof passes up through a hole in the plate *a*, so as to enter one of the holes in the strap *d*, behind the loop *b*. This pawl *c* is self-acting, being thrown up by any suitable spring. I have shown the wire coil *o*, that forms the spring. There is an arm, *r*, that extends from the pawl or its axis, and passes through the plate *a*, and terminates as a stud, that can be depressed to liberate the strap from the pawl whenever so required.

This automatic buckle is very convenient, because by it the strap can be held at any place to which it is drawn. The back of the pawl should be inclined, as shown, so that the same will be depressed by the strap as it is drawn along in tightening said strap. The plate *a* is struck up into a segment of a globe, as at *l*, and this is perforated at opposite edges to receive the ring *m* for the handle. This construction gives the necessary space for the ring to swing, allows the ring to be entirely circular, and also is ornamental in appearance.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, with the buckle-plate *a*, loop *b*, and pawl *c*, of the hinges *i* and bent arm *r*, the latter connected with the pawl, and having one end passed through a hole in the plate *a*, as and for the purposes set forth.

Signed by me this 8th day of October, A. D. 1875.

PAUL WHITNEY.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,

CHAS. H. SMITH.