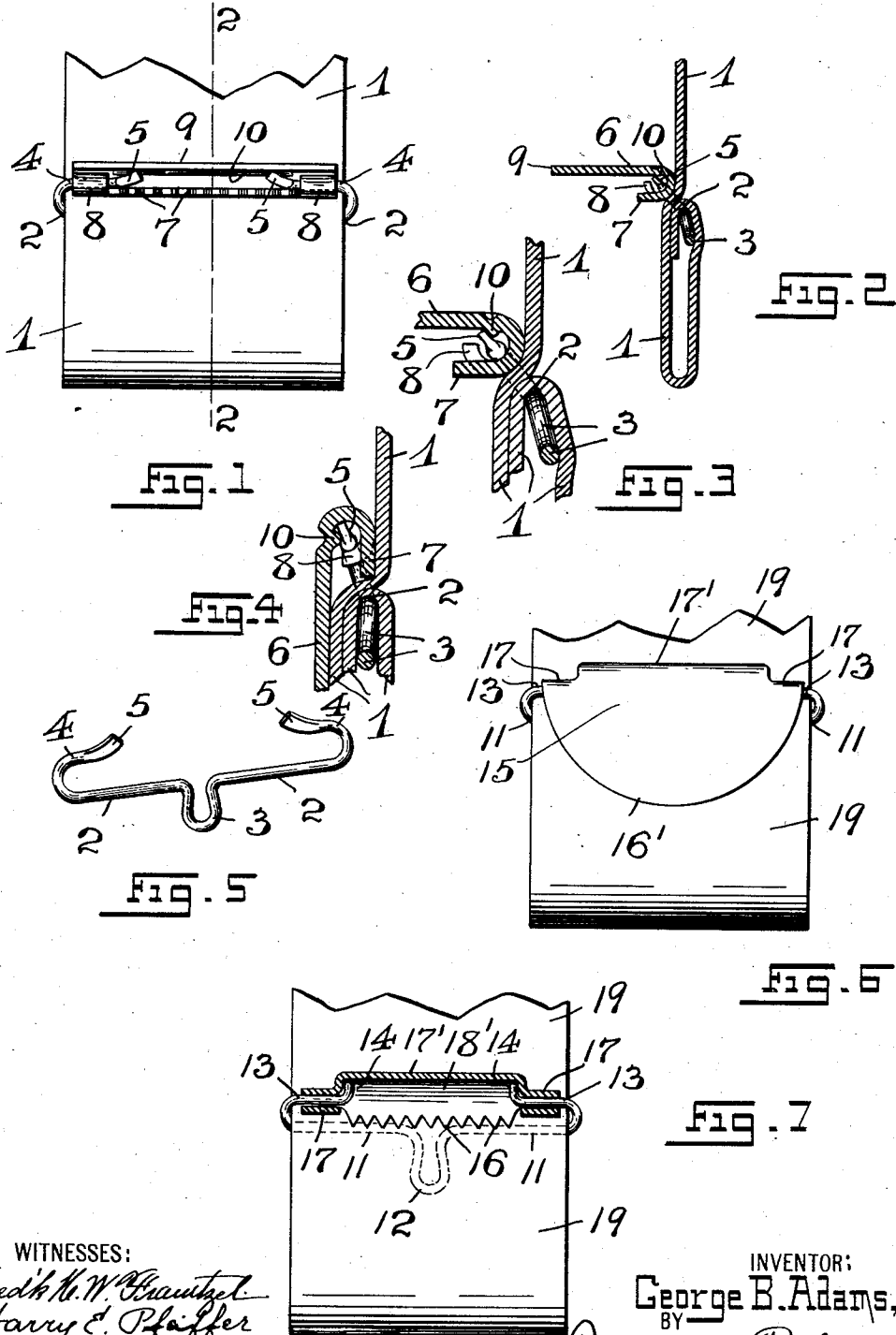


G. B. ADAMS.
CLASP OR BUCKLE.
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1,055,011.

Patented Mar. 4, 1913.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE B. ADAMS, OF IRVINGTON, NEW JERSEY.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 4, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. ADAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Irvington, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps or Buckles; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has reference, generally, to improvements in buckles or garment-clasps; and, the present invention relates, more particularly, to a novel clamp or buckle which is especially adapted for use with suspenders, hose-supporters, and similar articles, in which practically all the parts of the clasp or buckle are covered by the webbing, except the front operating plate or finger-piece, so that the garments of the wearer are protected against rust or stains caused by contact with any of the exposed metal parts of the clasps or buckle.

The present invention has for its principal object to provide a novel and simple construction of clasp or buckle for suspenders, hose-supporters, and the like, in which the parts of the clasp or buckle, when in their closed or clamped relation to the webbing, lie flat and close to the webbing, thus eliminating a bulky or clumsy clasp or buckle-connection with said webbing.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a clasp or buckle, for the purposes above stated, which comprises a minimum number of parts of very simple construction, the parts operating in such relation to each other, so that the clasp or buckle is quickly and easily moved into its clamped or unclamped positions, and is securely maintained in either its clamped or unclamped position by the spring-like relation of its parts.

Other objects of this invention not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be clearly evident from the following detailed description of the same.

With the various objects of my present invention in view, the said invention consists, primarily, in the novel clasp or buckle hereinafter set forth; and, the invention consists, furthermore, in the novel arrange-

ments and combinations of the devices and parts, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, all of which will be more fully described in the following specification, and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claims which are appended to and which form an essential part of the said specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a face view of the novel clasp or buckle arranged upon a piece of webbing representing a portion of a pair of suspenders, the said clasp or buckle being illustrated in its unclamped position; Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same, taken on line 2—2 in said Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a large detail view, similar to that shown in Fig. 2, said view representing more clearly the spring-like relation between the wire back or frame and the face-plate or front clamping plate of the clasp or buckle. Fig. 4 is a vertical section, similar to that shown in Fig. 2, but illustrating the parts of the clasp or buckle in their clamped relation; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the wire back or frame of the clasp or buckle, detached from the face or front plate. Fig. 6 is a face view of a slightly modified construction of clasp or buckle, the same being illustrated in its clamped position; and Fig. 7 is a vertical cross-section of the same.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the several figures of the drawings, the reference-character 1 indicates the webbing of a pair of suspenders, hose-supporters, or the like, with which is arranged the novel construction of clasp or buckle made according to the principles of the present invention. The said clasp or buckle comprises a wire back in the form of a frame 2 which consists of a lower bar made from spring-wire and being also preferably formed with a web-engaging loop 3 which inclines inwardly from the plane of said frame 2, said loop 3, however, may be omitted, if desired. The ends of the lower bar of said frame 2 are formed to provide inwardly projecting upper bars or arms 4, the free end of each arm being provided with an upwardly inclined and preferably flat spring-portion or finger, as 5, said spring-portions or fingers lying in the plane of said frame 2.

The reference-character 6 indicates a suitably formed face-plate or front clamping plate, the same being provided, if it is so desired, with a serrated clamping edge 7. The body of the said plate 6 is provided with suitably disposed ears or lugs, as 8, which are turned or curled over so as to provide suitable bearing-portions or pintle-receiving elements in which are rotatably mounted, the said inwardly projecting arms 4 of the frame 2. Connected with said face-plate or front clamping plate 6, and arranged or disposed at a proper angle thereto, is a suitable finger-piece 9, by means of which the said plate 6 can be oscillated upon the said arms 4 of said frame 2, so as to bring the said plate into its locked or unlocked positions. Suitably located upon the back of said face plate or front clamping plate 6 is a cam-like portion 10, which is arranged in such a manner, so that it is engaged by the said spring-portions or fingers 5 of the said arms 4 of the frame 2. When the clasp or buckle is in its unclamped position, the pressure of the said spring-portions or fingers upon one side of said cam-like portion or incline 10 maintains said face-plate or front clamping plate and its fingerpiece in their raised positions, as will be clearly evident, thus bringing the parts of the buckle into their disengaged relation with the webbing for the proper adjustment of the clasp or buckle thereon. To cause said clasp or buckle to assume its clamped position, the said front clamping plate by means of its finger-piece 9, is moved or pressed downwardly, so as to cause it to turn or oscillate upon the arms 4 of said frame 2, this downward movement of the said face or front clamping plate causing the cam-like portion or incline 10 to ride or spring over the said spring-portions 5, the tension of which is thereupon caused to be exercised upon the opposite side of the said cam-like portion 10, thereby securely holding said clamping plate 6 in its clamping position, as will be clearly evident, and whereby the folds of the webbing 1 are squeezed or clamped between the said wire-frame 2 and the serrated clamp-edge 7 of said plate 6. The said web-engaging loop 3, when employed, being inclined inwardly from the plane of said frame 2 also tends to further bind or hold said webbing 1, by engaging the same and binding it against the back of said face-plate or front clamping plate 6, as will be clearly evident.

Referring now more particularly to Figs. 6 and 7 of the accompanying drawings, there is illustrated therein a slightly modi-

fied construction of clasp or buckle, the same comprising a wire-frame 11 which may be provided with a web-engaging loop 12 and a pair of inwardly projecting arms 13 provided at their free ends with spring-portions or fingers 14. The reference-character 15 indicates a front clamping plate which may also be formed with a serrated clamping edge 16. Said clamping plate 15 is provided with suitably turned or curled lugs or tongues, as 17, forming bearing-portions or pintle-receiving ears in which are rotatably mounted the said arms 13 of the wire-frame 11. The said clamping plate 15 is provided with a suitably formed finger-piece 16' and with a pressed-in portion 17', in the form of a pocket 18', with which the spring-like projections or fingers 14 co-act by being brought into retaining engagement with the inner surface-portions of said pocket, so as to maintain said front-plate and finger-piece in their clamping positions with relation to said wire frame 11 and a webbing 19.

I claim:—

1. A buckle comprising a back or frame formed with a lower bar and an upper bar, combined with a lever, said lever being arranged in front of said frame and pivoted to said upper bar, said lever being provided with an inwardly and downwardly extending portion forming a clamping means, the body-portion of the lever lying immediately in front of said clamping means when the buckle is in a closed position, a spring-portion on said upper bar, and means connected with the back of said lever, said means cooperating with the spring-portion on said upper bar to retain the lever in an open or closed position.

2. A buckle comprising a back or frame formed with a lower bar and an upper bar, combined with a lever, said lever being arranged in front of said frame and pivoted to said upper bar, said lever being provided with a clamping means, the body-portion of the lever lying immediately in front of said clamping means when the buckle is in a closed position, a spring-portion on said upper bar, and means connected with the back of said lever, said means cooperating with the spring-portion on said upper bar to retain the lever in an open or closed position.

In testimony, that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of February, 1911.

GEORGE B. ADAMS.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,
FREDK. H. W. FRAENTZEL.