J. F. MOLLOY.

Buckle.

No. 211,249. Patented Jan. 7, 1879.

Fig 1

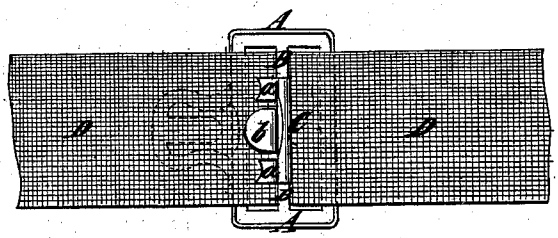


Fig 2.

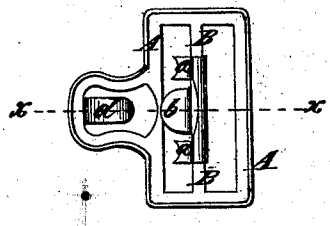


Fig 3.

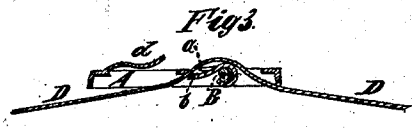
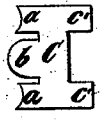


Fig 4



Fig 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. MOLLOY, OF WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUCKLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **211,249**, dated January 7, 1879; application filed November 20, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES F. MOLLOY, of West Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of lever-stop buckles in which the prongs of the lever or tongue are parallel, or nearly so, with the stop.

One of my improvements consists in a buckle-tongue having the prongs which engage with the strap to which the buckle is applied and the stop formed upon one edge of the blank of which the tongue is made, and the closing part, for securing it to the cross-bar of the buckle, formed upon the other side or edge thereof, and entirely within the outer lines of the prongs.

Another of my improvements consists in a buckle in which the prongs and stop are formed upon the front of the tongue, and the closing part, for securing said tongue to the cross-bar of the buckle, formed upon the back part thereof, and preferably entirely within the outer lines of the prongs.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a plan of the under side of a buckle embodying my improvements used upon a strap or piece of webbing. Fig. 2 represents a similar view with the webbing removed; Fig. 3, a transverse section of the buckle on the line *x x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a plan of the blank from which the tongue is formed; and Fig. 5, a plan of a blank of modified form.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A designates the frame of a buckle of the kind ordinarily used upon suspenders and braces, and which is shown as formed from sheet metal. B designates a cross-bar, extending transversely across the frame of the buckle, and formed in one piece therewith, as is usual in this kind of buckles. C designates the lever or tongue of the buckle, which secures the strap or piece of webbing D in the buckle.

The lever or tongue C is shown as provided upon one of its sides or edges (see particularly Fig. 4) with prongs *a* and a stop, *b*. The prongs catch in the strap D, and as the same is tightened they are drawn inward until the stop *b* comes in contact with said strap, (see particularly Fig. 3,) thus precluding them from further movement.

For securing the lever or tongue to the cross-bar of the buckle, I provide it upon the side or edge opposite from the prongs and stop (see also Fig. 4) with a closing part, *c*, adapted to be bent over the cross-bar for securing the tongue in place. This closing part is preferably entirely within the outer lines of the prongs, and is shown as provided with a slight hollow in its edge, so that it shall not come in contact with the stop *b* when bent around the cross-bar of a buckle.

A hook, *d*, formed in one piece with the frame of the buckle, provides for supporting articles by the buckle.

If it is desirable, in order to save stock in cutting out the blanks for the tongues, the closing part need not extend across the whole width of the tongue, but may only consist of two ears or lugs, *c' c'*. (See Fig. 5.)

As the prongs and stop are upon one side or edge of the tongue-blank and tongue, they may be brought very nearly into the same plane, as shown in Fig. 3, and much more nearly so than if formed on opposite sides and made to straddle the cross-bar.

By forming the closing part upon the opposite side or edge from the prongs, I may use as much of that side as I wish for closing; and as said closing part does not extend beyond the outer lines of the prongs, I am enabled to make the tongue narrower, and thus save stock and lessen the cost of manufacture.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A buckle-tongue having the prongs for engaging with a strap formed on one edge of the tongue-blank, and the closing part or parts, for securing the tongue to the cross-bar of the buckle, formed upon the other edge of the said blank, entirely within the outer lines of the prongs, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. A buckle in which the prongs and stop are formed upon the front of the tongue, and the closing part, for securing said tongue to

the cross-bar of the buckle, formed upon the back part thereof, substantially as specified.

3. A buckle in which the prongs and stop are formed upon the front of the tongue, and the closing part, for securing said tongue to the cross-bar of the buckle, formed upon the back part thereof, and entirely within the outer lines of the prongs, substantially as specified.

JAMES F. MOLLOY.

Witnesses:
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