

(No Model.)

J. V. WASHBURN.
BUCKLE.

No. 564,399.

Patented July 21, 1896.

Fig. 1.

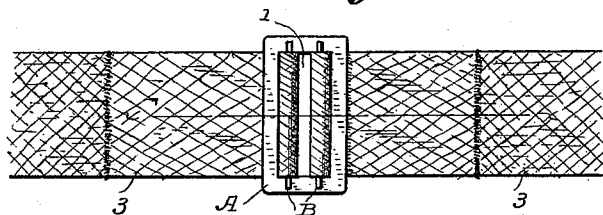


Fig. 2.

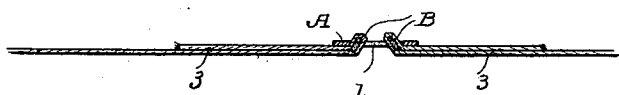


Fig. 3.

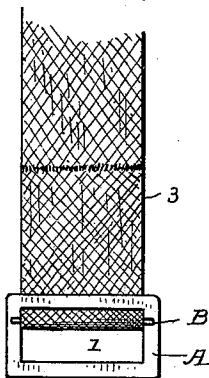


Fig. 4.

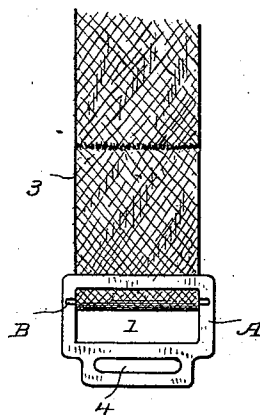


Fig. 5.

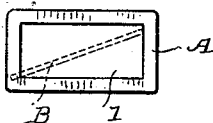
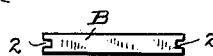


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES

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BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,399, dated July 21, 1896.

Application filed October 23, 1895. Serial No. 566,823. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES V. WASHBURN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps and 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.

My invention has for its object to provide a clasp or buckle which shall be adapted to the various uses to which clasps and buckles are applied, as, for example, in stocking-supporters, suspenders, belts, garters, armlets, &c., which shall be simple and inexpensive to produce, shall consist of few parts, be easy to adjust, and be perfectly reliable in operation.

With these ends in view I have devised the simple and novel clasp or buckle, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, numbers being used to designate the several parts.

Figure 1 is an elevation illustrating the use of my novel clasp or buckle as an adjusting and retaining device for the two ends of a belt, armlet, or garter. Fig. 2 is a section on the line *x x* in Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are elevations illustrating the use of my novel clasp or buckle as an adjusting and retaining device for the web of a stocking-supporter; Fig. 5, a view of the frame detached, the mode of inserting the cross-piece being indicated by dotted lines; and Fig. 6 is a view of the cross-piece detached.

My novel clasp or buckle consists of a frame A, which is ordinarily blanked out from sheet metal and provided with a rectangular opening 1, and one or more cross-pieces B, which are provided at their ends with notches 2, adapted to receive the ends of the frame, as clearly indicated in Figs. 1, 3, and 4.

3 denotes textile material, which may be an elastic or non-elastic web.

When it is desired to use the clasp or buckle in connection with two ends of textile material, as, for example, in a belt, garter, or armlet, two cross-pieces may be used, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2.

When used as a suspender-buckle or as an adjusting and retaining device for the web of a stocking-supporter, one cross-piece only need be used.

The shape of the frame is of course wholly immaterial so far as my invention is concerned.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a modification in the shape of the frame, which is shown as provided with a slot or eye 4, adapted to receive the clasp of a stocking-supporter.

If it is preferred to have but one of the textile ends adjustable, the other end may be permanently stitched or eyeleted to the frame. The web may be secured in place just as firmly, however, and at the same time be adjustable at both ends by the use of two cross-pieces, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The cross-pieces are made of such length relatively to the opening that when they are placed diagonally to the opening, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, the notch at one end of the cross-piece may be placed in engagement with the frame and the other end of the cross-piece will then just pass into the opening at the corner diagonally opposite. The notch in the end of the cross-piece last inserted will then receive the corresponding end of the frame and the cross-piece will drop into position parallel to the sides of the frame. The cross-piece will now remain securely in place until removed again by placing it diagonally to the opening and disengaging first one end and then the other.

In use the web is passed through the opening, being held longitudinally thereto, then backward over a cross-piece and under the side of the frame. When the web is pulled backward, the parts will assume the position shown in the drawings, the cross-piece will tilt slightly, as shown in Fig. 2, and the web will be strained over the cross-piece and the short ply of the web will be locked between the cross-piece and the side of the frame, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

The construction of the clasp or buckle so that its cross-piece or gripping-bar will rock or tilt on its longitudinal axis under the draft on the webbing for gripping and releasing the same makes my improved device not only very convenient to manipulate, but also ex-

tremely effective in use. Furthermore, the construction described is one which may be produced at a very low cost.

One reason why my improved clasp or buckle may be produced at a very low cost is that by making the notches in the ends of the gripping-bar rectangular they are conformed in shape to the end walls of the aperture in the sheet-metal frame, the said end walls being left rectangular or square in cross-section in forming the aperture in the frame. I do not limit myself, however, to making the said notches rectangular or the end walls of the aperture of the form described.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A clasp or buckle comprising a frame having an aperture for the reception of webbing, and a gripping-bar located in the said aperture and connected at its ends with the frame so as to tilt or rock on its longitudinal axis under the draft on the webbing, for gripping and releasing same.

2. A clasp or buckle comprising a frame having an aperture for the reception of webbing, and a gripping-bar located in the said aperture and adapted to slide in the plane of the said frame, and to tilt or rock on its longitudinal axis under the draft on the webbing for gripping and releasing the same.

3. A clasp or buckle comprising a frame having an aperture for the reception of webbing, and a gripping-bar adapted to be introduced into the said aperture and engaged with

the end walls thereof, when presented diagonally thereto, and also adapted, when righted in the aperture so as to be parallel with the side walls thereof, to slide in the plane of the frame, and to tilt or rock on its longitudinal axis for gripping and releasing the webbing.

4. In a clasp or buckle, the combination with a frame constructed with an aperture for the reception of webbing, of a gripping-bar located in the said aperture and having its ends constructed with notches receiving the end walls of the aperture, and enough wider than the metal of the frame is thick to permit the said bar to freely slide in the plane of the frame and be tilted on its longitudinal axis in one direction or the other according to the direction of the draft upon the webbing and so as to release or grip the same.

5. A clasp or buckle having a frame, and a gripping-bar mounted in the said frame in which its ends have rocking bearing to permit it to rock or tilt on its longitudinal axis in one direction or the other according to the direction of the draft upon the webbing, and so as to release or grip the same, the webbing being gripped by being pinched between the bar and a portion of the frame.

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

JAMES V. WASHBURNE.

Witnesses:

A. M. WOOSTER,
S. V. RICHARDSON.