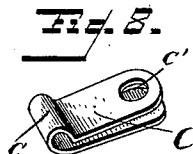
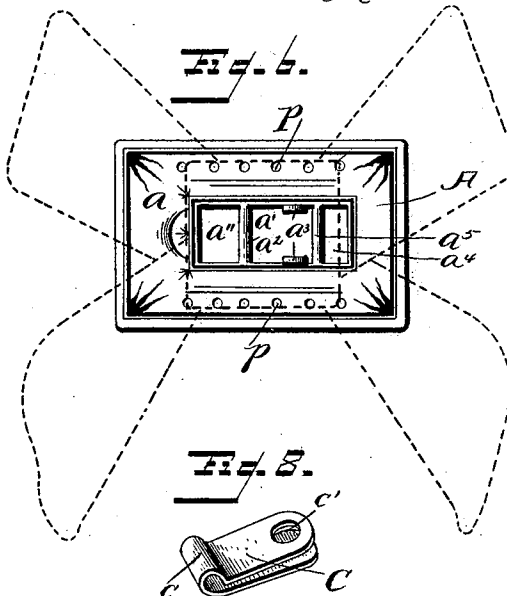
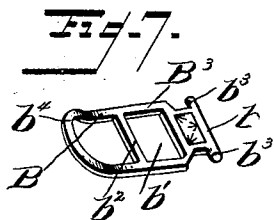
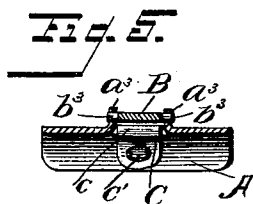
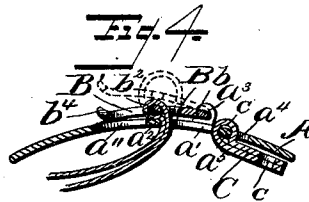
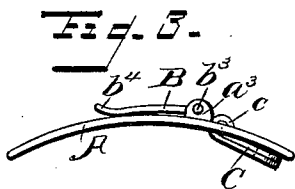
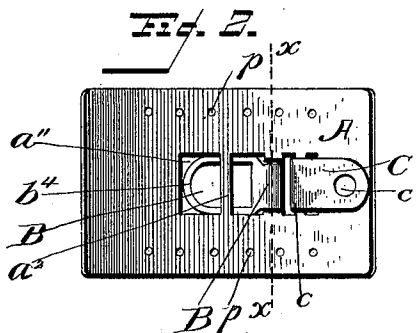
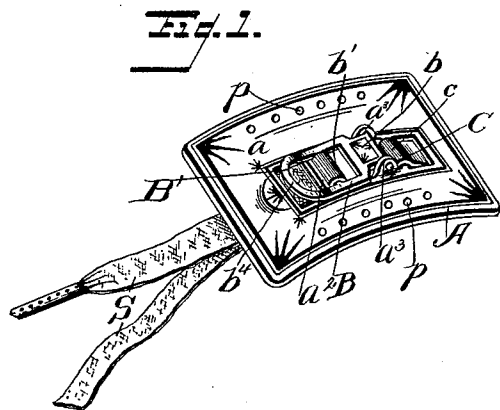


(No Model.)

A. E. McCLURE.
BUCKLE.

No. 520,375.

Patented May 22, 1894.



Witnesses

C. E. Hunt.
M. J. McMahon

Inventor
Albert E. McClure,
By J. R. Littell
his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT E. MCCLURE, OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO THE MCCLURE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 520,375, dated May 22, 1894.

Application filed August 13, 1892. Renewed April 16, 1894. Serial No. 507,779. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT E. MCCLURE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sedalia, in the county of Pettis and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to that class of buckles which are adapted for use upon shoes or the like, and the object of my invention is to provide a simple and improved buckle which will serve to securely retain the lacing strings and which will possess advantages in point of neatness in appearance, durability, strength, ease of adjustment, and general efficiency, and will also be adapted for effective use in a great variety of other positions and arrangements.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a buckle embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the under side. Fig. 3 is an edge or side view. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view on the line $x-x$ Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the body plate of the buckle detached. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of the upper link detached. Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view of the securing strap detached.

Corresponding parts in all the figures are denoted by the same letters of reference.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the body of my improved buckle, which constitutes a main plate, as shown, preferably provided with an ornamental front surface a , of any suitable design. This ornamental front surface constitutes the face of the buckle, and may be square or rectangular in shape, oval, or of other desired contour. In the body plate A is formed an opening a' , preferably at about a central point. Another corresponding opening, a'' may be formed immediately in front of the opening a' to provide a cross-bar, a^2 , dividing the two openings. The supplementary opening a'' is not, however, an essential feature of the construction and may be dispensed with if desired, in which case the front edge of the opening a'

would serve all the purposes of the cross bar a^2 and be a full equivalent therefor.

B designates an outer plate, which is pivotally connected with the body A at the rear end of the opening a' , this pivotal connection being preferably carried out by two projecting ears or lugs, $a^3 a^3$, struck up from the plate A and receiving projections or studs, $b^3 b^3$, at the sides of the rear end of the pivoted plate B, which projections or studs have a bearing in said ears or lugs. The face, b , of the pivoted plate may be suitably ornamented as desired, and in the body of the plate is formed an opening, b' , at about the center of which is provided a cross bar, b^2 , this cross bar being adapted to operate in conjunction with the cross bar a^2 forming the front edge of the opening a' in the body plate. The outer portion of the pivoted plate B beyond the cross bar b' projects as shown and forms a free lifting end by which the plate may be elevated. This outer projecting end, B' , may be formed with an upwardly turned point b^4 to provide for convenient engagement by the finger of the operator, though this ready engagement is permitted by the opening a'' when the body plate is formed with the latter, the relative construction being then such that the outer end of the pivoted plate B rests above said opening a'' .

In rear of the pivotal connection of the plate B with the body A, the latter is formed with an opening, a^4 , which may be simply an extension of the opening a' , as herein illustrated, or may be a separate opening. Across the opening a^4 is provided a cross bar, a^5 , which is embraced by a securing piece, C, preferably formed by a metallic plate having its central portion, c , embracing the cross bar a^5 and its two ends brought together and provided with registering openings, c' through which an eyelet may be passed to secure the buckle in position. This securing strip C projects from the under side of the body plate A and is entirely concealed by the latter when the buckle is in position. In lieu of the metallic securing strip C, a flexible securing strap may be passed around the cross bar a^5 and have its ends secured in any suitable manner to the shoe or other device.

In operation, the free end of the string, S,

is passed up through the opening a' , over the cross bar b^2 , and downwardly again through the opening a' , so that the tension upon the string causes it to bind upon the cross bar b^2 and against the cross bar a^2 , in which position the pivoted plate B will rest flat against the outer face of the body plate A and the string will be securely retained in position. When it is desired to adjust the string or loosen the same, the pivoted plate B is lifted, which releases the string, and permits it to slide freely through the buckle.

In the construction of my improved buckle, the body plate A forms the outer face or surface of the buckle, and serves to conceal the attachment of the buckle to the shoe, and carries the small pivoted upper plate B, the latter occupying the center of the surface of the body plate A which forms the face of the buckle, thus insuring a neat and attractive device of comparatively simple and inexpensive construction. The body plate A is preferably curved in convex shape, to conform to the curvature of the shoe, and the small centrally pivoted plate B is correspondingly curved so that it will rest flatly against the body plate, but the plates may be flat, to best adapt the buckle for other purposes or uses as may be desired.

The plate A may be provided at its top and bottom edges with a series of eyes or perforations p , adapted to receive threads in the

attachment of a bow of ribbon as illustrated in dotted lines Fig. 6.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise form and detail construction herein shown and described, as various manifest changes and modifications may be employed without departing from the essential elements and main features. I therefore reserve the right to all such variations or changes in construction which properly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention and the terms of the claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

An improved buckle for shoes, comprising the body-plate A having the extended face a forming the outer face or surface of the buckle and provided with opening a' having the cross-bar a^2 , and the smaller outer plate B pivotally mounted upon the body plate and occupying the central portion of the face of the same, the pivoted plate being divided by the cross-bar b^2 into a main portion and an outer projecting portion B' forming a free lifting end; substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

ALBERT E. MCCLURE.

Witnesses:

J. R. LITTELL,

M. J. MCMAHON.