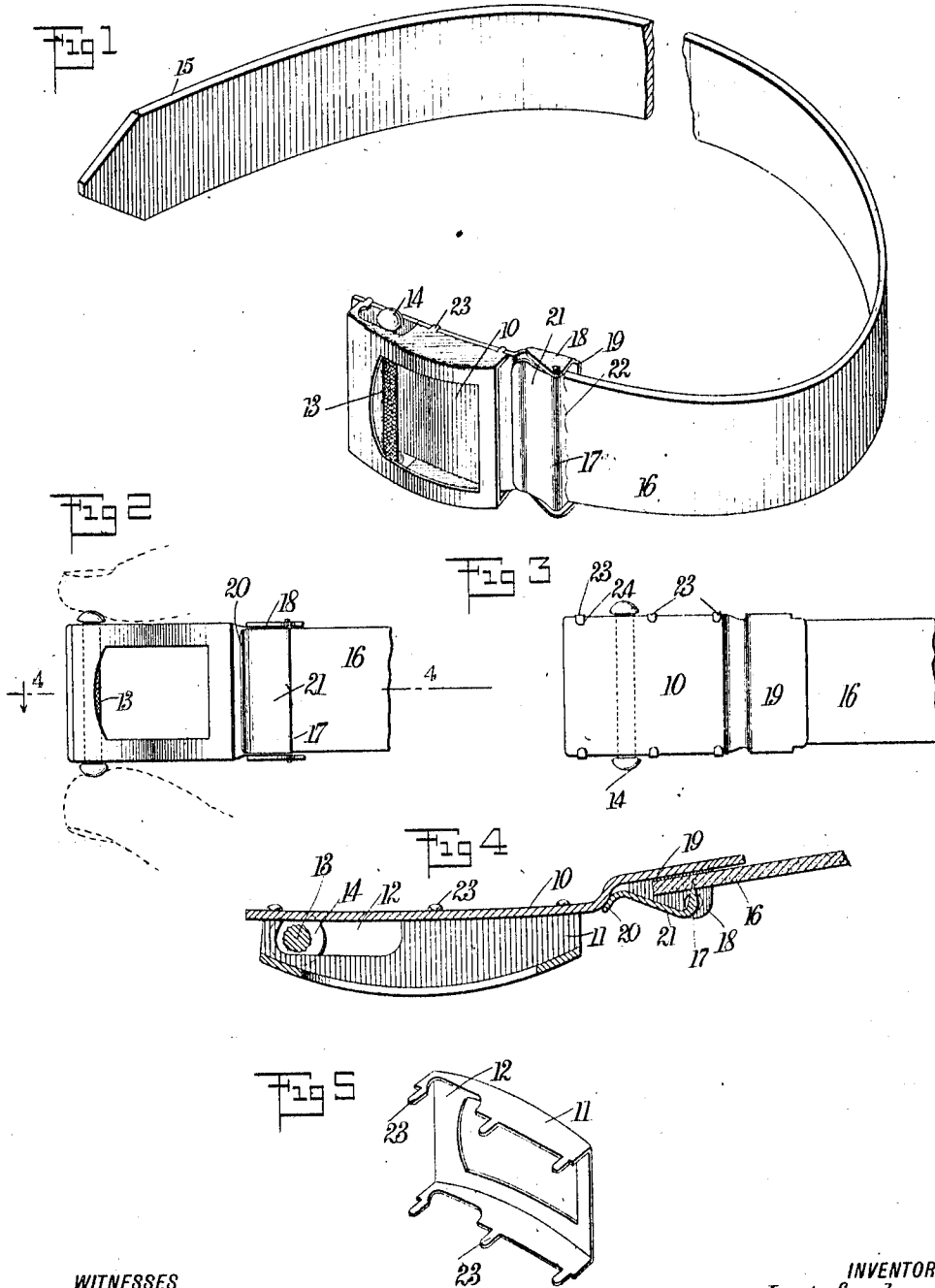


L. SANDERS.
BELT BUCKLE.
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1,035,643.

Patented Aug. 13, 1912.



WITNESSES
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LOUIS SANDERS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BELT-BUCKLE.

1,035,643.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 13, 1912.

Application filed September 29, 1911. Serial No. 651,935.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS SANDERS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Belt-Buckle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

The invention has reference more particularly to men's belts and buckles.

A highly important result obtained by the present construction is the rigidity between all the parts of the base of the buckle, the arrangement being such that a rigid relation is maintained between the means for fastening the buckle to the belt and the means for adjustably making connection between the free end of the belt and the front end of the buckle. By my improved construction also, the belt may be readily adjusted to the wearer by varying its length in one of two ways: An approximate adjustment to the wearer may be secured by detaching the belt from the point where the buckle is fastened to it at the rear end of the buckle, a piece of the belt cut off, and the end again caused to be gripped by the buckle fastening device. For exact adjustment to the wearer, the free end of the belt, may, as in other buckles, be adjustably secured to the front end of the buckle.

The construction of the buckle and the mode of securing the belt very materially economizes in the amount of material required for the buckle, and also saves belt material by avoiding the necessity for any return fold in fastening the strap to the buckle.

Other advantages and distinctive features will appear from the specific description hereinafter to be given.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved buckle applied to a belt; Fig. 2 is a front view of the buckle, showing a portion of the belt; Fig. 3 is a rear view; Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the cover part of the housing forming the buckle proper.

In constructing a buckle in accordance with my invention, a base plate 10 is pro-

vided, over the major portion of which a cover 11 is secured constituting a housing with slotted sides as at 12 near the front end. A clutch roller 13 has movement in the housing on the base plate 10, the roller extending laterally through the openings 12, and being provided exteriorly with headed ends 14. The clutch roller thus arranged at the front of the buckle serves to adjustably clutch the free end portion 15 of the belt. To the opposite end 16 of the belt the buckle is secured by means of the grip lever 17, which is fulcrumed in side ears 18 that are integral with the adjacent end 19 of the base plate 10, said end 19 being offset rearwardly from the plane of the major portion of the base plate, the said base plate and its end 19 being rigid. The grip lever 17 from its fulcrum in the ears 18 to its free end 20, inclines forwardly toward the buckle proper, as at 21, and when in the closed position of the said grip lever, the teeth 22 thereof at the gripping end hold the end 16 of the belt tightly against the extension 19 of the base plate.

It is important in a buckle of this character that the total width be reduced as far as possible and that there be no projecting members, and to this end the cover 11 constituting a housing, is provided on the lower edges of its sides with elongated clenches 23, which are received in notches or recesses 24 in the sides of the base plate 10, of the buckle proper, said clenches being turned over on the underside of the said base plate, as clearly shown. It will be observed that the members 23 do not appear from the front of the buckle and form no projections, the only projecting members being the heads of the clutch roller 13, and these are rounded, as shown.

By forming the base plate and buckle proper in the manner shown, a buckle having a very desirable appearance results, and economy is greatly promoted in the material and in the operations necessary in the forming and assembling of the parts. The forming of the base plate common to both the grip lever 17 and the buckle proper, further contributes to the economy of material and labor, and results in a rigid relation between the means for fastening the buckle to the belt, and for adjustably securing the free end of the belt. When the free end of the belt is passed rearwardly from the front end of the buckle proper over the roller 13, it will

be guided by the inclined arm 21 of the grip lever and deflected outward sufficiently to be taken hold of by the wearer in adjusting the buckle to the desired degree.

5 The gripping form of the fastener for the end 16 of the belt is highly desirable because it avoids the necessity of the turning back of the belt on itself, or stitching, and thus lessens the amount of leather required, in addition to its convenience as a cast-off 10 when it is desired to cut off a piece of the belt, and I thus obtain the advantages of the grip lever, while at the same time supporting it on members rigid with the buckle proper, and I utilize the inclined arm of the buckle in the manner explained in the adjustment of the belt.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent,—

A belt fastener, comprising a front plate forming a housing for one end of the belt, means for holding said end of the belt in adjusted position, a base plate at the back of the said front plate and extending beyond the rear end of said front plate, the base

plate being offset rearwardly at a point rearward of the front plate, said offset portion having integral, forwardly-extending side ears, and a gripping lever fulcrumed in said 30 ears, the said lever having a gripping edge at one side of the fulcrum and projecting toward the adjacent surface of the base plate to co-act therewith in gripping the opposite end of the belt, the said lever at the oppo- 35 site side of the fulcrum being in the form of a handle extending toward the front end of the base plate and having a bend near its free end which is movable when the lever is in the gripping position to lie adjacent to 40 the rearward bend of the base plate, said lever being movable on its fulcrum in an arc and in the rear of the front plate of the fastener.

In testimony whereof I have signed my 45 name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS SANDERS.

Witnesses:

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