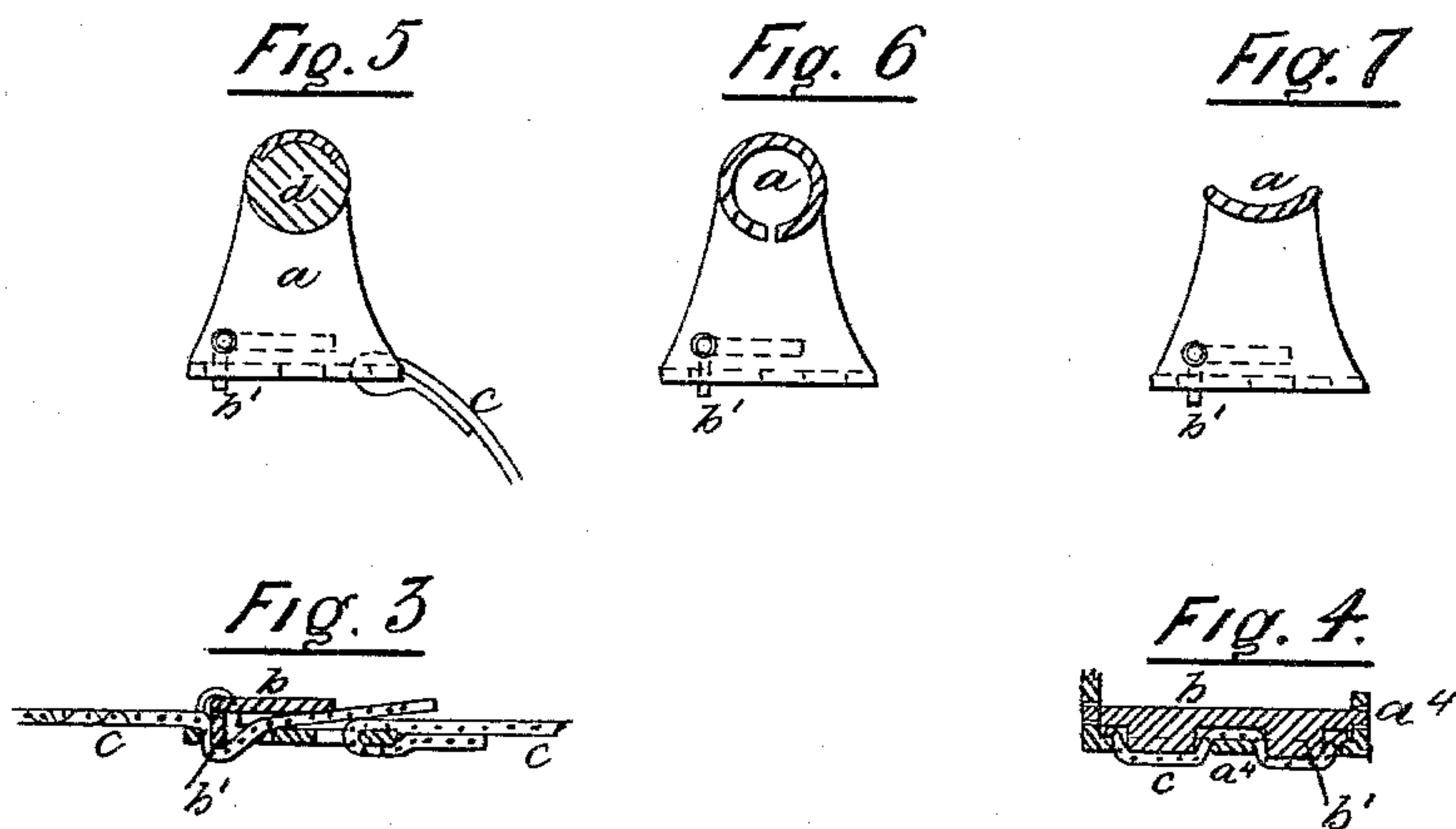
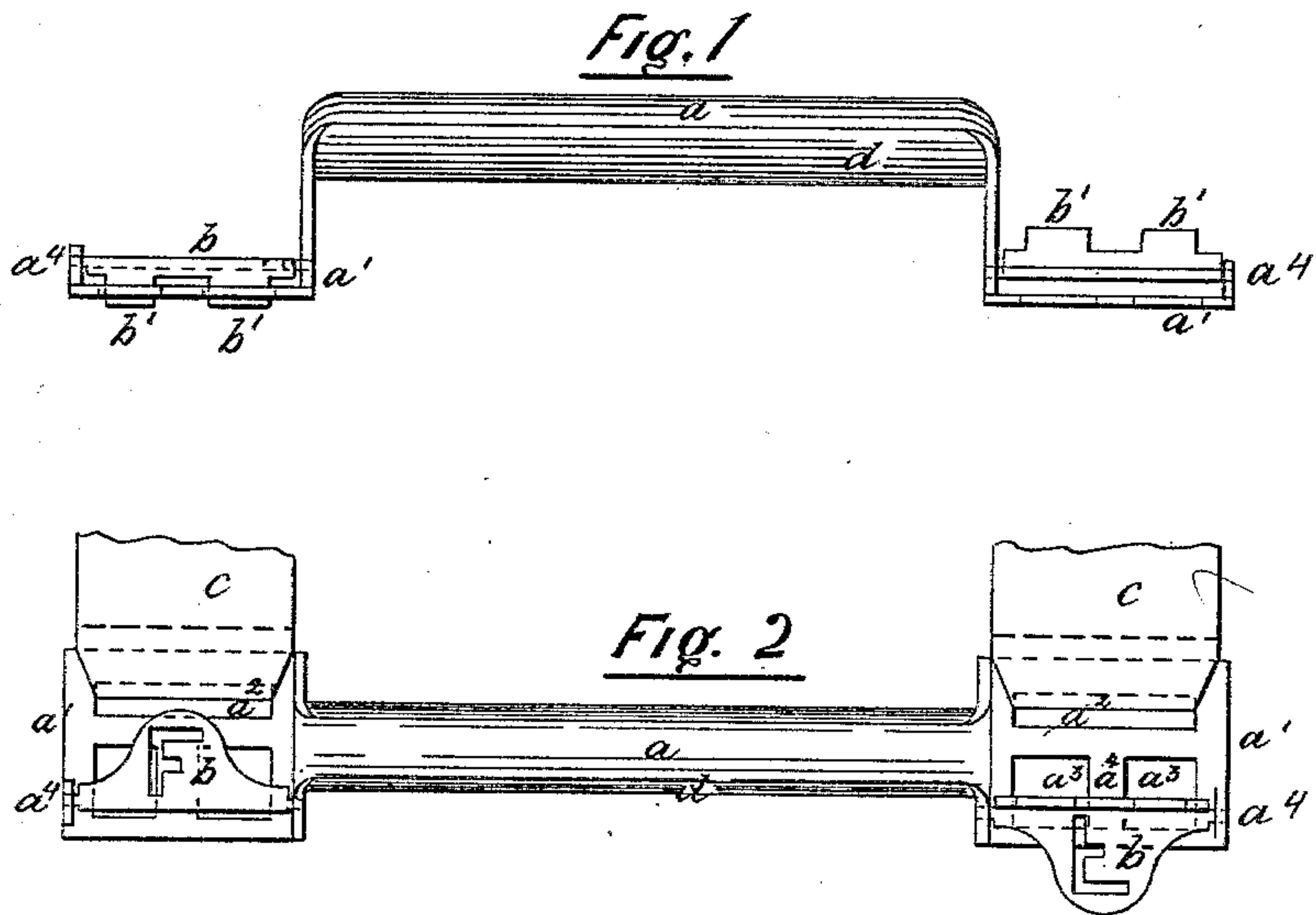


W. P. FERGUSON.
Shawl-Strap Handle.

No. 211,004.

Patented Dec. 17, 1878.



Witnesses.
E. H. Johnson.
Louis M. Celestine.

W. P. Ferguson.
per. Inventor
Alfred Hedrick.
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM P. FERGUSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHAWL-STRAP HANDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **211,004**, dated December 17, 1878; application filed April 27, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. P. FERGUSON, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shawl-Straps, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to shawl-straps; and has for its object to make a light, strong, and elegant article of only three pieces of metal, and also to make perfectly secure retaining devices for the straps without piercing holes through them or otherwise injuring or defacing them.

It consists in so shaping and bending a strip of sheet metal as to form the carrying-handle and the bodies of the two buckles or retaining devices. The two clamping-pieces of the buckles are so made as to work in ears bent up at right angles from the bodies of the buckles.

The parts of the retaining-clamps which gripe the straps are divided into two or more sections, the edges of which are smooth. Each one of these sections presses the straps, which are preferably made of textile fabric, down into separate openings formed through the bodies of the buckles, thereby creasing the straps longitudinally over the bars which separate the openings in the bodies of the buckles, as well as creasing them transversely over the front edges of the openings, thus holding the straps perfectly secure without in any way injuring them.

To describe my invention more particularly, I will refer to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved shawl-strap. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the buckle or retaining device. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are transverse sectional views, showing various ways of forming the carrying-handle.

The handle *a* and bodies *a*¹ *a*¹ of the buckles are cut from a piece of sheet metal and bent up into the form as shown at Fig. 1.

The handle is bent into a circular form, as shown at Fig. 6, or partly circular, as shown at Fig. 7, so as to enable it to be comfortably gripped by the hand of the user; or it may be

bent as shown at Fig. 5, and a piece of wood, *d*, secured to the under side of it by means of rivets or screws.

The hinged clamps *b* are formed from a flat piece of metal, the front edges of which are made into sections *b'* *b'*, and which are bent at right angles to the finger-pieces *b*.

A pin projecting from one side of the clamp *b* works into a hole in the upright side portion of the handle *a*, and a pin projecting from the opposite side of the clamp works in a hole in the ear *a*⁴, which is a part of the body, and is bent up at right angles thereto.

The sections *b'* *b'* of the hinged clamps *b* pass down into the openings *a*³ *a*³, when the finger-piece *b* is caused to lie flat on the strap *c* after the strap is passed between the hinged clamp and the body of the buckle, and thus press the strap into the openings, creasing it longitudinally over the bar *a*⁴, as shown at Fig. 4, and creasing it transversely over the front edges of the openings *a*³ *a*³, and over the smooth edges of the sections *b'* *b'*, as shown at Fig. 3.

The bodies of the buckles *a*¹ are also provided with slots *a*², through which one end of the straps *c* are passed to enable the straps to be secured to the bodies of the buckles by sewing or other suitable means.

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

1. A carrying device for shawl-straps, consisting of the handle *a* and bodies of the buckles *a*¹ *a*¹, formed from a single piece of sheet metal and bent in the manner shown, in combination with the retaining-clamps *b* *b*, hinged to the bodies *a*¹ *a*¹, and the straps *c* *c*, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. In a shawl-strap, the hinged clamp *b*, provided with the sections *b'* *b'*, and the body *a*¹, provided with the openings *a*³ *a*³, when constructed and combined so as to form a retaining device for straps, substantially in the manner hereinbefore set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of April, 1878.

WM. P. FERGUSON.

Witnesses:

EDWARD S. GOODWIN,
JOHN CUNNINGHAM.