(No Model.)

J. THOMAS.

TRACE BUCKLE.

No. 256,075. Patented Apr. 4, 1882.

fig 1.

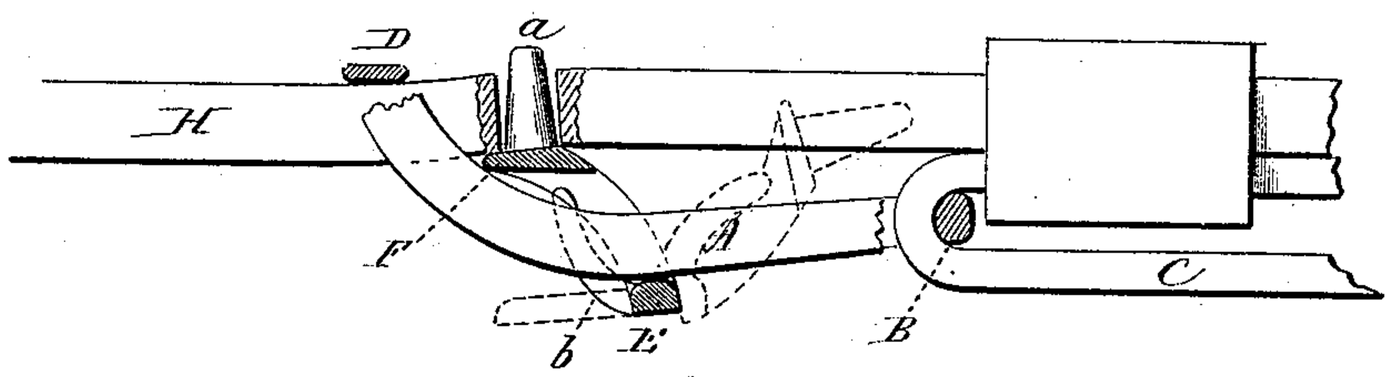


fig 2.

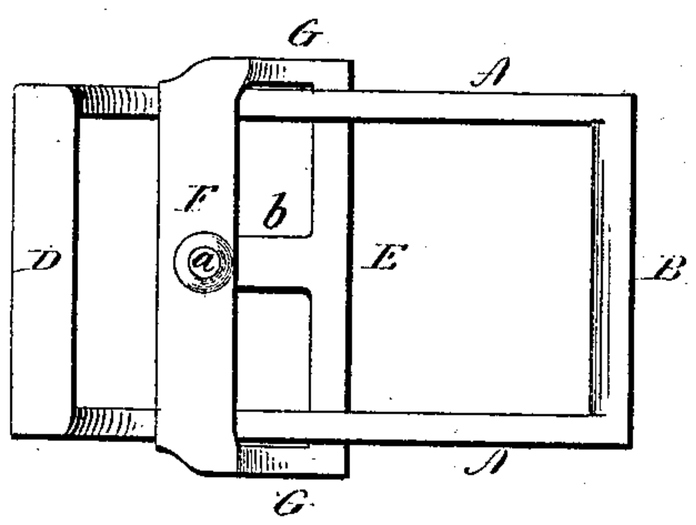
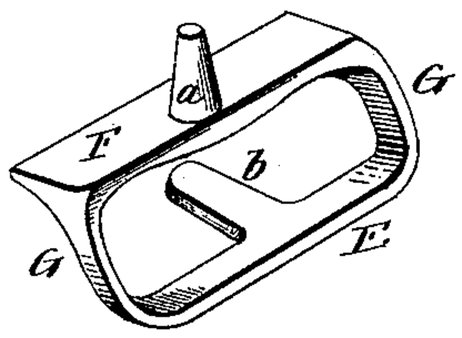


fig 3.



Witnesses.
J. H. Shumway
Jos. C. Earle

John Thomas
Inventor
By atty.
Jno. C. Earle

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN THOMAS, OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

TRACE-BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 256,075, dated April 4, 1882.

Application filed February 16, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN THOMAS, of Cedar Rapids, in the county of Linn and State of Iowa, have invented a new Improvement in Trace-Buckles; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a sectional side view; Fig. 2, a top or plan view; Fig. 3, the loop detached.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of harness-buckles used for securing the trace to the tug, commonly called "trace-buckles."

The object of this invention is a simple, cheap, and durable construction; and the invention consists in the construction of the buckle, as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claims.

The frame of the buckle is composed of two sides, A A, connected at their front end by a bar, B, to which the tug C is attached, and at their other end by a bar, D, the two sides curved outward at their rear end, so as to bring the rear bar, D, into a plane outside of the plane of the forward or tug bar, B, as shown. Over this frame, transversely around it, a loop is placed, consisting of an inner or back bar, E, and outer or front bar, F, connected outside the frame by sides G G, longer than the depth of the buckle-frame—that is, the distance between the bars E F is greater than the depth of the bars A of the frame. This loop is made separate from the frame, and so as to pass on over one end of and slide freely on the frame, and also so as to be turned forward on the frame, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 1.

On the upper bar, F, of the loop is a fixed stud, *a*, in a central position. On the under or lower bar, E, a tongue, *b*, is cast with the loop, seen in Fig. 3, but in a position relatively to the two bars on the tongue, as seen in broken lines, Fig. 1, so as not to interfere with the placing of the loop upon the frame; then when the loop is placed upon the frame the tongue *b* is turned up toward the other bar, F—that is, across the opening in the loop—which affords a stop to prevent the loop from slipping from the frame.

The tug is secured to the forward bar, B, in the usual manner, the trace is introduced beneath the rear bar, D, of the frame, and over the loop, which is turned back, as indicated in broken lines, so as to bring the tongue out of the way of the trace, and not interfere with its introduction, until the hole in the tug may be set upon the stud *a*, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 1; then the draft upon the trace draws the loop backward, the bar F riding up the incline of the frame toward the bar D, and so as to bear upon the under side of the trace, and, to an extent, clamping the trace between the bar D of the frame and the bar F of the loop, and bringing the stud *a* so near the bar D that the trace cannot be disengaged therefrom. This construction produces a buckle of the cheapest possible character, strong and serviceable.

I do not broadly claim a buckle provided with a slide having a stationary tongue arranged thereon to enter the trace and be drawn toward the stationary bar of the frame, as such I am aware is not new; but

What I do claim is—

1. The herein-described buckle, consisting of the frame A A B D, the sides curved outward at their rear end, combined with the loop E F G G, arranged transversely around the frame, the frame introduced through the loop, bringing one bar, E, of the loop upon the back of the frame, the other bar, F, upon the front of the frame, the loop deeper than the thickness of the frame, the depth of the loop permitting it to turn forward for the insertion of the trace, the said bar F provided with a stationary stud, *a*, and the tongue *b* on the inner bar extending toward the outer bar, substantially as described.

2. The herein-described buckle, consisting of the frame A A B D, the sides curved outward at their rear end, combined with the loop E F G G, arranged transversely around the frame, the frame introduced through the loop, bringing one bar, E, of the loop upon the back of the frame, the other bar, F, in front of the frame, the loop deeper than the thickness of the frame, the depth of the loop permitting it to turn forward for the insertion of the trace, the said bar F provided with a stationary stud, *a*, substantially as described.

JOHN THOMAS.

Witnesses:
FRANK A. THOMAS,
J. H. DIXON.