(No Model.)

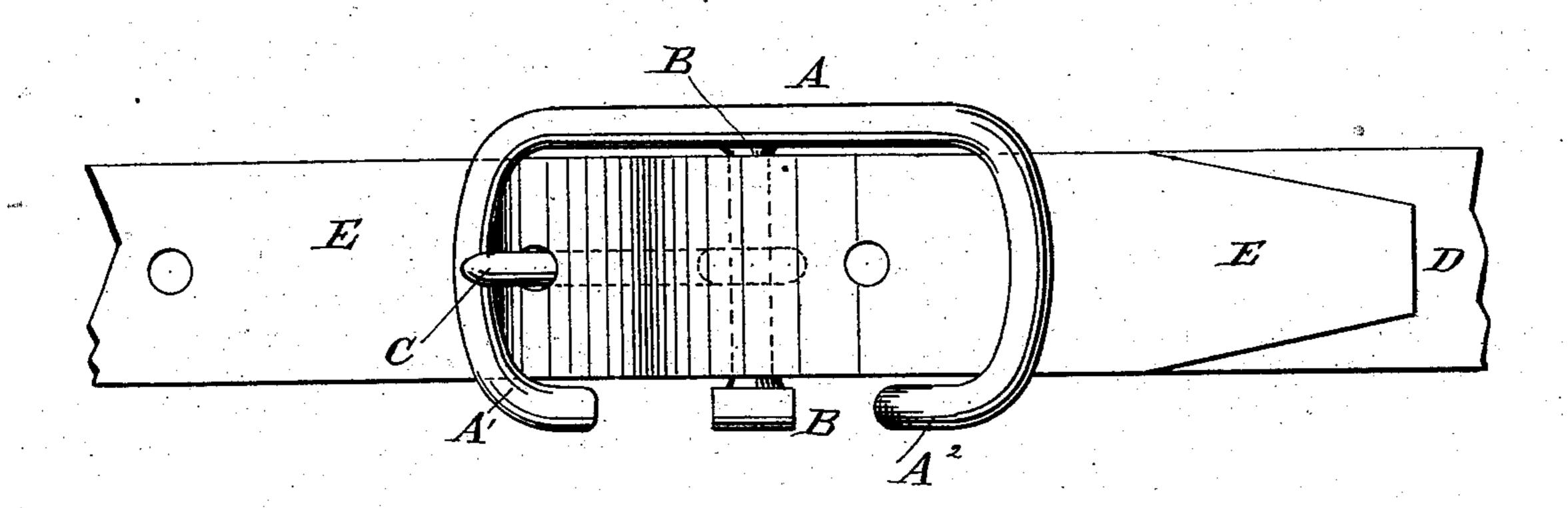
G. E. STEDMAN.

BUCKLE.

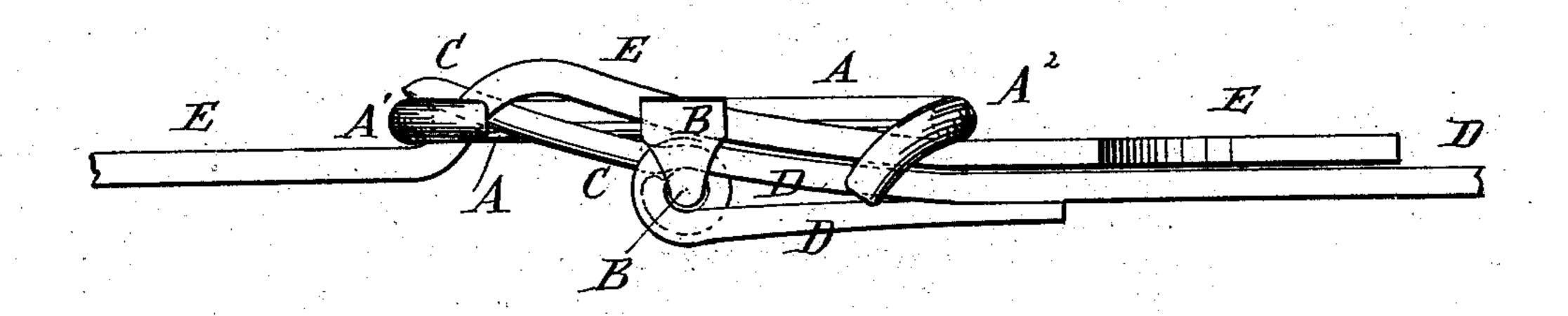
No. 272,344.

Patented Feb. 13, 1883.

Jig: 1.



Sig: h.



MITNESSES:

nas. Cliata.

INVENTUR!

S. E. Stedmans

BY MULLING

ATTORNEYS

N OFTERS Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

## United States Patent Office.

GEORGE E. STEDMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,344, dated February 13, 1883.

Application filed November 29, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. STEDMAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

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

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improvement shown as fastening a strap. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same.

The object of this invention is to promote convenience in buckling and unbuckling straps.

The invention consists in a buckle made with openings in the side of its frame upon the opposite sides of the tongue-bar. The end of the frame-bar, at the rear end of the buckle, is bent downward to cross the side edges of the straps, and the free end of the tongue-bar is bent upward to cross the side edges of the straps, whereby the said straps will be held securely in place, and can be readily inserted in the buckle-frame and removed therefrom, as will be hereinafter fully described.

A is a bar of such a length and size as the kind of buckle to be made may require. The ends of the bar A are bent into U-shape, to form the end parts of the buckle-frame.

B is the tongue-bar, which I prefer to make with its ends bent upward at right angles, to form a space below the level of the buckle-frame to receive the straps. One end of the tongue-bar B is welded to or otherwise formed upon the middle part of the side bar, A, of the frame. The other end of the tongue-bar B is free, and is bent upward to serve as a stop to hold the straps from lateral movement upon the said bar.

C is the tongue, which is hinged to the bar B in the ordinary manner.

The end of the bend A' of the bar A, upon which the free end of the tongue C rests when the buckle is in use, is parallel with the side bar of the buckle-frame. The end of the bend A<sup>2</sup> of the bar A, that serves as a keeper to con-

fine the free end of the strap, is bent back, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to cross the edges of the straps, and thus keep them in place.

The end of the strap D, to which the buckle is attached, has a hole formed through it to receive the tongue C, and is bent back upon and secured to the body of the said strap by sewing, rivets, or other suitable means.

In using the buckle the end of the strap E to be secured, and which has a number of holes formed through it to receive the tongue C, is passed into the end A' of the buckle-frame through its open side, the tongue C is passed 60 through a hole in the said strap E, and the free end of the strap E is passed through the open side of the buckle-frame A into the end A<sup>2</sup>. The strap is unbuckled by passing its free end out of the end A<sup>2</sup> through the open 65 side of the buckle-frame, drawing the said strap off the tongue C, and then passing the strap out of the bend A' through the open side of the buckle-frame.

The buckle thus made is especially useful 70 upon the interior straps of valises, upon trunks, and in other places where it is inconvenient to pass the ends of the straps through the frame of a buckle made in the ordinary manner.

I am aware that a buckle having an open- 75 ing at one side for the introduction of the strap is not new, and I therefore make no claim thereto; but

What I do claim as my invention is—

1. In a buckle having a central tongue and 80 an opening in one side of its frame, the downwardly-bent end  $A^2$ , as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a buckle consisting of a frame open at one side and one end bent to form a keeper 85 for the straps, a transverse tongue-bar with upturned ends, one of which is connected to the frame, and a tongue, C, substantially as shown and described.

GEORGE E. STEDMAN.

Witnesses:

C. Sedgwick, Edw. M. Clark.