

(No Model.)

W. E. T. MERRILL.  
BUCKLE.

No. 303,175.

Patented Aug. 5, 1884.

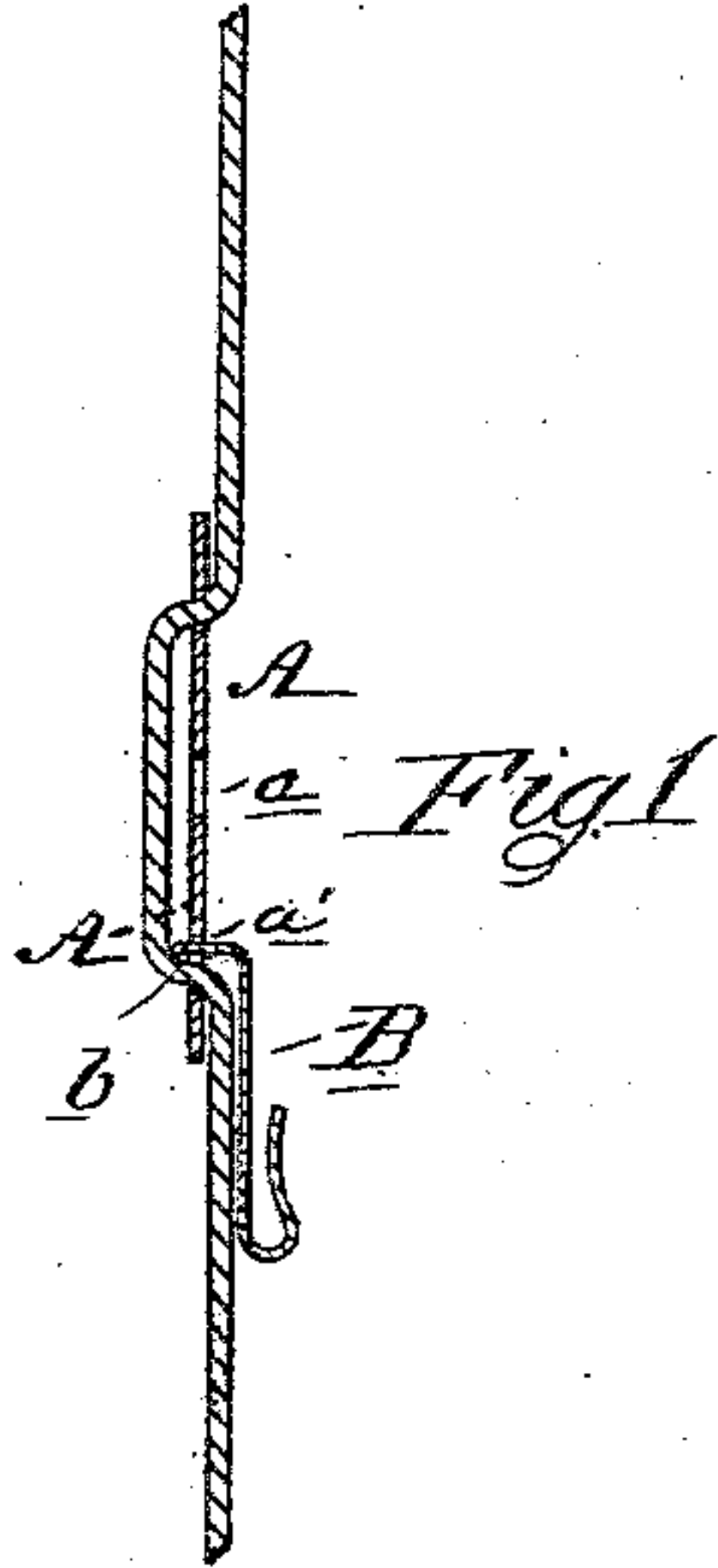


Fig. 2

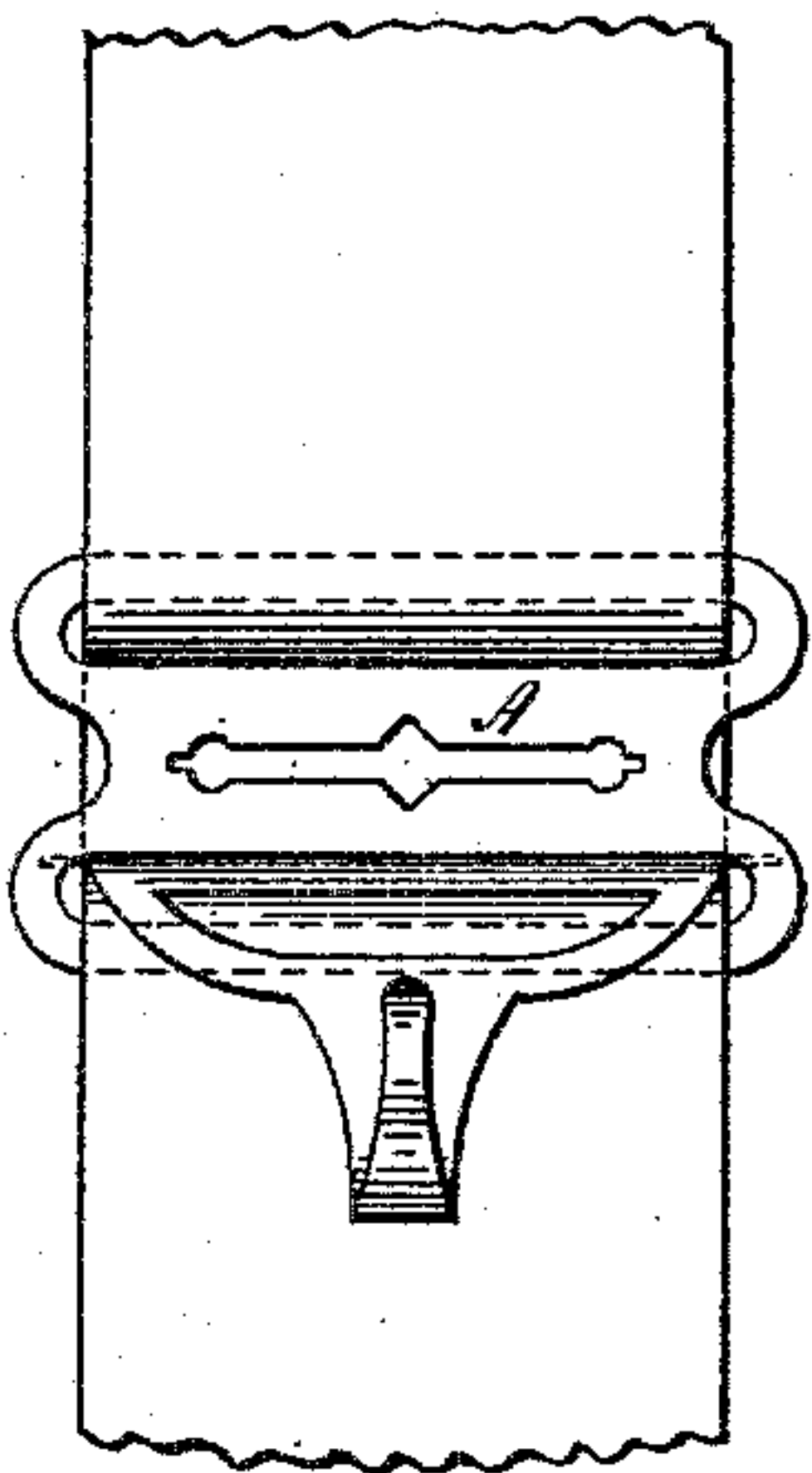


Fig. 3

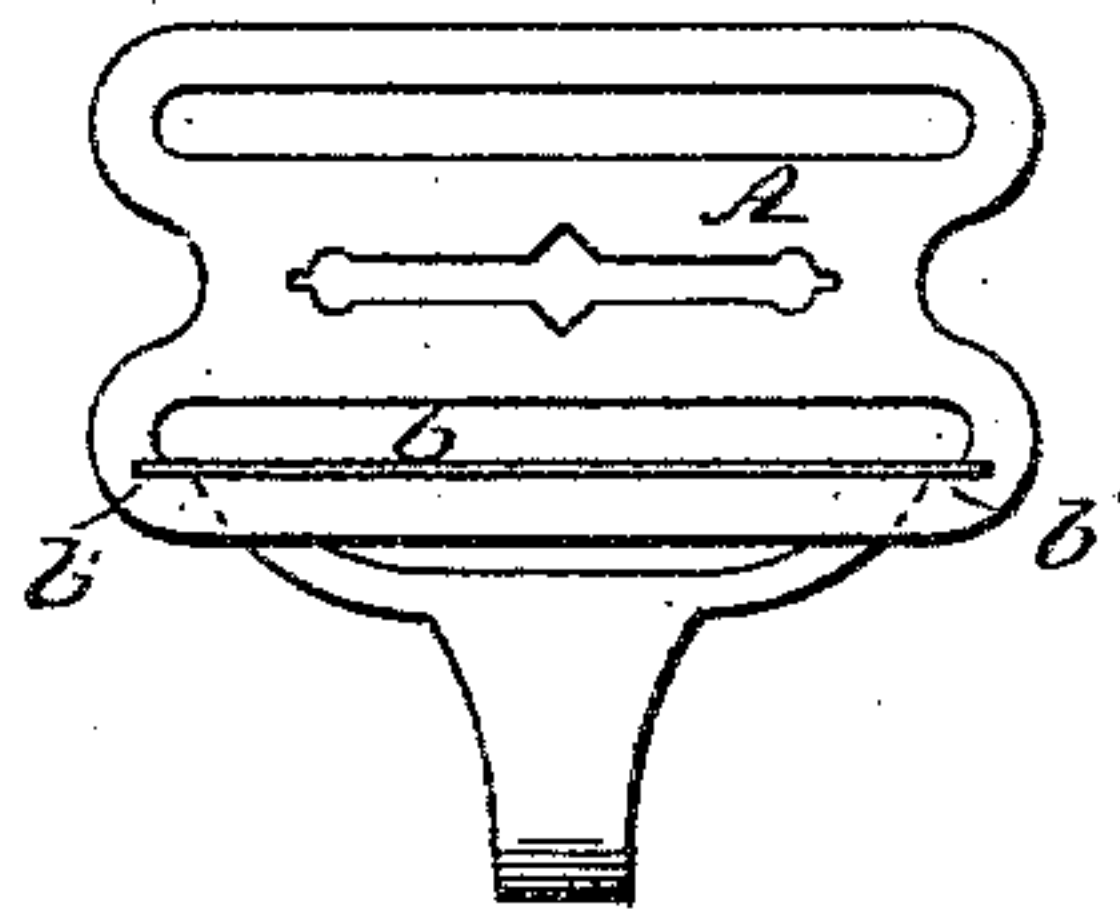
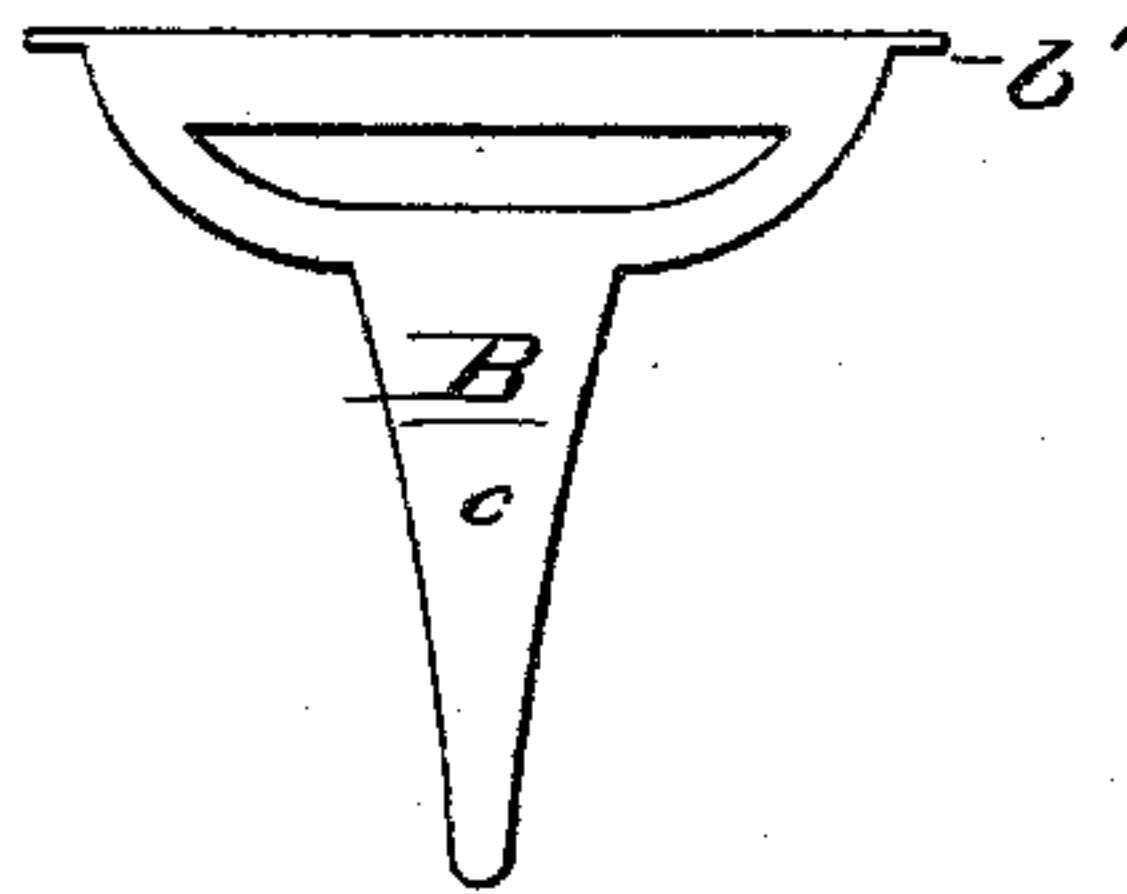


Fig. 4



Witnesses  
A. A. Connolly  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. T. MERRILL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,175, dated August 5, 1884.

Application filed March 10, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. T. MERRILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of the buckle and tongue applied to a suspender-web. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same. Fig. 3 is a face view of the buckle and tongue connected. Fig. 4 is a face view of the blank for the tongue.

This invention has relation to buckles for suspenders and other uses, and has for its object the provision of a buckle, the body and tongue of which may be made of sheet or cast metal, and after the stamping or cutting of the blanks may be struck up or shaped to the required form.

A further object of my invention is to provide an improved form of buckle of a very simple and comparatively inexpensive construction, which will securely hold the web or strap without injury to the same.

The invention consists in constructing the body or frame of the buckle of a simple flat plate of metal having slots for the passage of the web or strap, and in constructing the tongue with a lip to engage a fold of the web at its point of insertion or passage through one of the slots, said tongue being provided with means for attachment to the frame, all as hereinafter described.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, A designates the buckle-frame, consisting simply of a flat plate of any suitable metal formed according to any suitable or fanciful outline, and provided with two parallel slots, *a a'*, for the passage of the web or strap.

B designates the tongue, consisting also of a plate of metal, the blank of which is of the outline shown in Fig. 4, or approximately so. On one end of the blank is formed, by bending the metal over, a lip or flange, *b*, and at the ends of this flange are produced pintles or hooks *b' b'*. The other end of the tongue is formed with a spring-hook, eye, or other suitable means for attaching the suspender-straps or other devices to be connected thereto.

The position of the tongue with relation to the web and frame is shown in Fig. 1. The tongue is preferably applied, first, by inserting its lips through one of the slots, so that the pintles *b'* and the shank *c* shall be on opposite sides of the frame. The web is then passed through the two slots in opposite directions, and brought under the lip of the tongue and down between the frame and shank. In this way a fold is formed over the edge of the slot, and the lip impinges upon this fold. Thus any strain or tension on the tongue and frame tends to tighten the lip against the fold, and the latter upon the edge of the slot, and to effect a secure and reliable fastening of the web in place. By raising the tongue the web is released and may be drawn through the slots and adjusted.

What I claim as my invention is as follows:

The buckle, consisting of the flat plate of metal forming the frame A, and having the parallel slots *a a'* and the tongue B, consisting of a plate provided with the flange *b* and pintles *b' b'*, and fitting the buckle-frame, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of March, 1884.

WILLIAM E. T. MERRILL.

Witnesses:

THOS. A. CONNOLLY,  
ANDREW ZANE, Jr.