

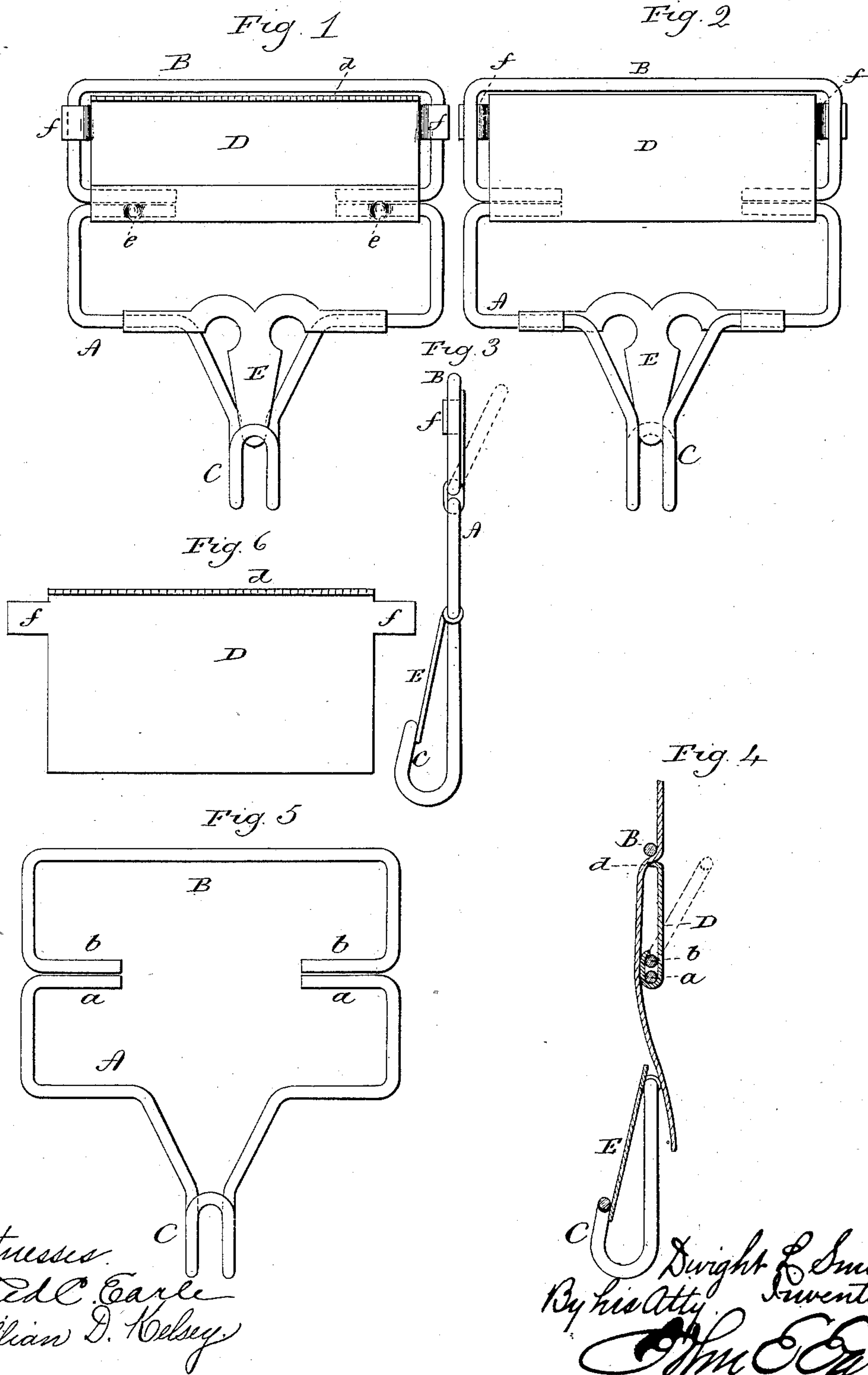
(No Model.)

D. L. SMITH.

BUCKLE.

No. 374,377.

Patented Dec. 6, 1887.



Witnesses.
Fred C. Earle
Lillian D. Kelsey

Dwight L. Smith.
By his Atty. Inventor,
Fred C. Earle

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DWIGHT L. SMITH, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO EARL A. SMITH, OF SAME PLACE.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 374,377, dated December 6, 1887.

Application filed September 5, 1887. Serial No. 248,809. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DWIGHT L. SMITH, of Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in 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
10 said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a front view of the buckle complete; Fig. 2, a rear view of the same; Fig. 3, an end view of the buckle; Fig. 4, a vertical
15 section of the buckle, showing the strap introduced; Fig. 5, the two parts of the frame as formed from wire and in the position they occupy when secured together; Fig. 6, the jaw-plate detached.

20 This invention relates to an improvement in that class of buckle commonly used for suspenders and in which the frame is made from wire, the engaging device being a jaw adapted to impinge upon the strap. In the more general construction of this class of buckles the
25 frame consists of two sides with two ends connecting them, and having a longitudinal bar extending from one end to the other parallel with the sides, with a lever hung upon the intermediate bar, said lever having a jaw-like
30 edge adapted to impinge upon the strap as it is drawn over the jaw under the upper side.

The object of my invention is to make the grasping-jaw stationary instead of in the form
35 of a swinging lever. To that end I make the frame of the buckle in two parts, A B. The part A forms the lower part of the buckle and is made from wire, its lower side having an extension therefrom to form the hook C, to which
40 the braces may be hung. The part A is made from wire doubled so that the doubled end forms the tip or termination of the hook C. The two ends of the wire are turned inward, as at *a a*, upon opposite sides. The width or
45 height of this part A of the frame is about half that of the usual height of wire buckles of this class. The part B is also made from wire bent into the shape of half the frame, with its two ends *b b* turned inward and so as to corre-

spond to the turned-in ends *a a* of the lower 50 part of the frame.

The general shape and size of the parts A and B, except as to the hook, should be substantially alike.

The jaw-plate D is made from sheet metal 55 and in length substantially the length of the inside of the two parts of the frame. It is formed as seen in Fig. 6.

The upper edge of the plate D is turned forward to form the jaw *d*, the edge of which is 60 preferably serrated or provided with sharp teeth.

The two parts of the frame A B are set together in the same plane and so as to bring the turned-in ends *a b* together, as seen in Fig. 5, 65 then around the said turned-in ends. The lower edge of the plate D is closed, as seen in Fig. 4, so as to unite the said two parts; but the plate is closed hard upon the turned-in ends *a* of the part A and so as to be firmly grasped 70 thereto. This may be done by making indentations in the inclosing portion of the plate D upon the ends *a*, as indicated at *e*, Fig. 1, so that the plate D becomes practically a stationary and permanent part of the part A of the 75 buckle-frame; but the part B of the frame is left free and so as to swing upon its turned-in ends *b* as a hinge, as indicated in broken lines, Figs. 3 and 4.

The part B of the frame swings backward 80 only, and that it may not swing forward the jaw-plate D is constructed with projecting ears *f* at its respective ends, which extend in front of the part B of the frame, as seen in Figs. 1 and 3, so as to form stops for the part B when 85 it stands in a plane with the part A, as seen in Fig. 3. At this time the upper side of the hinged part B stands above the jaw-plate D.

The strap or suspender is introduced by turning the hinged part B of the frame backward, 90 as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 4. Then the strap is run through beneath the upper side of the part B of the frame, over the jaw-plate, down forward of the edge of the jaw *d*, thence outward and through the part *a* back of the 95 hook, as seen in Fig. 4. Then draft upon the strap returns the frame over the jaw-plate, and so that the teeth of the jaw impinge upon the

strap near the upper side of the hinged part B, and so as to firmly engage the strap. To re-adjust, it is only necessary to press the upper part of the frame backward, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 4, when the strap will be free for readjustment.

The hook, if employed, should be provided with a spring, E, adapted to close the mouth of the hook in the usual manner for this class of hooks; but the hook or its spring constitutes no part of the present invention.

I claim—

The herein-described buckle, the frame of which consists of the two parts A B, each made

from wire, with a jaw-plate, D, the upper edge of which is turned forward to form a jaw, *d*, the two parts of the frame set together, and the lower edge of the jaw-plate D closed around the adjacent sides of the two parts, but made fast to the lower part, A, and so as to leave the upper part, B, free to swing, the said jaw-plate provided with stops *f*, to arrest the hinged part B in its forward position, substantially as described.

DWIGHT L. SMITH.

Witnesses:

JAMES STOVELL,
H. L. SLAUSON.