(No Model.)

D. L. SMITH.

BUCKLE.

No. 378,731. Patented Feb. 28, 1888.

Fig. 1

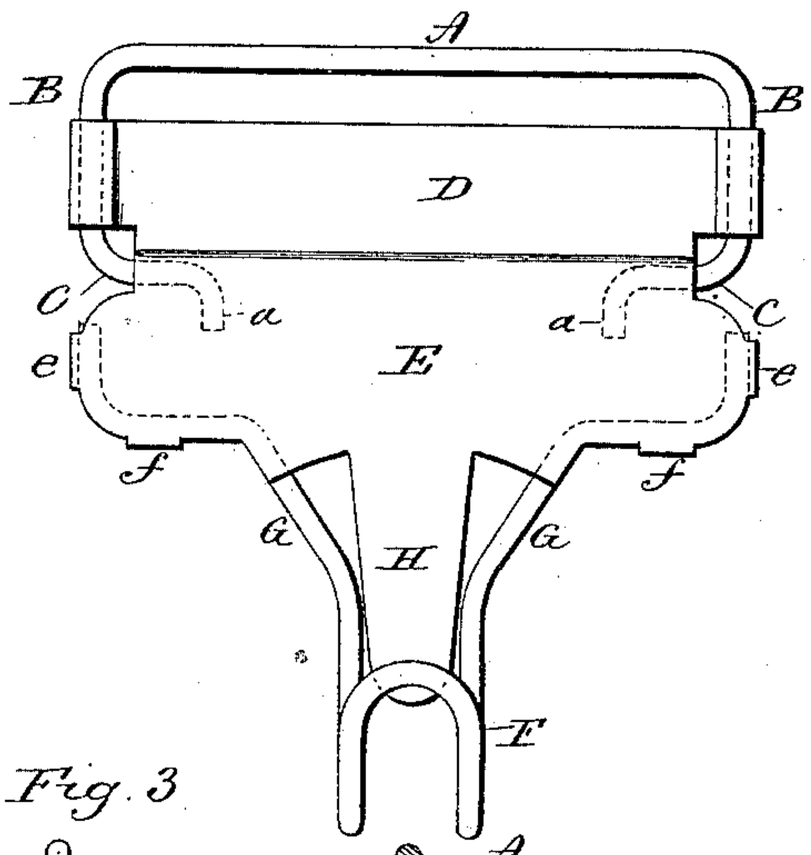


Fig. 2

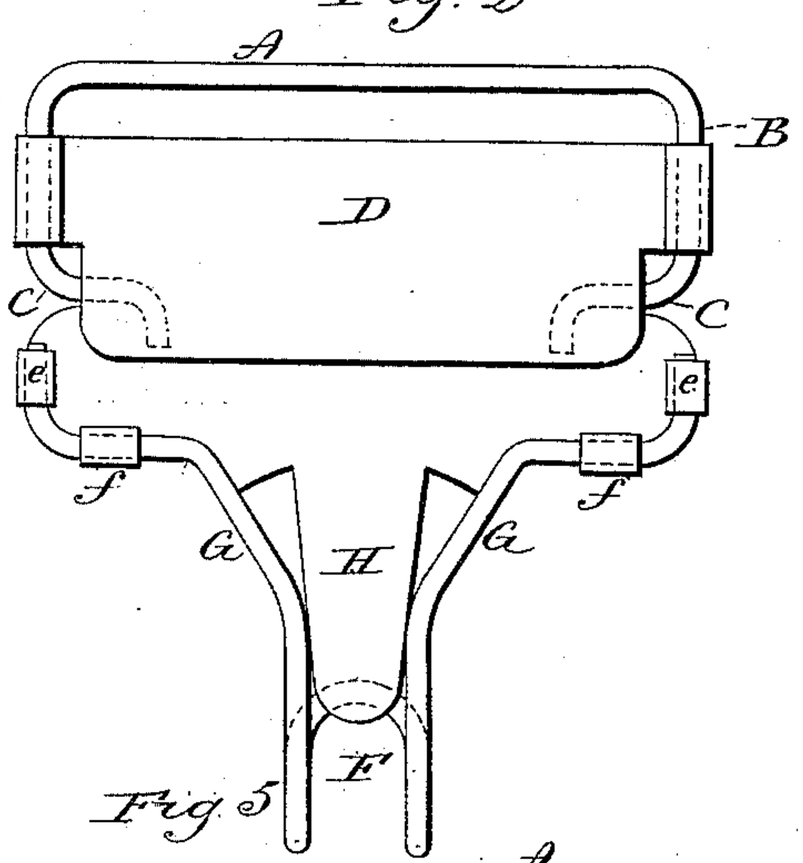


Fig. 3

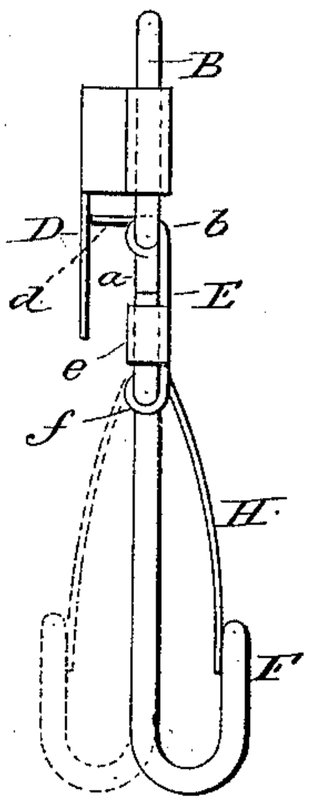


Fig. 4

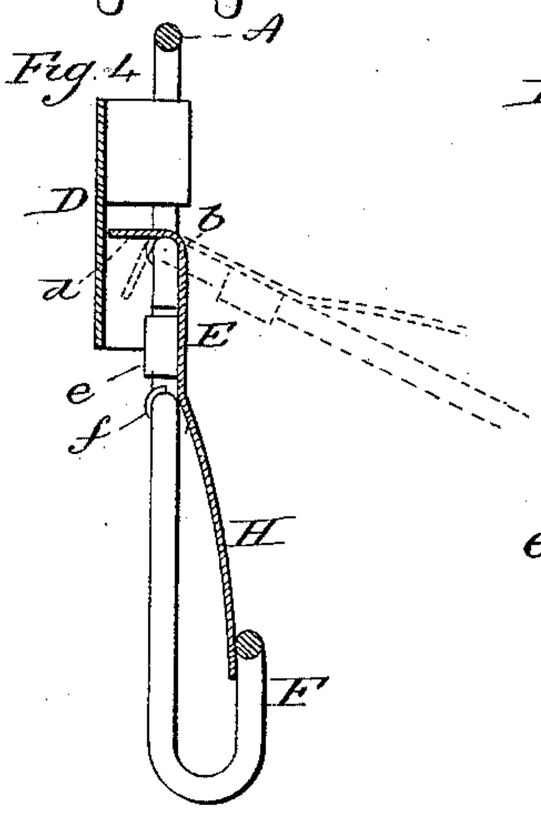


Fig. 5

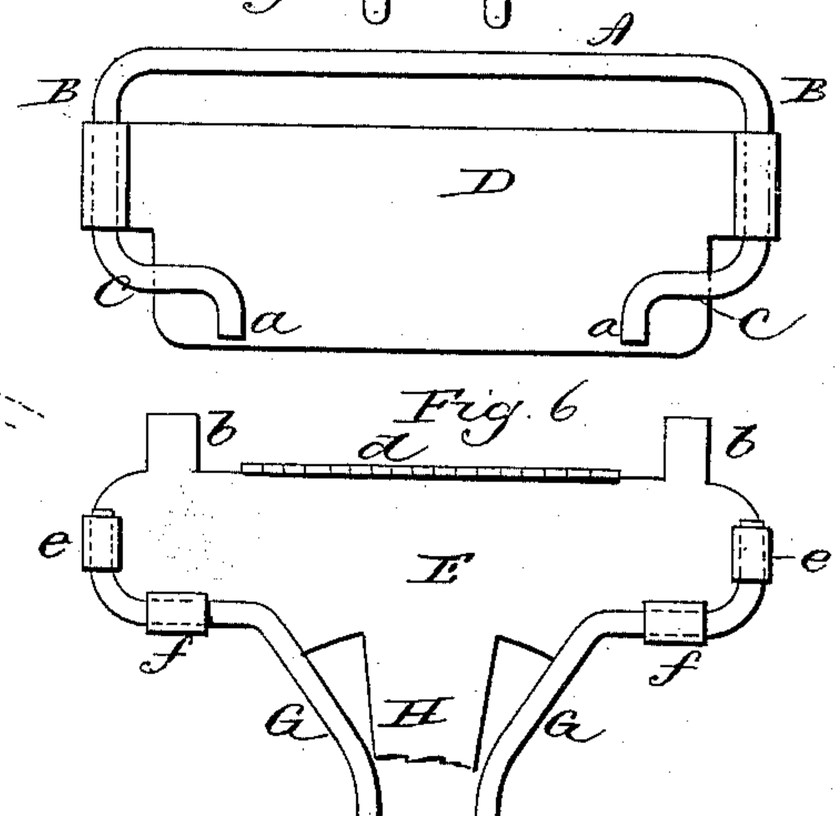
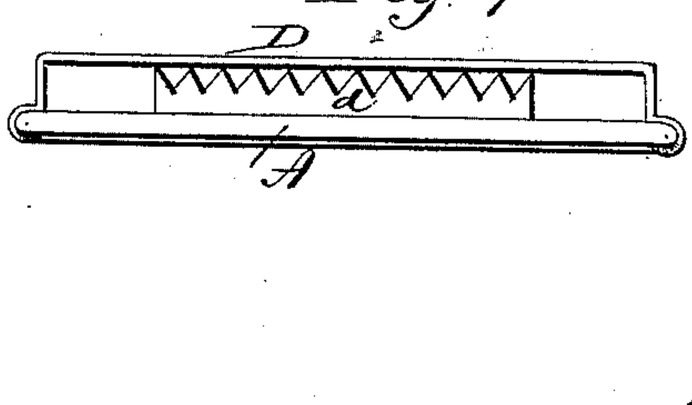


Fig. 6

Fig. 7



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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. 378,731, dated February 28, 1888.

Application filed January 3, 1888. Serial No. 259,665. (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 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 same; Fig. 4, a vertical central section; Fig. 5, the frame and bearing-plate detached, looking from the front; Fig. 6, the hook and lever detached, looking from the rear; Fig. 7, a top view.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of buckles for wearing-apparel commonly called "suspender-buckles," the buckle being adapted to engage the suspender-strap and for the attachment of the braces; and the invention consists in the construction of the buckle, as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claim.

The frame of the buckle is made from a single piece of wire bent to form the top bar, A, and the two ends, B B, as seen in Fig. 5. From the lower end of the ends B the wire is turned inward to form pivots C C parallel to the top bar and in line with each other. The extreme of one or both of the ends of these pivots is turned downward to form stops *a a*.

D is the bearing-plate, which is made from sheet metal, its two ends bent toward the frame and closed around the respective ends of the frame, as seen in Figs. 3, 4, and 7, so as to firmly secure the bearing-plate to the frame. The plate extends below the pivots, as seen in Figs. 3 and 4.

The lever E is made from sheet metal, constructed with ears *b*, closed around the pivots to form a hinge, and so that the lever may swing thereon, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 4, and so that when in the proper position—that is, in substantially the plane of the frame—the lever will strike the stops *a*, as seen in Fig. 3, and thereby support the frame and lever in their closed position or prevent the movement of either beyond that closed position. The upper edge of the lever is turned toward the bearing-plate D, so as to form an impinging jaw, *d*, to engage the suspender or strap against the bearing-plate D, in the usual manner for this class of lever-buckles.

The hook F is made from a single piece of wire doubled at its center, the two branches G G from the hook extending up, one to the right and the other to the left, the said branches secured to the lever E by ears *e f*, formed on the lever and closed around the respective branches of the hook, as seen in Fig. 6, so that the hook becomes a permanent part of the lever E. From the lever a downward projection is made to form the spring-tongue H for the hook.

To introduce the strap, the hook and lever are turned out of plane with the frame, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 4, so that the strap may be introduced between the bearing-plate and the jaw of the lever. Then, when properly adjusted, the lever is returned into the plane of the frame and engagement made upon the strap between the jaw and bearing-plate.

The bearing-plate may be upon the back of the frame, as in the illustrations already referred to, or it may be upon the front of the frame, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 3, by simply turning the hook in the opposite direction.

I claim—

The combination of the frame made from a single piece of wire bent to form the top bar, A, two ends, B B, and the pivots C C, and one or more stops, *a*, the bearing-plate D, made from sheet metal and secured to the two ends of said frame, with the lever E, made from sheet metal, hinged to said pivots, its upper edge turned toward said bearing-plate and so as to impinge thereon, and the hook F, made from wire doubled to form the tip of the hook, and the two branches, extending to the right and left, secured to the said lever E, so as to permanently unite said hook and lever, substantially as described.

DWIGHT L. SMITH.

Witnesses:
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