

(No Model.)

T. A. LEE.
BUCKLE.

No. 380,209.

Patented Mar. 27, 1888.

Fig. 1

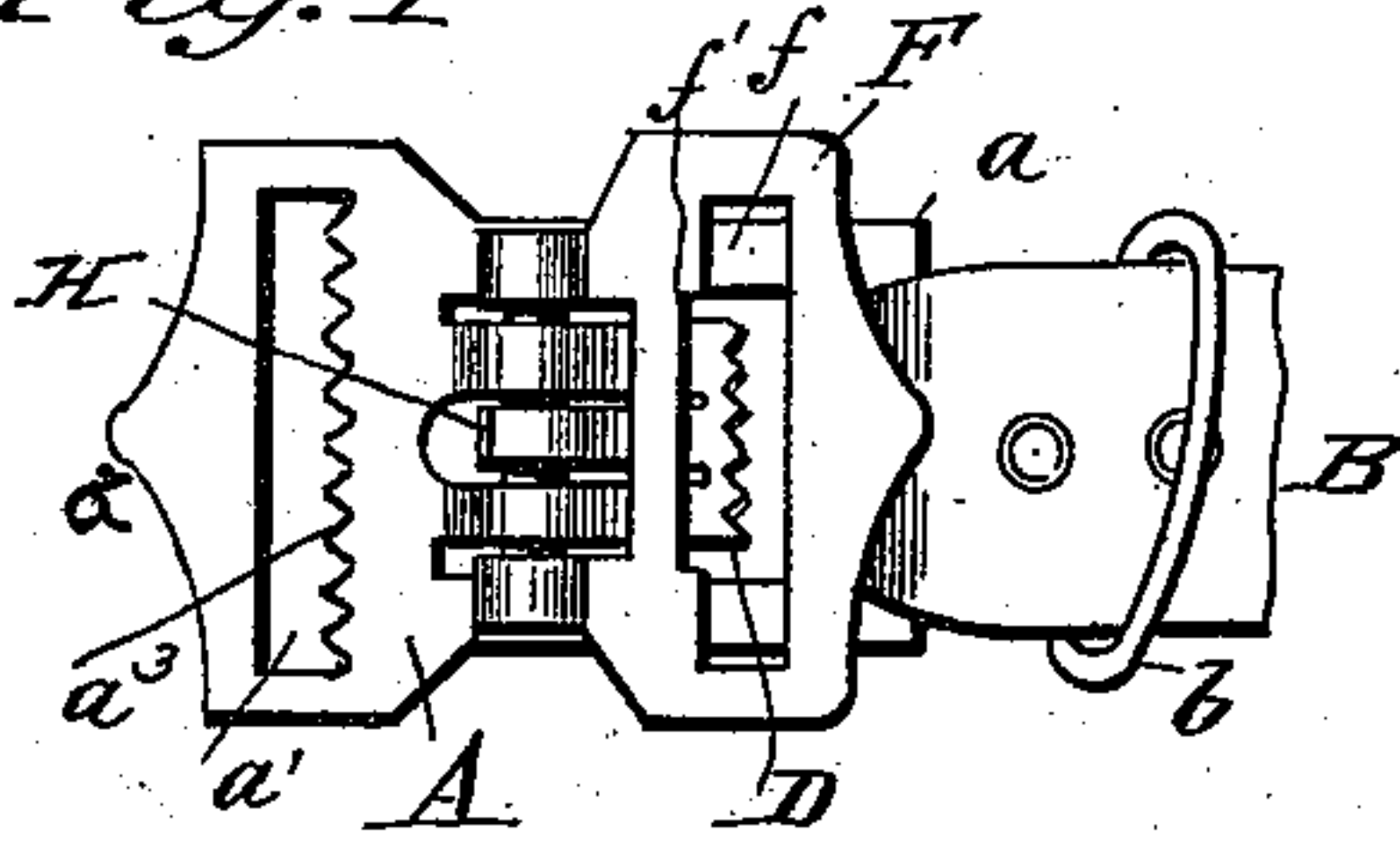


Fig. 2.

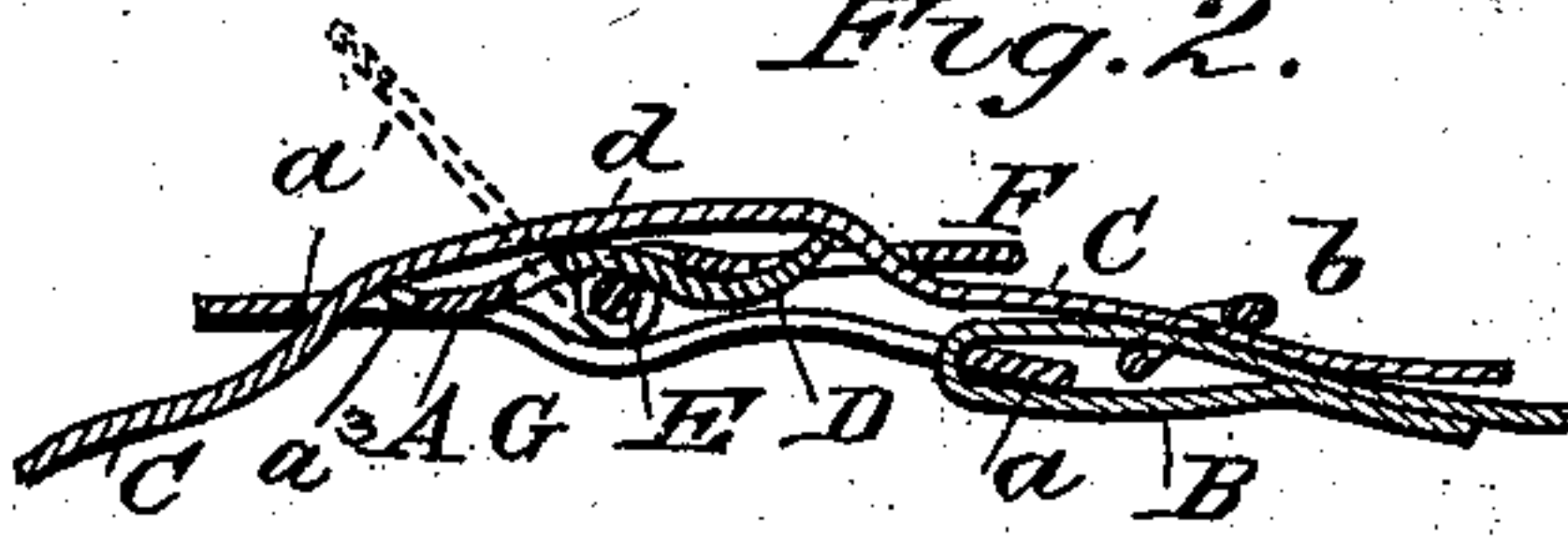


Fig. 3.

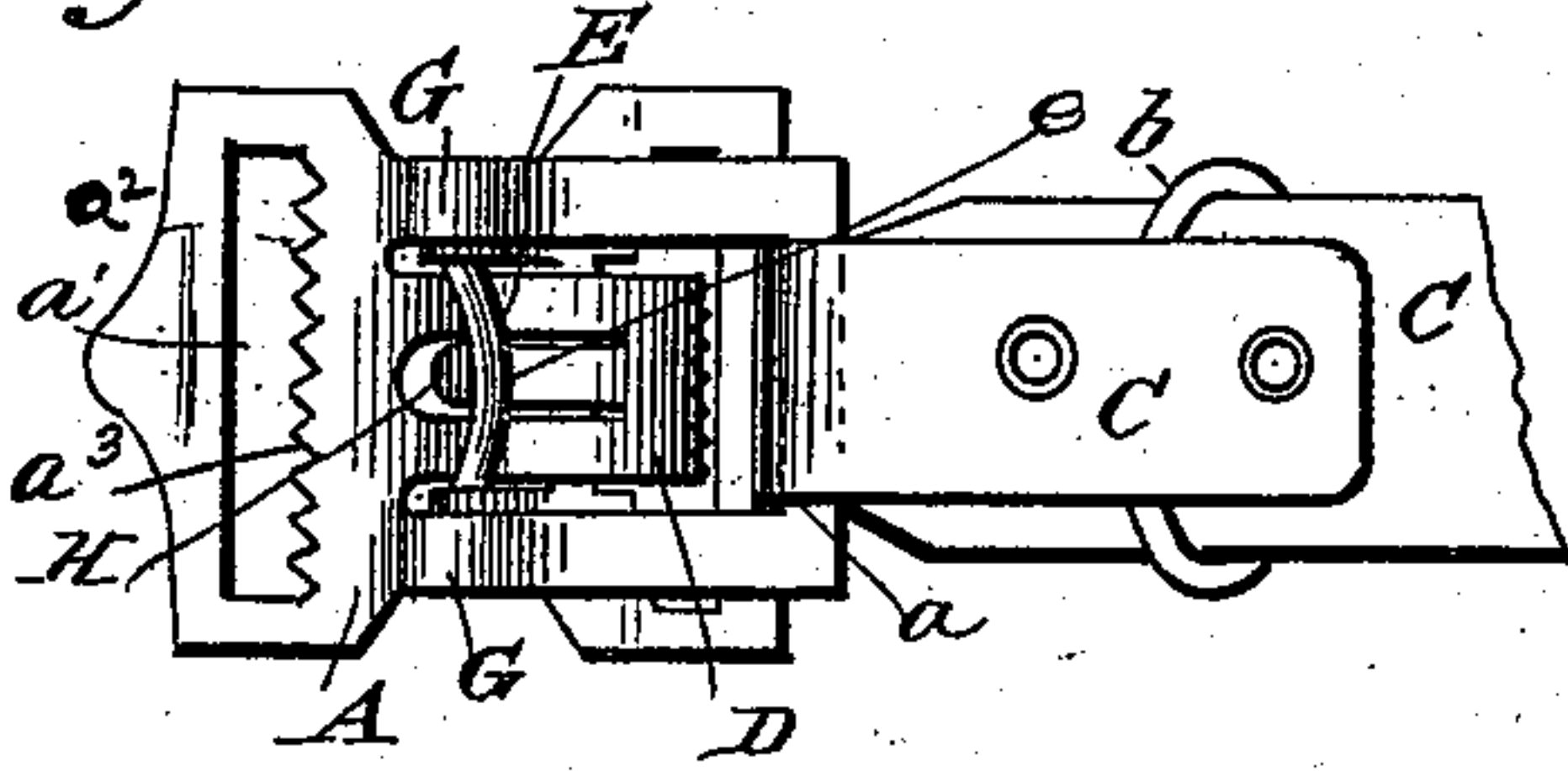


Fig. 4

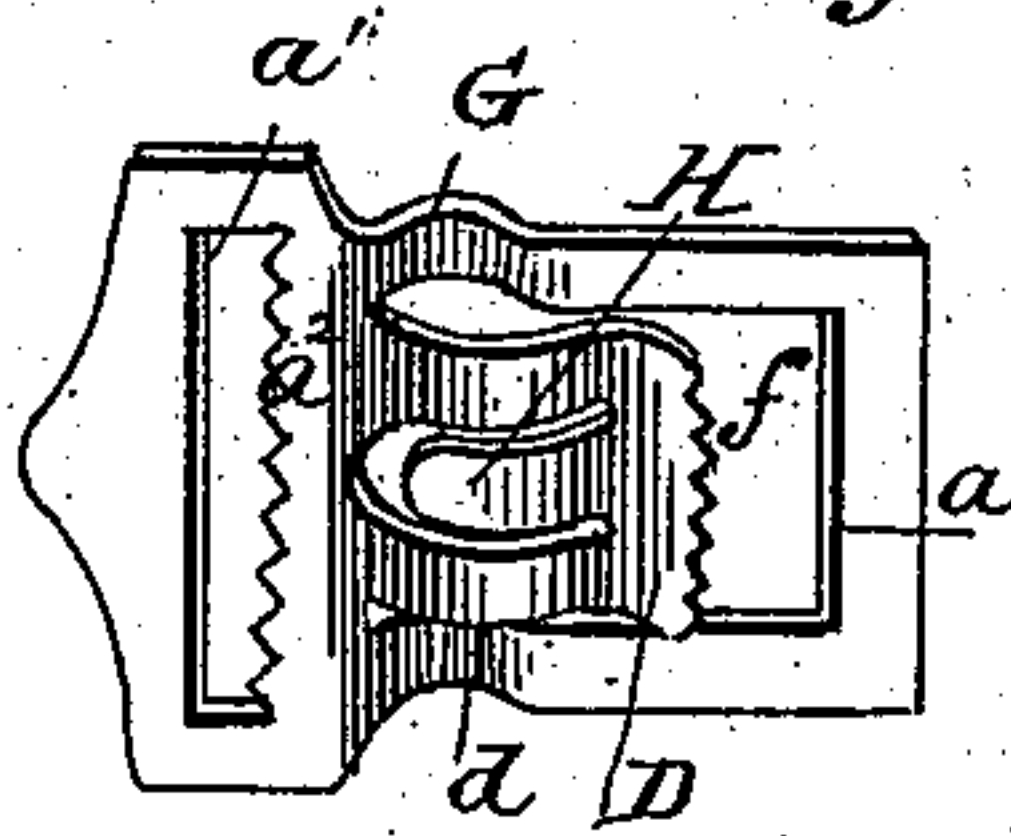


Fig. 5

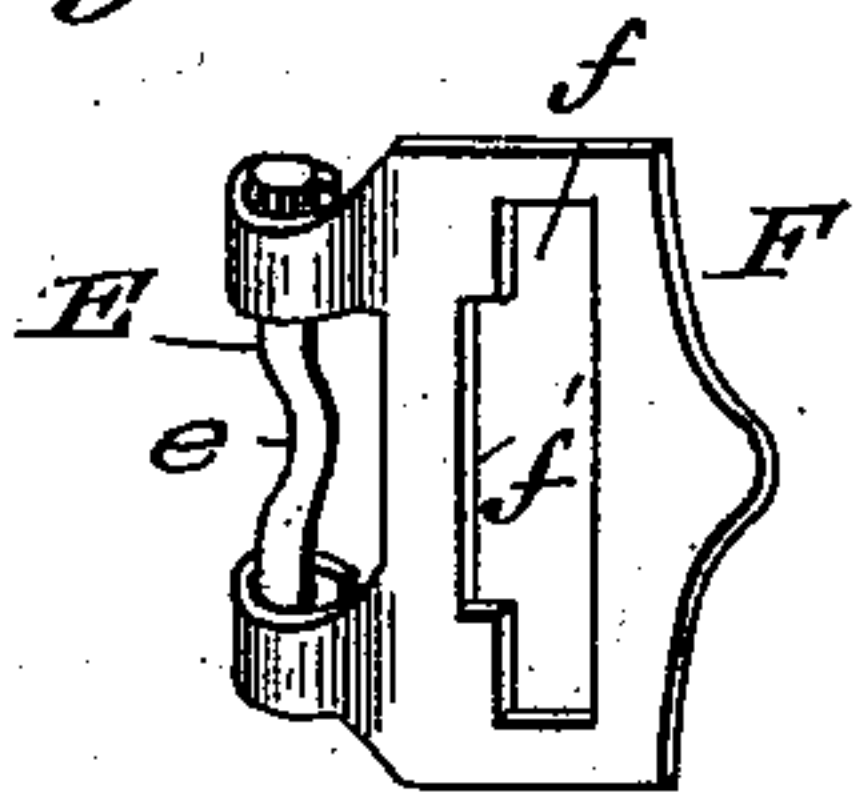
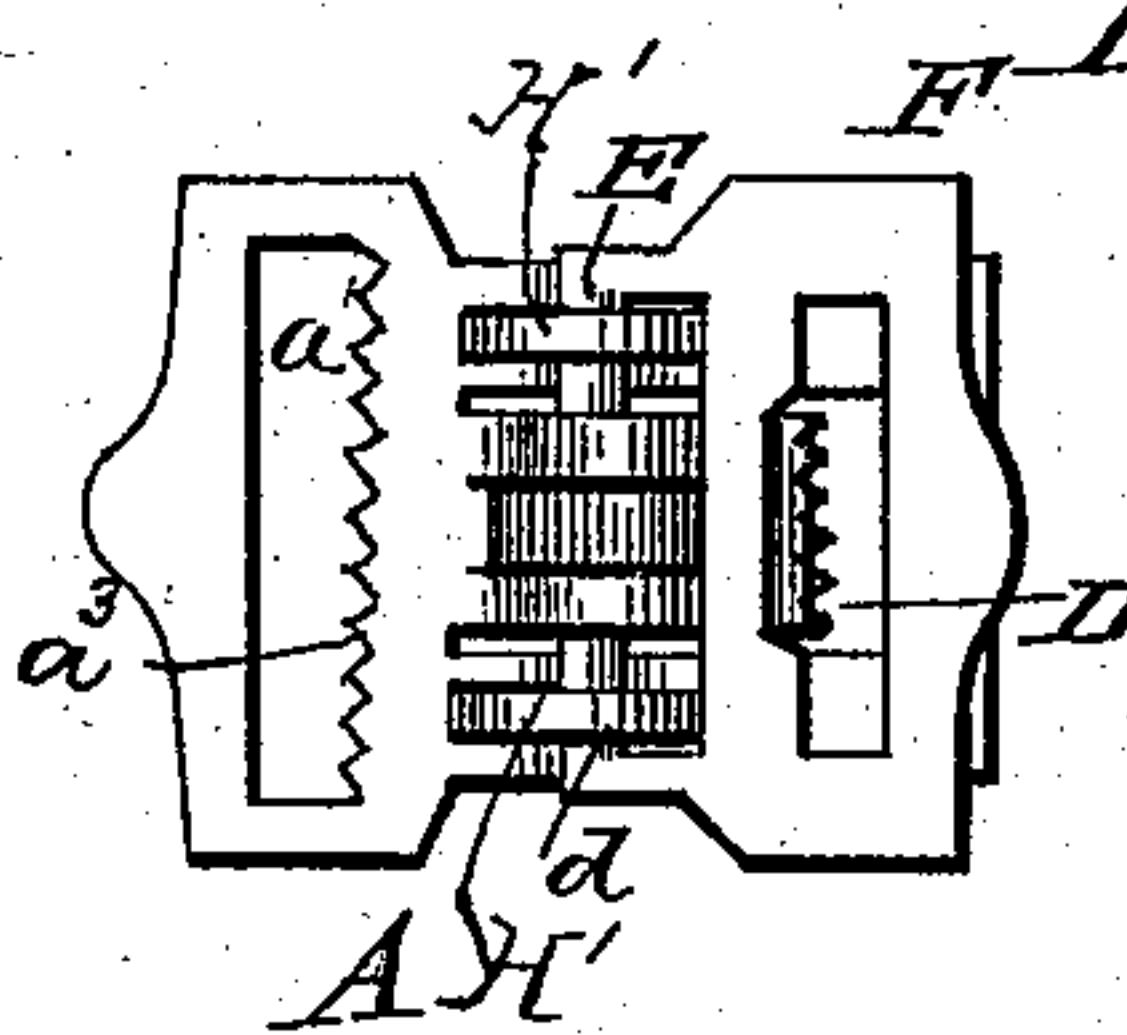


Fig. 6



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TOBIAS A. LEE, OF SIDNEY, OHIO.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 380,209, dated March 27, 1888.

Application filed July 30, 1887. Serial No. 245,754. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TOBIAS A. LEE, of Sidney, in the county of Shelby and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in buckles, seeking to provide a simple conveniently-operated construction by which to avoid the use of a pin-tongue and the inconvenience experienced in inserting the same through perforations in the straps to be secured; and the invention consists in certain features of construction and novel combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of the buckle, the parts being in closed position. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the buckle, a strap being secured therein, and the buckle being shown open in dotted and closed in full lines. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the buckle. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the tongue and its support. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the buckle-loop, and Fig. 6 shows a somewhat different construction from that shown in the other figures.

The tongue support A is adapted at one end, *a*, for connection with the strap B, to which the buckle is to be secured in use, and at its opposite end it is provided with a slot or opening, *a'*, for the passage of the strap C to be buckled. A keeper, *b*, may be provided on strap B for the free end of strap C.

The tongue D is formed out of the support A, being extended rearwardly from the rear cross-wall or division-bar, *a''*, of slot *a'*, and having its rear free end upturned; and, if desired, it may be serrated, as shown, or otherwise formed to better engage the strap B. Near its juncture with the support A the tongue D is arched up slightly at *d*, forming an upper bearing for the shaft E of buckle-loop F, and the sides of the support A in line with the bearings *d* are depressed at G G, forming the lower bearings for the said shaft, the said parts *d* and G serving to receive and properly secure the said shaft, as shown.

The shaft E forms the pivot of the buckle-loop and is rigidly fixed to the said loop, forming practically a part thereof. The buckle-loop turns down over the tongue or back away

therefrom to secure or release the strap B, which in practice is passed through the opening *f* near the movable edge of said loop and is pressed by the loop down against the tongue. By preference the tongue projects slightly up through the loop, as shown in Fig. 2, to which end I have formed the opening *f* with an extension or wing, *f'*, which fits over the tongue, as shown in Fig. 1.

In use the strap B is passed up through opening *a'*, then through opening *f*, the loop F being turned to the position indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 2, and then by turning the loop to the full-line position, Fig. 2, the strap B will be secured against withdrawal, but may be tightened up as desired, the tongue operating practically as a stop-pawl, permitting the drawing of the strap forward, while preventing any backward movement thereof.

In order to secure the loop F in its open and closed positions, it is preferred to actuate it by a spring, H, which in the construction shown engages a crank-like portion, *e*, of the shaft E. It is further preferred to form this spring H out of the buckle-tongue, and this is effected by cutting the spring out of such tongue, the said spring being united with the tongue near the point of the latter and having its free end bearing down against the crank of shaft E. By the aid of this spring the loop will be forced down over the tongue when closed and will be held open when opened.

The buckle is very simple and its operation will be readily understood from the foregoing description.

In Fig. 6 the buckle body or support is formed with two spring-supports, H', cut from slots in plate on either side of and in line with the tongue. It is manifest that the crank or lever-shaft may be formed from a different piece and be secured to or may be formed integral with the loop-frame, as desired. It will be understood that the two spring-supports H' may be necessary when very light stock is employed in the manufacture of the buckle.

By preference I provide the edge of the bar *a''* with an upturned serrated flange, *a'''*, which serves to more firmly secure the strap C when the buckle is fastened, as will be readily understood.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The improved buckle herein described, comprising a support provided with the tongue and the pivoted loop having an opening fitted and arranged to receive the point of
5 said tongue and movable down thereover, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. The tongue-support and tongue, combined with the pivoted loop movable down over the tongue and a spring for actuating
10 the loop, substantially as set forth.

3. In a buckle, substantially as herein described, a tongue and a support therefor, combined with a loop having a shaft provided with a crank and a spring engaging said crank,
15 substantially as set forth.

4. In a buckle, substantially as herein described, the combination of the tongue and its support, the loop having a shaft provided with

a crank and journaled to the support, and the spring formed out of the tongue and engaging
20 the crank of the shaft, substantially as set forth.

5. The tongue and its support, combined with the pivoted loop having an opening, *f*, formed with a wing or extension, *f'*, substantially as set forth. 25

6. The improved buckle herein described, consisting of the support having a tongue, the spring formed from such tongue, and the loop having a shaft journaled to the support and provided with a crank, said loop having an
30 opening, *f*, and formed with a wing or extension, *f'*, substantially as set forth.

TOBIAS A. LEE.

Witnesses:

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A. J. HESS.