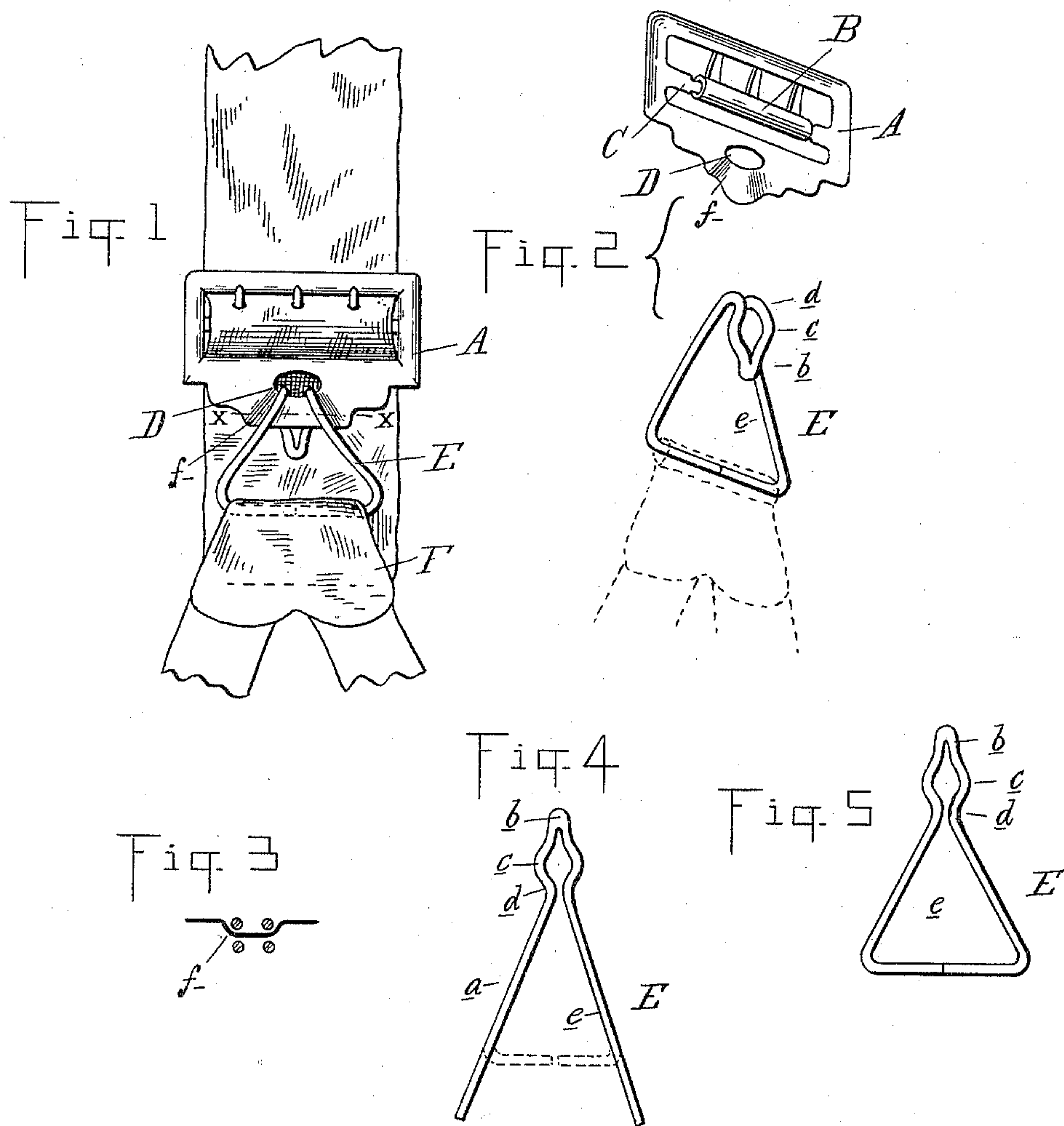


(No Model.)

A. H. LEMEN.
BUCKLE.

No. 411,457.

Patented Sept. 24, 1889.



Witnesses:
P. M. Hulbert
Ed M. Breasty

Inventor:
Austin H. Lemen
By Chas. S. Sprague & Son
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUSTIN H. LEMEN, OF FENTON, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
WALTER W. MILLARD, OF SAME PLACE.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 411,457, dated September 24, 1889.

Application filed May 29, 1889. Serial No. 312,594. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUSTIN H. LEMEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fenton, in the county of Genesee and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in buckles; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction of a metallic loop for connecting the buckle with the button-straps, and whereby a secure connection is had between the buckle and the loop, while it is made readily detachable when desired, all as more fully hereinafter described.

In the drawings which accompany this specification, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved buckle and loop as in use. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the loop and buckle detached, and Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line X X in Fig. 1. Figs. 4 and 5 show the method of bending the wire in forming the loop.

A is a buckle of any desired description, that shown in the drawings being an ordinary three-bar buckle having a toothed loop B on the central part or bar C of the buckle and an aperture D in the lower bar, the only essential feature of the buckle being that the aperture D is arranged in the lower part of the buckle to receive the hook on the loop E. This loop I preferably make of wire, taking a piece *a* of suitable length and doubling it upon itself, as shown in Fig. 4. The contracted portion *b* at the end is formed by suitable bending of the wire; the enlarged portion *c* by means of the bends *d*. The lower ends of the wire are thus formed into a triangular loop *e*, and the hook, consisting of the bend *b* and the loop *c*, is bent down parallel, or nearly so, to the loop *e*, as shown in Fig. 2.

The aperture D in the buckle is made oval

and slightly less in width than the width of the loop *c*, so that when the hook is engaged into the aperture it will be necessary to slightly spring in the loop *c*, in order to engage it into the aperture. The portion *f* below the aperture is preferably made bulging outwardly to engage the hook more readily. The contracted portion *b* will readily enter the aperture *d* for the purpose of more readily forcing it in over the loop, and the contracted portion *d* is of suitable size to give the necessary play within the aperture.

F are the button-straps, adapted to be secured to the loop *e*.

To disengage the loop from the buckle, it is necessary to use sufficient force to spring the sides of the loops *c* toward each other slightly, which may be done with small effort.

This construction of buckle and loop in combination forms a very cheap device to manufacture, at the same time being securely locked in position against accidental displacement, and readily detached when required by the wearer. It may be applied to any style of buckle wherein a suitable aperture is provided for the engagement of the spring-hook.

What I claim as my invention is—

In suspenders, the combination, with the buckle having the oval-shaped aperture, of the loop having the lower triangular portion bent inwardly at the upper end, then outwardly and terminating in a reduced end, the upper end being bent to form a hook and the outward-bent portion serving to retain the loop in the buckle, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 4th day of May, 1889.

AUSTIN H. LEMEN.

Witnesses:

CLARENCE TINKER,
CHAS. B. WILMOT.