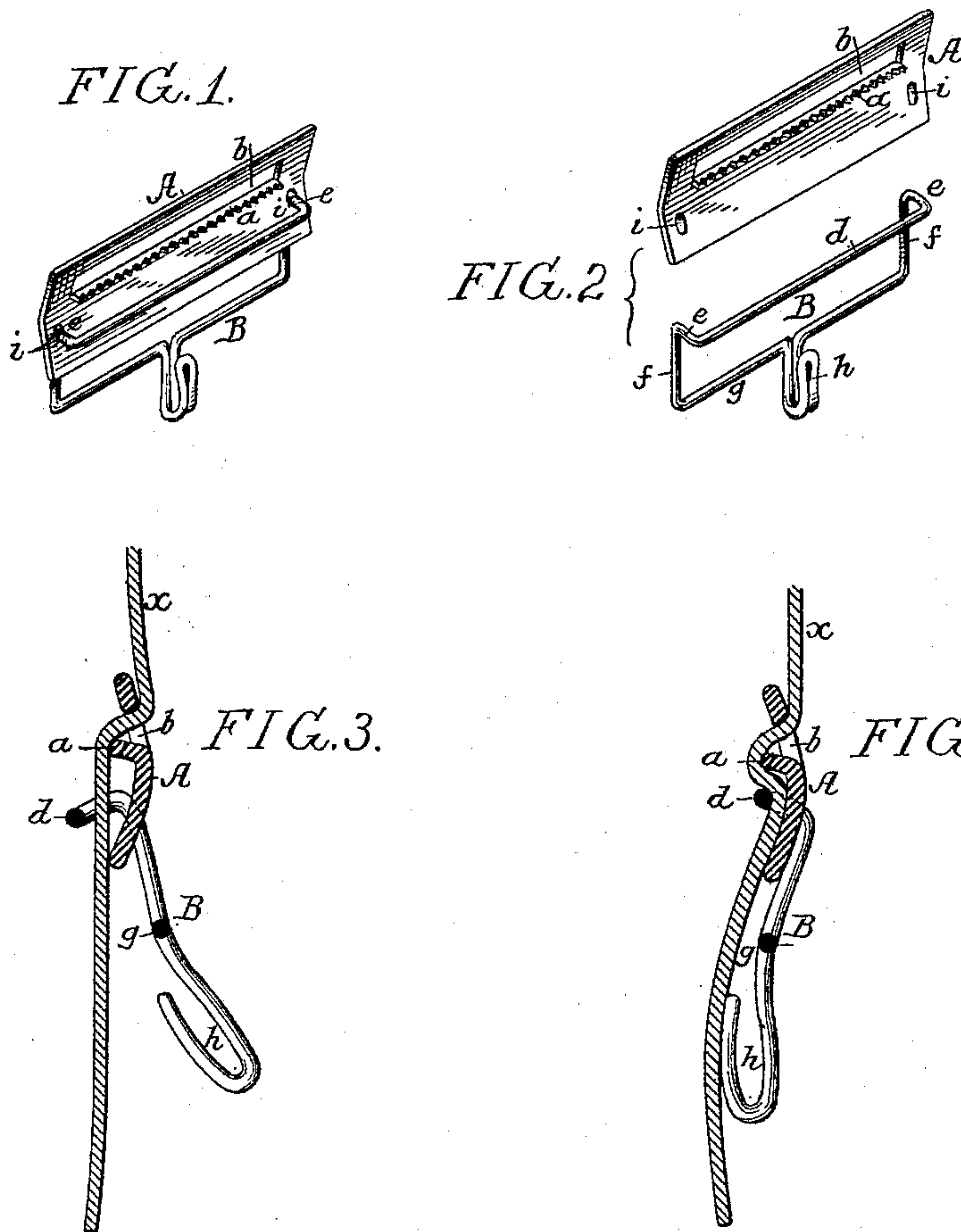


(No Model.)

W. E. T. MERRILL.  
BUCKLE.

No. 440,432.

Patented Nov. 11, 1890.



Witnesses:  
Alex. Barkoff  
Hamilton D. Turner.

Inventor:  
William E. T. Merrill  
by his Attorneys—  
Howson & Howson

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. T. MERRILL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO  
WILLIAM A. LAVERTY, OF SAME PLACE.

## BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 440,432, dated November 11, 1890.

Application filed September 5, 1890. Serial No. 363,991. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. T. MERRILL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to construct a cheap and simple form of buckle of such character that, while the strap or band held thereby will be firmly retained under ordinary circumstances, it can be readily adjusted in the buckle when desired. This object I attain in the following manner, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved buckle. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the parts detached from each other, and Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views on a larger scale, the parts in Fig. 4 being shown in a different position from that illustrated in Fig. 3.

The buckle comprises two parts A and B, A being the body of the buckle and B the clamping-lever.

The body A consists of a rectangular plate slightly bent or curved longitudinally and having a serrated rib *a* struck up therefrom and projecting forward on the concave side of the plate, the striking up of this rib forming in the plate above the rib a slot *b*.

The clamping-lever B of the buckle consists of a piece of wire bent to form the bearing-bar *d*, offset ends *e*, side bars *f*, and a lower bar *g*, at the center of which is a depending hook *h* for the reception of the usual small ring on the waist-strap of the suspenders. The strap or band *x* passes through the slot *b*, over the serrated edge of the bar *a*, and thence down under the bar *d* of the lever B, as shown in Fig. 4, and the side bars *f* of the clamping-lever B pass through openings *i* in the plate A of the buckle, and are free both to

slide and to swing in said openings, so that on slackening up the pressure on the lever B the same can be moved upward and outward, so as to carry the bar *d* away from contact with the strap *x*, as shown in Fig. 3, and the said strap is then free to be moved up or down through the plate A for purposes of adjustment. When, however, the lever B is drawn down as far as the offset portions *e* of the same will permit, the swinging of the lever in the openings *i* causes said bar *d* of the lever to press down upon the strap and hold it firmly in contact with the serrated bar *a*, so that any slipping of the buckle is effectually prevented.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination of the body of the buckle having a slot and projecting rib, with the lever having a cross-bar for bearing upon the strap, opposite side bars free to slide and swing in openings in the plate and having laterally-offset portions for restricting the downward movement of the lever and serving as fulcrums for the same, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the body of the buckle bent longitudinally and having a slot and a projecting rib on its concave side, with the lever having a bearing-bar, opposite side bars free to slide and swing in openings in the plate and having laterally - offset portions serving as stops and fulcrums for the lever, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM E. T. MERRILL.

Witnesses:

EUGENE ELTERICH,  
HARRY SMITH.