

(No Model.)

F. D. BEHRENS.
BUCKLE SHIELD.

No. 442,413.

Patented Dec. 9, 1890.

Fig. 1.

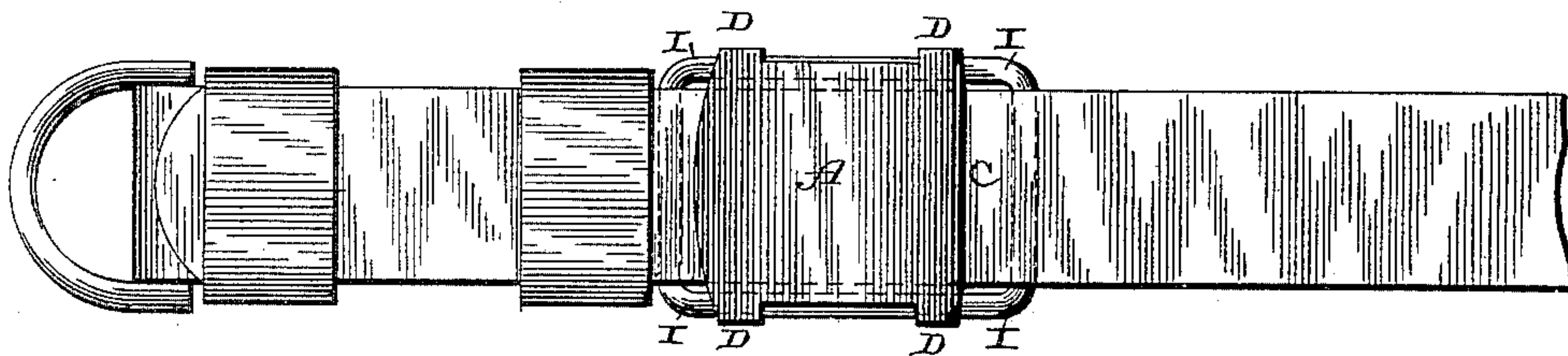


Fig. 2.

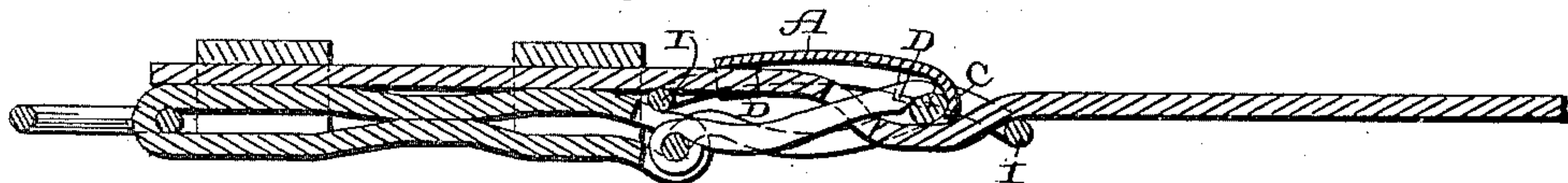


Fig. 3.

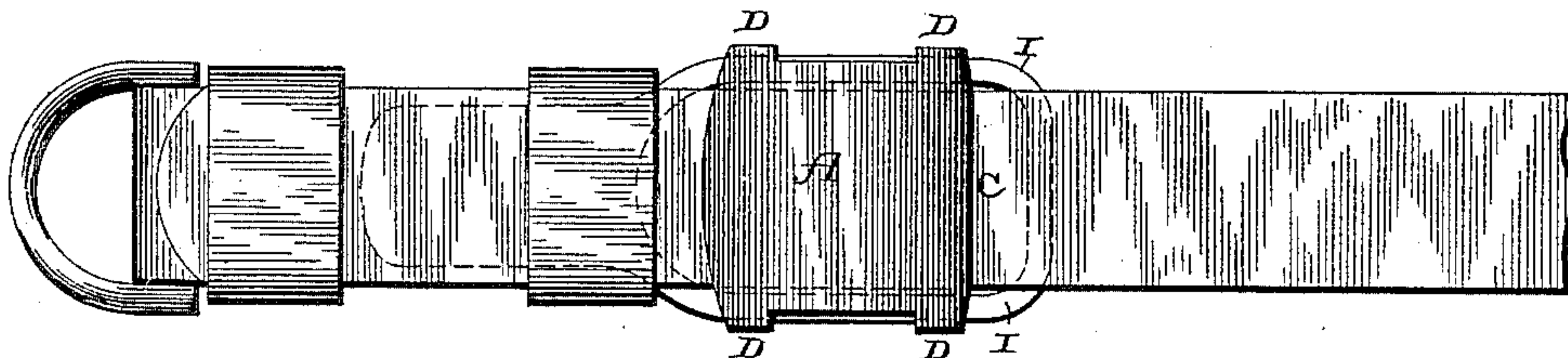


Fig. 4.

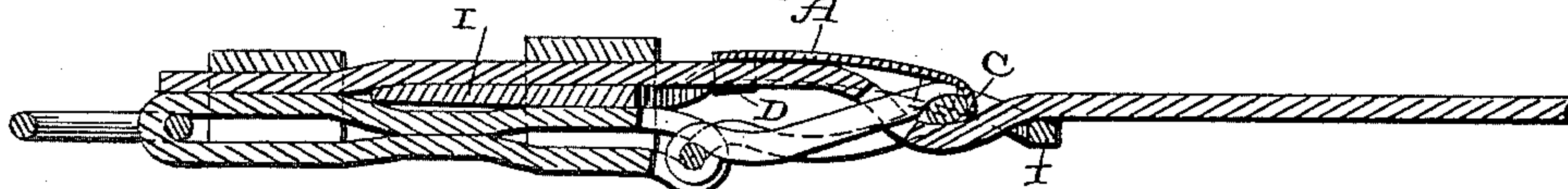
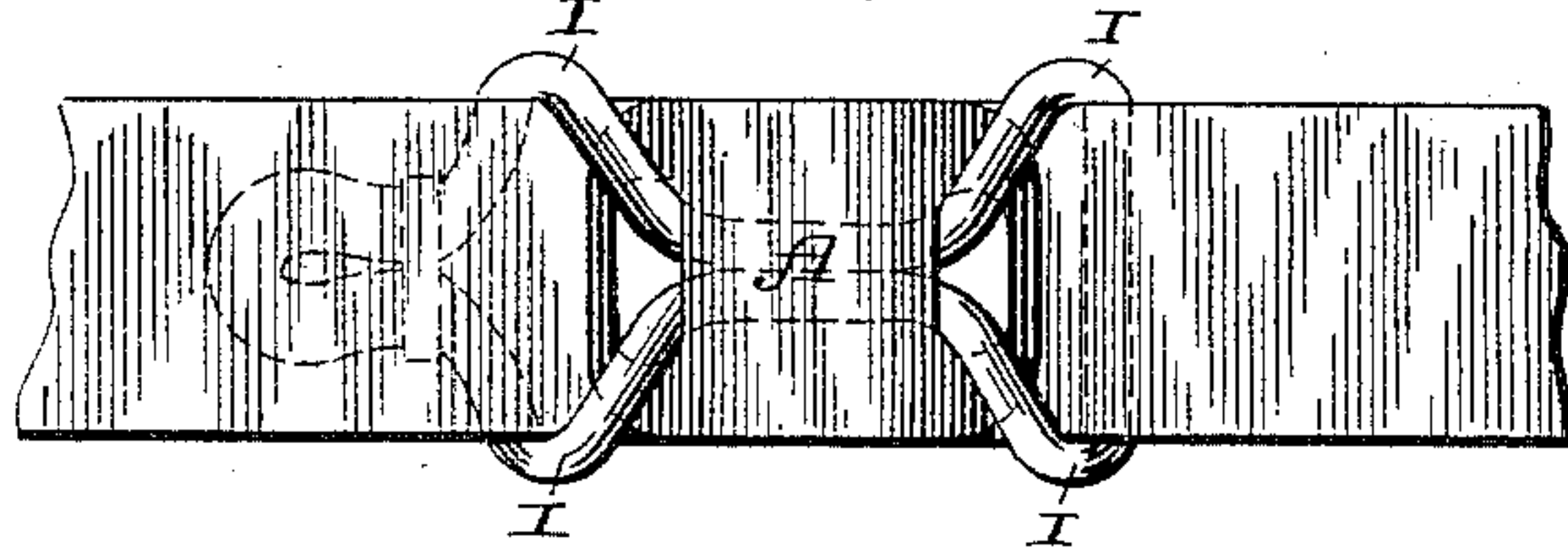


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

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per
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRIEDRICH DIEDRICH BEHRENS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

BUCKLE-SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 442,413, dated December 9, 1890.

Application filed September 1, 1890. Serial No. 363,666. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRIEDRICH DIEDRICH BEHRENS, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckle-Shields; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in buckle-shields; and it consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, which will be fully described hereinafter, and pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide a buckle-shield which is adapted not only to buckles of different shapes and sizes, but to straps of different thicknesses.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a shield applied to a metallic frame. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar view to Fig. 1 of a shield applied to a flexible frame. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the same. Fig. 5 shows a modification.

A represents the buckle-shield, which is made of sheet metal of any suitable kind, and which is provided with the four loops or turned-over parts D, in which either the rigid or flexible frame I is held or fastened. The upper end of this shield is turned inward, as shown at C, so as to catch over the top of the buckle and prevent it from projecting through or showing above the shield. This shield, by means of the four loops or turned-over portions D, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, is applied to either a rigid or a flexible frame, and upon which frame the shield is movable, or which frame can be moved endwise independently of the shield, as may be desired. By making the shield adjustable upon the frame the size of the loop at the top of the shield can be adjusted at will, and thus the shield adapted to be used in connection with either a thick or a thin strap. The movement of the shield upon the frame enables a large or a small loop to be formed at the upper end of the frame, and thus adapts a shield of one size to be used with buckles of different sizes. The strap is passed through the upper loop, and then, after the

end of the strap has been passed through the buckle, it is passed through the lower loop, as shown. It is immaterial how large the lower loop is, for the main thing to be covered is the buckle-tongue.

By using a flexible frame, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the shield is adapted to be used in connection with straps and buckles of different widths. Leather or any other flexible material may be used for the frame, and then the lower end of the frame can be slit open to any desired degree, according to the widths of the strap. Where the straps are made of leather that stretches and becomes thinner and narrower while in use, the flexible frame adjusts itself to the strap and holds the shield in position just as well. If a rigid frame were used in connection with the shield, the shield will in a short time become too large for the strap. As long as the frame is flexible one size of shield can be made to answer for all of the eight standard sizes of buckles which are now made.

In Fig. 5 is shown a flexible frame, which has its ends passed through slots in the shield, and the slit ends of the frame form loops, through which the straps are passed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a buckle-shield, the combination, with a frame adapted to be used in connection with a buckle, having an opening beyond the front end of the buckle, through which the strap passes, of a shield movably secured thereto over the opening and the buckle, whereby the adjustment of the shield enlarges or contracts the opening and at the same time covers the buckle, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with a flexible frame, whereby it expands and contracts, for the purpose described, having an opening through which the strap passes, of a shield movably secured thereto over the opening, whereby the adjustment of the shield enlarges or contracts the said opening, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRIEDRICH DIEDRICH BEHRENS.

Witnesses:

M. N. LANDO,
C. F. DEHN.