(No Model.)

E. J. NEUVILLE.

BUCKLE.

No. 454,756. Patented June 23, 1891.

Fig. 1.

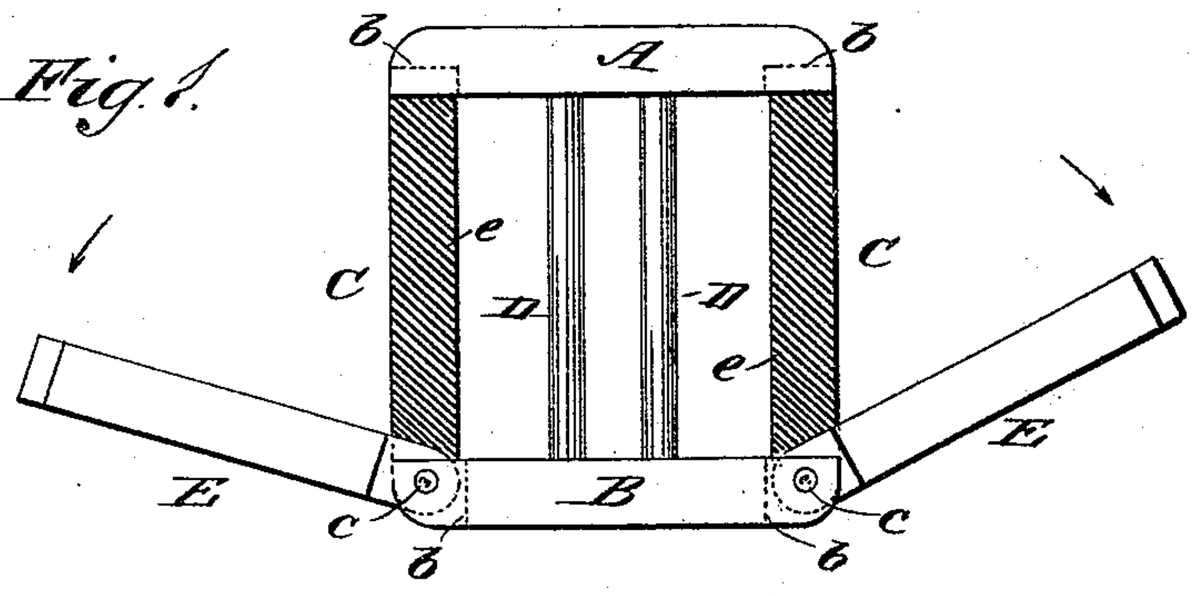


Fig. 2

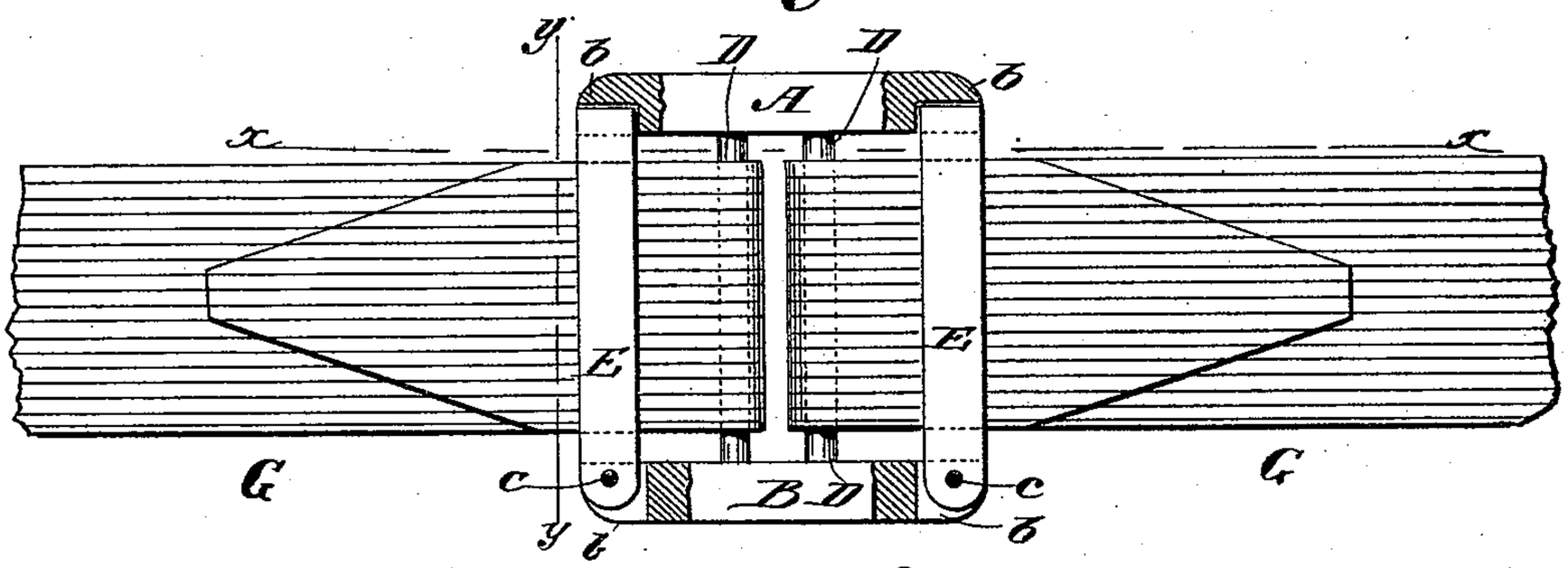


Fig. 3

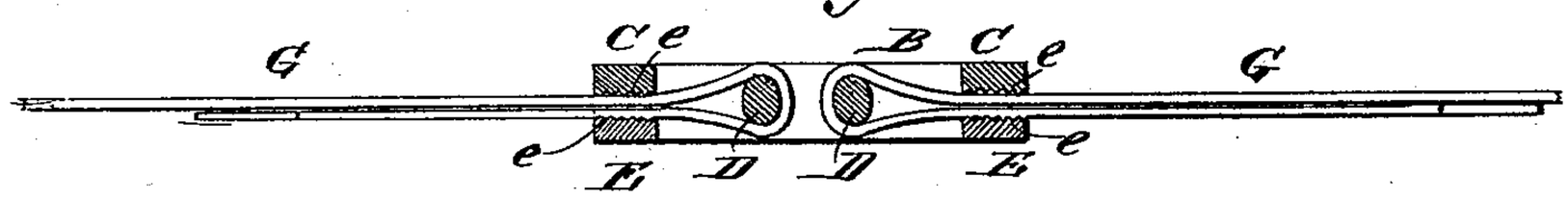
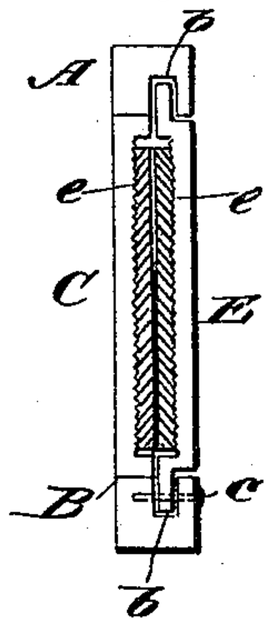


Fig. 4



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ERNEST J. NEUVILLE, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 454,756, dated June 23, 1891.

Application filed January 29, 1891. Serial No. 379,531. (No model.) Patented in England October 26, 1889, No. 16,936.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST J. NEUVILLE, of 28 Ringstead Road, Catford, London, England, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Buckles, (for which I have received a patent in England, dated October 26, 1889, No. 16,936,) of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to buckles mainly intended to be used for fastening the back straps of pantaloons, vests, and other like garment-straps, but it is equally applicable to any straps that present independent ends to be secured by the buckle.

The invention more particularly relates to that description of buckles or clasps which are wholly independent of the straps or ends of the straps they are designed to unite and which dispense with prongs to effect their engagement with the straps; and the invention consists in a novel construction of such a buckle, substantially as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a face view of a buckle embodying my invention with certain pivoted members of it thrown outward or back. Fig. 2 is a further face view with the buckle-frame partly in section and showing the buckle as applied to the meeting ends of two straps to unite them and as having its pivoted members adjusted inward or forward to close upon said straps. Fig. 3 is a section through the buckle upon the line *x x* in Fig. 2 and showing the straps as applied, and Fig. 4 is a section in a plane at right angles to Fig. 3 upon the line *y y* in Fig. 2.

The body of the buckle-frame, which may be made wholly in one piece, consists of an upper bar A, lower bar B, fixed end limbs C C, connecting said bars, and additional and intermediate connecting-bars D D, parallel, or thereabout, with the limbs C C, which latter are of reduced thickness and flush on their exteriors or backs with the rear exterior faces of the bars A and B. In the under and upper sides, respectively, of the bars A and B, at the ends thereof, are formed recesses *b b*.

E E are movable limbs or members pivoted at their lower rounded ends, as by riveted pins *c c*, within the end recesses *b* of the lower bar B and catching or fitting at their upper ends when moved inward on their pivots within the end recesses *b* in the upper bar A, which latter recesses serve to prevent said limbs E E from moving too far inward when closed. These limbs E E are also of a reduced thickness, so as to be in the same plane on their exterior faces with the front walls or surfaces of the bars A B, or thereabout, and are formed with shouldered ends to fit within the recesses *b b* in the upper and lower bars A B. When closed, these limbs E E, which open outward, as shown in Fig. 1, face the stationary limbs C C, leaving a jamming-space in between them and the limbs C C to receive in close fit the two thicknesses of the doubled-over loose end portions of the straps G G to be united by the buckle. The inner or adjacent faces of said stationary and movable limbs C and E are roughened, serrated, or file-cut, as at *e e*, to prevent the straps from slipping when held in between them.

The buckle is applied and operated as follows: The movable limbs E E are first swung outward on their pivots *c c*, and then the free end portions of the straps G G, which may be sewed or otherwise permanently secured at their opposite ends to the garment, are passed over or against the roughened faces of the stationary limbs C C, round the fixed inner bars D D, and doubled back over on themselves and past the stationary end limbs C C, after which the movable limbs E E are swung inward or closed to tightly grip or hold in between them and the stationary limbs C C the doubled-over portions of the straps. To detach the buckle all that is necessary is to swing outward the movable limbs E E and then pull away the straps.

A buckle thus constructed presents no objectionable projections and may lie flat and is readily capable of being entirely detached from the article of clothing and of being attached to the latter or its straps when required. No button is needed on the strap. It has no prongs to puncture or tear the strap into strips. It can be fitted exactly in the center between the straps and so that both

straps will be equally used and strained, said straps being both of equal length, and it will unite the straps in a most secure manner. In these and other respects it has the advantage over the ordinary pronged buckle.

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

1. In a buckle, substantially as herein described, the combination, with the upper and lower bars and fixed end limbs constituting the body of the buckle-frame, of intermediate cross-bars connecting said upper and lower bars and serving both to stiffen the body of the buckle-frame and to receive around them and to connect with the buckle the straps designed to be secured by the buckle, and the movable pivoted limbs at the opposite ends of the buckle-frame, adapted to engage with the upper bar of the buckle-frame and arranged to clamp or hold the straps or parts to be united between them and the inner faces of the fixed end limbs at both or opposite ends of the buckle-frame, as set forth.

2. The improved buckle herein described, consisting of fixed upper and lower bars or members A B, having recesses *b b* in their ends, fixed end limbs C C, uniting said members and of less thickness than the latter, the intermediate bars D D, uniting said members A B, and the movable pivoted gripping or clamping end limbs E E, also of less thickness than the members A B, for operation in relation with the fixed end limbs C C, essentially as specified.

ERNEST J. NEUVILLE.

Witnesses:
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