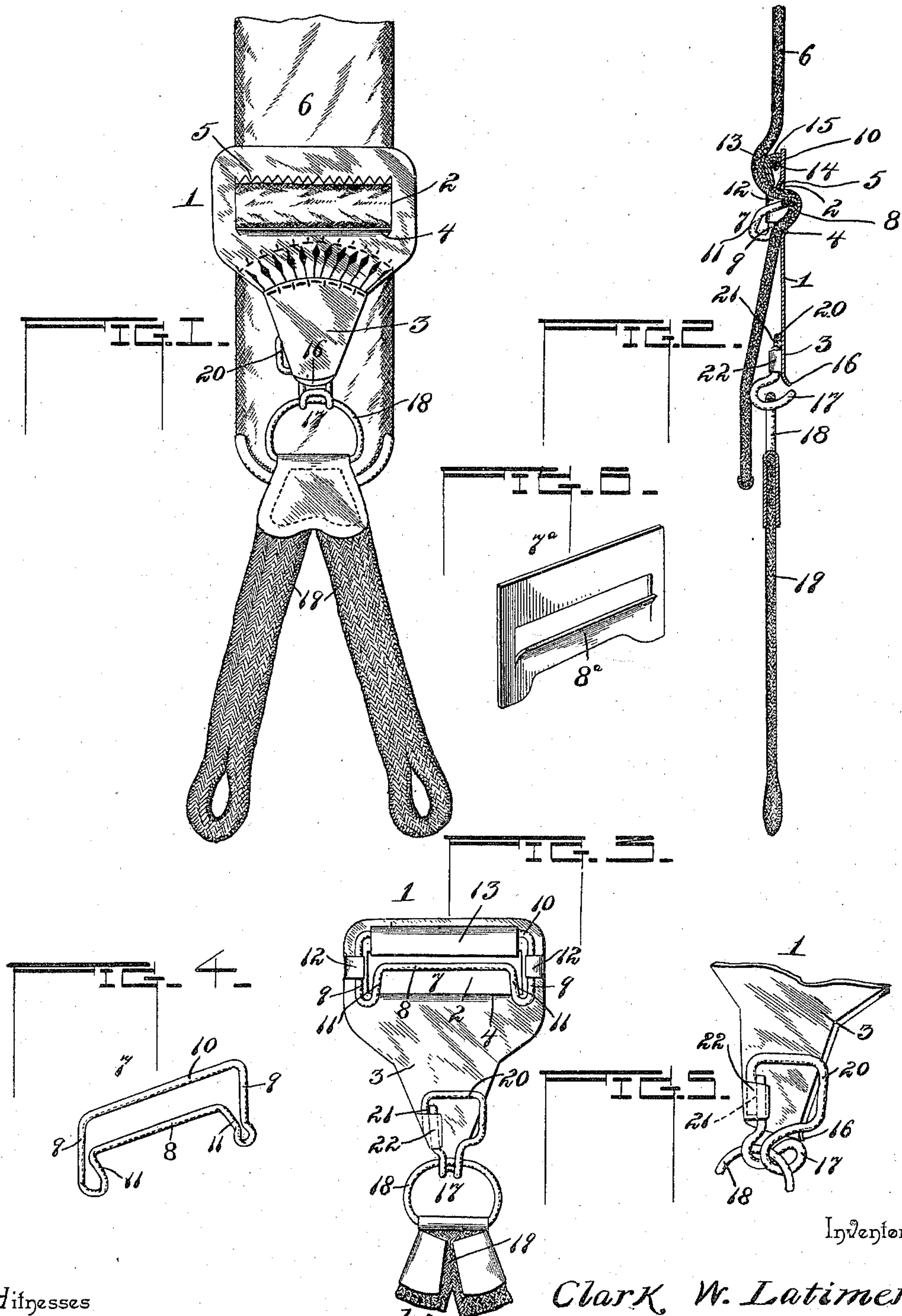


(No Model.)

C. W. LATIMER.  
SUSPENDER BUCKLE.

No. 584,882.

Patented June 22, 1897.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARK W. LATIMER, OF PORTAGE, WISCONSIN.

## SUSPENDER-BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 584,882, dated June 22, 1897.

Application filed July 7, 1896. Serial No. 598,352. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLARK W. LATIMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portage, in the county of Columbia and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Suspenders-Buckle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to suspender buckles or fastenings of this character which are designed to be used in connection with straps or tapes and which are movable upon the latter and capable of being held in the located position.

The purpose of the invention is the construction of a buckle for the purpose aforesaid which will admit of the ready adjustment of the tape or strap to the required position and which will secure the latter against accidental displacement by a positive action and which will be compact in the disposition of the parts and operate in a satisfactory manner.

For a full understanding of the merits and advantages of the invention reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings and the following description.

The improvement is susceptible of various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, and to a full disclosure of the invention an adaptation thereof is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation showing the invention applied to a suspender or supporter. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section thereof. Fig. 3 is a rear view, the strap being removed and a portion of the ends broken away. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the slide. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the spring-hook, showing the manner of connecting it with the buckle. Fig. 6 shows a construction which admits of the shield and slide being integrally formed.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in the several views of the drawings by the same reference-characters.

The buckle-frame 1 may be cast, formed of wire, struck up from sheet-metal, or constructed in any way found most advantageous, and as shown is stamped from sheet metal and is provided with a slot 2 and a tapering end 3. The lower edge portion bordering upon the slot 2 is deflected or curved

outwardly, as shown at 4, and the upper edge is toothed, as shown at 5, and inclines to the rear, so as to cause the teeth to come at such an angle as to engage with the strap or tape 6.

The slide 7 is movable with respect to the buckle-frame and comprises a cross-bar 8, end bars 9, a transverse bar 10, extending parallel with the cross-bar 8, and connecting-arms 11 between the cross-bar 8 and the end bars 9. The cross-bar 8 operates in the slot 2 and projects a short distance beyond the face of the frame 1, and the transverse bar 10 is adapted to bear against and operate upon the rear of the buckle-frame. The end bars 9 are parallel and move in guides 12, provided on the buckle-frame and which consist of wings bent so as to receive and retain the said end bars in place. The cross-bar 8 is shorter than the transverse bar 10, so as to admit of it operating in the slot 2, whereas the transverse bar 10 is longer than the cross-bar, so as to admit of the end bars 9 clearing the slot 2 and operating in the rear of the end bars of the buckle-frame.

The shield or guard 13 is formed of a blank of sheet metal which is doubled upon itself, one leaf, as 14, being curled or bent around the transverse bar 10, and the other leaf 15 being bent over the curl of the leaf 14 and adapted to bear against the rear side of the buckle-frame above the slot 2, thereby causing the free or lower edge of the shield or guard to extend into the slot 2. One purpose of the shield or guard 13 is to protect the points of the toothed edge 5, so as to prevent the strap or tape 6 from engaging therewith when adjusting or moving the buckle thereon, and another object is to disengage the strap or tape from the aforesaid teeth when operating the slide prior to adjusting the buckle upon the strap.

The tapering end 3 terminates in an outwardly-deflected lip 16, which extends across the throat of a hook 17, so as to retain a ring 18 in engagement therewith, said ring 18 being attached in any convenient way to a pair of ends 19 of suspenders or supporters. The hook 17 is constructed of wire, which is bent to provide a rectangular-shaped shank 20 and the hook 17, the latter extending at right angles, or nearly so, to the plane of the shank.



The terminal portions of the wire forming the shank and hook overlap, as shown at 21, and lie in a plane parallel with the shank and are thrust through the space formed by bending or recurving a wing 22 of the end 3 upon itself. When assembling the parts, the shank 20 lies against the end 3, and the throat of the hook 17 is closed by the lip 16. When it is required to place the ring 18 in position or remove it from the hook 17, the latter is turned against the torsional strain upon the overlapping terminals 21 within the sleeve 22, and upon releasing the hook it will be returned to a normal position by the shank regaining itself. A side portion of the shank 20 projects slightly beyond an edge of the end 3, so as to be pressed upon when it is required to turn the hook 17 to couple or release the ring 18 therefrom.

The strap or tape 6 passes through the slot 2 from the rear side of the buckle-frame over the cross-bar 8 and is returned through the said slot beneath the said cross-bar. When adjusting the strap and buckle relative to each other, the slide is moved so as to project the shield 13 beyond the points of the toothed edge 5, and after the parts have been properly adjusted the slide 7 is moved so as to uncover the toothed edge 5 and cause the cross-bar 8 to crowd the strap or tape against the toothed edge, whereby the strap or tape is securely and firmly held in the adjusted position. The connecting-arms 11 incline, and their lower ends project away from the plane of the buckle-frame, curve outwardly in opposite directions, thence inwardly to the lower ends of the bars 9, with which they are united and of which they form an integral part.

While it is preferred to construct the slide and shield of separate parts, yet it is contemplated forming them of one piece, and such a construction is shown in Fig. 6, in which the slide 7<sup>a</sup> has its cross-bar 8<sup>a</sup> extended so as to provide a shield corresponding to the shield 13.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. The combination with a buckle having a slot provided with a toothed edge, of a slide, and a shield or guard tiltingly mounted upon the slide and having a portion bearing against the buckle to hold the slide in working posi-

tion by a spring action, and said slide adapted to be projected across the points of the toothed edge of the slot, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 55

2. The combination with a buckle having a slot provided with a toothed edge, of a slide having a transverse bar, and a shield or guard, the latter constructed of a piece of sheet metal doubled upon itself and having one leaf curled around the transverse bar and having the other leaf bearing against the rear side of the buckle-frame so as to hold the shield or guard in proper position, substantially as set forth for the purpose described. 60 65

3. The combination with a buckle having a slot formed with a toothed edge, of a slide comprising a transverse bar to operate in the rear of the buckle-frame, and a cross-bar to project through the said slot, and a shield or guard mounted upon the transverse bar and adapted to project across the points of the aforesaid toothed edge, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 70 75

4. In combination, a buckle comprising a frame having a sleeve adjacent to its extremity, and a hook formed of wire and having an approximately rectangular-shaped shank, the terminal portions of the wire overlapping and held within the aforesaid sleeve, whereby the hook is maintained in a normal position, substantially in the manner set forth for the purpose described. 80 85

5. In combination, a buckle-frame having a slot, the lower edge portion bordering upon the slot being deflected forwardly, and the upper edge portion being toothed and deflected rearwardly, a slide comprising a transverse bar, a cross-bar extending through and operating in the said slot, end bars, and connecting-arms, the end bars of the slide operating in guides forming a part of the buckle-frame, and a shield or guard mounted upon the transverse bar of the slide and adapted to operate substantially in the manner set forth for the purpose described. 90 95

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses. 100

CLARK W. LATIMER.

Witnesses:

M. T. ALVERSON,  
MARY L. GOODMAN.