

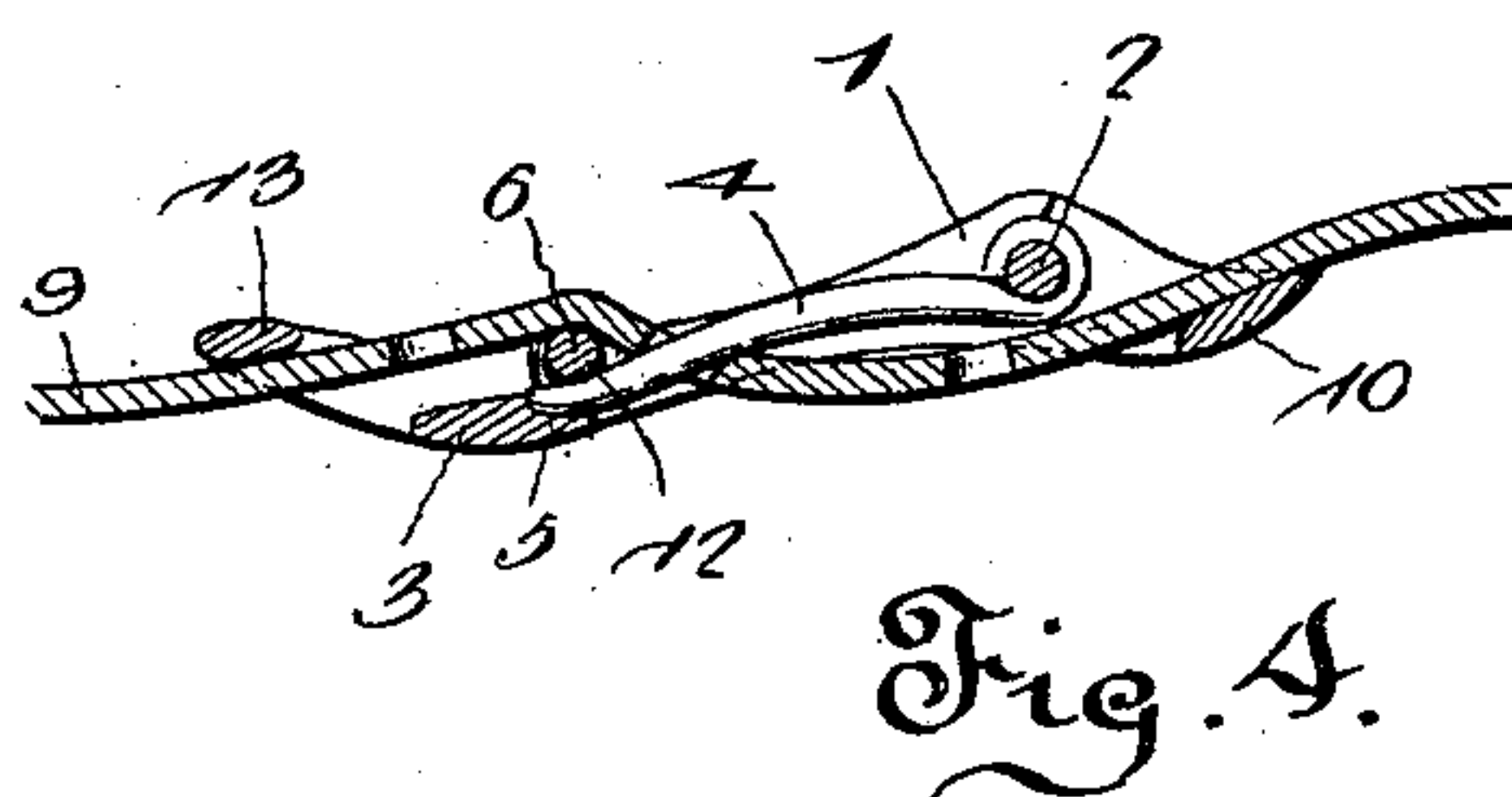
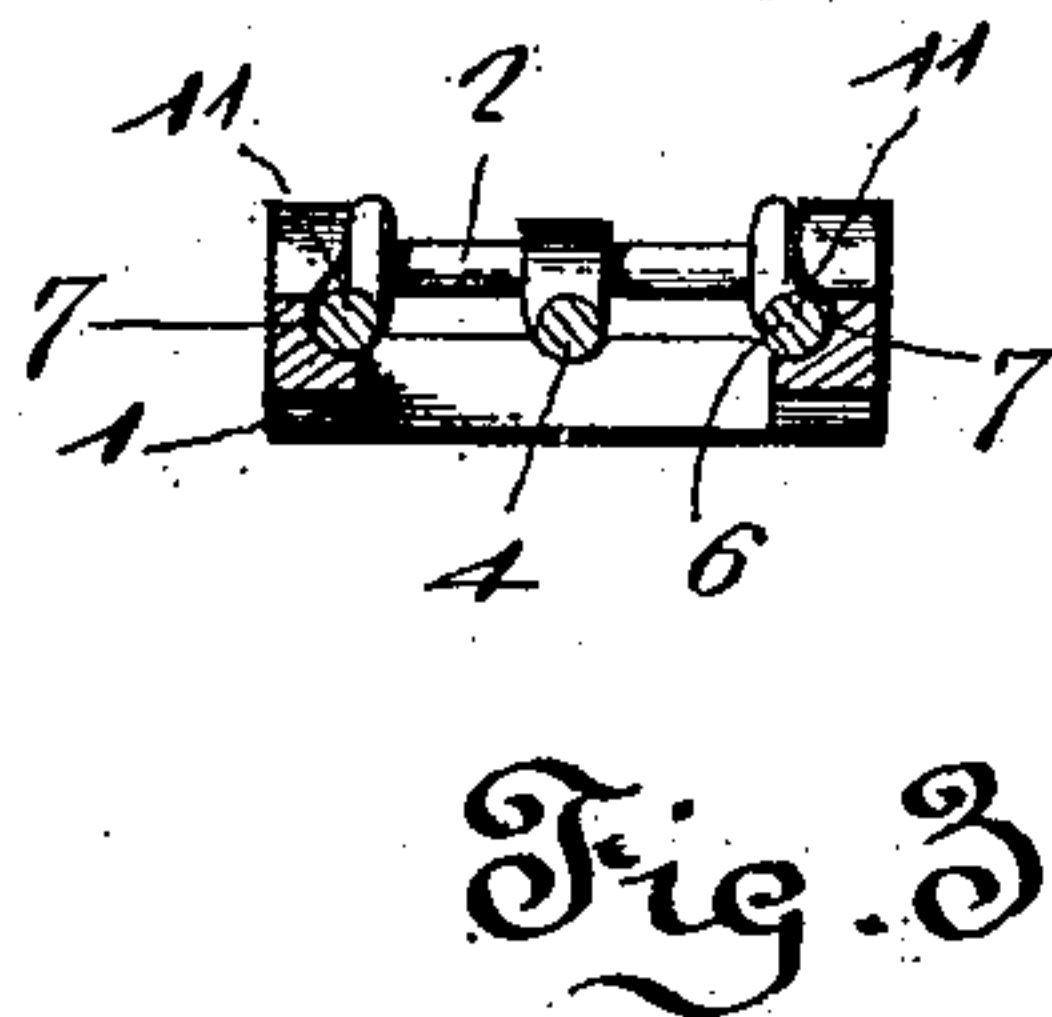
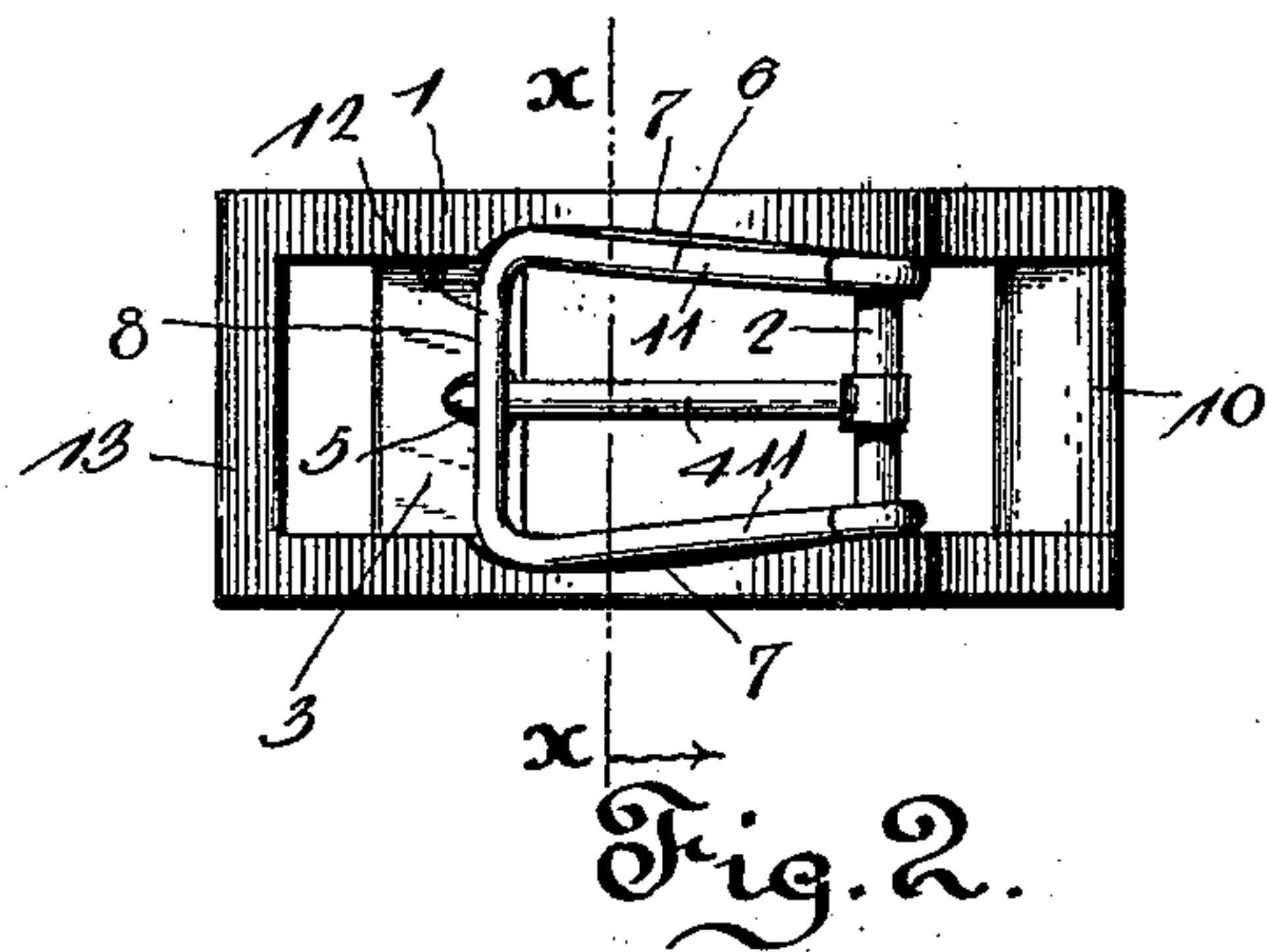
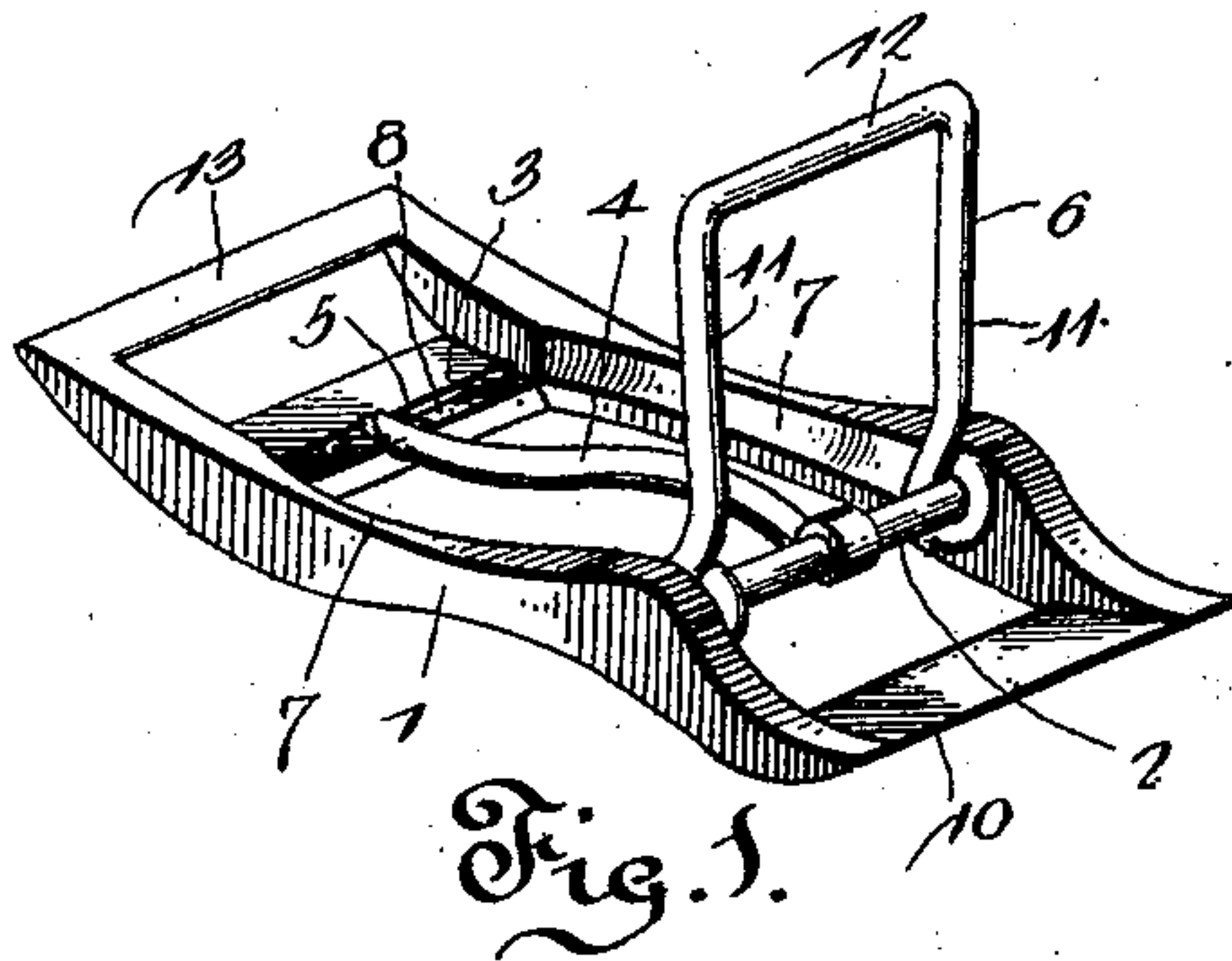
No. 621,756.

Patented Mar. 21, 1899.

C. F. KNIGHT.
BUCKLE.

(Application filed Oct. 10, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
J. H. Culverwell.

O. B. Shepard.

Curtis F. Knight, Inventor.
By his Attorneys,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CURTIS F. KNIGHT, OF URICH, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
WILLIAM W. MORLAN, OF SAME PLACE.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 621,756, dated March 21, 1899.

Application filed October 10, 1898. Serial No. 693,150. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CURTIS F. KNIGHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Urich, in the county of Henry and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Buckle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buckles, particularly to harness-buckles, and has for its object to provide a guard for the tongue of the buckle to prevent the latter from becoming accidentally raised or entangled in the hairs of the tail or mane of the animal.

To attain this result, the invention consists in the construction and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved buckle with the guard in raised position. Fig. 2 is a top plan view with the guard closed or seated upon the tongue. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line *xx*, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates the frame of the buckle, having a round cross-bar 2 provided near one end of the frame and a flat cross-bar 3 near the other end thereof. The round cross-bar is arranged in a plane above that of the flat cross-bar, the frame being curved, as shown, to accomplish this result. A tongue 4 is hinged to the cross-bar 2 in the usual manner, and its free end is seated in a notch 5, formed in the upper face at the inner edge of the flat cross-bar. A guard 6 in the form of an approximately U-shaped loop is hinged to the round cross-bar at each side of the tongue 4 and is of a width to fit within the sides of the frame of the buckle. The inner sides of the frame are grooved or channeled out, as at 7, which extend from the round cross-bar to the flat cross-bar, where the groove is continued across the latter bar, as at 8, intersecting the notch 5 and forming a continuous seat for the guard 6.

In threading the strap 9 through the buckle, as shown in Fig. 4, the guard is raised, as in Fig. 1, and the strap is passed over the end

bar 10, under the cross-bar 2, when it is engaged by the tongue 4, which is then seated in the notch 5. The end of the strap is then passed upward between the side bars 11 of the loop-guard 6, which is then seated in the grooves 7, and the strap is passed over the end 12 of the guard and the flat cross-bar and underneath the end bar 13 of the buckle-frame. When the strap has thus been threaded through the buckle, it engages over the top of the guard and holds it in place, which in turn bearing against the tongue prevents it from being accidentally raised, and the strap covers the end of the tongue and precludes the possibility of said tongue from being caught in the hairs of the tail or mane of the animal or any part of the harness.

By reason of the strap passing over the free end of the guard, downward at opposite sides thereof, and beneath transverse bars of the frame a downward pressure is exerted upon the loop by a strain in either direction of the length of the strap, and therefore the guard is effectually held in place and upon the tongue. In releasing the buckle it is simply necessary to swing the guard upward, carrying the unconfined end of the strap therewith, and the latter can then be readily disengaged.

It will be noted by reference to Figs. 3 and 4 that the guard does not project above the plane of the top of the buckle-frame, which thus presents a comparatively smooth and unbroken surface.

Changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention, and therefore I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts as herein described, and shown in the drawings.

Having thus described the invention, I claim—

The combination with a buckle-frame having end and intermediate cross-bars, and a tongue hinged to one of the intermediate cross-bars and adapted to have its free end bear upon the other intermediate cross-bar, of a guard in the form of a loop hinged to the frame of the buckle within the same, and adapted to swing in the same direction as the

tongue and bear upon the latter, the guard
being adapted to receive the strap over the
top and downwardly upon opposite sides
thereof and beneath the transverse bars of
5 the frame, so that a strain in either direction
of the strap will draw downwardly upon the
guard and hold the same in place, substan-
tially in the manner shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own I have hereto affixed my signature in 10
the presence of two witnesses.

CURTIS F. KNIGHT.

Witnesses:

S. P. RAY,
E. A. PUGH.