

No. 627,701.

Patented June 27, 1899.

F. H. MITCHELL.

BELT BUCKLE.

(Application filed Nov. 2, 1897.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

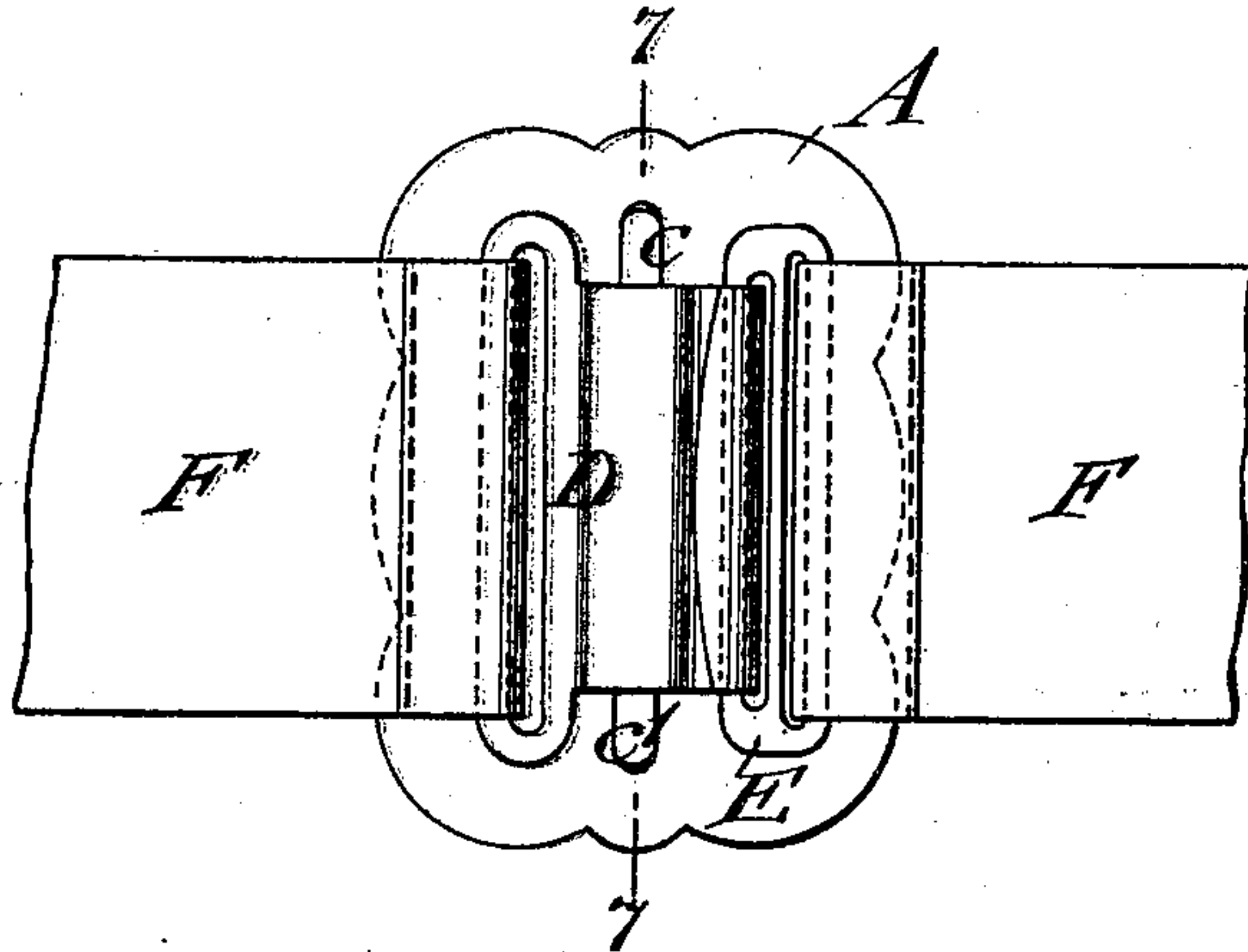


Fig. 2.

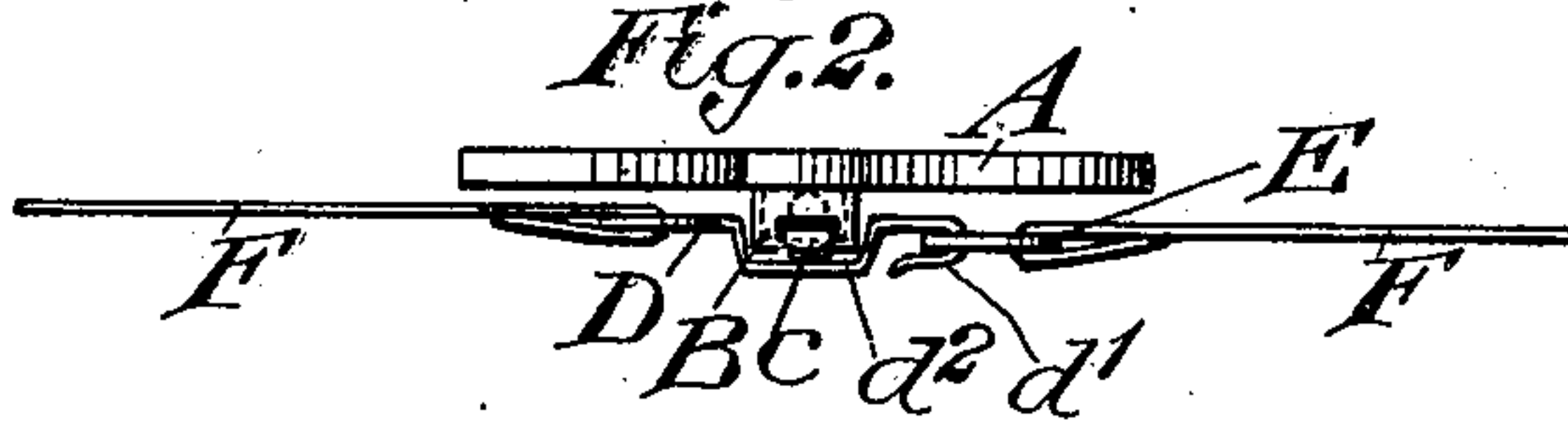


Fig. 3.

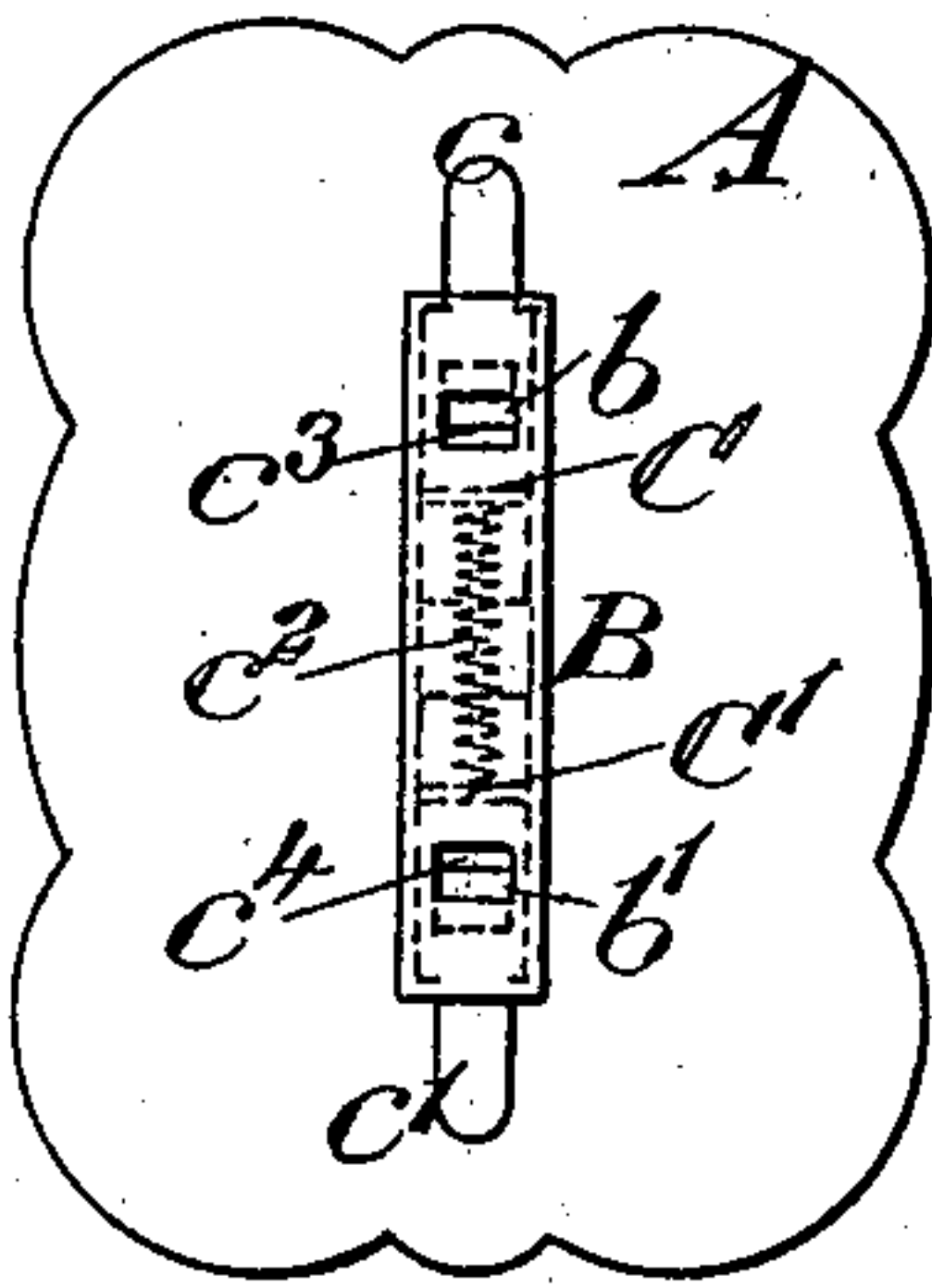


Fig. 4.

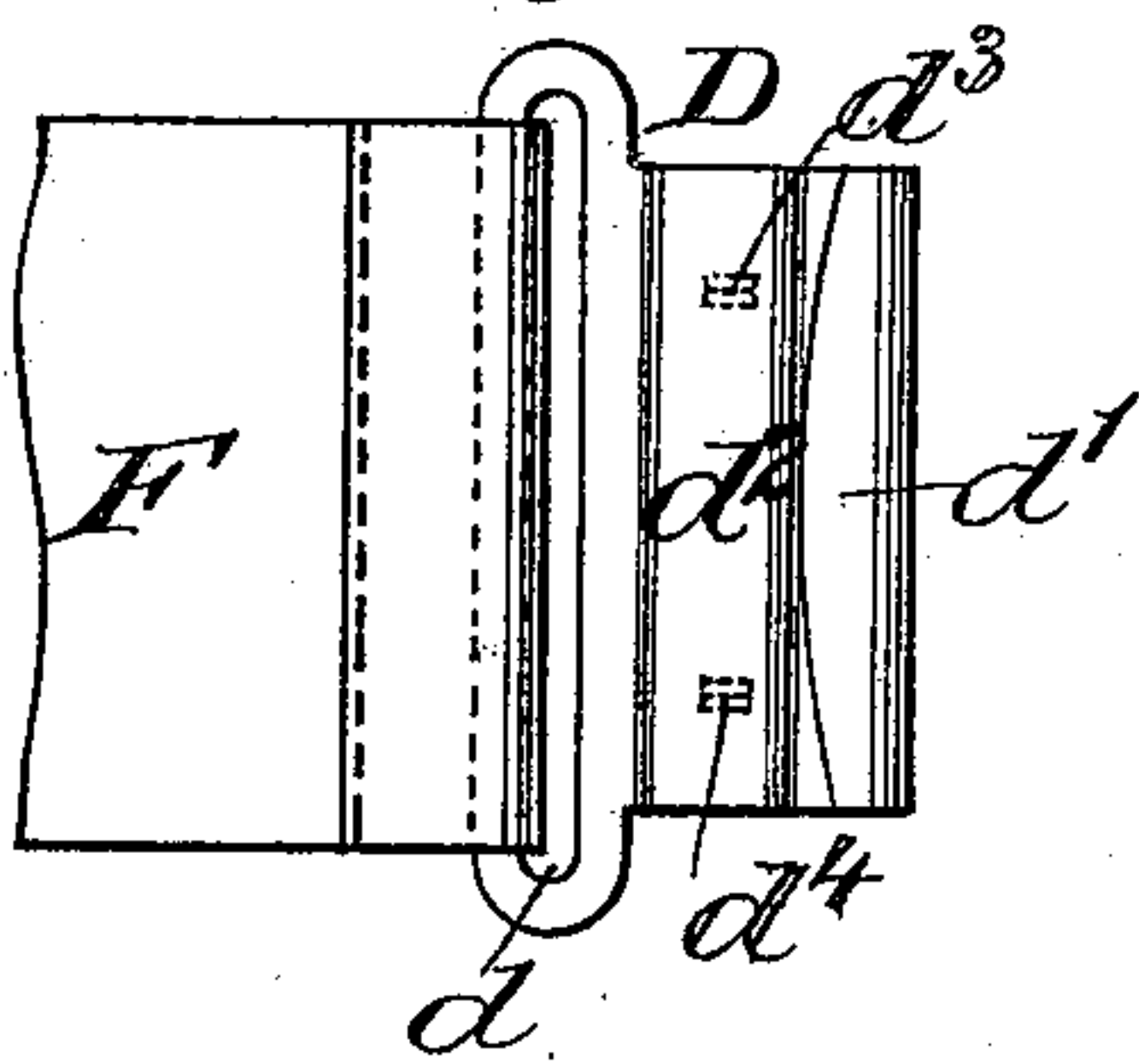


Fig. 5.

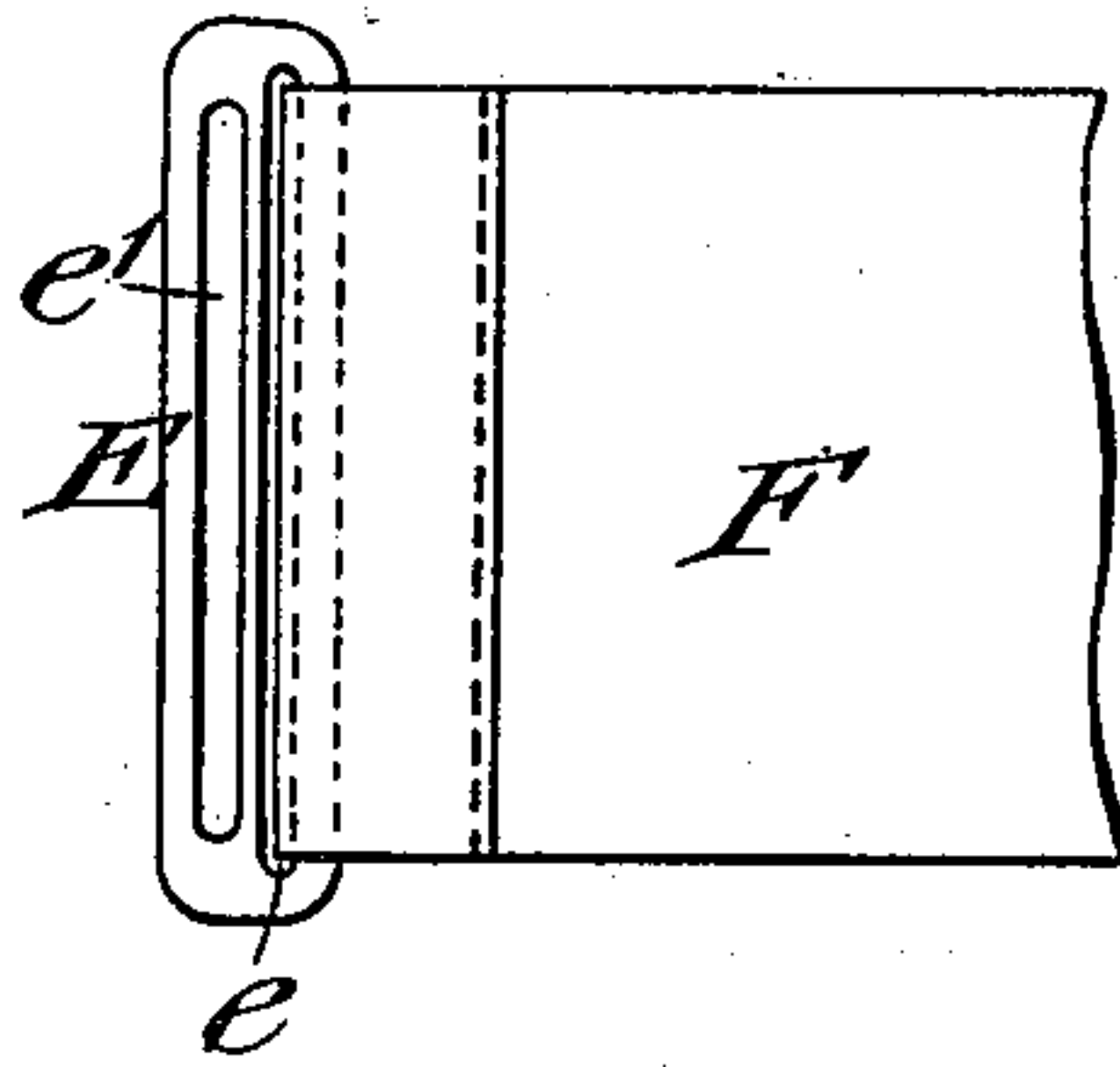


Fig. 6.

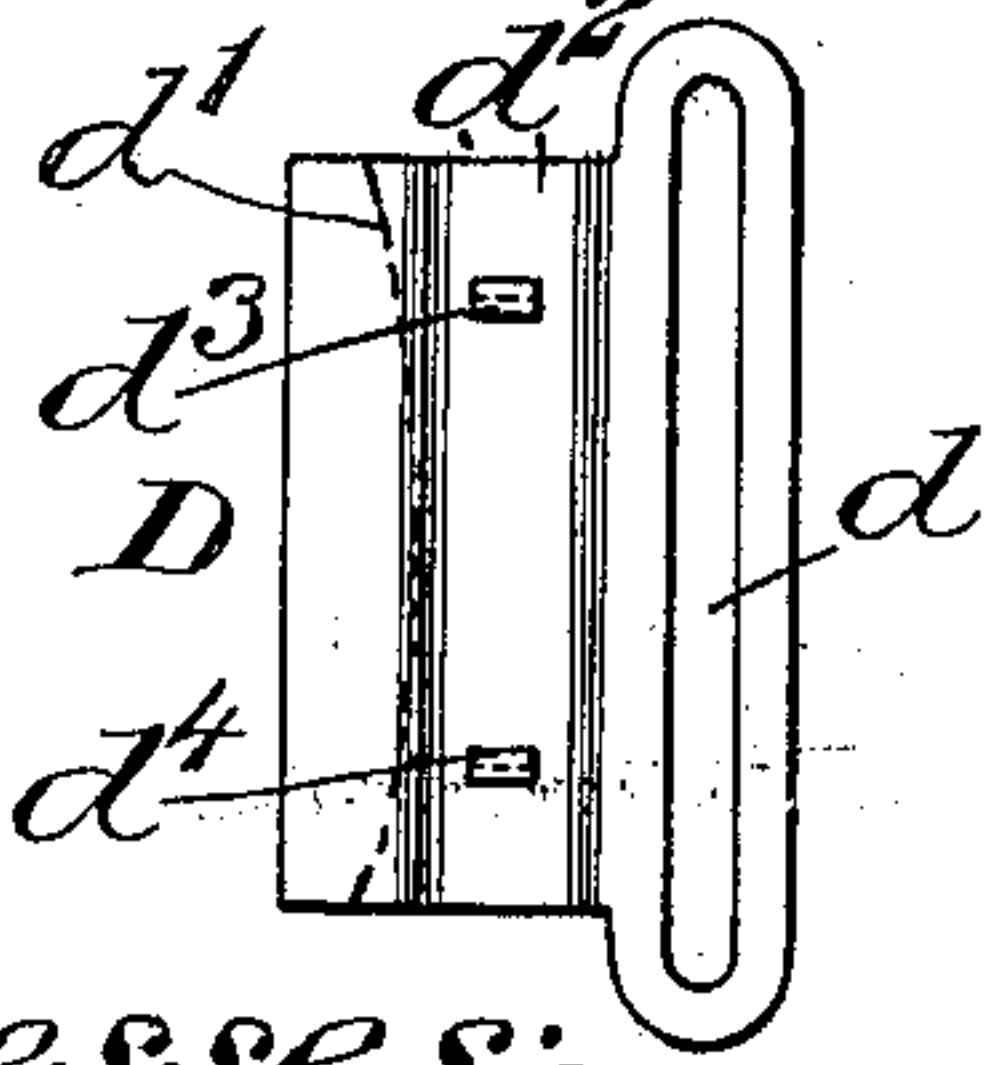


Fig. 7.

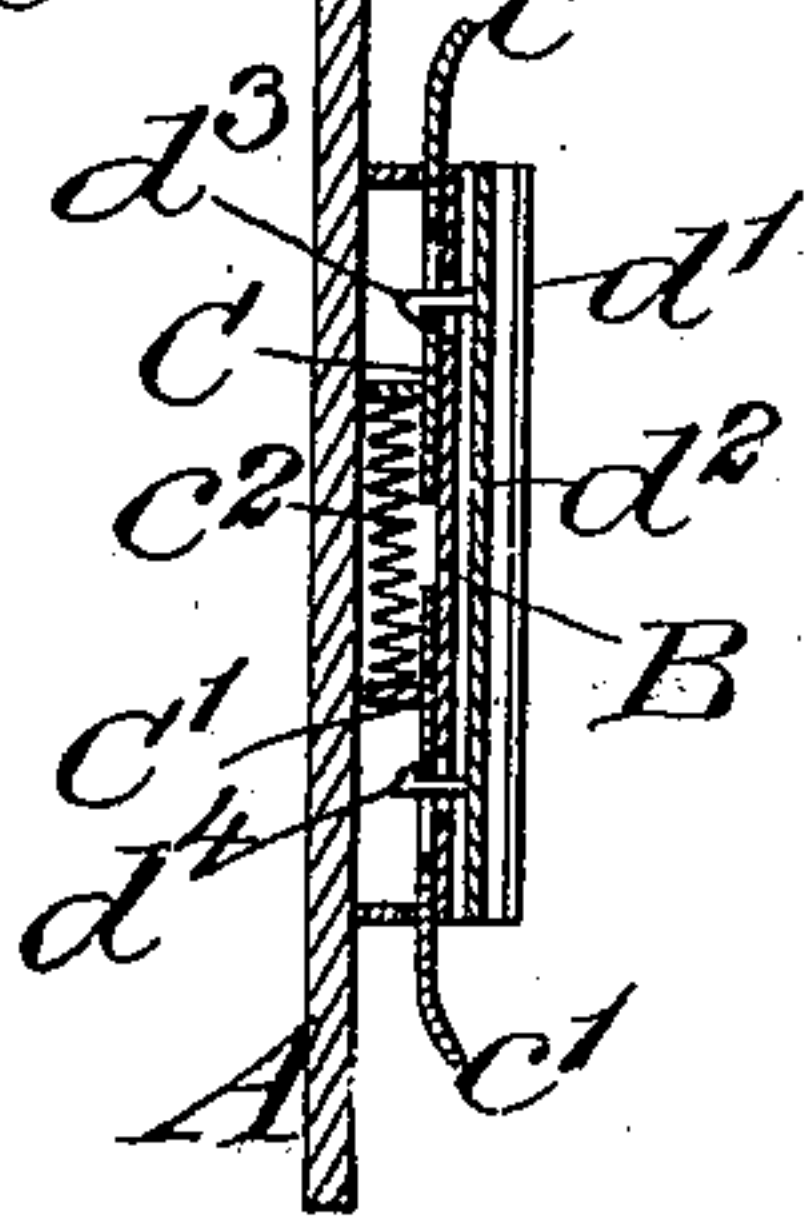


Fig. 8.

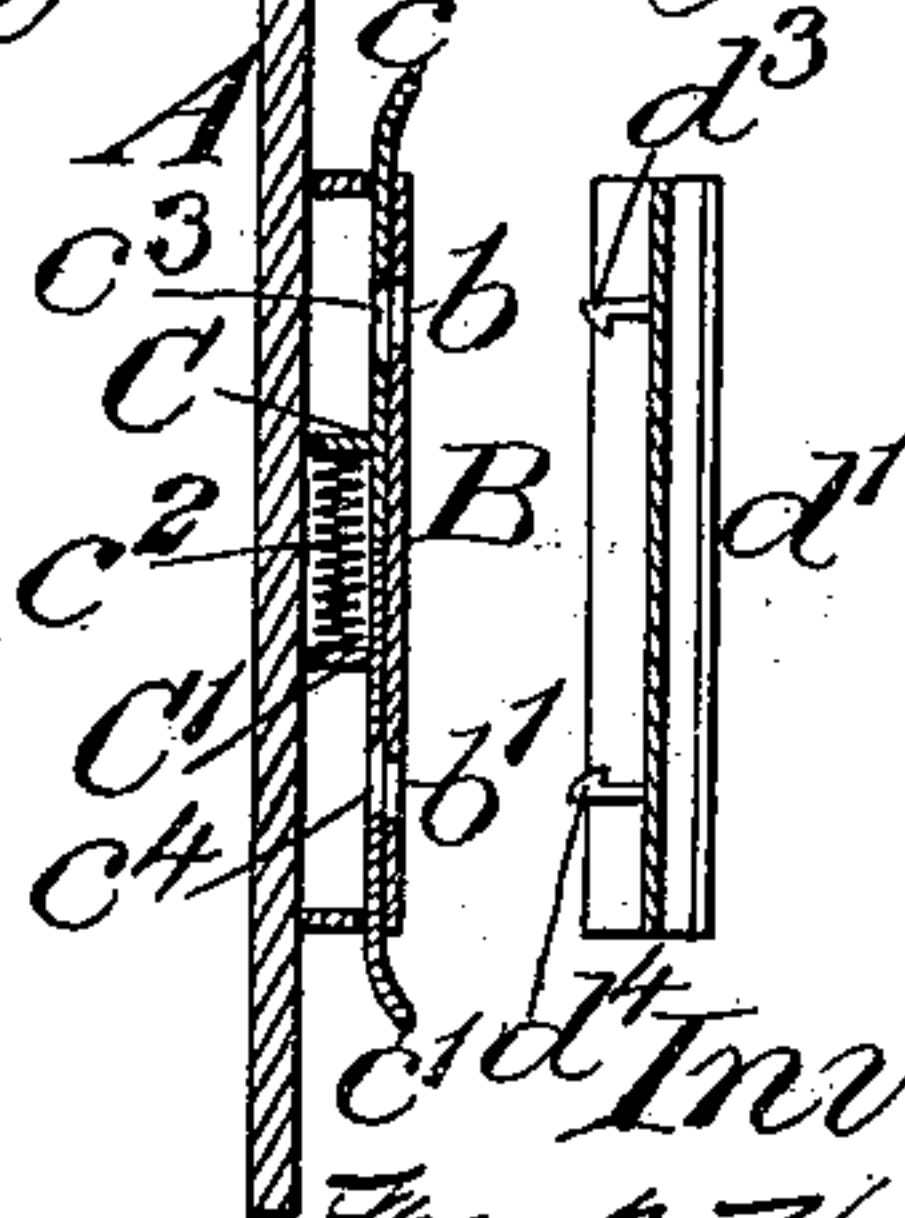


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK H. MITCHELL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM H. JUDSON, OF SAME PLACE, AND STEPHEN V. ALBRO, OF WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK.

BELT-BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 627,701, dated June 27, 1899.

Application filed November 2, 1897. Serial No. 657,154. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK H. MITCHELL, of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Belt-Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in belt-buckles in which provision is made for removing and adjusting the buckle-front at pleasure.

A practical embodiment of my invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the buckle as applied to the belt looking at it from the rear. Fig. 2 is a top plan view. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 represent, respectively, in detail rear views of the buckle-front, the hook-piece, and the slotted or socket piece which go to make up the complete fastening. Fig. 6 is a front view of the hook-piece. Fig. 7 is a view of the buckle-front and hook-piece in vertical central section from front to rear along the line 7 7 of Fig. 1, showing the fastening-dogs for retaining the buckle-front in their locking position. Fig. 8 is a similar view of the buckle-front, showing the fastening-dogs in their releasing position; and Fig. 9 is a similar view of the hook-piece, showing the catches in position to receive the front-piece.

The front-piece of the buckle is denoted by A. It may be of any suitable design and of any material adapted for the purpose. It is provided on its rear side with a housing B, shown in the present instance as of oblong rectangular form and provided with a pair of openings $b\ b'$ on its rear face to admit a pair of catches on the hook-piece of the belt, as will be hereinafter more particularly described. Within the housing B a pair of fastening-dogs C C' are located in such a manner as to permit them to reciprocate toward and away from each other in the longitudinal direction of the housing, their tailpieces $c\ c'$ being extended beyond the ends of the housing B for the purpose of permitting them to be grasped by the thumb and finger of the operator to press them toward one another to release them from the catches. The fastening-dogs C C' are normally held toward the opposite ends of the housing in position to

lock the catches by means of a spring c^2 , inserted between abutments on the dogs within the housing. The operating-noses of the dogs (denoted by $c^3\ c^4$) are adapted to normally rest in position to partially cover the openings $b\ b'$ in the rear face of the housing, so that when the beveled ends of the catches are forced in the openings $b\ b'$ in the housing they will have a tendency to crowd the dogs back from in front of the openings until the catches have passed inwardly beyond the noses $c^3\ c^4$, when the latter will spring in opposite directions and engage the lips of the catches.

The hook-piece which is to be attached to one end of the belt is denoted as a whole by D. It is provided with an elongated eye d for the reception of the end of the belt, with a hook d' at its edge opposite that to which the belt is secured, and with an intermediate rearwardly-depressed portion d^2 , adapted to receive the housing B on the buckle-front. From the depressed portion d^2 there extend forwardly a pair of catches (denoted by $d^3\ d^4$) for entering the openings $b\ b'$ in the housing and engaging the fastening-dogs when the buckle-front is pressed rearwardly with its housing in the depressed portion d^2 of the hook-piece.

The socket or slotted piece which coacts with the hook-piece to secure the ends of the belt together is denoted as a whole by E and is provided with an elongated eye e for the reception of the opposite end of the belt and with an elongated slot or eye e' for the reception of the hook d' .

The belt is denoted by F. In practice the belt may be first secured to the body of the wearer by hooking the piece E onto the hook-piece D, as shown in Fig. 1. The buckle-front A may then be placed in position by simply placing it in front of the hook portion D with its housing in the depression d^2 and pressing it rearwardly to force the catches $d^3\ d^4$ into the openings $b\ b'$ in the housing B. When it is desired to remove the belt, the piece E may be first detached from the hook-piece D, and the buckle-front may then be removed from the hook-piece D by pressing inwardly on the tailpieces $c\ c'$ of the fastening-dogs.

The above-described structure provides for utilizing a handsome and expensive buckle-

front in connection with various colors and designs of belt, thereby making constant use of the same expensive buckle-front in connection with a variety of belts.

5 It is obvious that slight changes might be resorted to in the form and arrangement of the several parts without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. Hence I do not wish to limit myself strictly to the
10 structure herein shown and described; but

What I claim is—

1. The combination with a hook-piece for engaging one end of a belt and means for securing the opposite end of a belt to the hook-
15 piece, the said hook-piece being provided with a catch projecting from it, of a buckle-front independent of and removable bodily from the said hook and securing means and pro-

vided with a dog for locking the buckle-front to and releasing it from the catch on the hook- 20 piece, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with a hook-piece for engaging one end of a belt and means for attaching the opposite end of a belt to the hook-
piece, the said hook-piece being provided with 25 catches projecting from it, of a buckle-front independent of and removable bodily from the said hook and securing means and provided with a housing at its rear and spring-
30 actuated dogs within the housing for engaging the catches and locking the buckle-front to the hook-piece, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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