

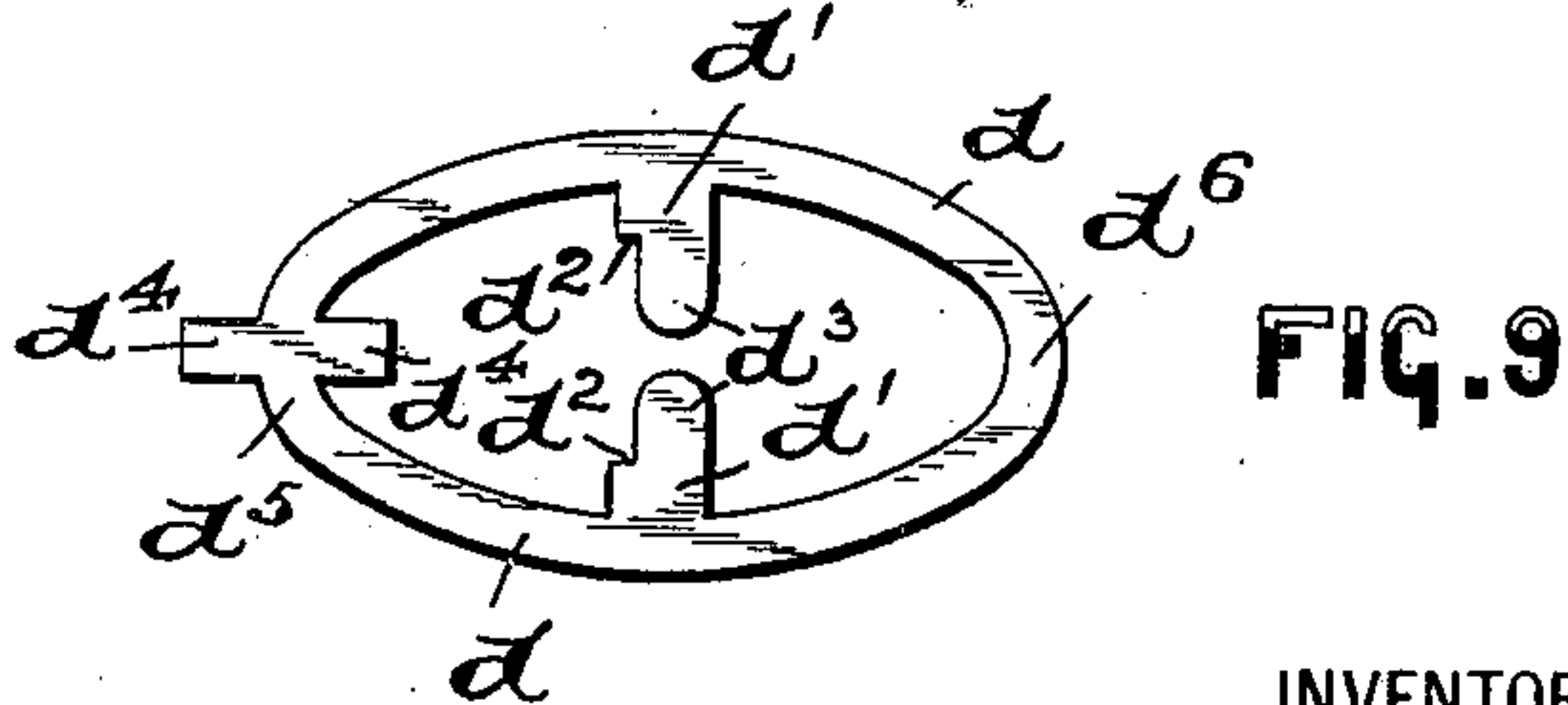
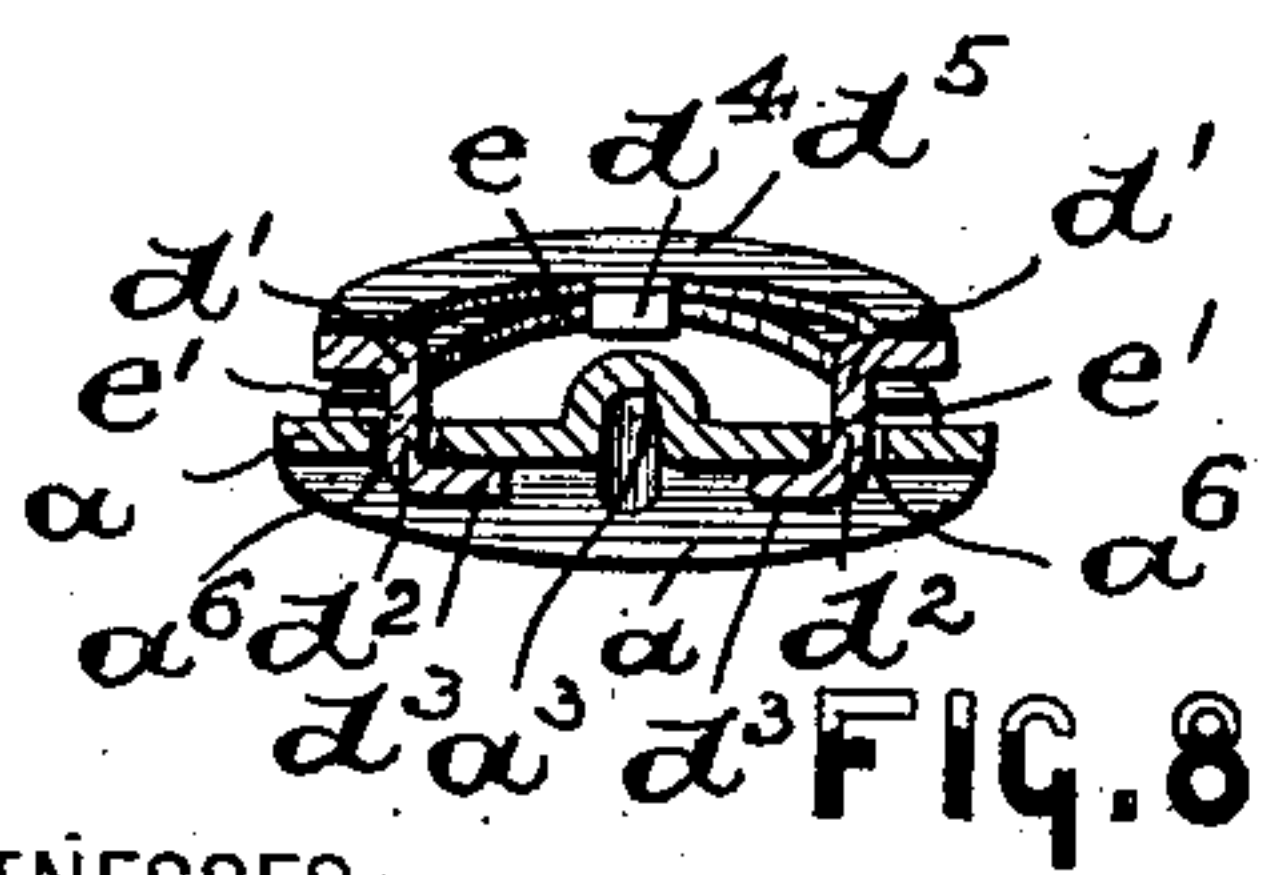
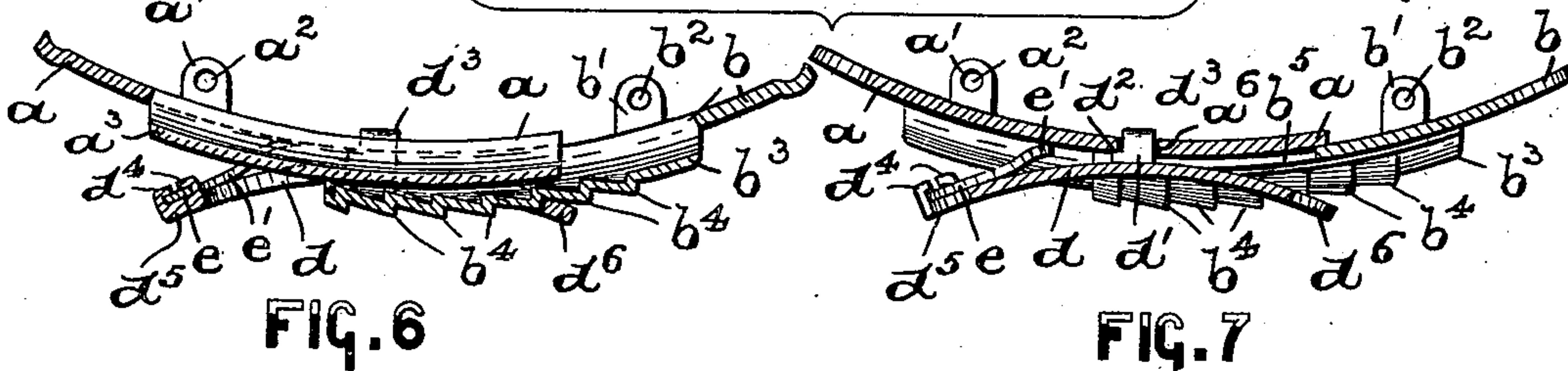
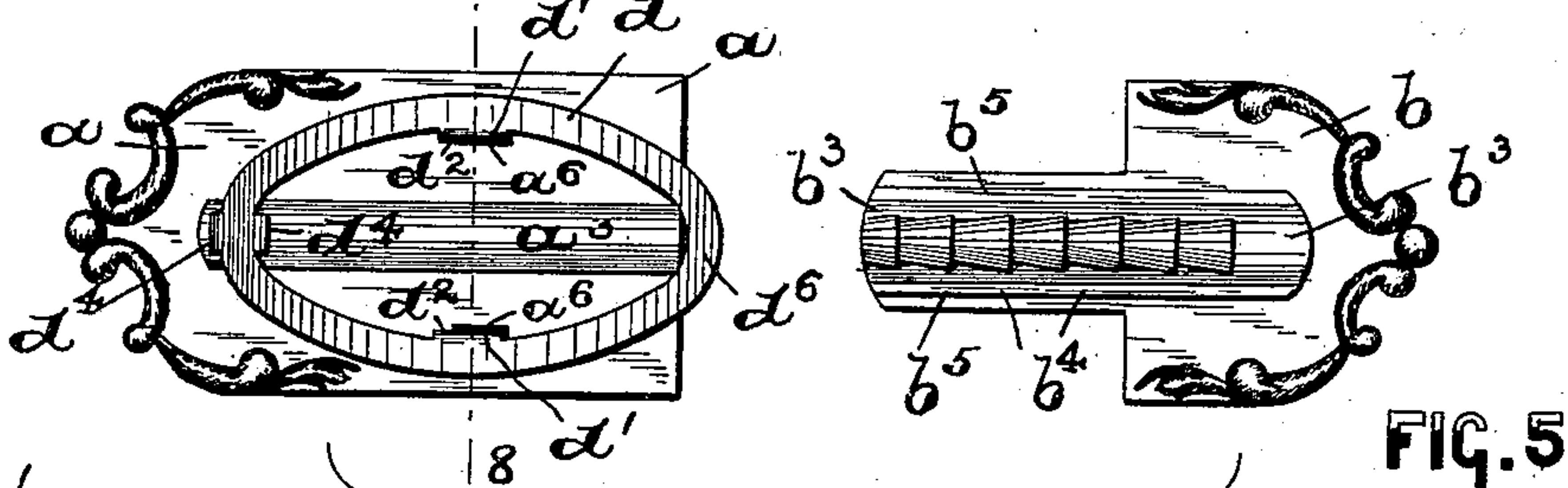
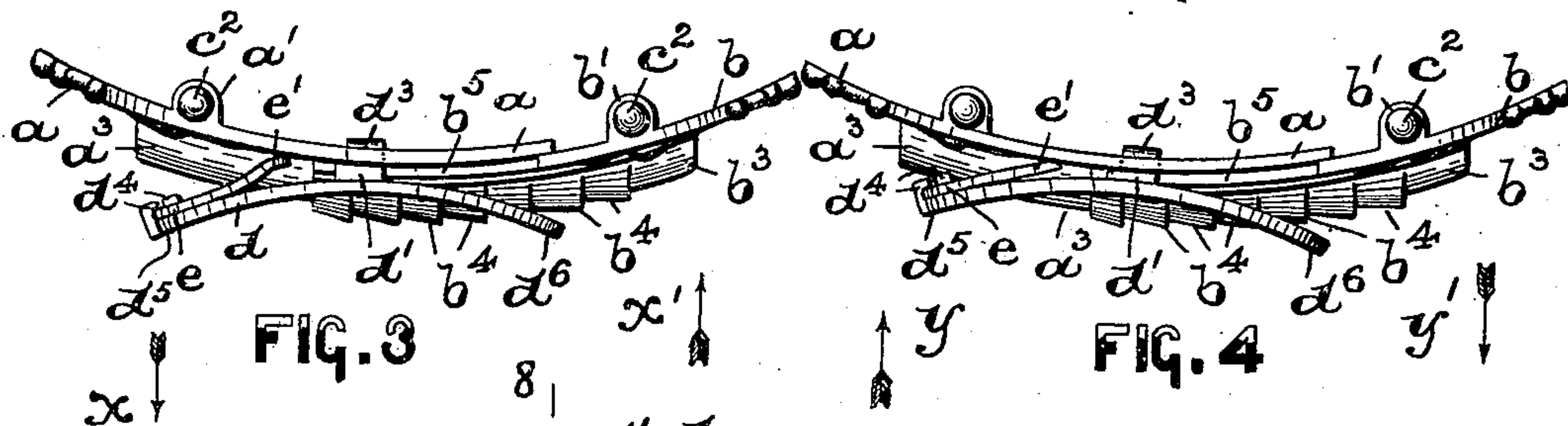
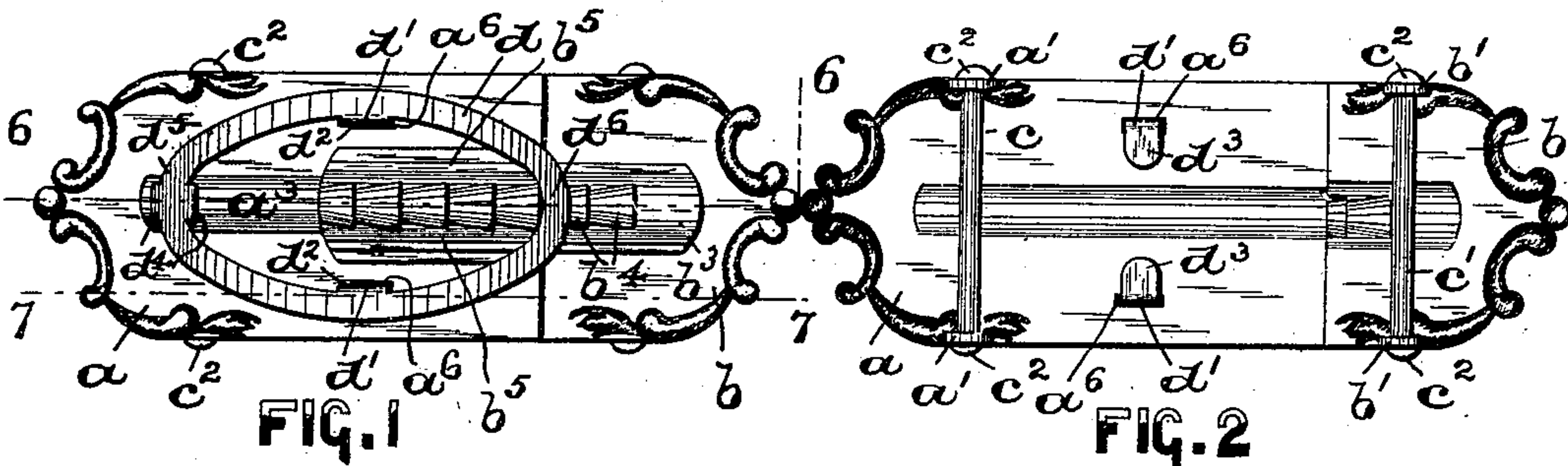
No. 667,308.

Patented Feb. 5, 1901.

A. F. FULLER.  
BUCKLE.

(Application filed Oct. 27, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT F. FULLER, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO THE J. E. MERGOTT COMPANY, OF NEW JERSEY.

## BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 667,308, dated February 5, 1901.

Application filed October 27, 1900. Serial No. 34,566. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT F. FULLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles; 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 appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My present invention has reference more particularly to improvements in buckles, and the invention relates to a novel construction of buckle which is adapted for use on ladies' belts, but is also applicable for other uses.

My present invention therefore has for its primary object to provide a novel construction of buckle for belts and analogous articles which shall be of a simple construction and in which the locking or holding members can be easily and quickly manipulated; and, furthermore, the invention has for its further objects to provide a buckle comprising a pair of sliding members, one of which is provided with serrations or other suitable holding means and the other member being provided with an oscillatory operating and holding clasp which is actuated and retained in its holding or locked engagement with the serrations or holding means on the one sliding member by means of a spring or other actuating means secured to said holding-clasp and arranged in a position between the under surface of said clasp and the sliding member with which said clasp or link is connected.

A further object of this invention is to provide a buckle which is especially adapted for ladies' belts and in which the use of a spring on the back of the buckle is entirely avoided; the spring in the construction hereinafter set forth being concealed from view between the holding-catch and the sliding member and offering no projecting points or sharp corners on the back of the buckle members to wear the material with which the buckle is used or to prick the fingers when manipulating the members of the buckle.

Other objects and advantages of my pres-

ent invention will appear in the accompanying specification, and the novelty in the present case resides in the general arrangements and combinations of the various parts, as well as in the peculiarities of the construction thereof, all of which will be more fully described in the following description of the same and then pointed out in the claims hereto appended, which form a part of this specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of a belt-buckle embodying the principles of this invention. Fig. 2 is a back view of the buckle, the slide members of the buckle in both figures being represented in their held or locked engagement. Fig. 3 is a side or edge view of the buckle with the holding catch or link on the one member of the buckle in its locked or held engagement with the holding means on the other member of the buckle, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of the buckle with the holding or locking catch or link raised from its holding engagement with the holding means on the one slide member of the buckle to permit the separation or adjustment of the two members. Fig. 5 is a face view of the two slide members of the buckle, the same being represented in their separated or disengaged positions. Fig. 6 is a longitudinal vertical section of the several parts of the buckle in their locked or held positions, said section being taken on line 6 6 in Fig. 1 of the drawings. Fig. 7 is a similar section taken on line 7 7 in said Fig. 1; and Fig. 8 is a cross-section of one of the said slide members, said section being taken on line 8 8 in Fig. 5. Fig. 9 is a view of a blank from which the holding catch or link is formed, and Fig. 10 is a perspective view of one form of spring to be used with said holding catch or link.

Similar letters of reference are employed in all of the said above-described drawings to indicate corresponding parts.

In the said drawings, *a* and *b* represent the two slide members of the buckle, the same being made of metal, which may be suitably ornamented on their faces and are of any desirable configuration in outline. These plates or slide members *a* and *b* are respec-



tively provided with rearwardly-extending lugs or ears  $a'$  and  $b'$ , which are formed with holes or perforations  $a^2$  and  $b^2$  for the securing therein of suitable holding-pins  $c$  and  $c'$ , to which the respective ends of the belt or other analogous article are to be fastened in the usual manner. Of course it will be understood that any other fastening means may be employed in connection with the said plates or slide members  $a$  and  $b$  for securing the ends of the belt or other article to the same. These pins  $c$  and  $c'$  are suitably secured in the holes or perforations  $a^2$  and  $b^2$  of the respective ears or lugs  $a'$  and  $b'$  by means of heads  $c^2$ , which are formed on the ends of said pins; but it will be understood that said pins may be otherwise secured in position on the backs of the respective slide members of the buckle. As is clearly illustrated in the several figures of the drawings, the said plate or slide member  $a$  is provided with a longitudinally-extending raised portion  $a^3$ , forming a suitable rib, and the other member  $b$  is likewise provided with a longitudinally-extending raised portion  $b^3$ , which is formed with serrations or holding-teeth  $b^4$ , struck up therein, or with any other suitable holding means. The said slide member  $b$  is also provided with narrow side flanges  $b^5$  adjacent to the longitudinal edges of the said raised portions  $b^3$ , substantially in the manner illustrated in Figs. 1 and 6.

From an inspection of the several figures of the drawings it will be seen that when the slide member  $b$  is slid over the member  $a$  the raised portion  $a^3$  of said member  $a$  will slide into the curved and raised portion  $b^3$  of the member  $b$ , and the said side flanges  $b^5$  will slide upon the outer surface of the said member  $a$  contiguous to the edges of the longitudinal rib or projection  $a^3$ , thereby imparting a positive action of the said parts when thus passed one over the other. The said slide member  $a$  is also provided with a pair of oppositely-placed holes or openings or slots  $a^6$ , into which extend the ears or lugs  $d'$  of the catch-plate or link  $d$ , each ear or lug  $d'$ , as will be seen from an inspection of Figs. 7 and 9, being provided with an offset or cut-away portion  $d^2$ , which forms a shoulder and which is made to bear directly upon the upper surface of the plate or slide member  $a$  at one end of the opening or slot  $a^6$  when the said lug or ear  $d'$  at each side of the catch-plate or link  $d$  is passed through the said hole or opening  $a^6$  and secured in its operative position by the bent or turned-over portion  $d^3$  to each lug or ear  $d'$  in the manner represented in Figs. 2, 7, and 8 of the drawings. The said offsets  $d^2$  act as fulcrumal supports, while the end portions  $d^3$  of the lugs or ears  $d'$  of the catch-plate or link  $d$  are sufficiently turned down that the said catch-plate or link  $d$  will be fully capable of an oscillatory motion and will be operatively secured in its proper position upon the upper surface of the slide member  $a$ . Secured against the under side of the end

portion  $d^3$  of said catch-plate or link  $d$ , preferably by means of a pair of lugs  $d^4$ , which are made integral with said catch-plate, is a suitable spring plate or device  $e$ . This plate  $e$  is secured in position against the under side of said catch plate or link  $d$  by bending the said oppositely-placed lugs  $d^4$  down and upon the said spring-plate  $e$  in the manner illustrated more particularly in Figs. 6 and 8 of the drawings. The said spring plate or device  $e$  is preferably made horseshoe-shaped, as illustrated in Fig. 10, being provided with a pair of curved end pieces  $e'$ , the free ends of which bear against the outer surface of the said slide member  $a$  on opposite sides of its raised portion or rib  $a^3$  thereon, whereby under normal conditions the end portion  $d^4$  of the catch-plate or link  $d$  is forced in the direction of the arrow  $x$  in Fig. 3, while the opposite end portion  $d^6$  of said catch-plate or link  $d$  is forced in the opposite direction (indicated by the arrow  $x'$  in said Fig. 3,) to bring said end portion  $d^6$  in positive holding or locked engagement with one of the serrations or teeth  $b^4$  on the slide member  $b$ .

The arrangement and construction of the several parts herein described are such that when the two slide members  $a$  and  $b$  of the buckle are slid over each other in one direction the end portion  $d^6$  of the catch plate or link  $d$  will slip over the serrations or teeth  $b^4$ ; but when the pull on the slide-members of the buckle is in an opposite direction then the parts will be held in their locked positions. In this manner the belt to which the buckle is attached can be readily adjusted around the waist of a person and when so adjusted will be held in its adjusted position until a slight pressure is brought by the person wearing the belt and its buckle against the end portion  $d^5$  of the catch plate or link  $d$  in the direction of the arrow  $y$ , as clearly indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings. This action will cause the holding end portion  $d^6$  of the said catch-plate or link  $d$  to become disengaged from its held or locked position with the serration or tooth  $b^4$  of the slide member  $b$ , as clearly illustrated in said figure, the portion  $d^6$  moving in an outward direction, (indicated by arrow  $y'$ ), and the two slide members  $a$  and  $b$  of the buckle can then be readily separated and the belt removed from the waist of the wearer, or it can be readjusted, if desired.

The exterior of the buckle can be made of any ornamental design. Its operation and construction are simple and effective for the purposes of a belt-buckle, in which the parts can be quickly and easily manipulated for the proper adjustment of the belt around the body of the wearer, and in which there is no undue strain upon the connecting parts of the holding catch or link which might force the holding parts from their locked engagement, and thereby render the device when in use inoperative. Furthermore, there being no spring upon the back of the buckle there will be no projecting corners, which would



tend to wear the material of which the belt is made and which might prick the fingers of the person while in the act of manipulating the parts of the buckle.

5 The buckle can be put to many different uses, and is especially adapted for belt-buckles and for use with suspenders, garters, and the like.

10 I am fully aware that changes may be made in the several arrangements and combinations of the parts without departing from the scope of my present invention. Hence I do not limit my invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of the parts as herein described  
15 and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, nor do I confine myself to the exact details of the construction of the said parts.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

20 1. A buckle, comprising, a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, serrations or holding-teeth on one of said members, a catch-plate or link, means connected with said catch-plate or link for retaining it  
25 in its position on one of said slide members, and an actuating means between a portion of said catch-plate or link and the upper surface of said slide member on which said catch-plate or link is arranged to oscillate, constructed  
30 and arranged to normally force the one end of said catch-plate or link in engagement with a tooth or serration and force the other end of said catch-plate or link in an outward direction away from the faces of the slide mem-  
35 bers, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A buckle, comprising, a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, serrations or teeth on one of said members, a catch-  
40 plate or link, means connected with said catch-plate or link for retaining it in its position on one of said slide members, and a spring between a portion of said catch-plate or link and the upper surface of said slide member on  
45 which said catch-plate or link is arranged to oscillate, constructed and arranged to normally force the one end of said catch-plate or link in engagement with a tooth or serration and force the other end of said catch-plate or  
50 link in an outward direction away from the faces of the slide members, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. A buckle, comprising, a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, serrations or holding-teeth on one of said mem-  
55 bers, and the other slide member being provided with a pair of oppositely-placed openings, a catch-plate or link, fulcrumal posts or lugs on said catch-plate or link arranged in  
60 said openings in the slide member and having their free end portions bent over against the back of said slide member, means connected with said fulcrumal posts or lugs for supporting said catch-plate or link in position  
65 on the outer face of the slide member, and means connected with said catch-plate or link for normally holding one end of said catch-

plate or link in holding engagement with a tooth or serration, and forcing the other end of said catch-plate or link in a direction away  
70 from the faces of the said slide members, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. A buckle, comprising, a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, serrations or holding-teeth on one of said members,  
75 and the other slide member being provided with a pair of oppositely-placed openings, a catch-plate or link, fulcrumal posts or lugs on said catch-plate or link arranged in said openings in the slide member and having  
80 their free end portions bent over against the back of said slide member, and a spring between a portion of said catch-plate or link and the upper face or surface of said slide member on which said catch-plate or link is  
85 arranged to oscillate, constructed to normally force the one end of said catch-plate or link in separable holding engagement with a tooth or serration and force the other end of said catch-plate or link in an outward direction  
90 away from the faces of the slide members, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. A buckle, comprising, a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, serrations or holding-teeth on one of said members,  
95 and the other slide member being provided with a pair of oppositely-placed openings, a catch-plate or link, fulcrumal posts or lugs on said catch-plate or link arranged in said openings in the slide member and having their  
100 free end portions bent over and loosely placed against the back of said slide member, an offset on each fulcrumal post or lug bearing upon the upper surface of the said slide member at one end of each opening therein, for support-  
105 ing said catch-plate or link in its oscillatory position on the outer face of the said slide member, and means connected with said catch-plate or link for normally holding one end of said catch-plate or link in holding engage-  
110 ment with a tooth or serration, and forcing the other end of said catch-plate or link in a direction away from the faces of the said slide members, substantially as and for the pur-  
115 poses set forth.

6. A buckle, comprising, a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, serrations or holding-teeth on one of said members,  
and the other slide member being provided with a pair of oppositely-placed openings, a  
120 catch-plate or link, fulcrumal posts or lugs on said catch-plate or link arranged in said openings in the slide member and having their free end portions bent over and loosely placed against the back of said slide member, an off-  
125 set on each fulcrumal post or lug bearing upon the upper surface of the said slide member at one end of each opening therein, for supporting said catch-plate or link in its oscillatory position on the outer face of the said slide  
130 member, and a spring between a portion of said catch-plate or link and the upper face or surface of said slide member on which said catch-plate or link is arranged to oscillate,



constructed to normally force the one end of said catch-plate or link in separable holding engagement with a tooth or serration and force the other end of said catch-plate or link  
5 in an outward direction away from the faces of the slide members, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

7. A buckle, comprising a pair of slide members, movable one on the other, one of  
10 said slide members being provided with a holding or locking means, an oscillatory catch-plate or link on the other slide member, and an actuating-spring secured at one end of said catch-plate or link, said spring having a  
15 free end portion in sliding engagement with the outer face of the slide member with which said catch-plate or link is connected, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

8. A buckle, comprising a pair of slide

members, movable one on the other, one of 20 said slide members being provided with a holding or locking means, an oscillatory catch-plate or link on the other slide member, holding-lugs  $d^4$  on said catch-plate or link, and a  
25 spring  $e$  secured on the back of said catch-plate or link by means of said lugs  $d^4$ , said spring having a pair of free end portions in sliding engagement with the outer face of the slide member with which the said catch-plate  
30 or link is connected, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of October, 1900.

ALBERT F. FULLER.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,  
J. E. MERGOTT.