

No. 697,855.

Patented Apr. 15, 1902.

A. E. LEE.  
BELT BUCKLE.

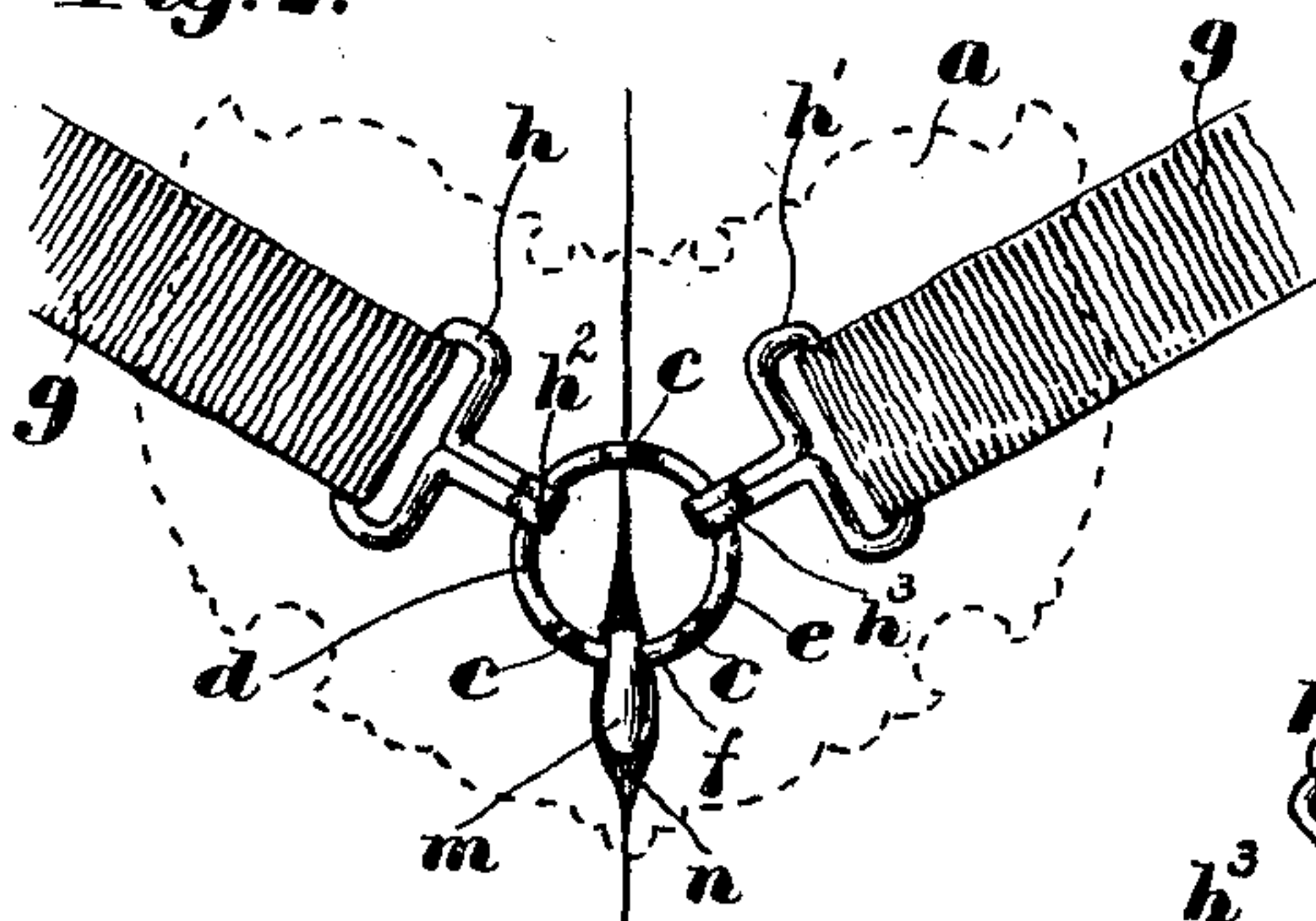
(Application filed Mar. 25, 1901.)

(No Model.)

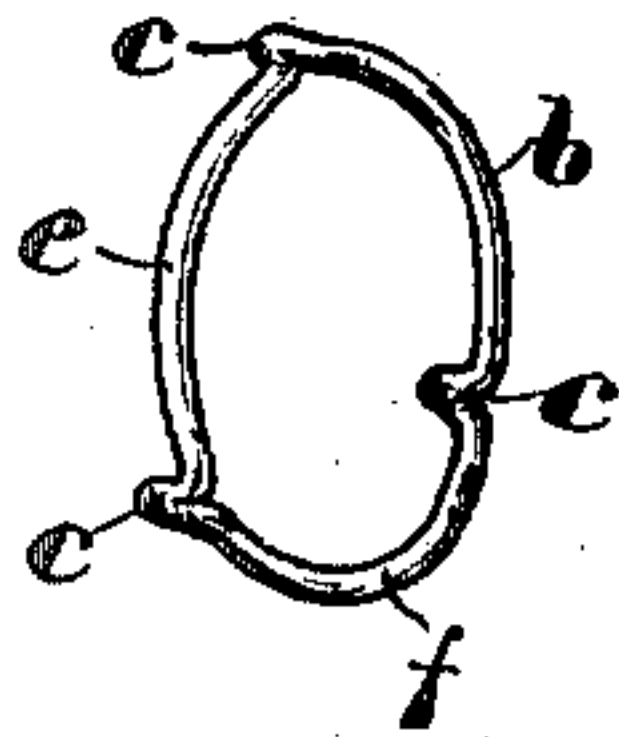
*Fig. 1.*



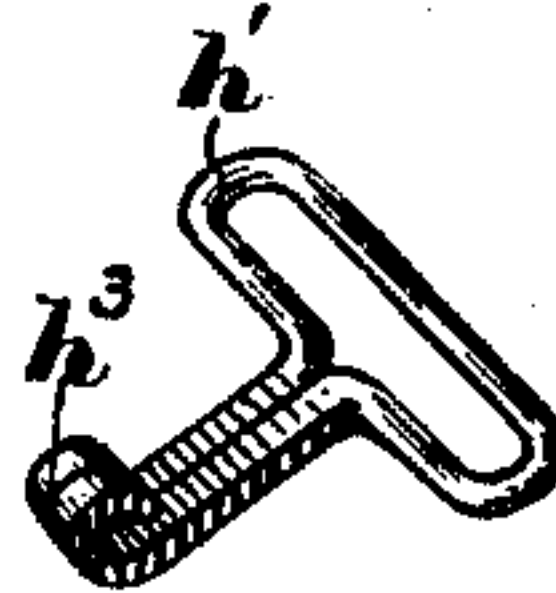
*Fig. 2.*



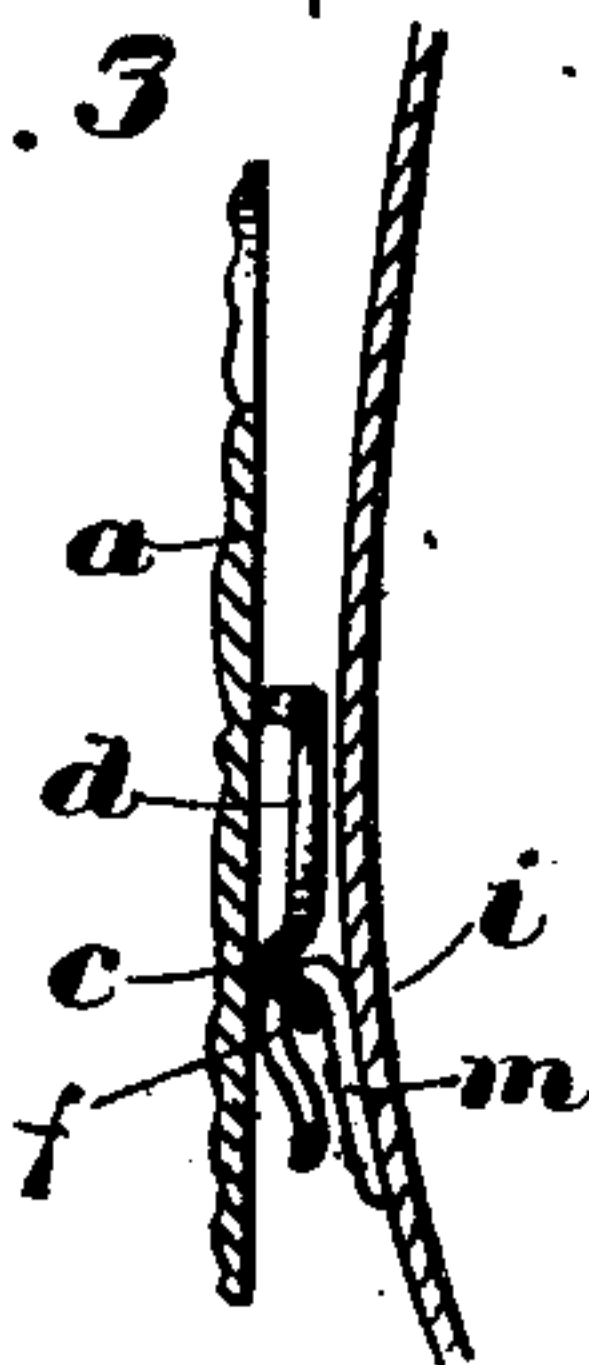
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 3.*



**Witnesses:**

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**Inventor:**

*Alla E. Lee*,  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BELT-BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,855, dated April 15, 1902.

Application filed March 25, 1901. Serial No. 52,716. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALLA E. LEE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belt-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.

The present invention relates to buckles for women's belts, and more particularly to a buckle designed for use with the bands of ribbon which are now so popular and which are generally known as "ribbon-belts."

The object of the present invention is to produce a belt-buckle so constructed and arranged that coöperating with a hook on the front of the corset it will impart a long-waisted effect to the figure, which is so much sought after by women, and particularly by stout women.

A further object of the invention is to produce a belt-buckle embodying an ornamental shield or plate so constructed and arranged that no draft is placed upon the plate, and thus produce a strong and durable connection for the ends of the belt.

To the above ends the present invention consists of the devices and combinations of devices which will be hereinafter particularly described, and set forth in the claims.

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

Figure 1 shows a female figure illustrating the long-waisted effect produced by my improved belt-buckle. Fig. 2 shows a front view of my improved belt-buckle with the ornamental shield or plate shown in outline in dotted lines, and also showing the hook on the corset projecting through the waist or bodice. Fig. 3 shows a sectional view through the ornamental shield or plate and the lower portion of the corset, illustrating the manner of connecting the buckle to the hook on the corset. Fig. 4 shows in perspective the ring which is carried by the ornamental plate and which forms the connection between the ends of the belt and the hook on the corset. Fig. 5 shows in perspective one of the hooks which

are used to form the connection between the ends of the belt and buckle.

Similar reference characters will be employed to designate corresponding parts throughout the specification and drawings.

In the drawings the letter *a* designates the ornamental plate or shield, which may be of any usual or preferred design and constructed of any suitable metal. To the back of the plate *a* is secured the connecting-ring *b*, which may be attached to the plate *a* in any usual or preferred manner, as by soldering or riveting.

The ring *b* is designed to be elevated or stand away from the inner surface of the plate *a*, and for this purpose it is provided with supporting-lugs *c*, and, as shown clearly in Fig. 4, said ring is preferably formed of a continuous piece of wire downturned at suitable points to form the lugs *c*.

Preferably the ring *b* will be provided with three of the supporting-lugs *c*, one of which is placed at the top and the others upon each side of a vertical line drawn through the ring, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. These lugs are soldered to the back of the plate *a*, and when the ring is in position thereon there is provided a curved section *d*, a curved section *e*, and a curved section *f*, all for a purpose which will be hereinafter described.

To the ends of the belt *g* there are connected the loops *h* and *h'*, the loop *h* being provided with a closed ring or eye *h<sup>2</sup>* and the loop *h'* with an open hook *h<sup>3</sup>*, from which it will be clearly understood that one end of the band or belt *g* is secured permanently to the ring *b* of the buckle and that the other end is removably connected therewith.

To the front of the corset *i* is secured a hook *m*, preferably at a point somewhat below the waist-line, which hook *m* is designed to project through an opening *n* in the waist or bodice and engage the curved portion *f* of the ring *b*.

In order to facilitate the easy and ready connection of the ring *b* with the hook *m*, the lower portion *f* of the ring *b* is bent outwardly or away from the inner face of the plate *a*, as clearly shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings.

It will be observed that in use one end of



the belt is connected with the ring at the back of the ornamental plate of the buckle, and that the other end carrying the hook  $h^3$  may be readily connected therewith, and that  
 5 thereafter by downward pressure or movement of the plate  $a$  the part  $f$  of the ring  $b$  may be readily connected with the hook  $m$ , attached to the front of the corset. This movement tends to draw down the ends of the  
 10 belt  $g$ , the back of which marks the normal waist-line of the figure and thus imparts a downward-pointed effect of the waist, producing the desired long-waisted effect.

It will be noted that the hook  $m$  may be  
 15 placed at any desired point on the corset, and thus position the belt-buckle at any desired point, producing more or less of a long-waisted effect, as may be desired, and that this adjustment causes the hooks forming the connection between the ends of the belt and  
 20 buckle to move around the curved portions  $d$  and  $e$  of the ring and always impart a longitudinal strain to the ends of the belt, causing it to assume a graceful position.

25 It is particularly to be noted that the connection between the ends of the belt and the hook on the corset is by means of a continuous endless ring and that all the strains are brought on such ring, and that there is no  
 30 strain brought on the connection between the ends of the belt and the ornamental plate or buckle, by which I have produced a buckle of great strength and durability.

35 It is of course understood that if it is desired to produce a similar long-waisted effect at the back of the waist two of such buckles may be employed, combined with a hook at the back of the corset.

Having described the construction and

mode of operation of my invention, I claim as  
 40 new and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The combination with a belt or girdle, of a hook on the corset, and a buckle connecting the ends of the belt or girdle, said  
 45 buckle being adapted to be connected with the hook on the corset; substantially as described.

2. The combination with a belt or girdle, of a buckle for connecting the ends thereof, said buckle comprising an ornamental plate  
 50 or shield and an endless ring connected to the back of said shield and forming the connection between the ends of the belt or girdle, substantially as described. 55

3. The combination with a belt or girdle, of a buckle for connecting the ends thereof, said buckle comprising an ornamental plate  
 60 or shield, and a ring having downturned lugs secured to the back of such ornamental plate or shield, substantially as described.

4. The combination with a belt or girdle, of a buckle connecting the ends thereof said buckle comprising an ornamental plate or  
 65 shield, and an endless ring having downturned lugs secured to the back of the ornamental plate or shield, the ring between the lugs forming two curved hook-engaging sections for the ends of the belt, and an outwardly-bent section to engage a hook on the  
 70 corset, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

AILEA E. LEE.

Witnesses:

T. HART ANDERSON,  
 E. M. TURKINGTON.