

No. 775,176.

PATENTED NOV. 15, 1904.

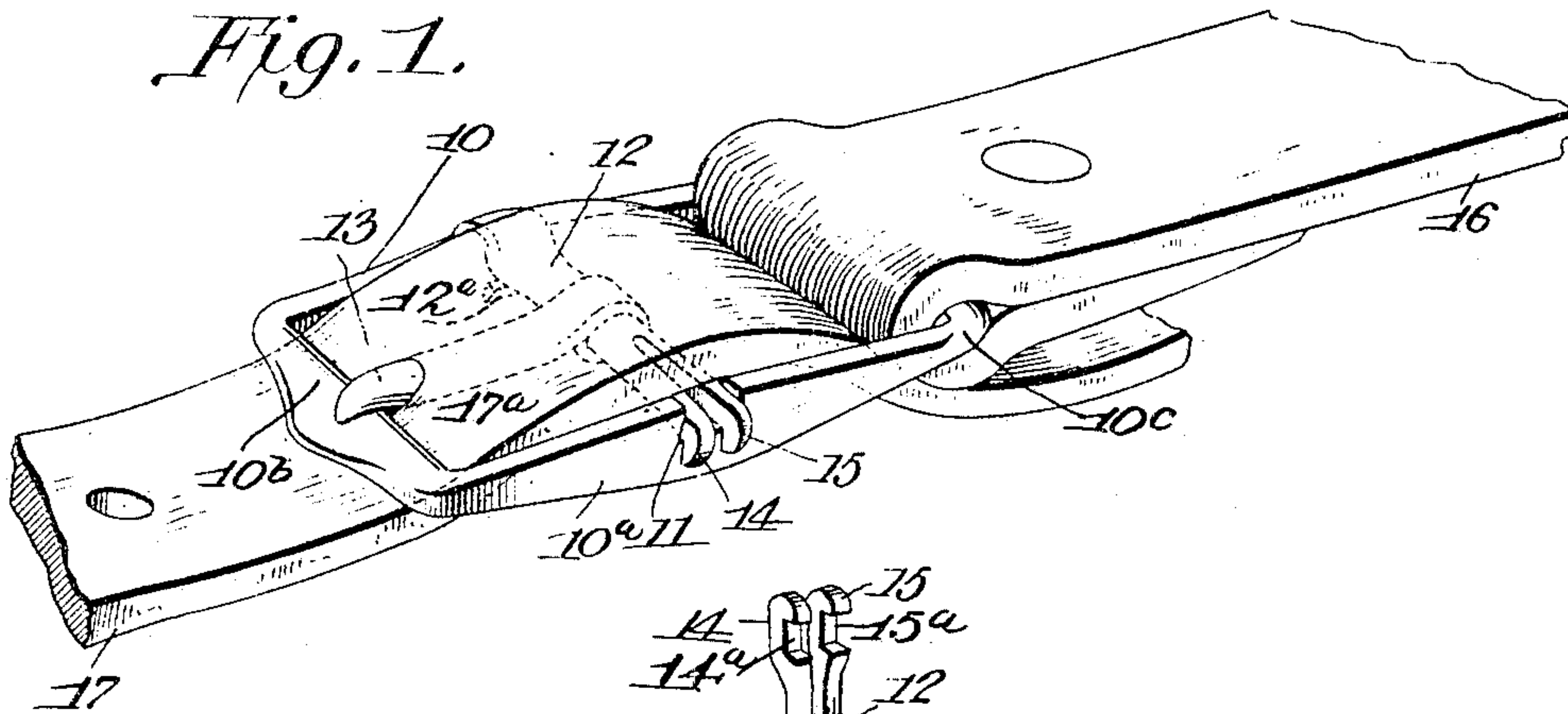
N. JOHNSON & F. PEARSON.

BUCKLE.

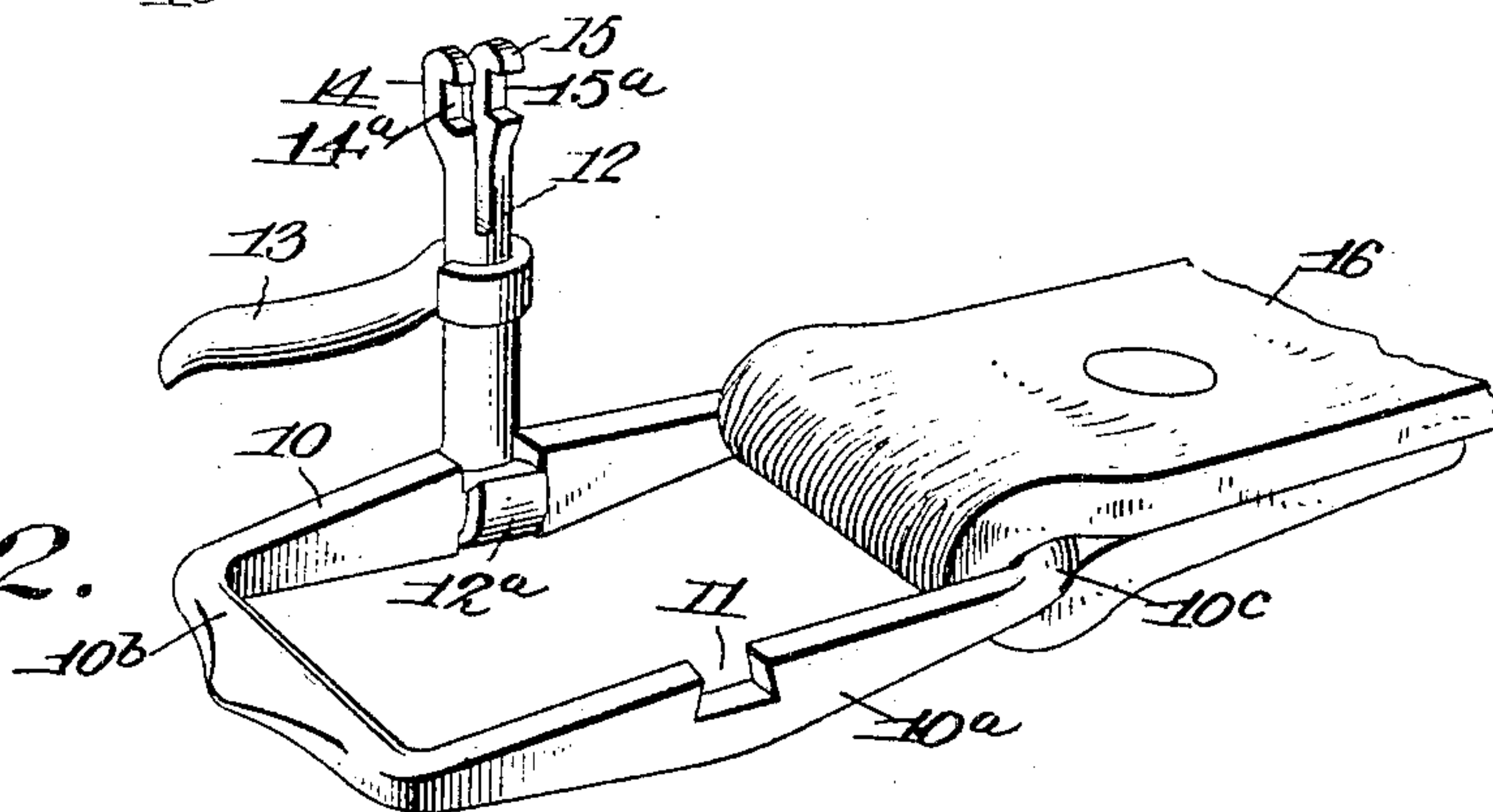
APPLICATION FILED APR. 19, 1904.

NO MODEL.

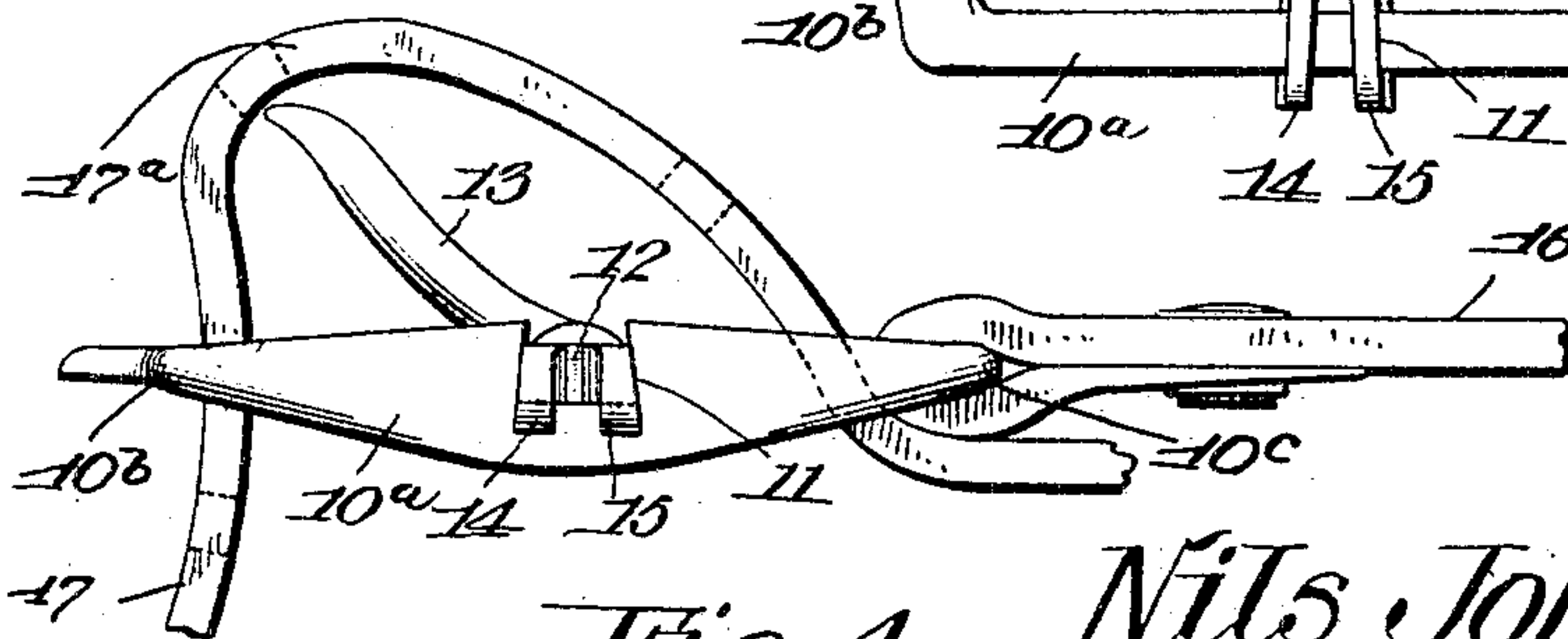
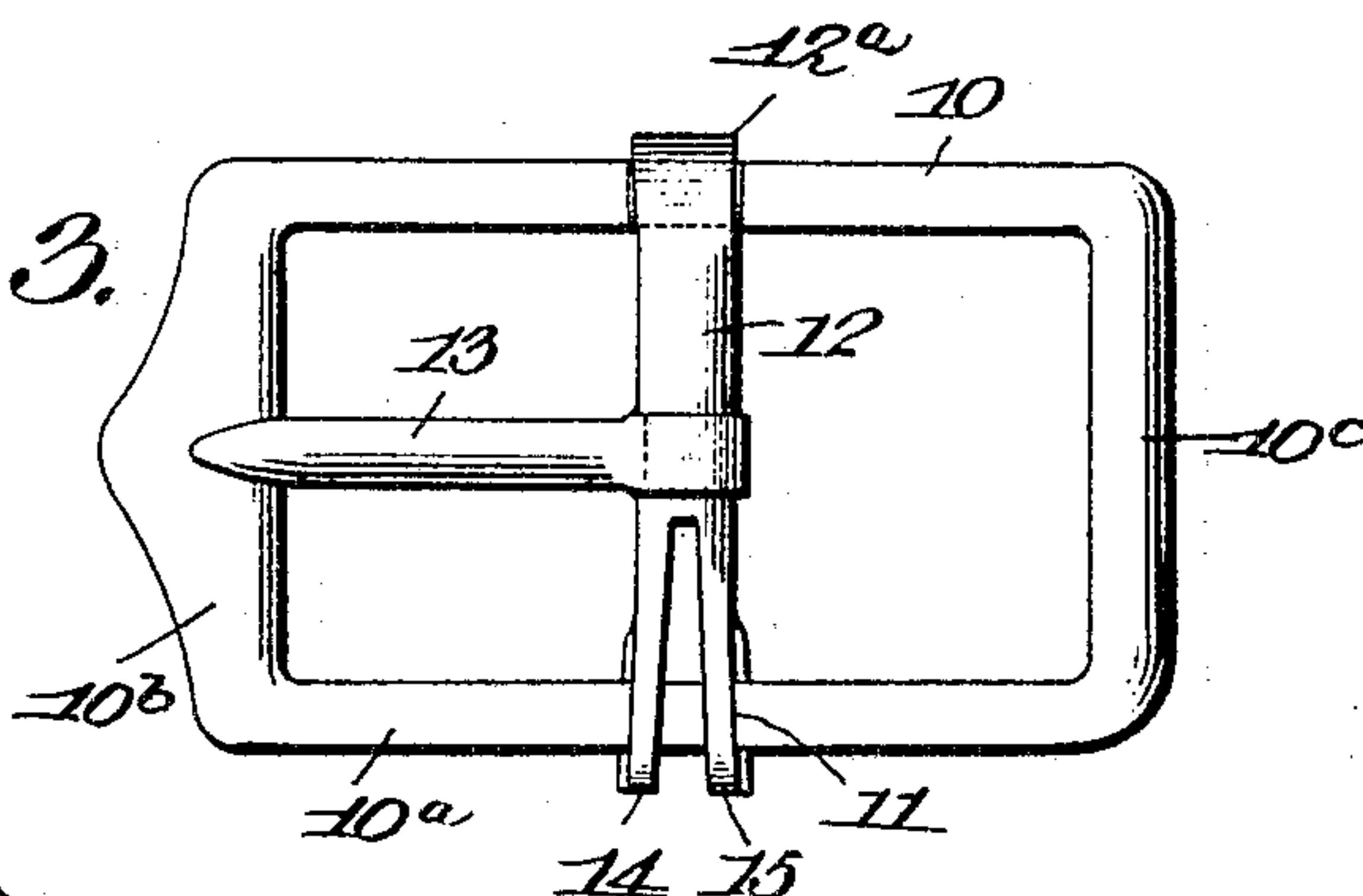
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.* *Nils Johnson and Frederick Pearson, Inventors.*  
by *Chas. Snow & Co.,* Attorneys

Witnesses

*E. J. Stewart*  
*E. H. Woodward*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NILS JOHNSON AND FREDERICK PEARSON, OF STAR PRAIRIE, WISCONSIN,  
ASSIGNORS OF ONE-HALF TO ANNIE C. JOHNSON, OF STAR PRAIRIE,  
WISCONSIN.

## BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 775,176, dated November 15, 1904.

Application filed April 19, 1904. Serial No. 203,938. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, NILS JOHNSON and FREDERICK PEARSON, citizens of the United States, residing at Star Prairie, in the county of St. Croix and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Buckle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buckles, and has for its object to provide an improved buckle especially adapted for use in connection with harness and constructed with a minimum of projections, so as to avoid catching or hanging of the buckle in portions of a harness and in the mane and tail of an animal.

It is furthermore designed to provide for conveniently attaching the present buckle to an intermediate portion of a strap, particularly where the ends of the strap are fixed or fastened to other elements and cannot be detached and run through the frame of the buckle.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be herein- after more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a buckle embodying the features of the present invention with a strap terminally connected to one end of the buckle and another strap intermediately connected thereto. Fig. 2 is a perspective view with the intermediate tongue-carrying cross-bar swung outwardly to permit of the introduction of the bite portion of a strap into the frame of the buckle preparatory to engagement with the tongue. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the buckle with its tongue in its normal position. Fig. 4 is a side elevation showing the bite portion or bend of a strap in position for engagement by the tongue of the buckle.

Like characters of reference designate cor-

responding parts in each and every figure of the drawings.

The frame of the present buckle is substantially rectangular in form and includes longitudinal side bars 10 and 10<sup>a</sup> and end bars 10<sup>b</sup> and 10<sup>c</sup>. Located substantially midway between the ends of the buckle-frame is an intermediate cross-bar 12, which has one end pivotally connected to one side bar of the frame in any suitable manner—as, for instance, by having one end formed into a hook 12<sup>a</sup>, loosely embracing a reduced intermediate portion of the side bar 10. The free end of this cross-bar is cleft longitudinally to form a spring-fork, the members 14 and 15 of which are provided upon their under sides with corresponding notches 14<sup>a</sup> and 15<sup>a</sup>, respectively. In the longitudinal bar 10<sup>a</sup> there is formed a dove-tailed notch or seat 11, which is disposed to have the forked terminal of the bar 12 snapped thereinto, with the notches 14<sup>a</sup> and 15<sup>a</sup> registering with the notch 11, so as to bring the top of the cross-bar below or flush with the top of the buckle-frame, the end walls of the recesses 14<sup>a</sup> and 15<sup>a</sup> snugly embracing the inner and outer sides of the side bar 10<sup>a</sup>, so as to connect the intermediate portion of the opposite sides of the frame. To insure a snug fit between the fork members of the cross-bar 12 and the inclined walls of the seat 11, the outer sides of the fork members are beveled or inclined upwardly or inwardly, whereby the end walls of the seat overhang the fork members and prevent looseness and accidental disengagement thereof. An ordinary tongue 13 is terminally pivoted to the cross-bar 12 and is of a length to have its free end lie upon one of the end bars of the buckle-frame.

In the application of the buckle, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, and 4 of the drawings, 16 designates a strap terminally connected to the end bar 10<sup>c</sup>, while 17 designates another strap which has an intermediate portion connected to the buckle. To engage the strap 17 with the buckle, the pivotal cross-bar 12 is swung upwardly and outwardly, so as to leave the interior of the buckle-frame unob-



5 constructed to receive the bend or bite portion  
 17<sup>a</sup> of the strap, which is thrust upwardly  
 through the frame from the bottom thereof  
 to an extent sufficient to permit of the cross-  
 10 bar 12 and tongue 13 being returned through  
 the bend of the strap, so as to engage the  
 forked end of the cross-bar with the seat 11,  
 after which the tongue 13 may be raised for  
 engagement with a perforation in the strap  
 15 17, as indicated in Fig. 4, and then the strap  
 17 is drawn tight, so as to bring the tongue  
 13 down against the end bar 10<sup>b</sup>, as indicated  
 in Fig. 1 of the drawings, whereby the strap  
 17 is intermediately connected to the buckle  
 without running the free end of the strap  
 through the buckle. It will now be under-  
 stood that it is not necessary to run the free  
 end of a strap through the buckle in order  
 that the latter may be connected to an inter-  
 20 mediate portion of the former, as the strap  
 may be bent at the point to which it is de-  
 sired to apply the buckle and then passed  
 through the frame thereof and finally en-  
 25 gaged with the tongue in the manner herein-  
 before described. Hence a strap which has  
 its ends connected to another element may  
 have the buckle of the present invention ap-  
 plied to an intermediate portion thereof with-  
 out disconnecting one end of the strap and  
 30 running the same through the buckle.

From the foregoing description it will be  
 noted that the buckle of the present invention  
 has a substantially rectangular frame of the  
 form now commonly employed in buckles of  
 35 general use, particularly harness-buckles,  
 whereby the present buckle is capable of uni-  
 versal use, and by reason of the movable in-  
 termediate cross-bar 12, which is permanently  
 connected to the frame and capable of being  
 40 moved to a position to leave the interior of  
 the latter unobstructed, the buckle may be  
 conveniently attached to an intermediate por-  
 tion of a strap without running the strap en-  
 tirely through the buckle. Furthermore, the  
 45 buckle is substantially free from projections,  
 and therefore is not liable to become caught  
 in any of the straps of a harness or in the  
 hairs of the mane and tail of a horse.

Having thus described the construction and  
 50 operation of our invention, what we claim as  
 new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent,  
 is—

1. In a buckle, the combination of a frame,

a cross-bar pivoted to one side of the frame,  
 and a tongue carried by said cross-bar. 55

2. In a buckle, the combination of a frame  
 comprising side and end bars, a cross-bar piv-  
 60 oted to one of the side bars and engaging the  
 other side bar, and a tongue carried by the  
 cross-bar. 60

3. In a buckle, the combination of a frame  
 comprising side and end bars, a cross-bar piv-  
 65 oted to one of the side bars of the frame and  
 interlocking with the other side bar of the  
 frame, and a tongue carried by the cross-bar. 65

4. A buckle, comprising a frame having a  
 recess formed in one side thereof, a cross-bar  
 pivoted to the opposite side of the frame and  
 having its free end cleft longitudinally to  
 form a spring-fork for engagement with the  
 70 recess of the frame, and a tongue carried by  
 the cross-bar. 70

5. A buckle comprising a frame having a  
 recess formed in one side thereof with the  
 end walls of the recess inclined toward the  
 75 outer open side thereof, a cross-bar pivoted  
 upon the opposite side of the frame and hav-  
 ing a longitudinal cleft in its free end form-  
 ing a spring-fork capable of being snapped  
 into the recess beneath the inclined end walls  
 80 thereof, and a tongue carried by said cross-  
 bar. 80

6. A buckle comprising a frame having a  
 recess formed in one side thereof, a cross-bar  
 pivoted to the opposite side of the frame and  
 85 having a longitudinal cleft formed in the free  
 end thereof to provide a spring-fork capable  
 of being snapped into the recess of the frame,  
 the under sides of the fork members having  
 corresponding recesses to fit the recess of the  
 90 frame, and a tongue carried by said cross-bar. 90

7. A buckle comprising a frame, an inter-  
 mediate cross-bar loosely and permanently  
 carried by the frame and capable of being  
 moved to a position to leave the interior of  
 95 said frame unobstructed, and a tongue car-  
 ried by the cross-bar. 95

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as  
 our own we have hereto affixed our signatures  
 in the presence of two witnesses.

NILS JOHNSON.  
 FREDERICK PEARSON.

Witnesses:

GUST ARNESON,  
 AUSTIN DENNING.