

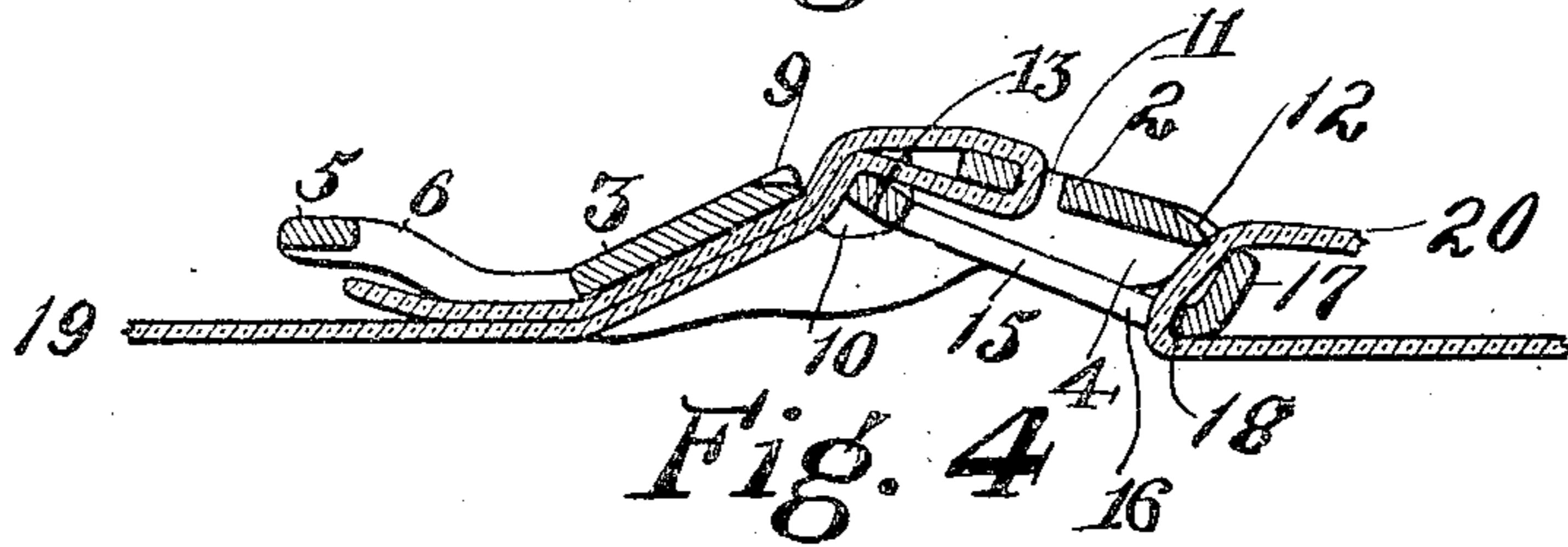
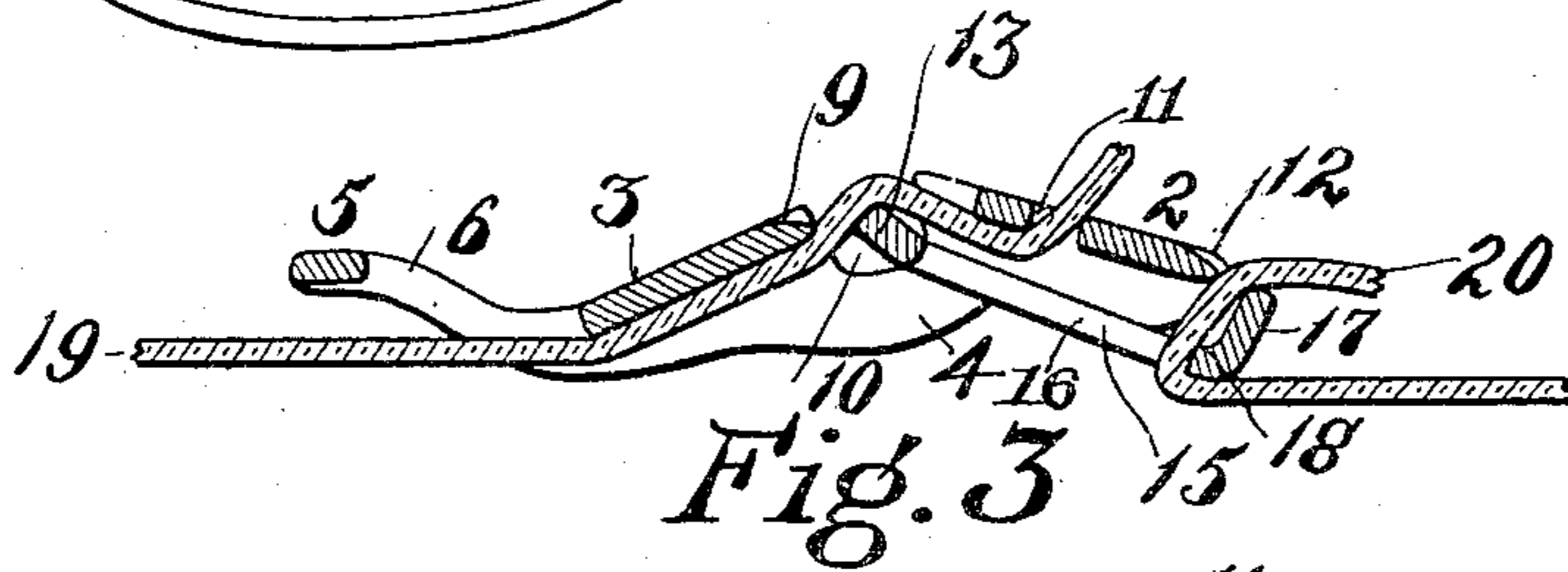
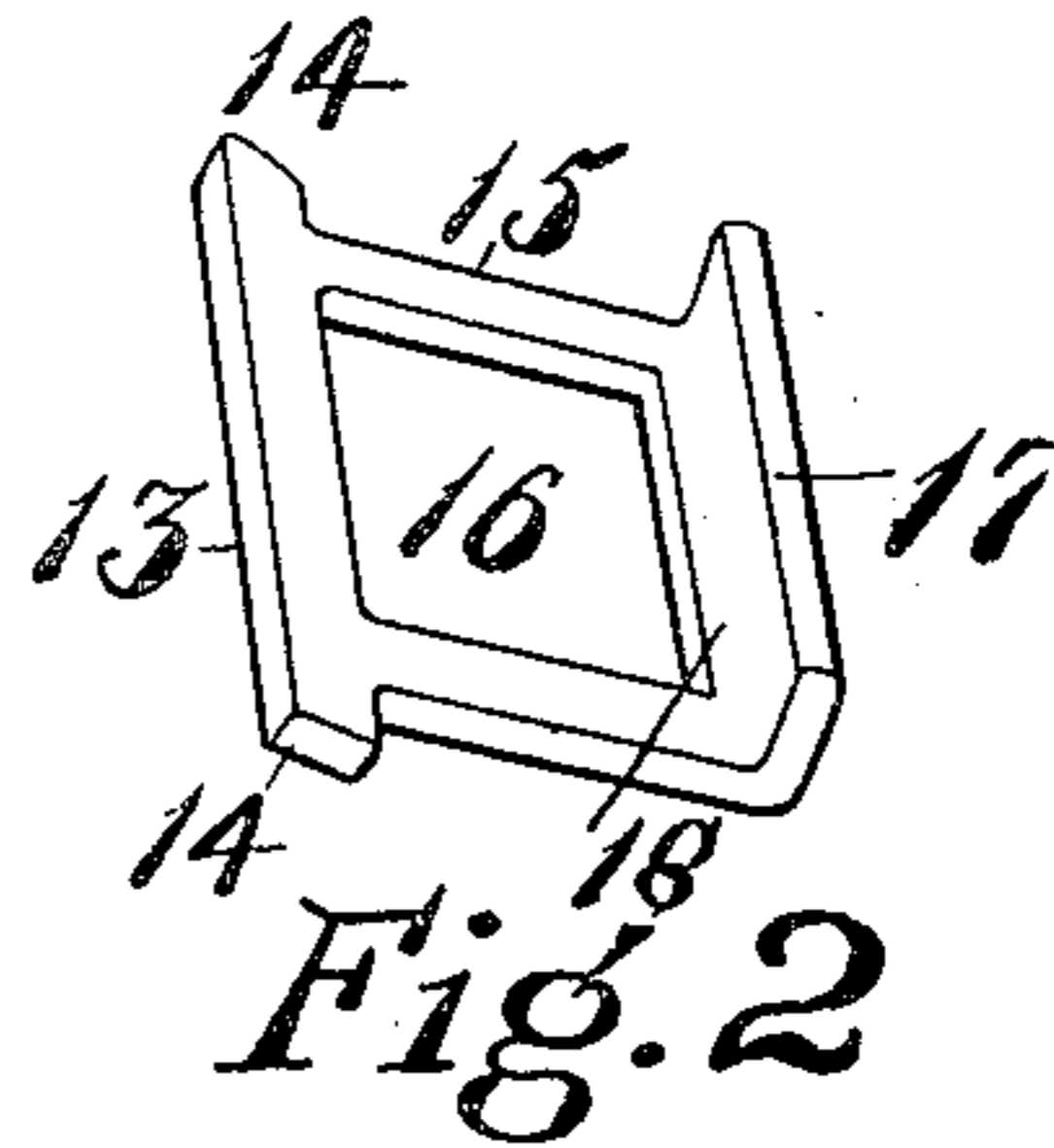
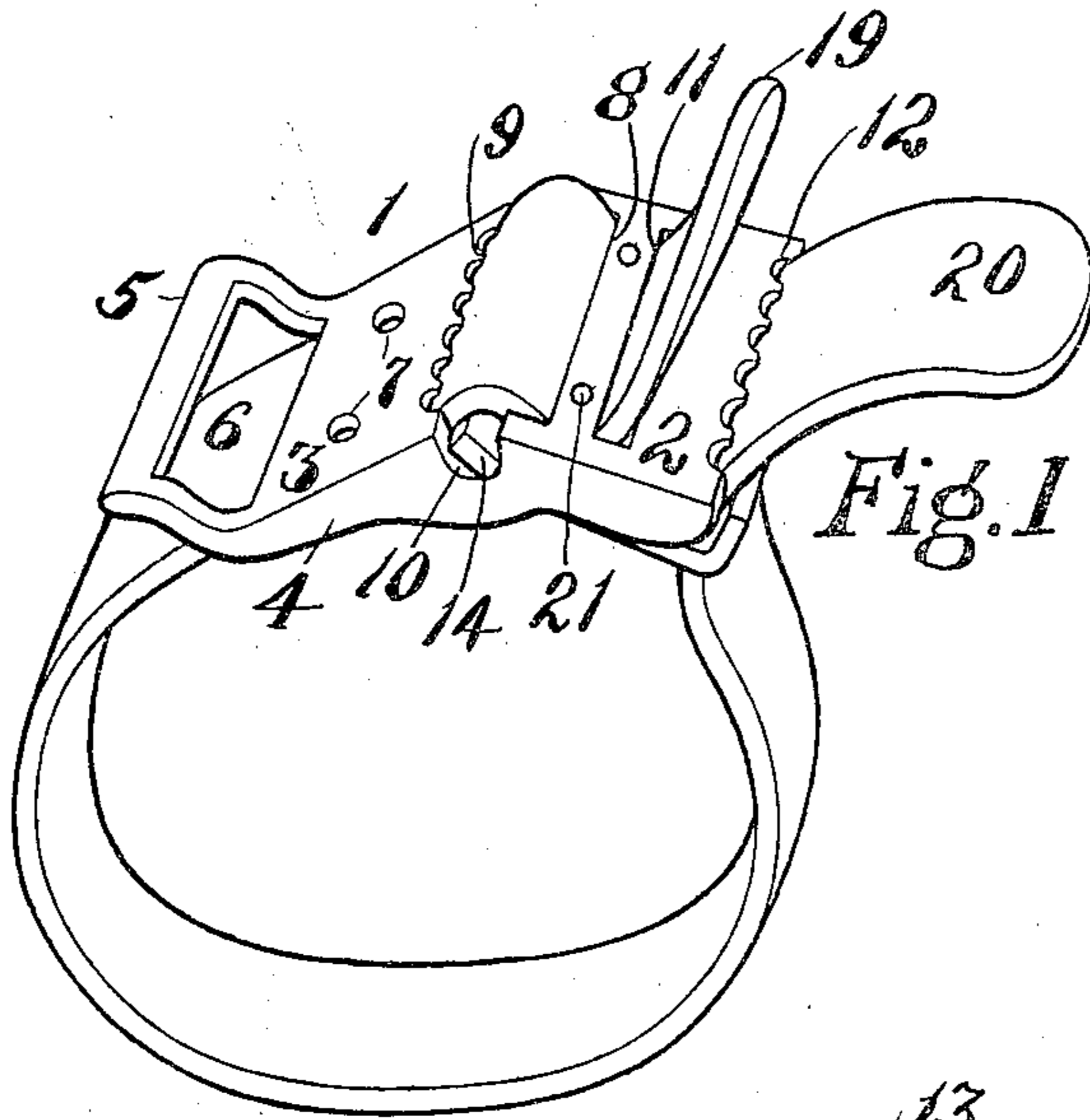
No. 877,958.

PATENTED FEB. 4, 1908.

J. S. SOUREK.

BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 24, 1907.



*Witnesses:*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH S. SOUREK, OF BATH TOWNSHIP, SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO.

## BUCKLE.

No. 877,952.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 4, 1908.

Application filed April 24, 1907. Serial No. 370,013.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH S. SOUREK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bath township, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to improvements in buckles and is designed to be used for all the various purposes for which such an appliance may be employed.

The objects of this invention are to provide a buckle having clamping means cooperating with the buckle frame proper for engaging the free end of the strap and securely holding the same at any adjusted position without the necessity of perforating the belt, and in which the clamping means is such that the engagement between it and the strap will extend the entire width of the latter, thereby increasing the grip of the former and decreasing the liability of tearing the strap or belt and reducing the wear thereon.

Another object of this invention is to construct the buckle so that the fixed end of the strap may be secured thereto in such a manner that it may be readily detached therefrom and the engagement between the buckle and strap extended entirely across the width of the latter and make the same completely operative without the necessary employment of stitches or rivets, although these latter means may be employed if desired.

A further object is to so dispose of the fixed end of the strap on which is mounted the buckle proper that the said end will constitute a means for the ready opening of the buckle and permit the clamping means to release all grip upon the strap.

Other advantages of this buckle constituting objects of this invention will more fully appear in the specification hereinafter set out.

A practical embodiment of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar reference numerals indicate like parts in the different figures.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a strap with my improved buckle in position thereon, showing the same engaging the free end of the strap; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the tongue of the buckle; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal central section of the buckle shown in Fig. 1 with the strap also placed in

the same position in which the strap is placed in Fig. 1; and, Fig. 4 a view similar to Fig. 3 with the strap bent back and passed under the rear portion of the buckle.

In the drawings, the reference numeral 1 indicates the frame or body portion proper of the buckle which preferably consists of a unitary piece of sheet metal, divided for the convenience of description, into a front face 2 and a rear face 3 united together by depending lateral flanges 4. These faces 2 and 3 are preferably formed so as to be at an angle to each other. The rear face 3 is provided with an upwardly-extending tail portion 5 preferably having extending transversely therein a slot or opening 6. This rear face 3 is also provided with one or more holes 7 through which may be passed rivets to assist in holding the fixed end of the belt in position. Between the front face 2 and rear face 3 is an opening 8, and the forward edge of the rear face 3 bounding the opening 8 is provided with a plurality of teeth or serrations 9 for engagement with the belt when passed through the opening in a manner to be later described.

In the flanges 4 are formed notches 10 with their upper portions in open communication with the transverse opening 8. In the front face 2 is a transverse slot 11 for a purpose to be later described, and through the metal intervening between the openings 8 and 11 are one or more rivet holes 21. The forward or working edge of the front face 2 is provided with a plurality of teeth or serrations 12. The tongue portion of this buckle consists of a rectangular integral body portion, shown best in Fig. 2, made up of a rear or pivot bar 13 having the ends 14 thereof extending outwardly from the frame and adapted to seat in the notches 10 of the frame. From the bar 13 extends two parallel lateral bars 15, forming an opening 16, united at their forward ends to an upturned portion 17, so constructed as to have a ledge 18 at the inner base portion thereof. In using this buckle the rear or fixed end of the strap or belt may be attached thereto in a variety of ways, experience having shown that all of them are eminently satisfactory for securely anchoring the strap to the buckle and also securely retaining the tongue portion in operative relation with the body portion.

In Figs. 1 and 3 the fixed end of the strap designated by the reference numeral 19 is

passed under the rear face 3 and upwardly over the pivot bar 13 of the tongue and thence downwardly under the metal between the openings 8 and 11 and outwardly through the opening 11. When placed in this position, the strap is securely retained against withdrawal by means of the engagement of the teeth 9 with the face of the strap 19, for the reason that as the strap is drawn rearwardly it is forced into contact with these teeth by being clamped upon the toothed edge 9 by the pivot bar 13, the tongue affording a clamping means of sufficient strength as to absolutely retain the belt against removal. If it is desired, rivets may be passed through the openings 7 and 21 for more securely uniting the belt to the buckle, but this latter is not absolutely essential.

In Fig. 4 the belt is passed forward as shown in Fig. 3 and after passing outwardly through the opening 11 is bent or deflected rearwardly and passed downwardly under the rear face 3 of the buckle, thereby doubling the thickness of the belt material between the teeth 9 and the pivot bar 13 of the tongue and in this example the rivets may be employed, if desired, as in the manner described with reference to Fig. 3.

The free end of the strap, referred to by the reference numeral 20, in both of the cases is passed upwardly from below through the opening 16 in the tongue and bent forward over the upright portion 17, so that when the toothed edge 12 is depressed, it will engage the belt evenly across its entire width and clamp it against the upright portion 17 and the upper face of the ledge 18 of the tongue, and it will be obvious that the greater the strain upon the belt 20 the firmer will be the engagement between the teeth 12 and the free end of the belt.

In order to release the end of the strap 20 from engagement with the buckle and also to serve as an exceedingly valuable adjunct to this invention, the end of the strap 19 may be permitted to project, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, to enable the manipulator of the device to grasp the same and by slight effort raise the face 2 of the buckle or its edge upwardly sufficiently to permit the disengagement of the teeth 12 from the strap. Where this strap is not permitted to project, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, but is deflected backwardly as shown in Fig. 4, the operator grasps the under face of the side flanges 4 and lifts the forward portion 2 of the body upwardly, in the same manner as when the loose end 19 of the strap is used.

It will be seen from the foregoing, that this device affords a remarkably cheap and simple device for the purpose described, consisting of but two pieces secured together by the strap itself and one in which both ends of the strap or belt are readily and detachably secured to the buckle, without in any manner

necessitating the perforation of the former and at the same time permitting an even and perfect engagement between the strap and buckle across the entire width of the former, thereby decreasing the wear and liability of tearing of the strap. The means for releasing the front end of the strap from the clamping device on the forward end of the buckle permits of the use of this device in those places where great strain exists upon the strap which has so great a tendency to close the buckle that an ordinary buckle could not be successfully opened to permit disengagement of the strap therefrom.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a transverse medial opening and reinforcing side flanges arranged at an angle with said body portion, and provided with bearings in proximity to said opening, and a removable skeleton tongue having means to pivot in said bearings, and further provided with an abruptly-upturned front edge arranged to form in association with one edge of said body portion a belt clamping means.

2. A buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a medial slot having one serrated edge and depending side flanges provided with notches connecting with said slot and further provided with a serrated front edge, and an open tongue provided with ears arranged to pivot in said notches and having a ledge along the free end thereof terminating in an abruptly-upturned portion arranged to form in association with said serrated front edge of said body portion a clamping means.

3. A buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a medial opening having one serrated edge and depending side flanges provided with notches uniting with said opening and further provided at one end with an upturned looped end and at the other with a plurality of serrations extending approximately across said body portion and arranged to constitute a working edge for said buckle, and an open tongue provided with ears pivoted in said notches, said tongue having a ledge along its free end terminating in an abruptly-upturned portion arranged to form in association with the serrated portion of said body portion a clamping means.

4. A buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a medial opening having a serrated edge, the portions of said buckle on either side of said opening being at an angle with each other and further provided with depending side flanges connecting the portions of said body together, said flanges having notches uniting with said medial opening, and an open tongue pro-

vided with ears to pivot in said notches, and an abruptly-upturned free end arranged to form in association with one edge of said buckle a belt clamping means.

5 5. A buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a medial opening having a serrated edge, the portions of said buckle on either side of said opening being at an angle with each other, and depending  
10 side flanges uniting the two portions of said body together provided with notches uniting with said medial opening, and an open tongue arranged to be inserted through said opening and pivot on ears extending there-  
15 from bearing in said notches, said tongue being of a width to be inclosed between the side flanges of said body portion and further provided with an abruptly-upturned edge arranged to form in association with one edge  
20 of said body portion a belt clamping means.

6. A buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a transverse medial opening and depending side flanges provided with notches uniting with said opening, a  
25 tongue arranged to be pivoted in said notches and form in coöperation with one edge of said body portion a clamping means, said body portion being further provided with a transverse slot positioned between the medial  
30 opening and the end of the body portion constituting said clamping means to permit the extending therethrough of the fixed end of a belt.

7. A buckle comprising an integral body  
35 portion provided with a transverse medial opening and depending side flanges provided with notches uniting with said opening and further provided with a slot to permit the passage therethrough of a belt used in con-  
40 nection therewith, said body portion being further provided with a plurality of rivet holes to permit the securing of a belt to said body portion by means of rivets, and an open tongue arranged to be inserted through said  
45 medial opening and provided with ears arranged to engage in said notches, said tongue being provided with an abruptly-upturned front edge arranged to coöperate

with one end of said buckle and constitute a belt clamping means.

8. The combination with a buckle comprising an integral body portion provided with a transverse medial opening having a serrated edge and depending side flanges provided with notches uniting with said open-  
55 ing, and an open tongue arranged to be inserted through said medial opening provided with ears arranged to engage in said notches and constitute pivots for said tongue, said tongue being further provided with an ab-  
60 ruptly-upturned edge arranged to form in association with one end of said body portion a clamping means, and a belt passed through said medial opening from the under side of said buckle over said tongue, thence  
65 downwardly under the remaining body portion of said buckle, whereby said tongue is secured in position.

9. The combination with a buckle comprising an integral body portion provided  
70 with a transverse medial opening and depending side flanges provided with notches uniting with said opening, said body portion being further provided with a transverse slot approximately parallel with said open-  
75 ing, and an open tongue arranged to be inserted through said medial opening provided with ears arranged to engage in said notches and constitute pivots for said tongue, said tongue being further provided with an ab-  
80 ruptly-upturned edge arranged to form in association with one end of said body portion a clamping means, and a belt passing through said medial opening from the under side of said buckle over said tongue, thence  
85 downwardly under the body portion and from thence outwardly through said slot, whereby said tongue is secured in position.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing wit-  
90 nesses.

JOSEPH S. SOUREK.

Witnesses:

GLENARA FOX,  
C. E. HUMPHREY.