

M. BUCKLES, BUTTONS, CLASPS, ETC.,
Buckles, pivoted lever.

EXAMINER

No. 880,758.

PATENTED MAR. 3, 1908.

O. R. RUST.
BELT BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 24, 1907.

Fig. 1.

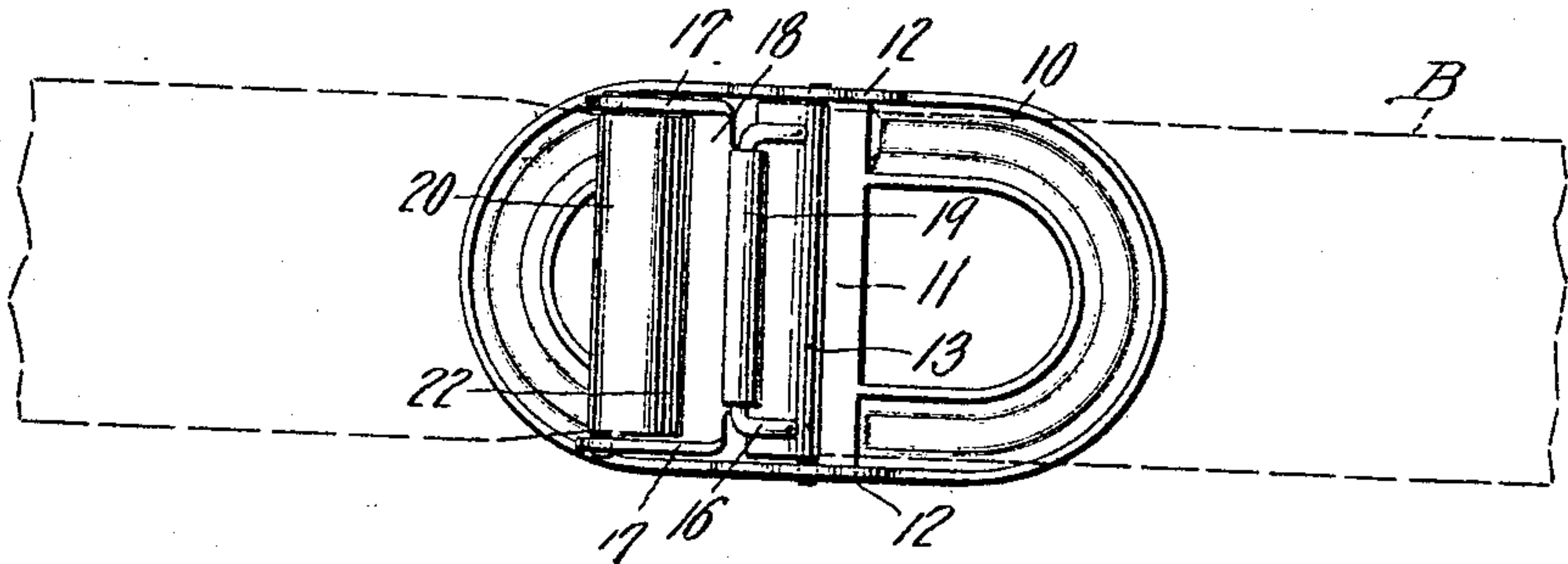


Fig. 2.

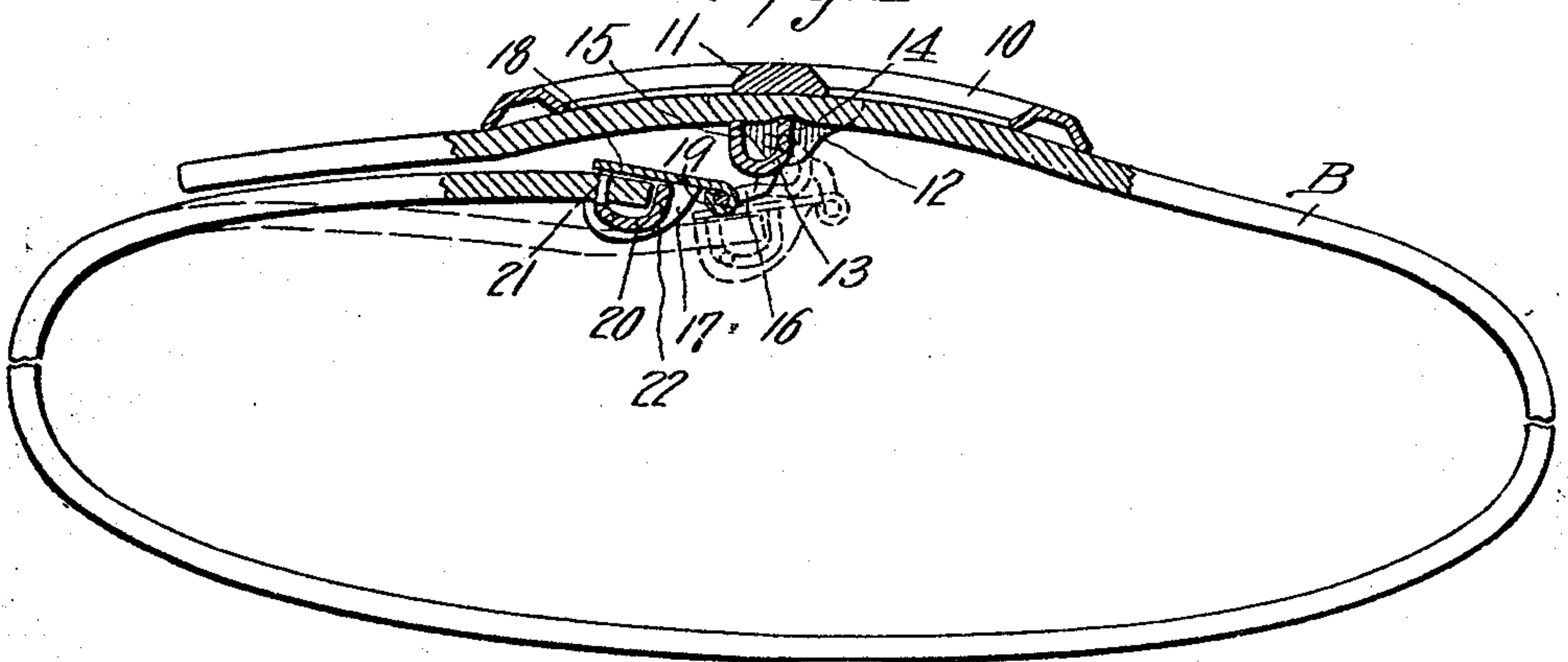


Fig. 3.

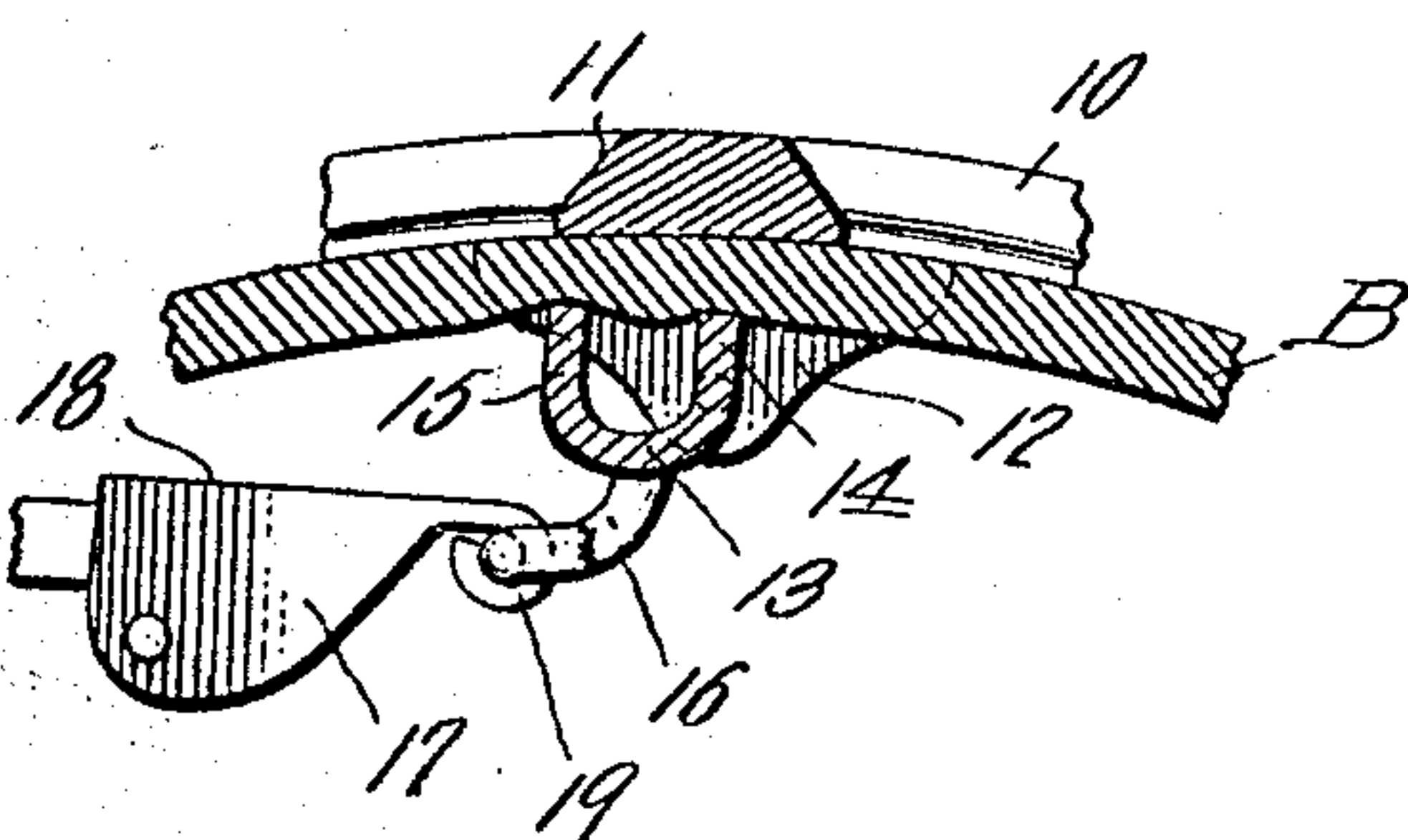
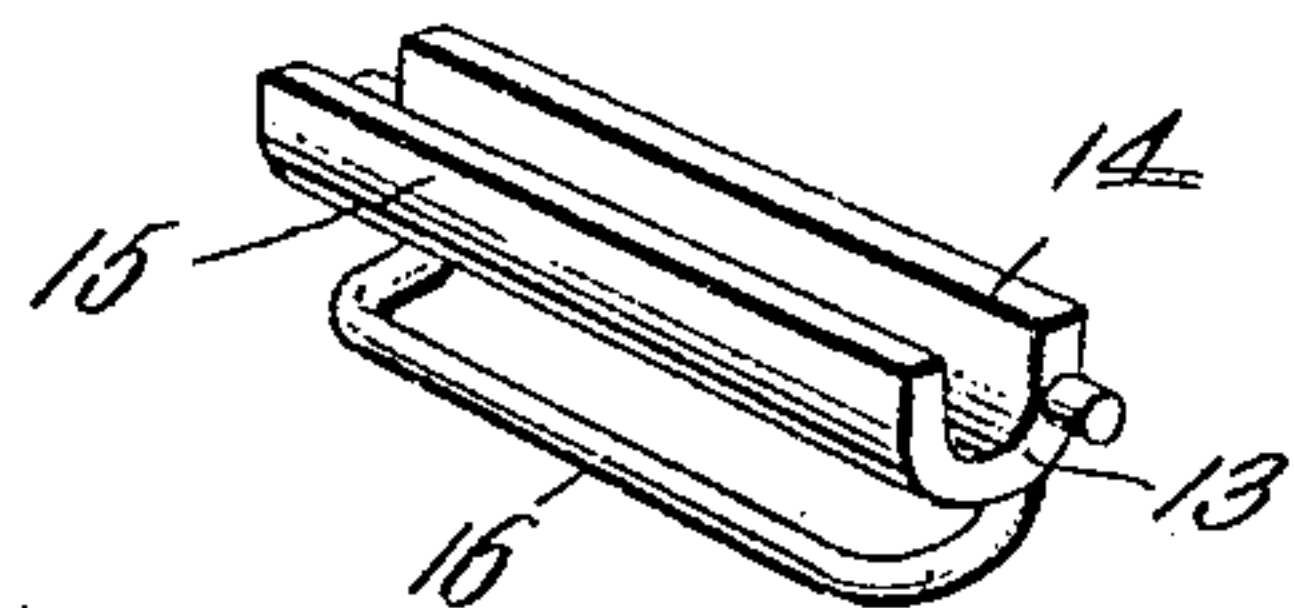


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OTIS R. RUST, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

BELT-BUCKLE.

No. 880,758.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 3, 1908.

Application filed October 24, 1907. Serial No. 398,950.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OTIS R. RUST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belt-Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buckles designed especially for gentlemen's belts, although the device is adapted for various purposes for which buckles generally are employed.

Among the several objects aimed at in the present invention are to provide a buckle of the class specified which shall be exceedingly easy of manipulation both in buckling and unbuckling, neat in appearance and compact in structure, possessed of superior gripping qualities, and which will grip the belt or strap at any point in its length and yet without danger of cutting or marring its surface. The buckle, moreover, by reason of its peculiar construction is well adapted for belts of various thicknesses without change or adjustment.

The foregoing objects are attained by the mechanism herein described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is an inner face view of the buckle with the parts in gripping position; Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the buckle having a belt secured thereto; Fig. 3 is a detail of the clamp as when subjected to excessive strain, and Fig. 4 is a detail perspective of the pivoted clamping member.

Similar parts are referred to throughout the description and indicated on the drawings by the same reference characters.

In the drawings B indicates any suitable leather or fabric belt or strap, and to which my buckle is shown as applied. The body 10 of the buckle may be of any desired design, and is provided with a cross bar or abutment 11 and angularly disposed ears or standards 12, in or to which the pivoted member 13 of the clamp is journaled for rotation. The member 13 is substantially semi-cylindrical in cross sectional outline, or in other words is concavo-convex, with the concavity on the side next to the belt when in clamping position. As thus formed and eccentrically mounted as shown, the clamping member consists of two flat faced jaws, the jaw 14 being nearer the axis of rotation

and constituting in connection with the abutment 11 the effective clamping means under ordinary strains, and in coöperation with the belt causes forcible engagement of the jaw 15 with the belt under excessive strains. It will be noted that the gripping effect is secured not only automatically but also that the greater the strain on the belt the more effective will be the clamping means.

As an effective means to operate the eccentric clamping member 13, I provide a loop or stirrup 16 of peculiar form, the same being rigidly secured to the member 13 substantially centrally of its convex side, and extending therefrom radially and thence curving so as to bring the outer portion thereof in a plane substantially parallel to the plane of the biting faces of the jaws 14 and 15. The buckle is secured to the belt by means of the stirrup 16 and a small metallic clip or clamp 17 having a flat body 18 and an eye 19 connected permanently to the said stirrup. As a convenient and compact means for securing the end of the belt to the clip 17 I employ a pivoted lever 20 having on one side of the axis one or more tongues 21 and on the other side an intumed lip 22 inclosing the extreme end of the belt through or into which the tongues 21 penetrate. Should occasion require the belt to be shortened, it is necessary only to throw the lever 20 outwardly on its pivot to detach the belt, when after cutting the same to the desired length and punching small holes for the tongues the new end may readily be secured in place.

One of the several peculiar and novel advantages of this invention is indicated in Fig. 2 wherein it is shown how slight and simple a movement of the clip end of the belt is required in order to release the clamp. No matter how tightly the belt and buckle may have been drawn a simple bodily movement of the clip 17 from the position shown in full lines to that shown in dotted lines will swing the member 13 on its axis to release the belt. The importance of this feature will be obvious when it is considered that with the belt secured tightly about the person of the wearer, it would be inexpedient if not impossible to turn the buckle inside out or to swing the clip end of the belt at an angle to the buckle body in order to effect a release of the clamp. The release of the clamp as set forth may be accomplished

whether or not the free end of the belt projects beyond the buckle body 10. If the said end does project sufficiently, however, the same may be drawn upon if desired as another means to open the clamp.

Fig. 3 sets forth, on an enlarged scale, the relative positions of the clamp members when the belt is subjected to excessive strain. In this adaptation of the device the jaw 14 coöperating with the belt swings the member 13 so as to cause the jaw 15 to impinge forcibly against the belt and then by virtue of the specific form of the effective face of the said jaw 15 and its eccentricity, together also with the fact of the continued engagement of the jaw 14 with the belt it is practically impossible to cause the free end of the belt to slip through the buckle. However, a slight bodily movement of the clip 17 and end of the belt attached thereto will suffice to release the clamp member 13, the stirrup 16 rotating within the eye 19 and the member 13 rotating between the ears 12 at such time.

Having thus described the invention, what

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

The combination with a belt, of a buckle therefor comprising a body having an abutment, a pivoted clamping member having spaced plane faced gripping jaws to coöperate with the said abutment to clamp the belt, a curved stirrup rigidly secured to the pivoted clamping member and extending outwardly therefrom and thence in a direction substantially parallel to the plane of the gripping faces of said jaws, and means connected to the opposite end of the belt and permanently secured to the said stirrup whereby the clamp may be set or released by a slight bodily movement of the said connected end of the belt.

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

OTIS R. RUST.

Witnesses:

Y. G. BUCKINGHAM,
CLIFF C. CORRY.