

No. 887,453.

PATENTED MAY 12, 1908.

R. A. BARNES & C. H. WHITE.

BELT BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 12, 1907.

Fig. 1.

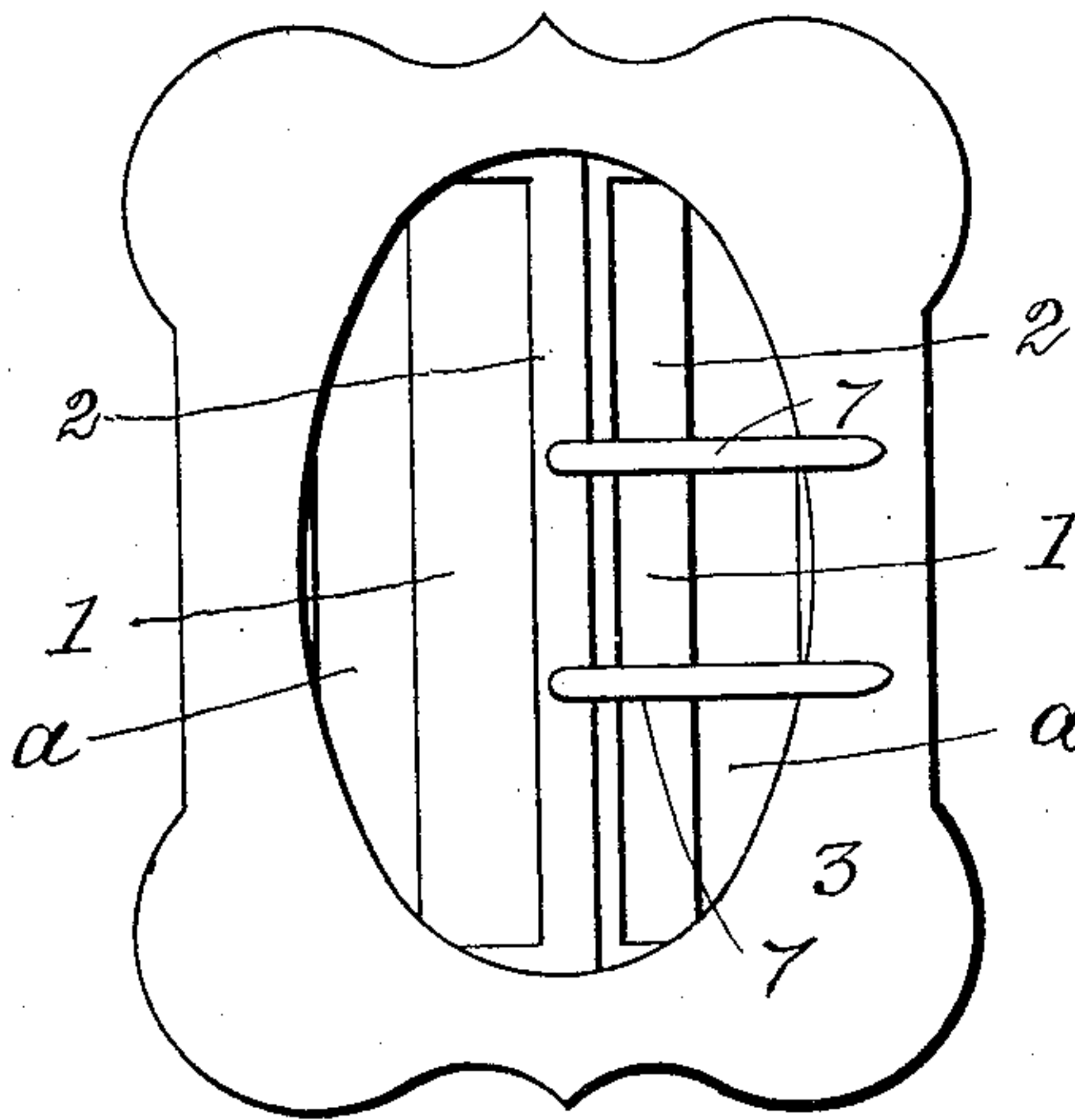


Fig. 2.

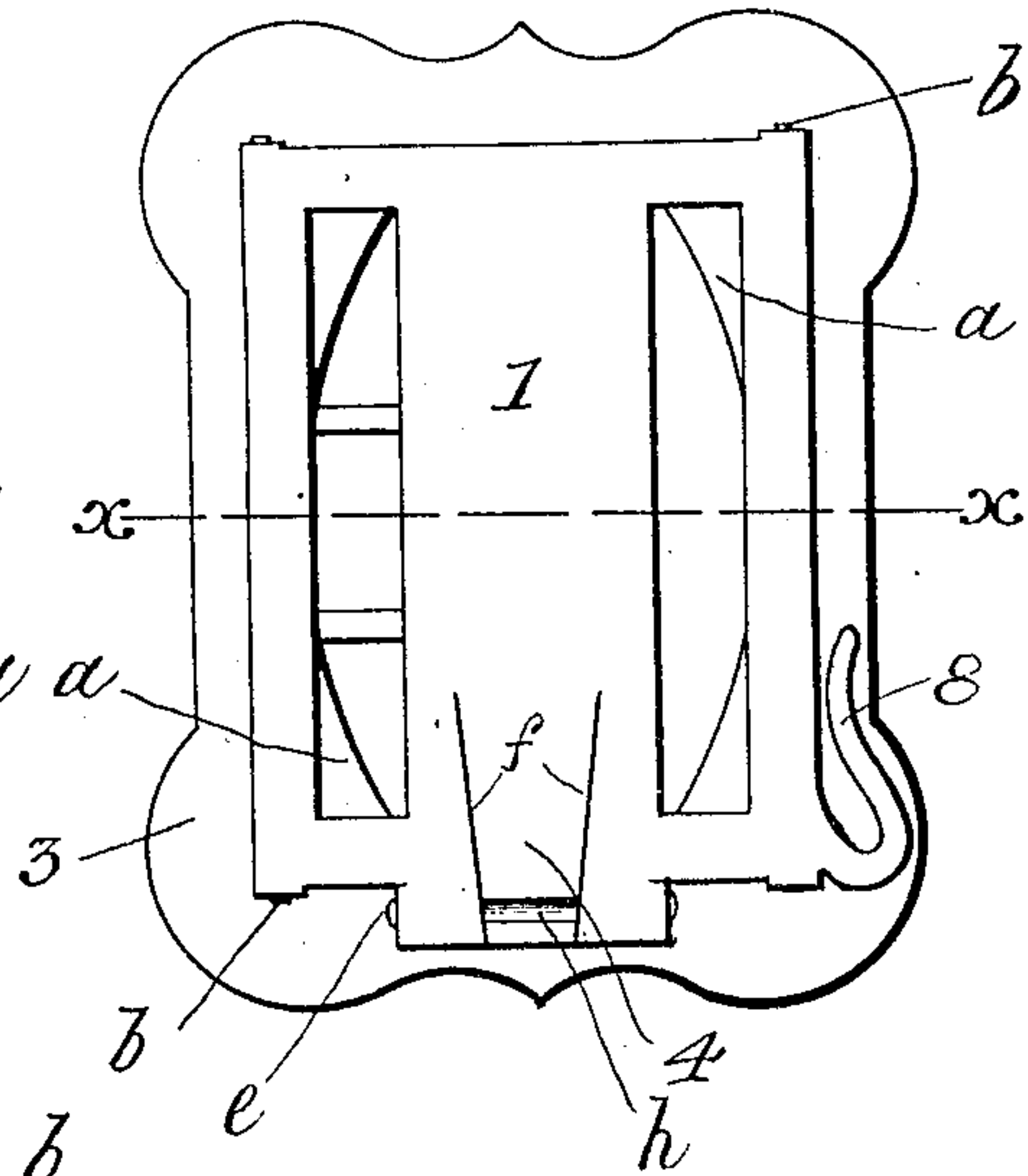


Fig. 3.

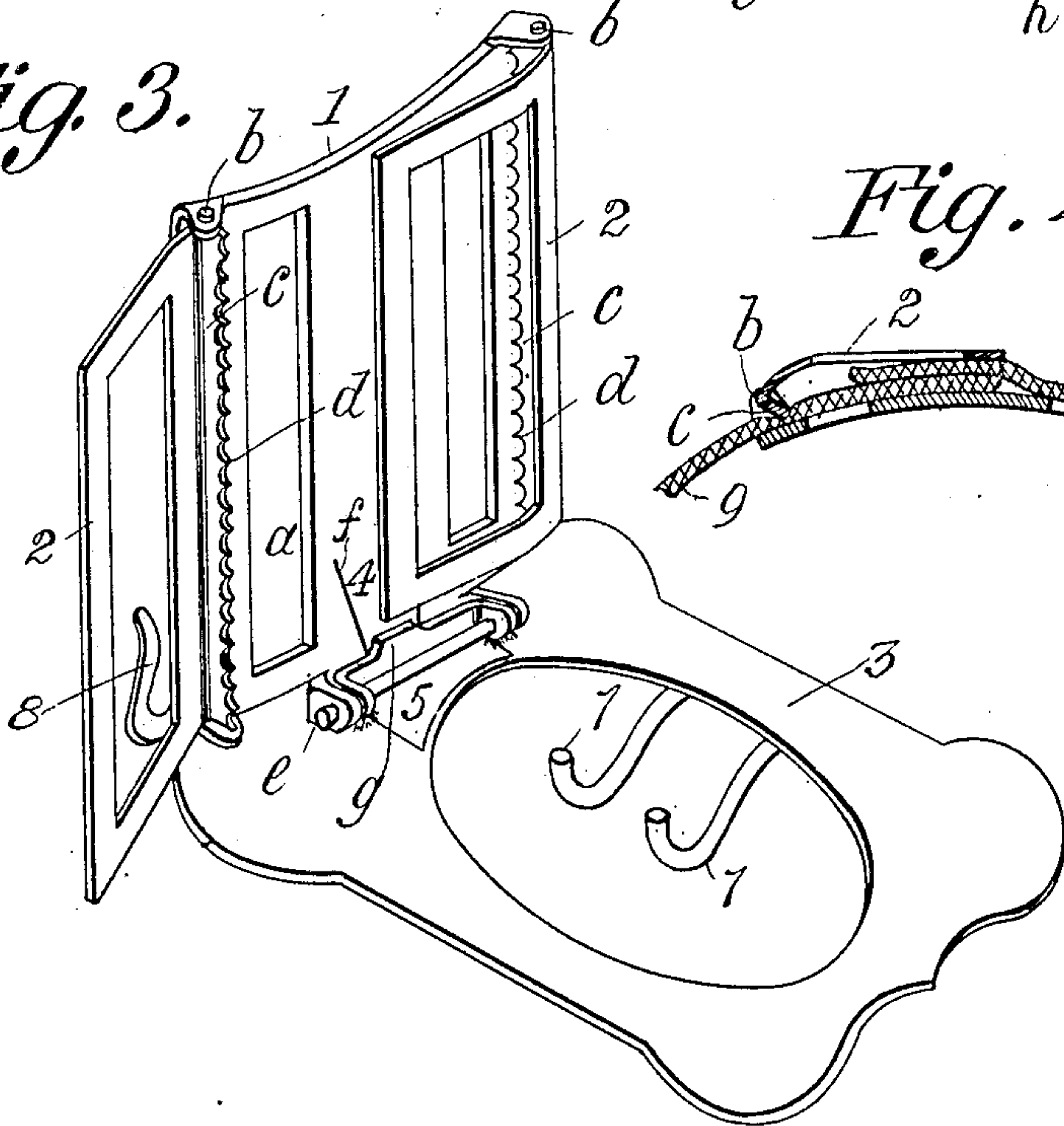
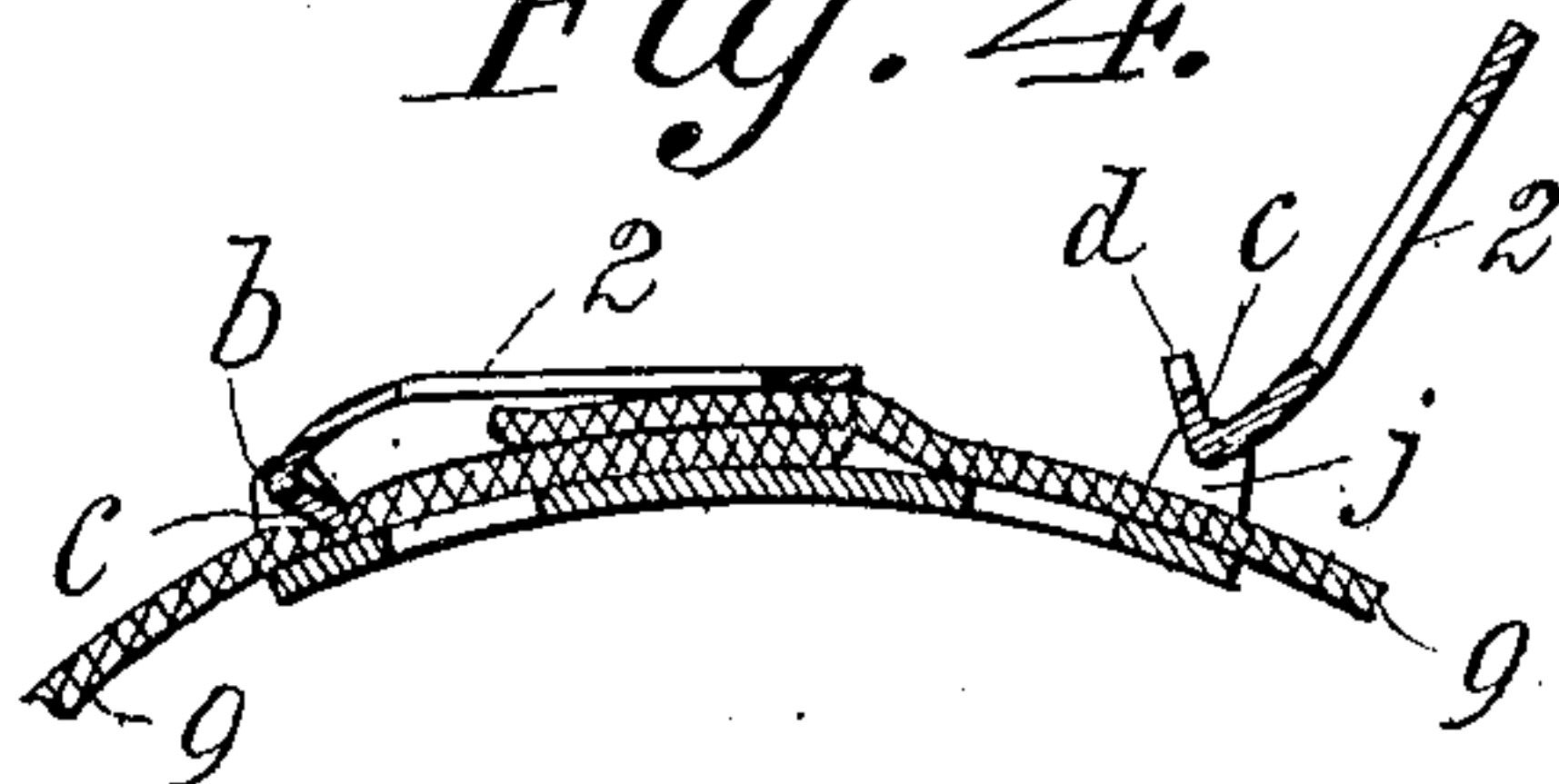


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BELT-BUCKLE.

No. 887,453.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 12, 1908.

Application filed April 12, 1907. Serial No. 367,824.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, RUBY A. BARNES, of the city of Baltimore and State of Maryland, and CHARLES H. WHITE, of Sparrows Point, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Belt-Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

In the description of the said invention which follows, reference is made to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, and in which,—

Figure 1 is a front view of the improved buckle, and Fig. 2 a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the buckle. Fig. 4 is a section of Fig. 2 taken on the dotted line *x x*.

Referring now to the drawing, 1 is the curved rear plate of the buckle which is preferably of skeleton form, that is to say, it is provided with the vertical slots *a*.

2, 2 are skeleton leaves hinged to the plate 1 at *b, b*. These leaves are by preference made of such width as to overlap at their free edges when closed or folded against the back plate 1; and the hinged edges have flanges *c* which are toothed, the teeth which are denoted by *d* bearing tightly against the back plate 1 when the leaves are closed as shown to the left in Fig. 4. The toothed flanges *c* are set at an acute angle with the leaves proper, for a purpose hereinafter described.

3 is an ornamental face plate hinged at *e* to the lower edge of the rear plate 1; and in order that the face plate may be retained yieldingly in a closed position, or resting against the closed leaves, so as to lock them the rear plate is provided with slots *f* which produce a spring 4 against which the projection *g* of the hinge member 5 bears; and the spring has a depression *h* near its end which forms a bead on the inner surface of the spring over which

the projection *g* passes as the front plate is closed. This construction causes the front plate to resist opening while not preventing it.

7, 7 are imitation tongues the inner ends of which nearly reach the folded leaves.

8 is a hook formed as a part of the rear plate 1, upon which may be hung a chate-laine.

The ends of the belt 9 shown only in Fig. 4 are introduced through openings produced by unfolding the leaves and one of which in that condition is shown to the right of Fig. 4, in which the opening is denoted by *j*.

In adjusting the belt, one end thereof is secured to the buckle before the belt is placed in position, and then the other end inserted through the opening *j*, and drawn until the belt has attained the desired tightness, when the leaf is folded down which causes the teeth *d* to pass through the material of the belt, and hold the same. The angularity of the toothed flanges *c* before referred to, admits of the flanges being longer than if they were at a right angle with the leaves, and prevents the ends of the belt when under strain being drawn from the buckle.

We claim as our invention:—

In a belt buckle, the rear plate thereof having at each lateral edge a hinged leaf provided with a toothed flange which is at an acute angle with respect to the said leaf, the said hinged leaves being adapted to close upon the rear plate and bring the teeth of the toothed flanges tightly against the same, combined with a spring-held front plate adapted to close upon and lock the folded leaves, substantially as specified.

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