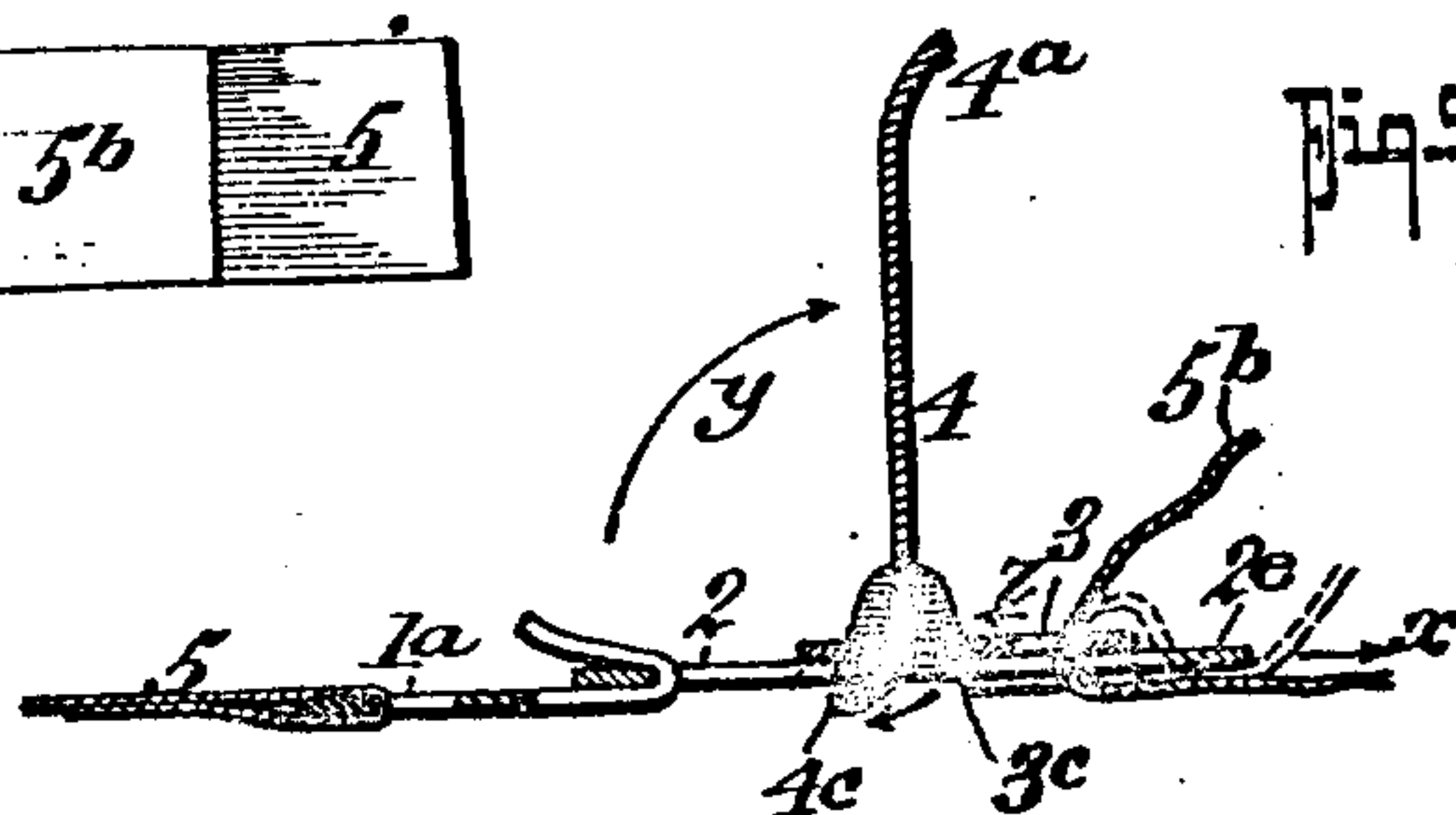
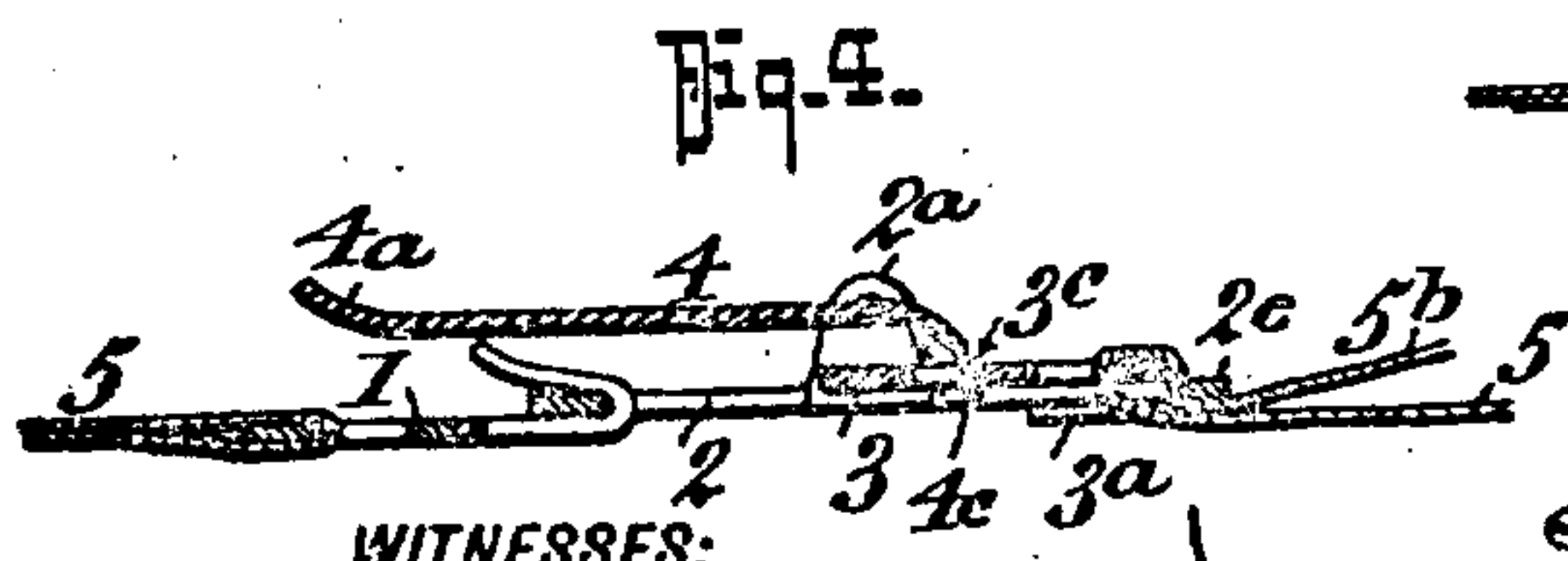
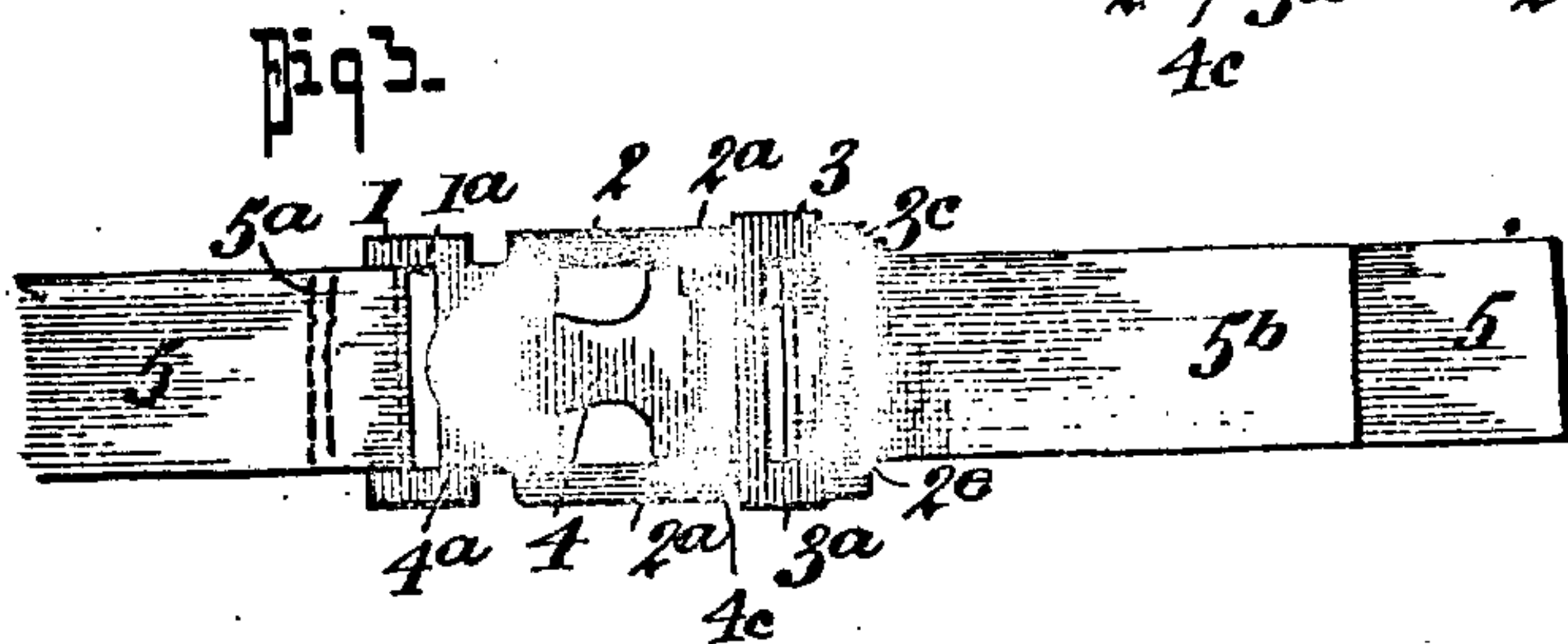
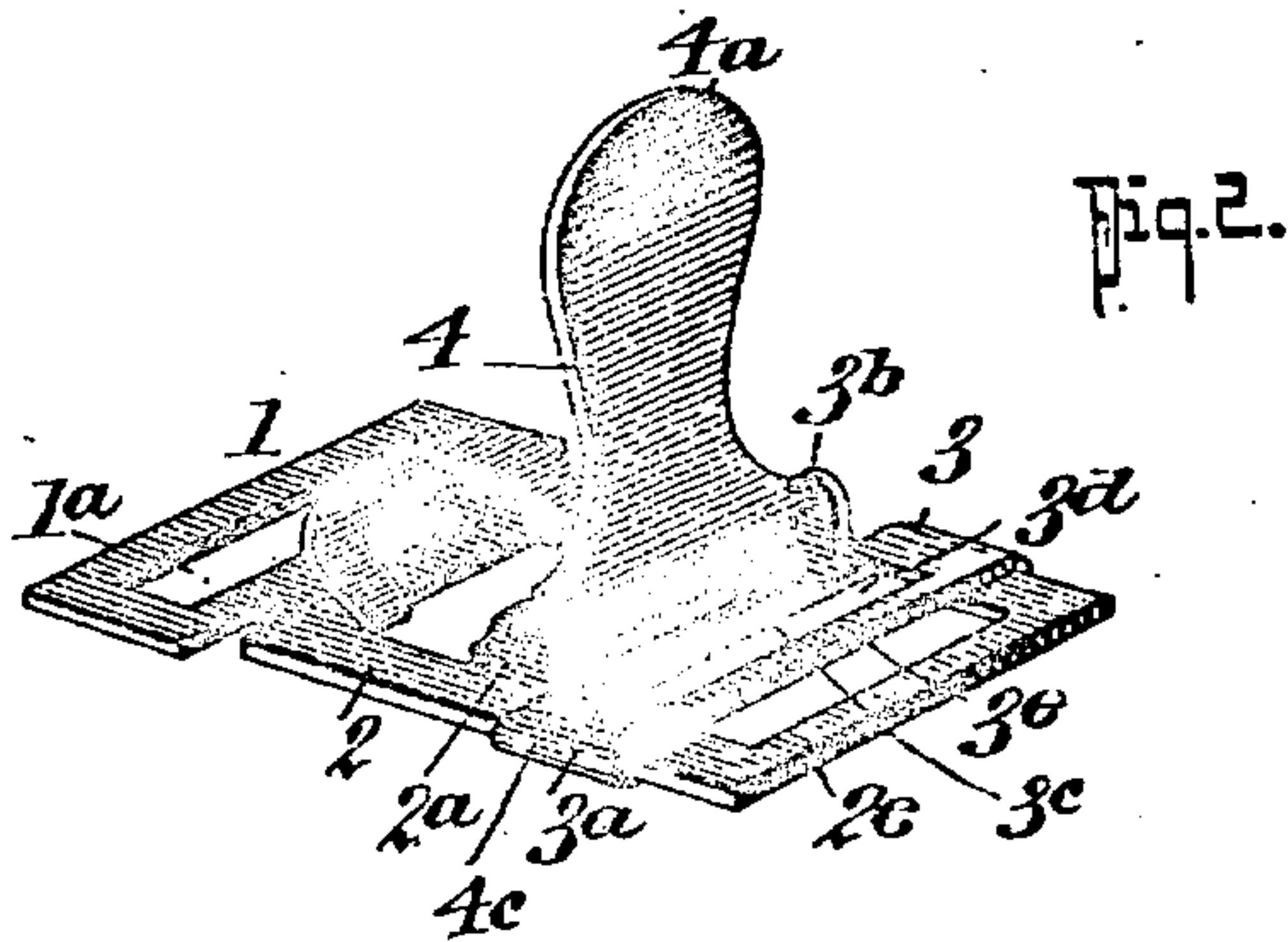
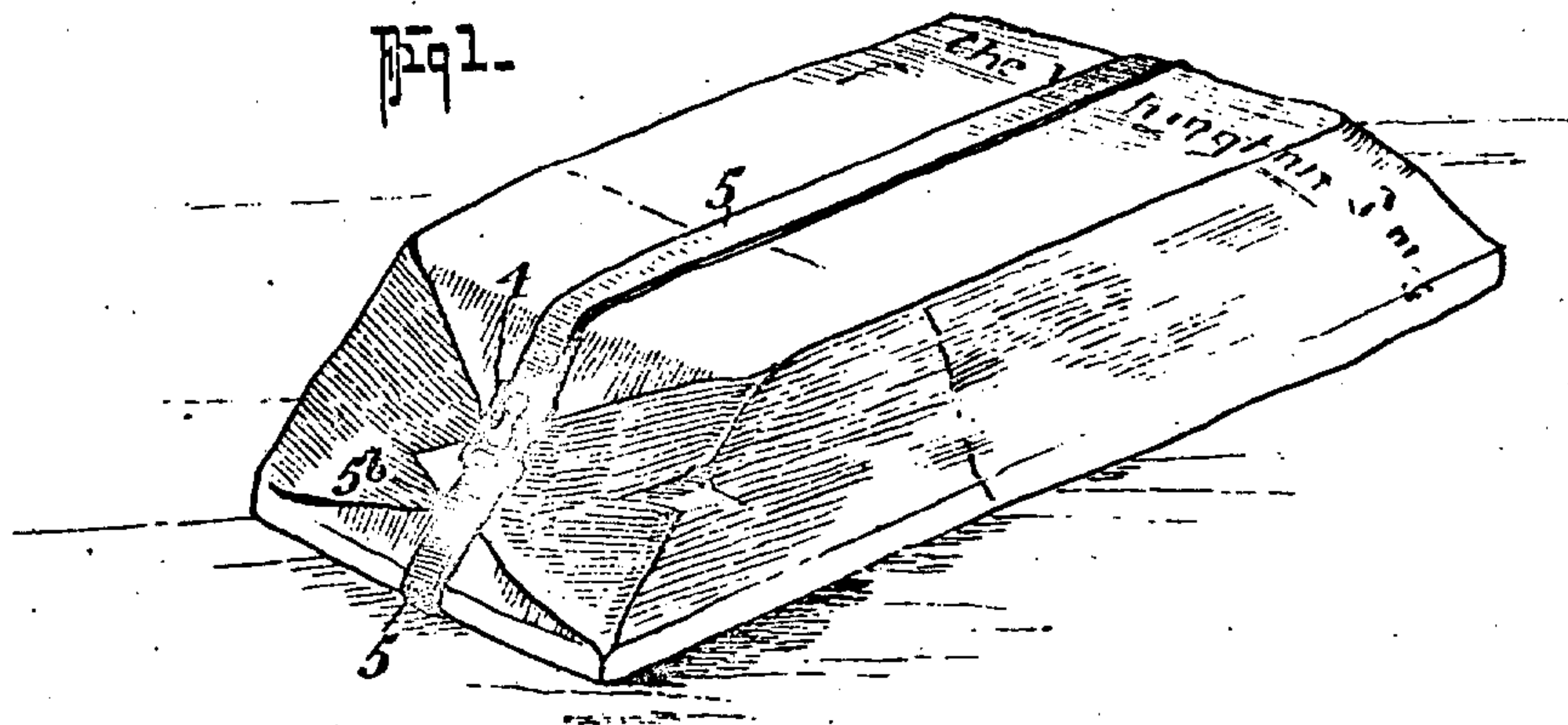


C. MEINHARDT.  
BUCKLE.

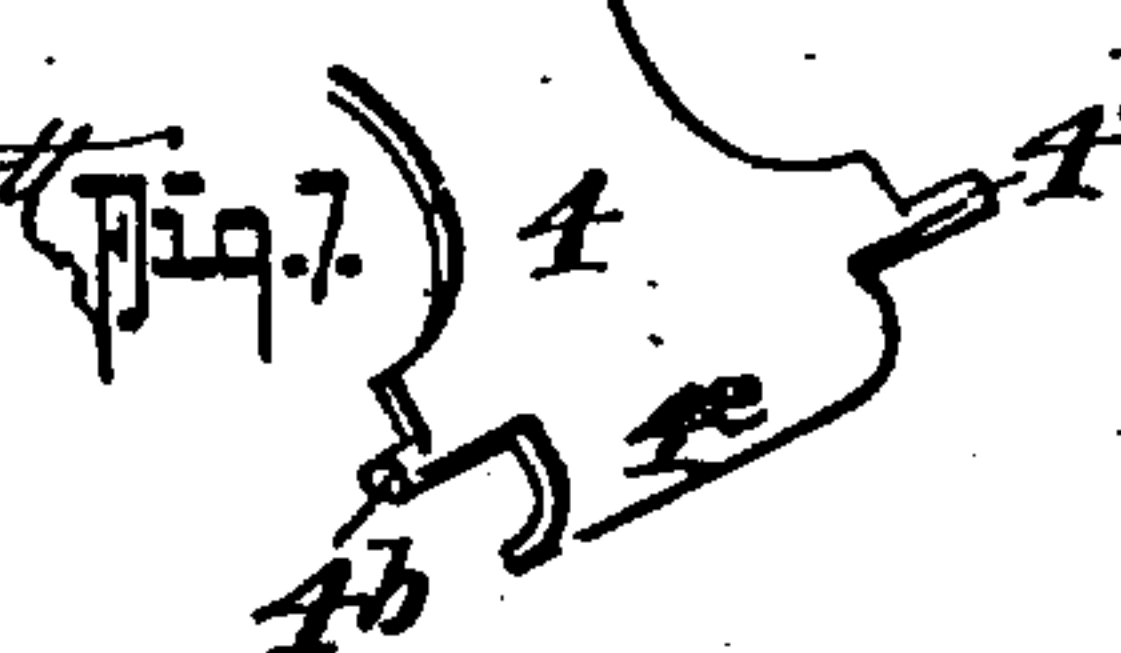
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 21, 1908.

899,121.

Patented Sept. 22, 1908.



WITNESSES:  
John T. Lohr  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CONRAD MEINHARDT, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## BUCKLE.

No. 899,121.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 22, 1908.

Application filed February 21, 1908. Serial No. 417,120.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CONRAD MEINHARDT, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in buckles particularly adapted for use in connection with straps for securing packages and the like, and it primarily has for its object to provide a buckle having means for effecting a quick release of the strap so that it may be quickly removed from the package.

More specifically my invention embodies those details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, all of which will be first fully described, and then specifically pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1, is a perspective view showing the application of my invention. Fig. 2, is a detail perspective view on an enlarged scale of the buckle. Fig. 3, is a plan view of the buckle and the strap ends, the parts being in the strap securing position. Fig. 4, is a central vertical longitudinal section thereof, the parts being in the position shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 5, is a similar view showing the manner of effecting the quick release of the strap from the eye member. Fig. 6, is a detail sectional perspective of the eye member and the sliding bridge. Fig. 7, is a detail perspective view of a portion of the lever.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters and numerals of reference indicate like parts in all of the figures, 1 represents the hook member and 2 the eye member, each of which is preferably formed of sheet metal.

The hook member 1 has an eye 1<sup>a</sup> through which the end of the strap 5 passes, the strap being sewed together as at 5<sup>a</sup> to effect a relatively permanent connection with the hook member 1. The eye member 2 is preferably stamped out of sheet metal and provided with up-turned ears 2<sup>a</sup> between which a releasing lever 4 is fulcrumed, the lever 4 having a finger engaging end 4<sup>a</sup>, and laterally projecting studs 4<sup>b</sup> which project into bearing apertures in the ears 2<sup>a</sup>. The lever 4 is also provided with a heel 4<sup>c</sup> to enter a slot 3<sup>c</sup> in a sliding bridge 3 which slides on the eye member 2 and is held in place by the lever 4

and by the curled over ends 3<sup>a</sup>, which embrace the eye member 2, as indicated most clearly in Figs. 2 and 6 of the drawings.

The bridge 3 has a projecting portion 3<sup>b</sup> that is of such a width as to be movable between the ears 2<sup>a</sup> and the eye member 2 and the projecting portion 3<sup>b</sup> is formed with a slot 3<sup>c</sup> to receive the heel 4<sup>c</sup> in the lever 4, hereinbefore referred to.

In the practical application of my invention the strap end 5<sup>b</sup> is passed through the eye 3<sup>d</sup> of the bridge 3, from the underside, as indicated in full lines in Fig. 3, and down between it and the front bar 2<sup>e</sup> of the eye member 2, and beneath the same, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 5. The operator then pulling on the strap 5, in the direction of the arrow x, will draw the sliding bridge 3 in the same direction, i. e., in a direction opposite to Fig. 5, causing the lever 4 to swing down in a direction opposite to the arrow y in Fig. 5, until the parts assume the position shown in Fig. 4, when the bars 3<sup>e</sup> and 2<sup>e</sup> will clamp the end of the strap 5, and firmly hold the same from movement.

It should be understood that in practice the strap end 5<sup>b</sup> is clamped as shown in Fig. 4, and the length of the strap is adjusted so as to tightly fit around the package, before the hook 1 is hooked into the eye member 2. After this adjustment has been made the strap is placed around the package, as shown in Fig. 1, and the hook 1 hooked into the eye member 2, and the package will be secured.

Should it be desired to release the strap from the package it is only necessary to engage the lever 4 and move it in the direction of the arrow y in Fig. 5, thus causing the bridge 3 to be moved in the direction of the arrow z in Fig. 5, and release the strap end 5<sup>b</sup> from being clamped between the bars 3<sup>e</sup> and 2<sup>e</sup>, and upon exerting a slight pull on the strap in the direction of the arrow x in Fig. 5, the end 5<sup>b</sup> can be entirely released from the eye member 2 of the buckle. The strap may be then removed from the buckle, the entire operation of loosening the strap from the package being practically instantaneous. This makes my invention particularly adaptable for use in securing mail packages, papers, documents, etc. in which it is desirable that a quick release of the strap may be had.

When I speak of "strap", I do not desire to limit myself by such term to any particular strap, such as leather strap, or a cloth

strap, but any material may be used as a "strap" that may be found desirable. Furthermore, while I have described my improved buckle as capable of being stamped out of sheet metal, still I do not desire to limit myself to the material, as the parts may be cast or otherwise formed, as may be found convenient.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it is thought the complete construction, operation and advantages of my invention will be readily understood by those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains.

What I claim is:

1. A buckle comprising a member, a sliding bridge mounted thereon and having an eye portion to permit passage of a strap and adapted to clamp the strap in between itself and said member, said member having ears, a lever pivotally mounted between said ears and having a heel for coöperatively engaging

said bridge to move the same along said member.

2. In a buckle, an open member having upturned ears, a bridge having an eye and having a portion to embrace said open member and slidable thereon, and a lever pivotally mounted between said ears to engage said bridge to move the same.

3. In a buckle, an open member having upturned ears, a bridge having an eye and having portions to embrace said open member to be slidable thereon, said bridge having a portion to project between said ears, said portion having an aperture, a lever pivotally mounted between said ears and having a heel to engage said apertured portion of the bridge to operate the same.

CONRAD MEINHARDT.

Witnesses:

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