

W. A. HOLDEN.  
BUCKLE.  
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994,515.

Patented June 6, 1911.

Fig. 1.

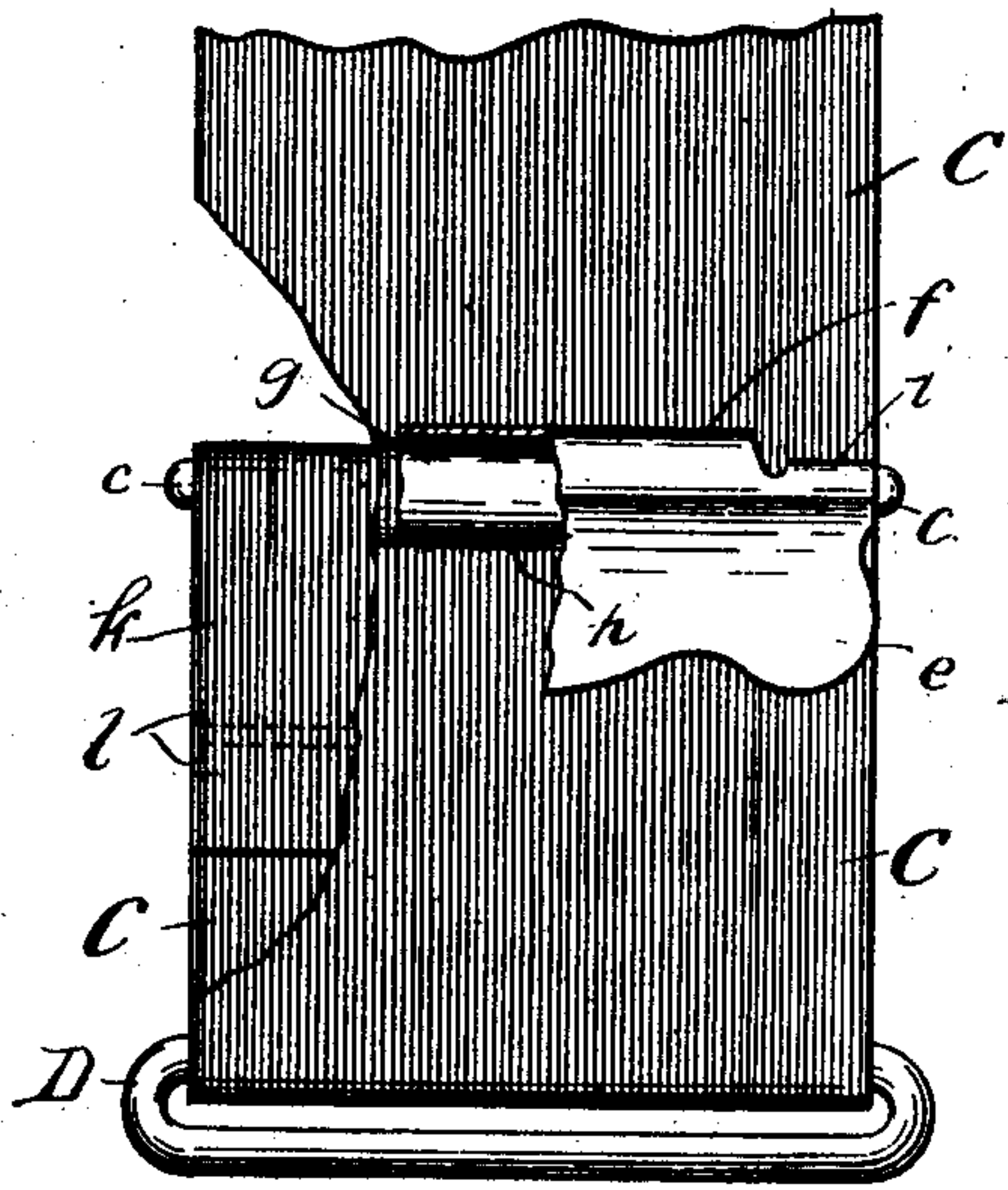


Fig. 3.

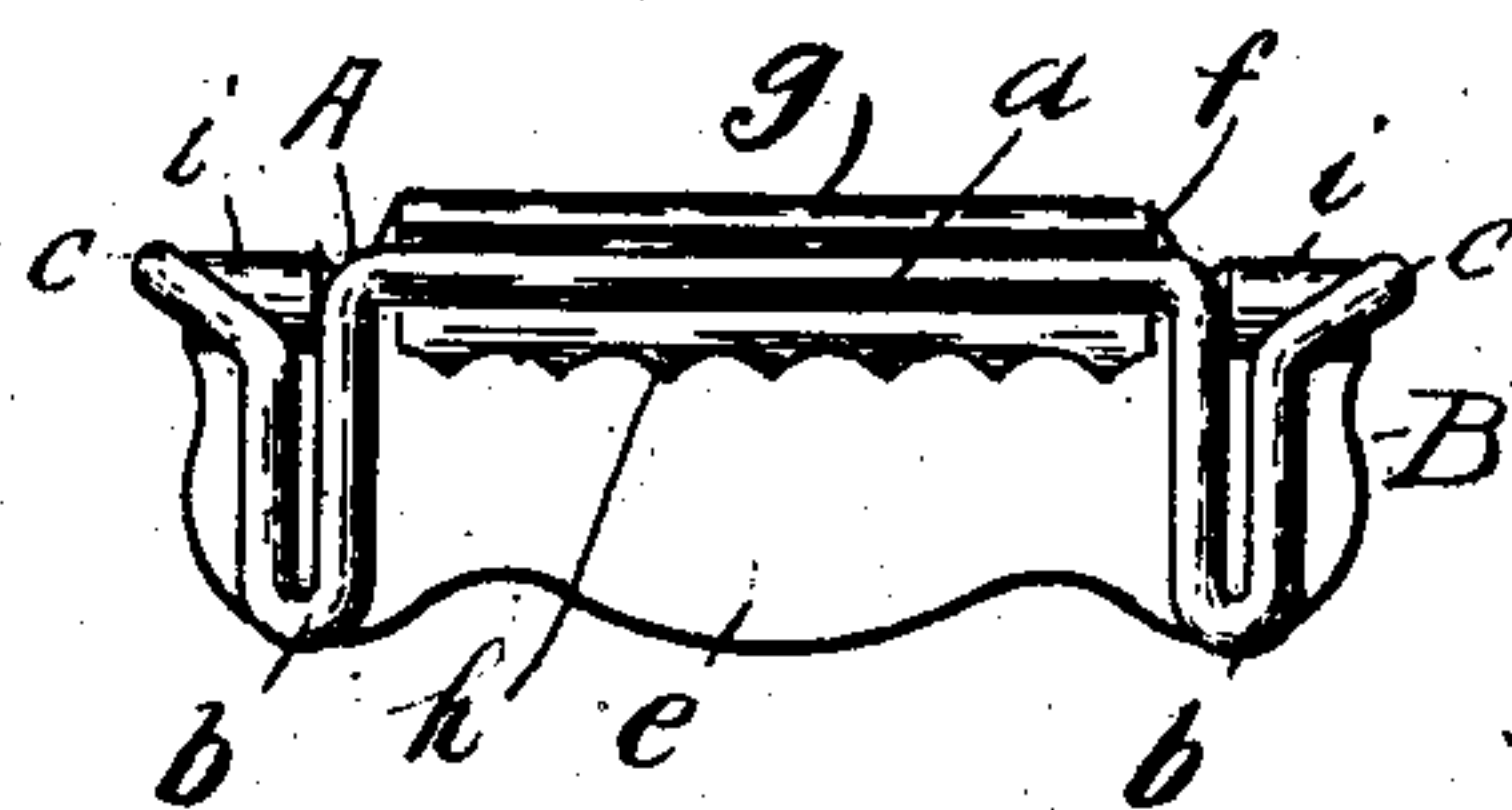


Fig. 4.

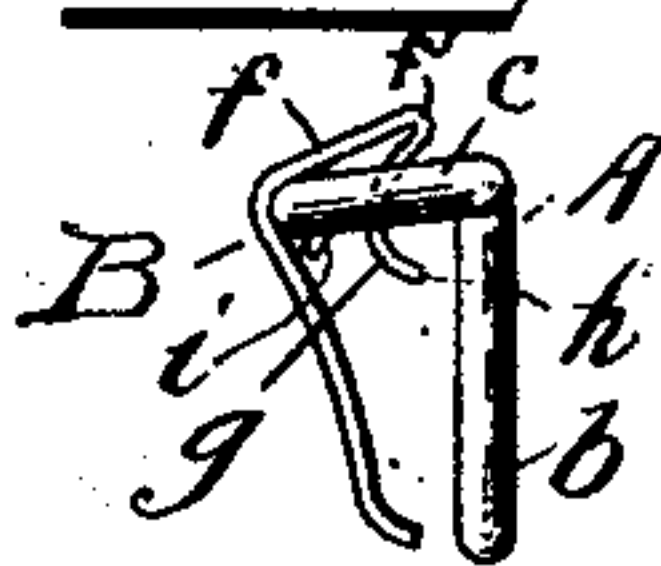


Fig. 2.

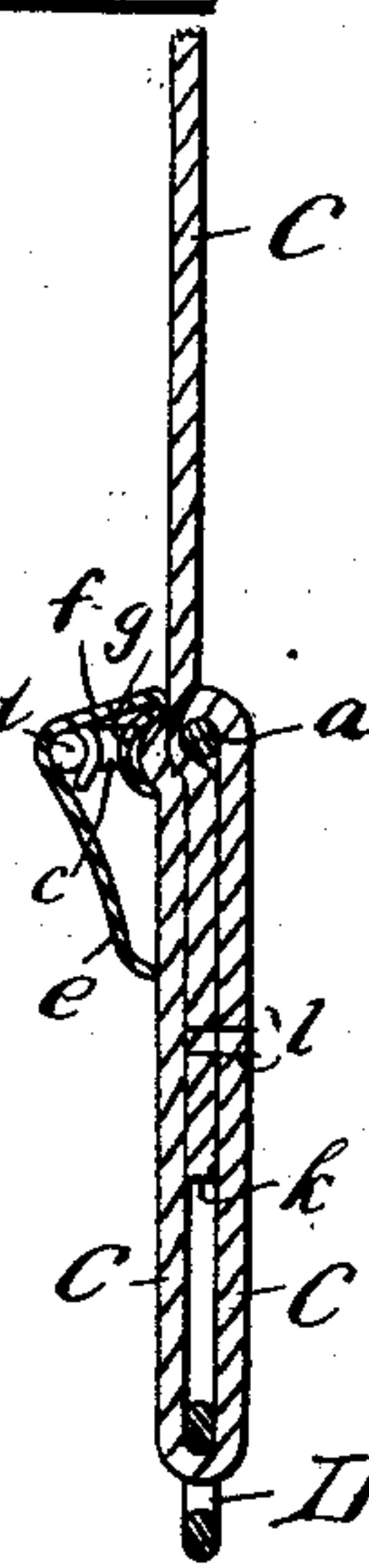
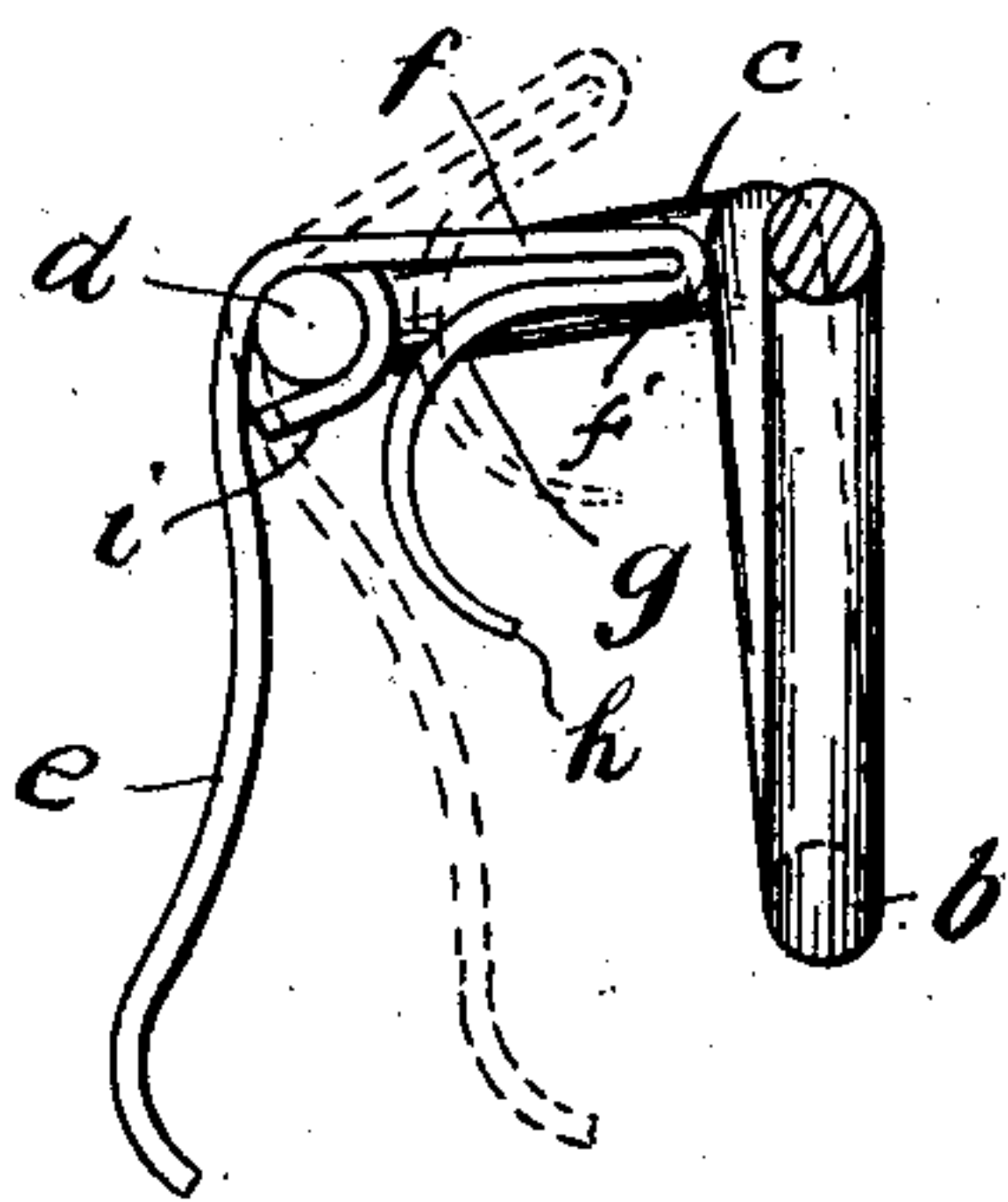


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:  
Chas. A. Reed  
Margaret E. Baxter

Inventor  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER A. HOLDEN, OF ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE ROBERT N. BASSETT COMPANY, OF SHELTON, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

## BUCKLE.

994,515.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 6, 1911.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTER A. HOLDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ansonia, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to buckles of the lock lever class designed to carry the extremity of a webbing and to operate along the running portion thereof to form an adjustable loop, and its object is to provide a buckle of this character having a minimum number of parts and in which the lever is provided with one member for holding the buckle closed and another member for holding the running portion of the webbing.

With this and other objects in view my invention consists in the details of construction and manner of operation more fully set forth in the following description and accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to corresponding parts.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a front view of my buckle showing a part of the lever and attached webbing broken away; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the parts shown in Fig. 1; Figs. 3 and 4, rear and side views respectively of the buckle before it is mounted on the webbing, and Fig. 5, an enlarged vertical section showing the back bar sprung by the wedging action of the lever.

My buckle consists of a back or frame A and a front or lever B. The back A is made out of a single piece of wire having its middle portion forming the bar *a* from each end of which the wire is bent downwardly and then upwardly forming the bends or fingers *b*, *b*, then outwardly or laterally, then forwardly forming the sides *c*, *c* and then inwardly so that its extremities form the pintles *d*, *d* which are substantially in the same horizontal plane with the bar *a*. The front or lever B is made out of a sheet metal blank which is bent at an angle to form the usual front portion or shield *e* and the web engaging member *f* from the rear side *f'* of which latter the metal is first bent downwardly and forwardly and then rearwardly forming a concave rear face portion *g* having its lower edge *h*, which may be toothed or serrated, disposed in underneath and spaced slightly from the

rear edge *f'* of the member *f*. For reasons which will hereinafter appear I shall style the edge *h* the web holding edge in order to distinguish it from the web engaging edge *f'*. On each side of the web engaging member *f* at the top of the front portion or shield *e* the metal is slit to form the pintle straps *i*, *i*, which are curled around the pintles *d*, *d* to form a pivotal or hinge connection between the frame A and lever B.

The buckle constructed as above described is provided with an opening which lies substantially in a horizontal plane, that is in a plane at right angles with the normal plane of the webbing. The pintles *d*, *d*, which if desired can be extended toward each other to form a continuous bar, may be regarded as the front side, and the bar *a* together with the bends *b*, *b* and its lateral extensions beyond the bends may be regarded as the rear side of the horizontal opening. The extremity *k* of the webbing C is secured to the buckle by passing it upwardly over the back of the bends *b*, *b*, then forwardly over the top of the bar *a* and downwardly in front of the bends forming a terminal loop in the webbing which may be sewed upon itself by stitches *l*, *l*. Broadly speaking the extremity of the webbing is folded around the rear side of the opening above mentioned and fastened upon itself. The end of the webbing being thus secured the running portion is carried downwardly and then returned upon itself passing upwardly through the opening between the lever and the stitched extremity, thereby forming an adjustable loop in the webbing carrying the cast off piece D.

During the operation of webbing the buckle the front portion of the lever is raised so that the opening presents an unobstructed passage to the webbing. When it is desired to close the buckle to lock the running portion of the webbing in its adjusted position, the front member *e* of the lever is lowered causing the edge *f'* to first engage the running portion below the bar *a* and finally just above the bar *a*. During the movement of the edge *f'* between these two positions, that is in passing by the front of the bar *a*, it presses the bar rearwardly, as shown in full lines in Fig. 5, acting through the medium of the interposed layers of webbing. When the edge *f'* has passed above the bar *a*, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5,



the bar springs back again to its normal position causing a slight deflection of the running portion of the webbing forwardly in under the edge  $f'$  which latter crowds the running portion rearwardly against the upper corner of the loop formed by the stitched extremity  $h$  as shown in Fig. 2. When the buckle is closed the teeth or serrations  $h$ , which follow the path of the edge  $f'$ , coact with the lower portion of the bar  $a$  to grip or clamp the running portion. Thus when the buckle is closed the teeth  $h$  grip or clamp the running portion of the webbing and the edge  $f'$  not only locks the lever to prevent its being upset or opened but also by crowding the running portion as above described reduces to a minimum the unsightly hump caused by the top of the stitched loop projecting rearwardly beyond the plane of the running portion. It will be observed that in employing a lever having one edge for holding the buckle closed and a different edge for clamping the webbing I am enabled to utilize a wire back or frame which presents a single member or bar alone to the lever edges instead of a plurality of members or a face portion of a sheet metal plate, which latter are usually essential for the perfect operation of a buckle having a single lever edge mounted to swing in front instead of above the back. It will further be observed that the bends  $b$ ,  $b$  not only serve as finger pieces and balancing mem-

bers but also are sufficiently resilient to permit the bar  $a$  to yield bodily in response to the wedging action of the lever.

I have herein described the preferred forms of my invention but it is obvious that the same may be embodied in such modifications as fairly come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having now described my invention what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. A buckle comprising a back provided with a bodily yielding cross bar extending across the top thereof and a pivoted lever having a web engaging portion arranged to swing to a position above the horizontal plane of its pivotal points and to coact with the upper corner of the cross bar to lock the buckle closed, the said lever being provided with separate web holding means.

2. A buckle comprising a frame bent up out of a single piece of wire to form a bodily yielding web attaching bar and pintles disposed in front of but substantially on a level with said bar, and a lever carried by said pintles provided with superposed web engaging portions one of which is arranged to coact with the upper corner of said bar when the buckle is closed.

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Witnesses:

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