J. SPLANN.

BUCKLES.

No. 187,677. Patented Feb. 20, 1877.

fig 1

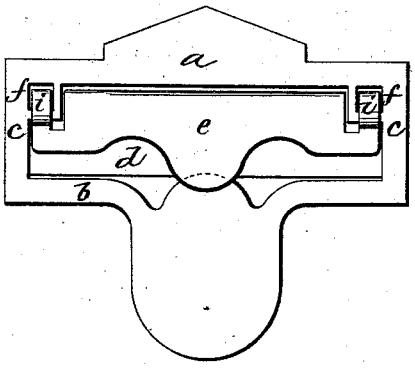


fig 2

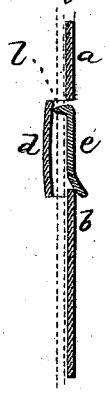
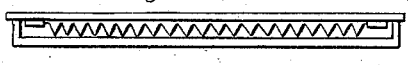


fig 3



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN SPLANN, OF ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO OSBORNE & CHEESEMAN COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUCKLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **187,677**, dated February 20, 1877; application filed December 20, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SPLANN, of Ansonia, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Buckles; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a front view; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section, and in Fig. 3 an upper edge view.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of buckles designed more especially for suspenders and shoes, and commonly known as "lever-buckles." The usual construction of this class of buckles has been for the lever to project from the buckle, and so that the suspender or strap, in passing through, must be turned out of its straight course.

The object of this invention is to make the lever flush with the face of the buckle, and also to form a passage for the strap in a direct line, or parallel with the face of the buckle.

The invention consists in the construction of the plate so as to form a loop, through which the strap will pass in a line parallel with the buckle-plate, the said loop also forming a bearing, on which the said lever will press to engage the strap; also, in the arrangement of the lever in a recess in the plate, so as to lie flush, or nearly so, with the face of the plate, as more fully hereinafter described.

a is the upper bar, *b* the lower bar, and *c c* the two ends, of the buckle frame or plate. On the back side a bar, *d*, is arranged, as seen in Figs. 2 and 3, and so as to form a passage for the strap between the buckle-plate and the said bar *d*, in a direct line, and parallel with the face-plate, as seen in broken lines, Fig. 2. This bar *d* may be struck from the buckle-frame, or soldered thereto at its two ends.

Within the frame, and substantially flush with it, the lever *e* is hinged, preferably by forming eyes *f* at each upper angle of the frame, and constructing the lever *e* with a loop, *i*, at each end, to be bent through the eyes *f*. The upper edge of the lever *e* is bent or turned back to form a jaw, *l*, as seen in Fig. 2. This is preferably cut in the form of teeth, as seen in Fig. 3.

The operation of this buckle does not differ materially from other known lever-buckles; but in its construction the front plate presents no projecting parts, because the lever lies flush with the surface, as seen in Fig. 2, thus overcoming a serious objection to lever-buckles.

Again, in introducing the suspender into lever-buckles of usual construction, the passage for the strap is crooked, because passing over and under parts of the frame, hence making it difficult to adjust the buckle on the strap. This difficulty is overcome by making the passage direct and straight.

I claim—

In the class of buckles known as "lever-buckles," the lever *e*, hung in a recess in the front of the frame, and substantially flush with the outer surface of the frame, combined with the depressed bearing-bar *d*, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:
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