

E. A. SMITH & D. L. SMITH.

Improvement in Buckles.

No. 115,535.

Patented May 30, 1871.

fig. 1.

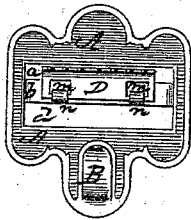


fig. 2.

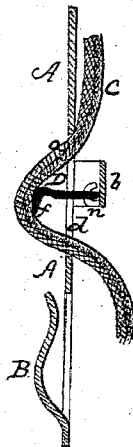
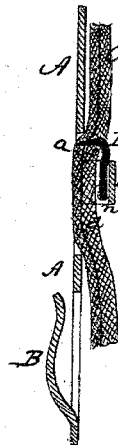


fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EARLE A. SMITH AND DWIGHT L. SMITH, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUCKLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 115,535, dated May 30, 1871.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that we, EARLE A. SMITH and DWIGHT L. SMITH, of Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Buckles; and we do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawing constitutes part of this specification, and represents, in—

Figure 1, a front view; Fig. 2, a vertical central section in position for adjusting the buckle; and in Fig. 3, the same with the buckle set.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of buckles used on wearing apparel, and commonly termed "suspender-buckles;" and consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the tongue relatively to the frame, as more fully hereafter described:

A is the frame, formed from a plate of sheet metal, with a slot, *a*, upon the upper side, and a slot, *d*, upon the lower side of a central bar, *b*. The said central bar is struck down below the surface, as seen in Fig. 2, to the extent and for the purpose more fully hereafter described. D is the tongue, also formed from sheet metal, its upper edge turned outward and provided with points *f*, the points extending out nearly flush with the face of the plate A, as seen in Fig. 3, the bar *b* lying sufficiently far back that the tongue lying on the said bar will be so far from the front of the plate as to allow the strap to pass over the tongue and be flush upon the front side with the surface of the plate, as seen in Fig. 3. The tongue D is secured to the bar *b* by ears *n* formed on

the lower edge of the bar, turned up through perforations *m* near the lower edge of the tongue, as in Fig. 1, which hinges the tongue to the bar, the bar preventing the tongue from turning back, as in Fig. 3, but the tongue free to turn forward, as in Fig. 2, and the plate provided with a hook or other device, B, for securing the braces.

To adjust the buckle, pass the strap C through the opening *a* over the tongue, through the opening *d*, as in Fig. 2, the tongue being turned forward for the purpose, as also seen in Fig. 2; and when the strap has been drawn through the requisite distance the reaction or return of the strap will draw the tongue back to the position in Fig. 3, the points or edge of the tongue gripping or indenting the strap with sufficient force to retain it in that position. To adjust the strap, turn the tongue into the position seen in Fig. 2, in which position the strap is free to move.

This construction causes the face of the buckle and the suspender itself to be almost flush the one with the other, and thus no part of the suspender projects, as in most of the buckles now in use.

We claim as our invention—

The herein-described buckle, consisting of the frame A A, slots *a d*, and central bar *b*, and having the tongue D constructed, hinged to, and so as to bear against the said central bar, and in relative position to the buckle-plate, substantially in the manner described.

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Witnesses:

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