

G. A. WELDEN & W. K. ROYCE.
Buckle.

No. 216,005.

Patented May 27, 1879.

Fig. 1.

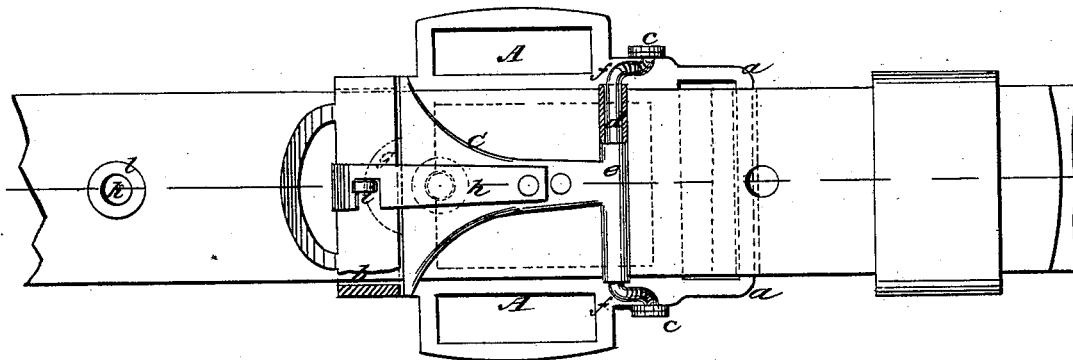
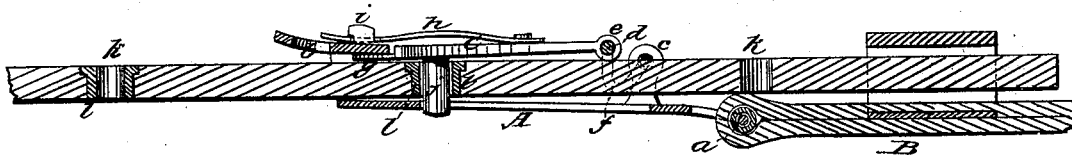


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. WELDEN AND WILLIAM K. ROYCE, OF AUSTIN, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUCKLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,005**, dated May 27, 1879; application filed March 5, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE A. WELDEN and WILLIAM K. ROYCE, of Austin, in the county of Cass and State of Missouri, have invented a new and Improved Buckle for Harness-Traces, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a strong, durable, and easily-adjusted buckle for connecting harness-traces with the shoulder-straps; and it consists of a frame having at one end a socket-piece for the reception of the free end of the trace, and at the opposite end ears to which is pivoted a hasp, from the under side whereof a tongue projects at right angles to engage the eyelets. On the end of the hasp is a tongue to pass under the top plate of the socket and hold the hasp down, and to the top of the hasp is pivoted a hook adapted to engage a lug on the top plate of the socket, and thus hold the parts together.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top view or plan of the buckle attached to the strap and connecting the trace, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the frame of the buckle, having at one end a bar, *a*, around which the shoulder-strap B is passed and fastened. At the opposite end, on its upper side, is formed a rectangular socket, *b*. Near the rear end, on the upper side, ears *c c* are turned up from the edges, in which are pivoted the ends of the wire bail *d*, passed through the sleeve *e* of the hasp C, and bent into a loop, *f*, at the ends, so as to allow the hasp to be swung backward of the pivot.

The hasp has a tongue, *g*, projecting from the under side of the free end thereof, and on its upper side is pivoted a hook, *h*, reaching beyond its end, so that when the hasp is in contact with the top plate of the socket *b* it will lie over the same and engage the lug *i*, thus holding the parts together. From the under side of the hasp projects at right angles a tongue, *j*, to engage the holes of the trace.

The holes *k* in the trace are provided with metal eyelets *l*, riveted on both sides. This gives greater strength and durability to the trace, as the holes wear rapidly under the working of the tongue and the strain to which they are ordinarily subjected.

The operation of this device is as follows: When the trace is to be connected with the shoulder-straps, the end is passed through the socket *b*, and the hasp having been lifted up, it is pushed back under the sleeve *e* and wire hinge *d* until the proper eyelet is under the hasp C; then the hasp is turned down, so that the tongue will enter the proper eyelet. When the hasp is flat down upon the trace it is pushed forward, the tongue carrying the trace with it until the tongue *g* passes under the top plate of the socket *b*, and the end of the hasp is in contact with the edge of said plate, when the hook is thrown around to engage the lug *i*, thus connecting the parts securely together.

By the peculiar manner of connecting the hasp with its hinge—that is, bending the latter so that its point of connection with the hasp is out of line with its pivoted ends—a swinging motion is allowed the hasp, thus giving it liberty to move back from the socket *b*, so that its tongue *g* can escape from under the plate and move forward to engage the same.

To unfasten the trace, either to take it out or shorten it, the hook is first disengaged, then the trace is pushed in a short distance to carry the tongue *g* from under the plate, when the hasp can be thrown up, releasing the trace, when it can be drawn out or pushed in farther, as may be desired.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. As an improvement in buckles for harness-traces, the frame A, adapted to be connected with the strap B, and provided with the socket *b* to receive the trace, and ears *c*, to which the hasp is pivoted, in combination with the hasp C, having tongue *j*, to enter the eyelets in the trace, a tongue, *g*, to pass under the top plate of socket *b*, to hold the hasp

down, and the hook *h*, adapted to lie over the top plate and engage the lug *i*, to secure the parts together, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the frame *A*, with socket *b* and ears *c c*, the hasp *C*, pivoted to ears *c c*, and adapted to swing back and forth on its pivots, and having a tongue, *g*, to engage the top plate of the socket *b*, the hook *h*, adapted to engage the lug *i* in top plate of

socket *b*, and the tongue *j*, to engage the holes in the trace, all arranged and operating in the manner substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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