

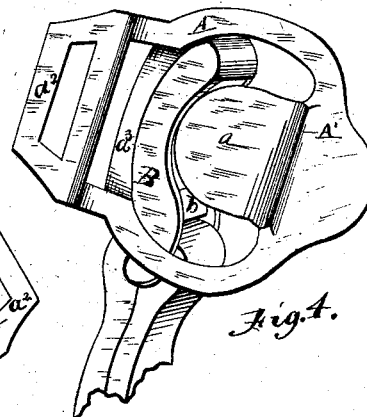
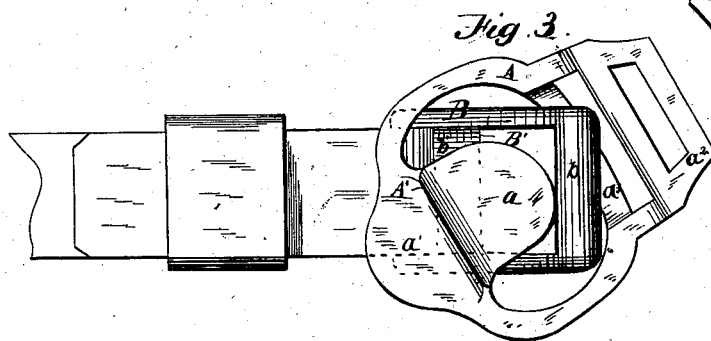
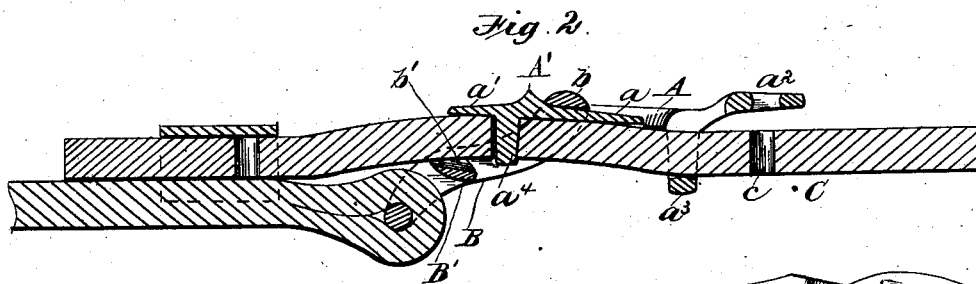
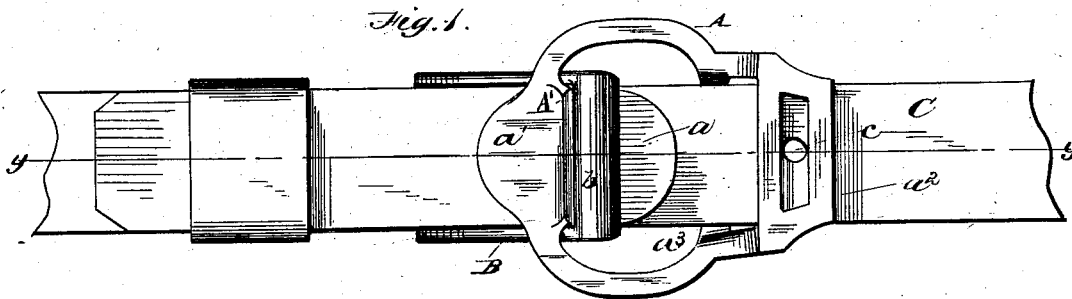
(No Model.)

M. E. ZELLER.

TRACE BUCKLE.

No. 259,970.

Patented June 20, 1882.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELANCTHON E. ZELLER, OF BLUFFTON, OHIO.

TRACE-BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,970, dated June 20, 1882.

Application filed May 5, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELANCTHON E. ZELLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bluffton, in the county of Allen and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Buckles; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved harness or trace buckle. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same, and Figs. 3 and 4 are views showing the different steps of connecting the bail and frame together.

This invention has relation to an improvement in harness or trace buckles, having for its object to securely buckle or fasten and readily unbuckle the trace or strap; and it consists of a subdivided bail and a frame having a shouldered lip or plate adapted to permit the wedging or clamping in place of the frame, with its tongue, the bail, and interposed trace or strap, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

To carry out my invention I employ a tug-bail, B, preferably made in the shape of an inverted S, and subdivided by a cross-bar, B', formed or cast therewith. This bar is arranged at the point where begins the curvature that forms the inner leg of the inverted S, and is disposed nearer to that end than the outer end. This arrangement provides more space in the outer than in the inner portion of the bail, to enable the passing readily through it of any desired thickness of trace or strap. A further advantage derived from this arrangement is the trace or strap is supported against the cross-bar out of frictional contact with the tug to prevent wearing between them. The subdividing cross-bar B' has a transverse groove, b', in it to permit the tongue of the frame to clear it as the parts are being locked or clamped together. The bail has at its outer end a cross-bar, b, whose inner surface is arranged in a relative parallel plane with the subdividing cross-bar B'.

A is the trace-frame, having a plate or lip, a, at one end, which is formed with an inclined shoulder or elevation, A', on its outer surface, between its rear and forward portion, a'. The plate or lip a is arranged to project from one end of the frame centrally into the same, and thus permit the pressure of the bail to be received thereon instead of upon the sides of the frame. This arrangement also enables the presentation of a broad bearing-surface to the strap or trace at the point of the application of the pressure, the distribution of the wear, and facilitates the joining or separation of the parts composing the buckle, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings. On the inner surface of this lip or plate is a tongue, a'. By this arrangement, (with the lip or plate a passed against the inner side of the bar B' of the bail and its tongue a' into the required hole of the trace C, passed through the outer passage or opening of the bail,) by pulling upon the trace rearwardly the bar b of the bail will ride upon the inclined shoulder A' of the plate a and clamp the plate or frame firmly in position and the trace against the bar B, thus effectually buckling or fastening the trace. By pulling in a reverse direction upon the trace the shoulder of the plate of the frame A is removed from the bar b of the bail, when the tongue of the plate can be readily lifted out of the trace, permitting the withdrawal of the trace.

At the rear end of the frame A, on its inner side, is a loop, a³, to carry the trace, and on its outer side is a loop, a², for any purpose desired. The trace has tongue-openings c.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In a harness or trace buckle, the combination, with a tug-bail, of a trace-frame having a lip or arm, a, provided with an inclined shoulder or elevation, A', the bail adapted to be passed over the projecting end of said plate, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MELANCTHON E. ZELLER.

Witnesses:

PHILIPP REEHLING,
HAROLD C. BALDWIN.