

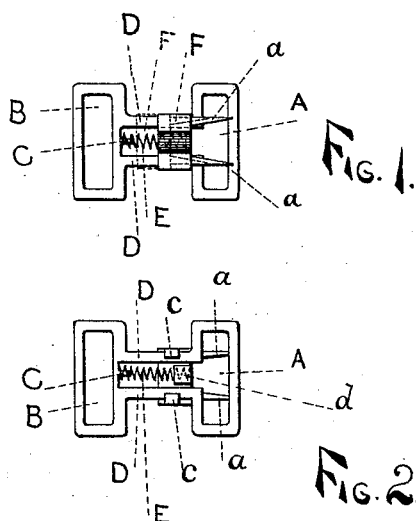
(No Model.)

J. E. GABLE & F. M. WILLIAMS.

BUCKLE.

No. 347,340.

Patented Aug. 17, 1886.



WITNESSES

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The

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. GABLE AND FRANK M. WILLIAMS, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,340, dated August 17, 1886.

Application filed June 16, 1886. Serial No. 205,339. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN E. GABLE and FRANK M. WILLIAMS, citizens of the United States, residing at the city of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to that class of buckles in which the prongs are so adjusted to the buckle-frame in connection with a spiral spring that it firmly and safely secures the cloth, and is readily freed by drawing back on a thumb-piece secured with the sliding prongs, then again readily readjusts itself and firmly locks the cloth on removing the thumb. We attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan or top view of the device, and Fig. 2 shows a reversed or under view of the device.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Loops A and B, connected by connecting-bars D D, forming a neck between the two loops, constitute the frame-work of our buckle, and which is cut from a single piece of metal or made from a piece of wire bent upon itself, as shown in the drawings.

Clamp or band F, to which are firmly secured prongs *a a*, is secured to the neck portion of the buckle-frame D D by means of extending lugs *c c*, which clasp upon D D and slide back and forth thereon, so as to admit cloth through loop A. This clamp or band F is projected at the upper end and between the prongs and turned back between D D, forming two right angles or square hook, *d*, thus forming a suitable receptacle for the upper end of spring E to rest in. The outer or upper side of clamp

F is made oval, that it may fit over the spring E, and at the same time produces a prominence that serves as a thumb-piece to draw the clamp down on the spring, as shown in Fig. 1. Spiral spring E is placed between connecting-bars D D and under oval portion of clamp F, secured in position at the bottom on portion B of the frame by a pin, C, passing a short distance up into the spring, and at the top rests in and against the upper end of clamp or band F, a portion of which is turned back and forms a suitable receptacle, *d*. The object of this spring is, that when adjusted it forces, from its own elasticity, the prongs or tongues *a a* through the cloth, and causes them to rest upon the outer margin of loop A, and prevents it from slipping or sliding back when not desired, and thus freeing the strap or cloth.

We are aware that a patent has been granted upon a sliding tongue buckle, but not that there has yet been patented one having a spiral spring whereby the tongues are self-adjustable, and thus firmly secured; and therefore

We claim as our invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent the device above described, viz:

The combination of a buckle-frame composed of loops A B, neck D D, forming a sliding frame, with clamp or band F, provided with prongs *a a* and extending lugs *c c*, whereby the clamp or band F is secured to the buckle-frame, and spiral spring E, resting on portion B of the frame and secured by pin C, and held at the upper end in the clamp or band in position by receptacle *d*, substantially as described.

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