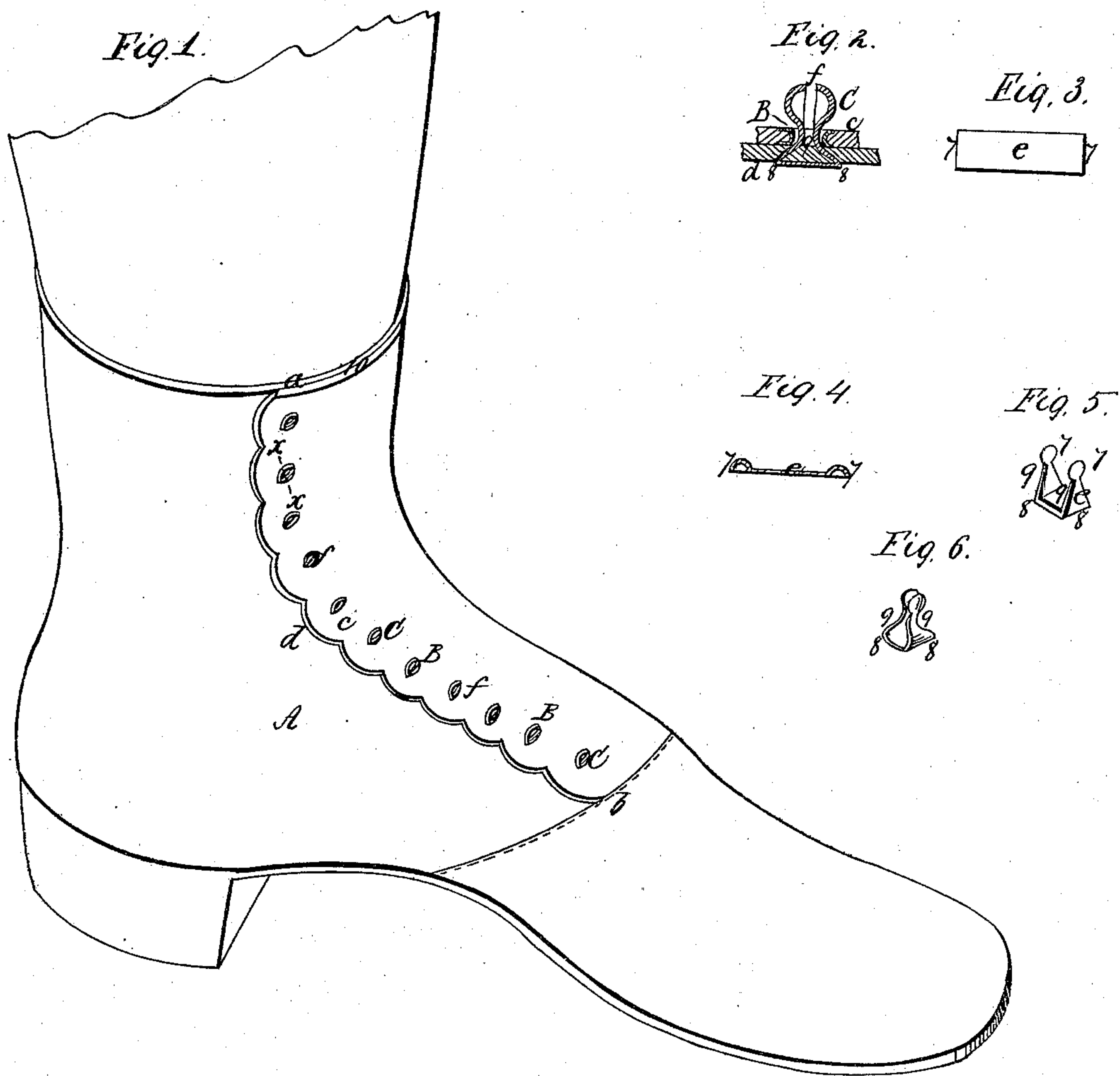


A. A. ABBOT.  
FASTENING FOR BOOTS, SHOES, GARMENTS, &c.  
No. 79,800. Patented July 14, 1868.



Witnesses,  
W. A. Cambridge  
T. C. Hargrave

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Per his Attorneys  
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# United States Patent Office.

ANDREW A. ABBOT, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

*Letters Patent No. 79,800, dated July 14, 1868.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENINGS FOR BOOTS.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ANDREW A. ABBOT, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Fastenings for Boots, Shoes, Gloves, Garments, &c., of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a boot, with my improved fastening applied thereto.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section on the line  $x x$  of fig. 1, (enlarged.)

Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6, details to be referred to.

The ordinary fastenings employed for securing a boot or shoe to the foot, and various garments to the body, are objectionable because of the inconvenience and delay in fastening or catching them in place when the shoe or garment is to be worn, and in liberating or disengaging them when the same are to be removed.

My invention has for its object to obviate the above-mentioned difficulties, and consists in one or more spring-buttons or fastenings, attached to one side of the shoe or other article, and entering the hole or eyelet in its other side, the two sides being caught or secured together by simply pressing the eyelet down over the spring-button, the two ends of which are thus compressed or closed together, to allow of their entering the eyelet, after which, on the removal of the pressure, they spring back and spread apart, so as to project outside of the edge of the hole in the eyelet, thus securely holding the sides or flaps of the article together, a slight outward-pull only being required to disengage the fastening.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A is a half or Balmoral boot, which is made to open from  $a$  to a point,  $b$ , above the ankle. Near one edge,  $c$ , of this opening, is secured a row of eyelets, B, while near its other edge,  $d$ , is secured a series of spring-buttons or fastenings, C, the construction of which is as follows:

A strip of suitable spring-metal is cut into pieces,  $e$ , of the form shown in fig. 3, when its ends, 7, are placed in a die, by which they receive a cup-shape, as seen in fig. 4, after which the piece of metal is bent around at right angles, as indicated in fig. 5. Through the edge,  $d$ , of one of the flaps of the "upper" are made a series of slits or perforations, through which are passed the pieces  $e$  when in the shape shown in fig. 5. The outer or cup-formed ends are now brought nearer together by bending or inclining the portions from 8 to 9, by a pair of pincers, or otherwise, and a spring-split button is thus made, which readily enters the eyelet when pressed down thereon, and springs back after its entrance, becoming so enlarged, in a direction at right angles to the opening  $f$ , as to exceed the diameter of the eyelet, and thereby connecting the two flaps together, the diameter of the spring-button in the direction of the length of the opening  $f$  being a trifle less than that of the eyelet, in order to enter therein and be removed therefrom freely.

The shoe may be conveniently and expeditiously unfastened by simply taking hold of the upper edge, 10, of the flap  $d$ , and drawing gently outward and downward.

The above-described devices may be used to advantage as fastenings for gloves, corsets, dresses, coats, and various other garments, flaps, or curtains of carriages, and articles of jewelry. They may also serve as clasps for bags, and may be applied to many other uses too numerous to mention.

I do not limit myself to the exact construction above described, as it may be varied somewhat without departing from the spirit of my invention; for instance, the spring-button may be formed by splitting or making a slit in a solid piece of metal, the upper end of which is enlarged, and of the form of the button required, and its lower end may be passed through the outside of the "upper," and riveted to the leather before the lining is stitched thereto.

### *Claim.*

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The within-described fastening, consisting of the spring-button C, in combination with an eyelet, B, or its equivalent, substantially as described.

A. A. ABBOT.

Witnesses:

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