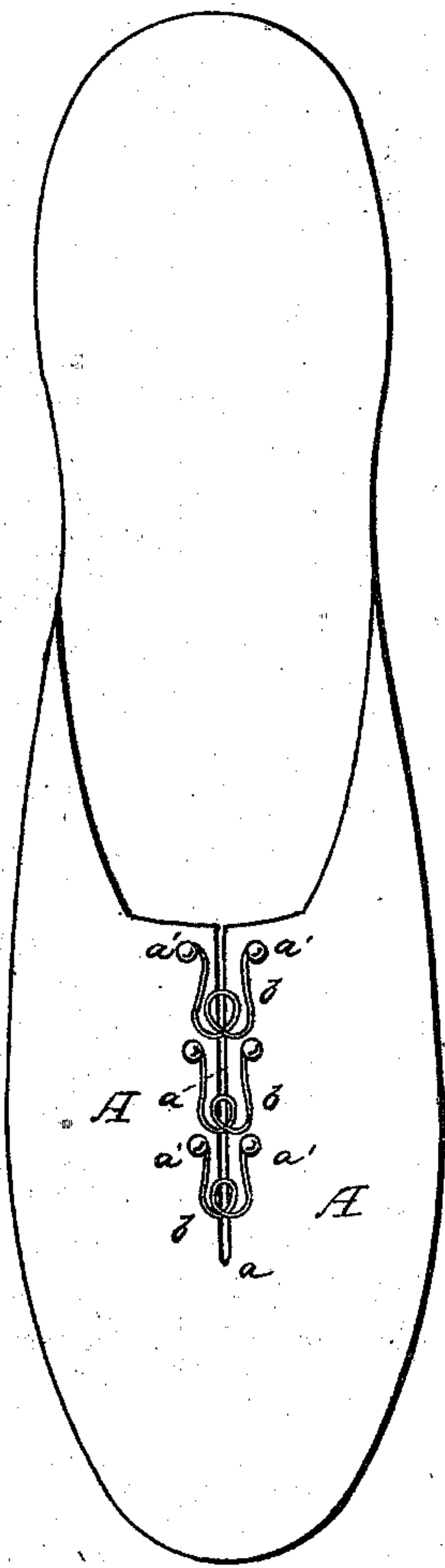


L. F. & O. P. Whitman,

Shoe Fastening.

No. 87,451.

Patented Mar. 2, 1869.



Witnesses:
Fred. Thomas.
Chas. H. Brown.

Inventors:
L. F. Whitman.
O. P. Whitman.
by J. W. Beadle
Atty.

United States Patent Office.

L. F. WHITMAN AND O. P. WHITMAN, OF MACOMB, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 87,451, dated March 2, 1869.

IMPROVED SHOE-FASTENING.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, L. F. WHITMAN, and O. P. WHITMAN, of Macomb, in the county of McDonough, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and improved Shoe-Fastener; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention consists in the application of one or more springs to the upper of a shoe, across the opening above the instep, for the purpose of fastening the same to the foot, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

The drawing represents a plan view of a shoe with our invention attached.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe fully its construction and operation.

A represents the "upper" of a shoe or slipper, provided with the usual opening *a*, cut down its centre, on either side of which are the rivets *a' a'*, the heads of which project sufficiently far above the surface of the "upper" to form attachments for the ends of the coiled spring *b*, which are wound around or otherwise secured to the same.

The number of the springs and their attachments

may vary from one to six, or more, as desired, according to the length of the opening *a*.

It will be readily seen that the device is one exceedingly cheap, simple, and efficient, as any desired force of spring may be employed.

By preference, we use the U-shaped form of spring, with one coil in the centre, which is shown in Figure 1 of the drawings, but if desired, a spiral or other form may be used.

If desired, one end of spring *b* may be rigidly secured to its rivet, while the other end may be provided with a loop, to slip over the head of the other rivet.

Having thus fully described our invention,

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A metallic spring shoe-fastener, when arranged as described, for the purpose set forth.

2. The shoe-fastener described, consisting of the spring *b* and rivets *a' a'*, when attached to a shoe, as and for the purpose described.

This specification signed and witnessed, this 14th day of January, 1869.

Witnesses:

M. T. WINSLOW,
WM. C. STEINMETZ.

L. F. WHITMAN.
O. P. WHITMAN.