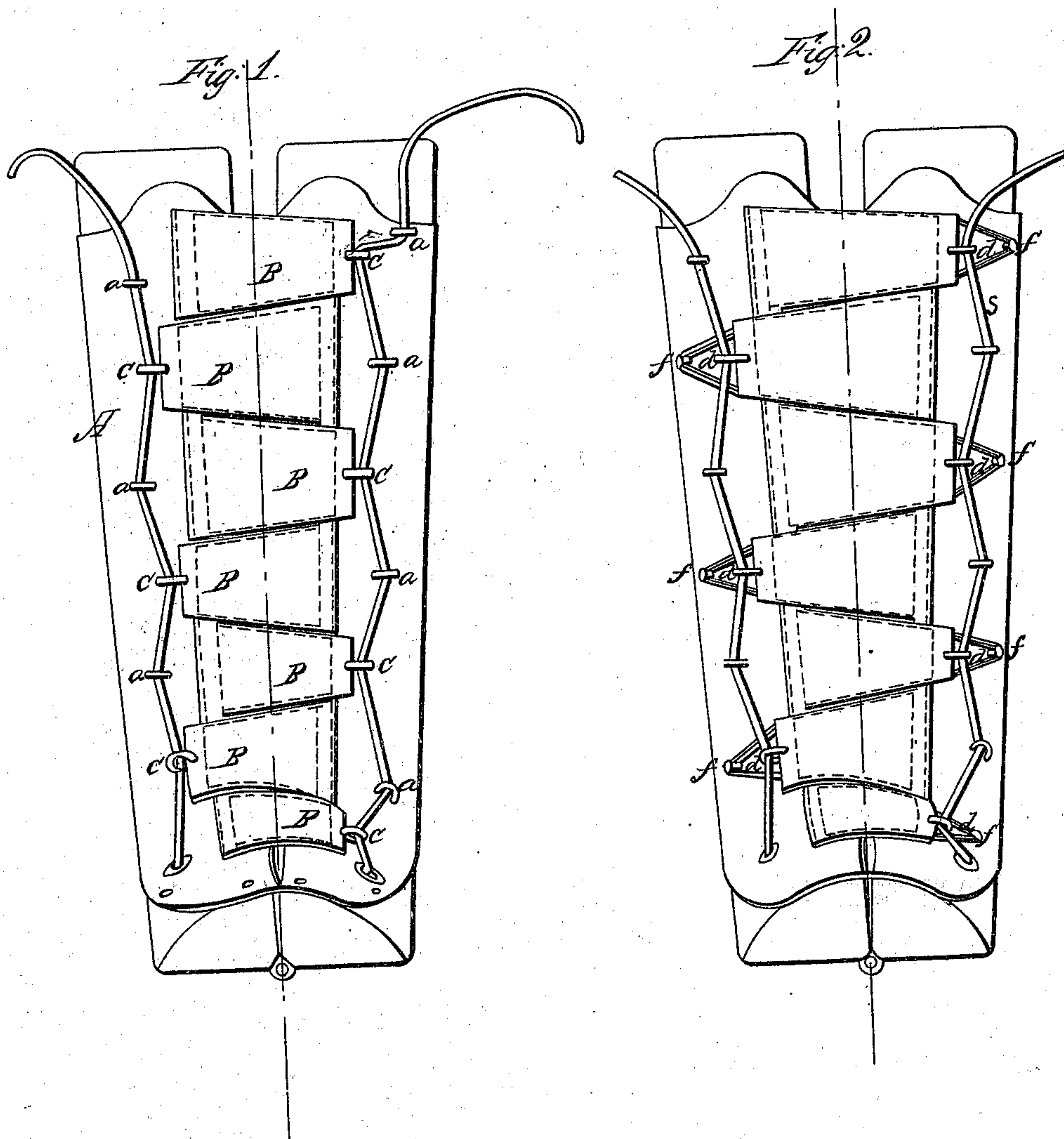


P. S. Foster

Boot and Shoe Lacing.

N^o 87,655.

Patented Mar. 9, 1869.



Witnesses:

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James B. Groves*

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United States Patent Office.

PHILANDER S. FOSTER, OF RICHMOND, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 87,655, dated March 9, 1869.

IMPROVED BOOT AND SHOE-LACING.

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, PHILANDER S. FOSTER, of Richmond, in the county of Sagadahoc, and State of Maine, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Boot and Shoe-Lacings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1, of the drawings, is a plan view of my device, and

Figure 2 is a view thereof, with the addition of the elastic straps and buttons herein specified.

My invention relates to devices for lacing boots, and it consists in adjusting and arranging a series of tongues, or flaps, over the front side of the boot-leg, in such manner that they shall respectively assume the position of wedges, completely covering the front side of the ankle, together with a series of staples, or rings, attached to the ends of said flaps, or tongues, and the boot-leg, through which cords are passed, for the purpose of tightening the boot-leg at will, the object being to provide means by which the front part of the ankle may be more fully wrapped and protected, and the boot laced and unlaced with greater ease and efficiency than by any similar device heretofore invented.

The letter A, of the drawings, represents a boot-leg, open in front, with a series of flaps, or tongues, attached thereto, of the form, and in the manner shown. These flaps are marked B on the drawings.

They are respectively sewed on the sides of the boot-leg, and are graduated in size from the top to the bot-

tom, those at the top being the largest. They are formed in the shape of wedges, the sides of which fit closely against each other when the boot is laced, forming a full covering for the front side of the ankle.

The letters *a* represent staples, fastened in the boot-leg, and letters *c* are staples attached to the front ends of the flaps respectively, as shown.

The letters *s* are cords, or lacers, that are passed through the staples *a* and *c* respectively, in the manner represented, and the boot is laced by pulling the same upward.

In addition to the above-named devices, I sometimes add, at the ends of the flaps, or tongues, respectively, elastic straps, marked *d* on fig. 2.

The outer or pointed ends of these straps, respectively, are fastened, at will, to buttons, studs, or hooks, marked *f*.

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

The arrangement and combination of the flaps B, staples *a* and *c*, and cords *s*, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

Also, the combination and arrangement of the several parts above mentioned with the elastic straps *d*, and hooks, buttons, or studs *f*, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the above, I have hereunto subscribed my name, in the presence of two witnesses.

PHILANDER S. FOSTER.

Witnesses:

J. W. SPAULDING,
WM. S. HAGAR.