

T. K. KEITH.

Fastenings for Lacing Boots, &c.

No. 146,913.

Patented Jan. 27, 1874.

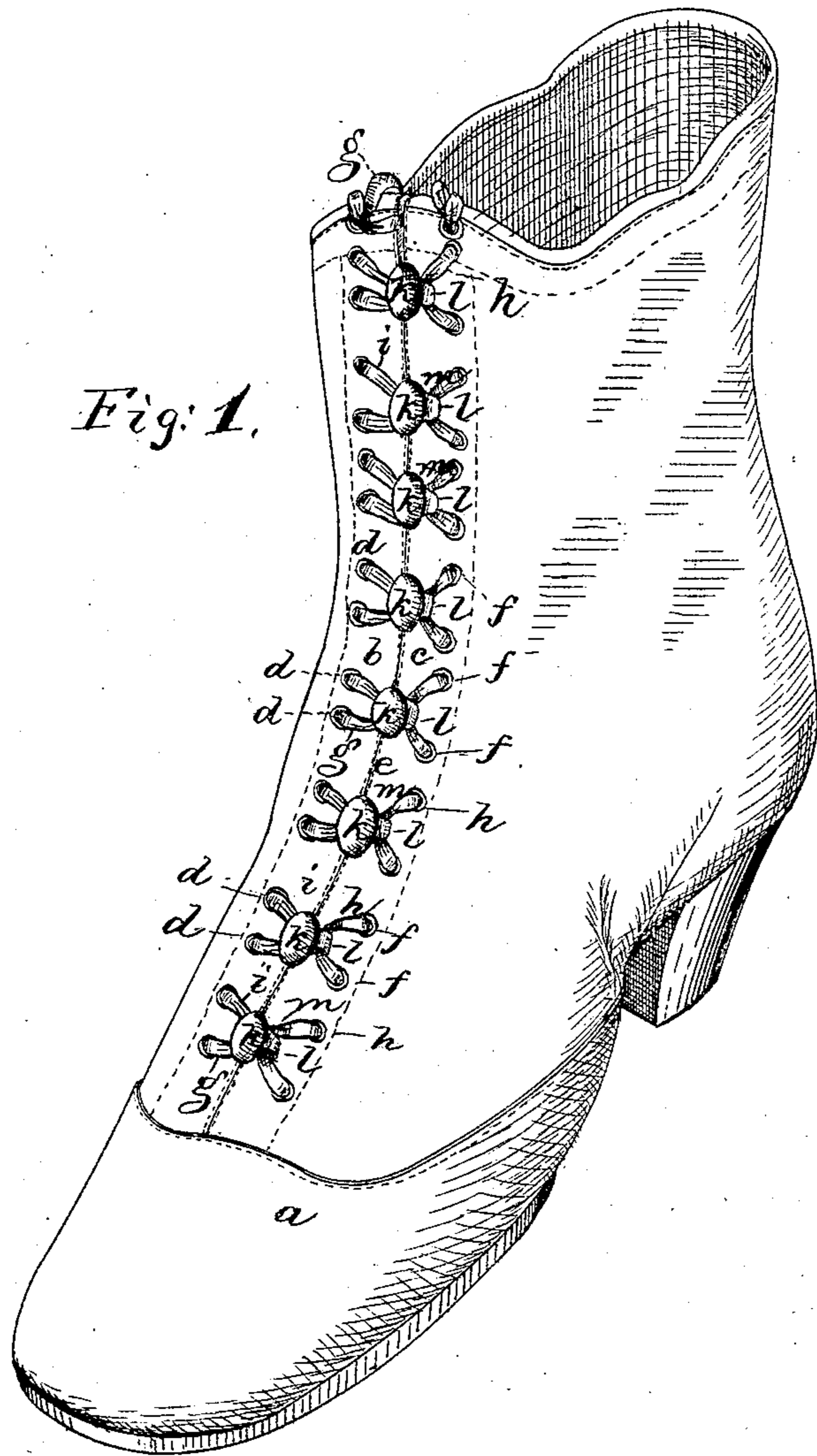


Fig: 2.



Witnesses.
M. W. Frothingham.
L. H. Catimer.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS K. KEITH, OF HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENINGS FOR LACING BOOTS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **146,913**, dated January 27, 1874; application filed January 12, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS K. KEITH, of Haverhill, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Fastenings for Lacing Boots; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

The invention relates to a new construction of boot-fastenings, or to a new method of connecting the lacings of a lacing boot.

In my invention, I run one part of the lacing through all the holes upon one side of the boot, and the other part through the holes on the other side; and between every two adjacent holes on one side I run the lacing through the eye of a button having a metal hook, which hook, by drawing over the button, can be hooked upon the loop formed by the part of the lacing between the corresponding holes at the opposite side of the boot.

By unhooking the hooks the boot is loosened, so that it can be applied to the foot, or removed therefrom; and, by hooking them over the loops, and then drawing up the lacings, the boot may be fastened upon the foot, as snugly or tightly as may be desirable.

In this method of fastening the boot-lacings, they appear to cross, as in ordinary lacings, but do not, in reality, cross, and therefore do not have to be withdrawn from the holes to apply or remove the boot.

The invention consists in the construction of

the fastenings, and in the method of fastening thus generally described.

The drawing represents a boot having fastenings embodying my invention.

Figure 1 shows the boot in elevation. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the button-hook.

a denotes the upper of the boot; *b c*, the eyeleted edges; *d*, the lacing-holes at one side of the opening *e*; and *f* the corresponding holes at the opposite side. Through the holes *d* the part *g* of the lacing runs, and through the other holes *f* runs the other part *h* thereof. To each loop or portion *i* of the lacing *g* between holes *d*, a button, *k*, is fastened, the lacing passing through the button-eye; and projecting from each boot is a hook, *l*, each hook, when the button is to be fastened, catching upon the loop *m*, formed by the portion of the lacing opposite to the hook.

It will readily be seen that all of the hooks may be easily engaged with the opposite loops; and that the boot may be put on or removed very much quicker, and with much less trouble, than in the ordinary manner of lacing boots. The fastenings are strong, and present a neat and finished appearance.

I claim—

The button-hooks *k l* fastened upon and connecting the side lacings, substantially as shown and described.

THOMAS K. KEITH.

Witnesses:

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