

(No Model.)

H. H. V. LILLEY.
SHOE LACE FASTENER.

No. 294,054.

Patented Feb. 26, 1884.

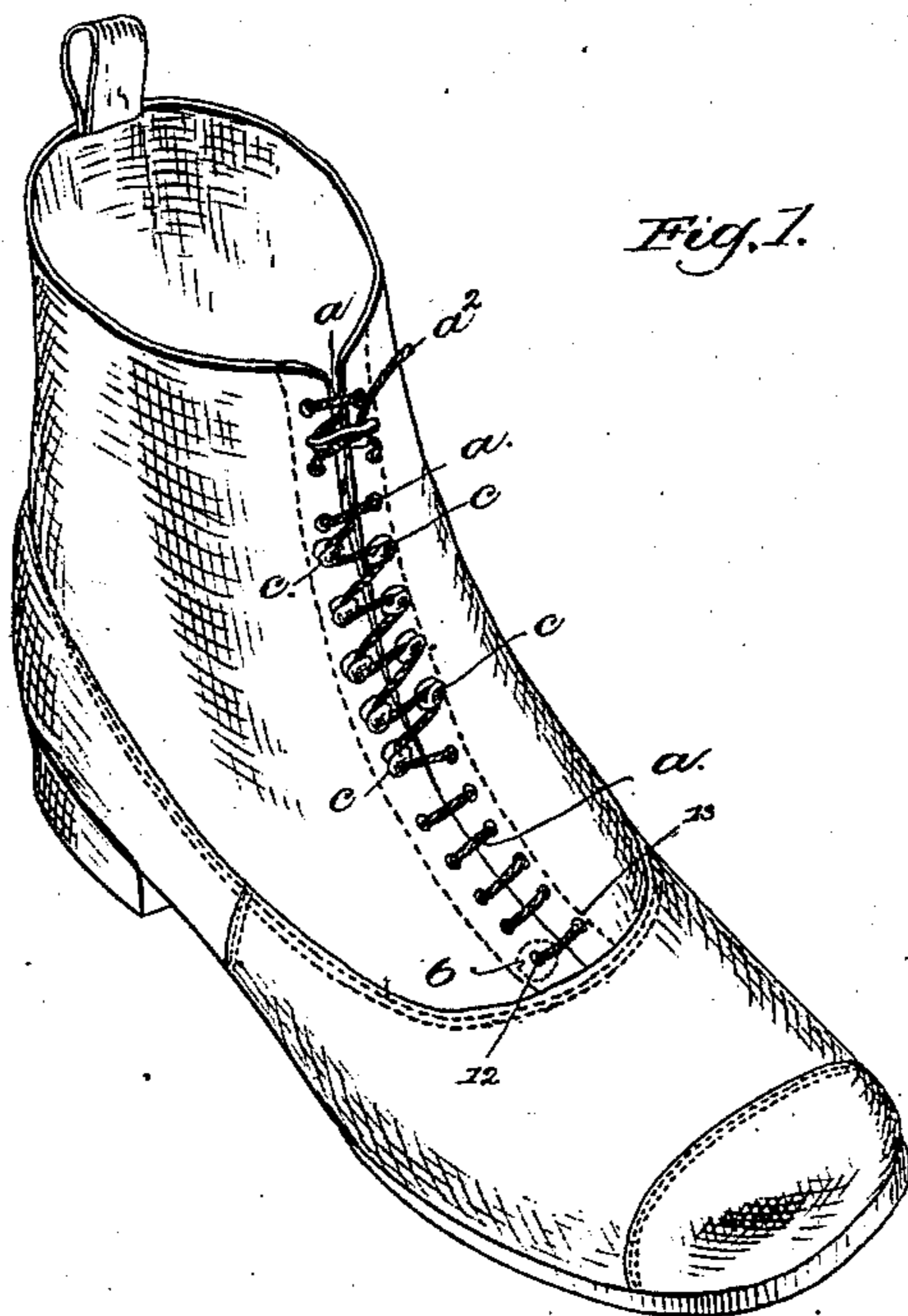


Fig. 1.

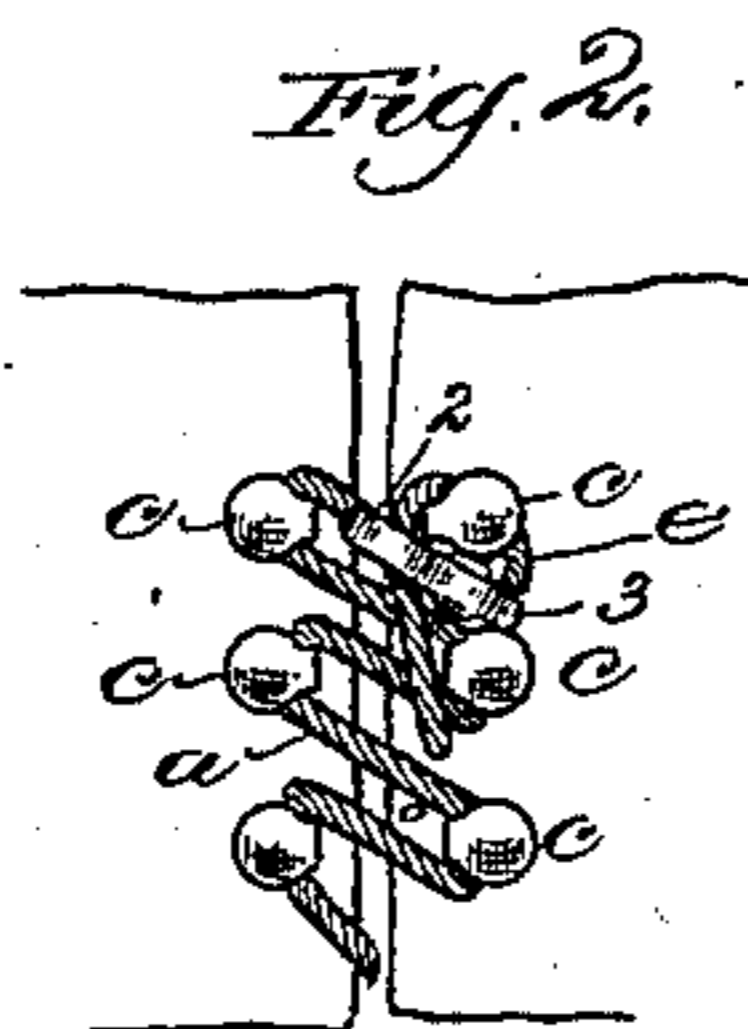


Fig. 2.

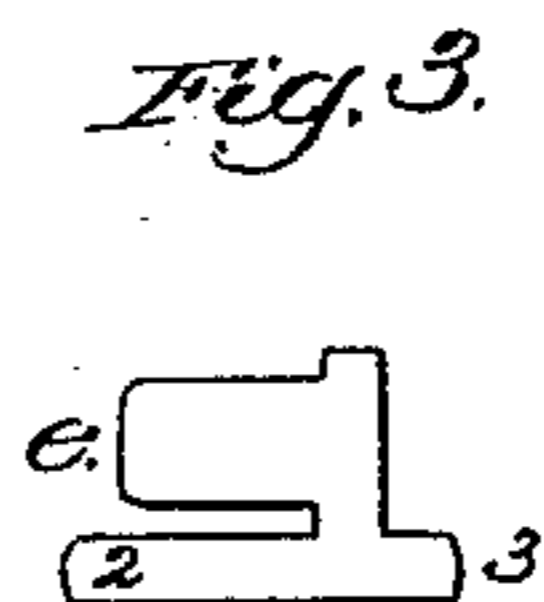


Fig. 3.

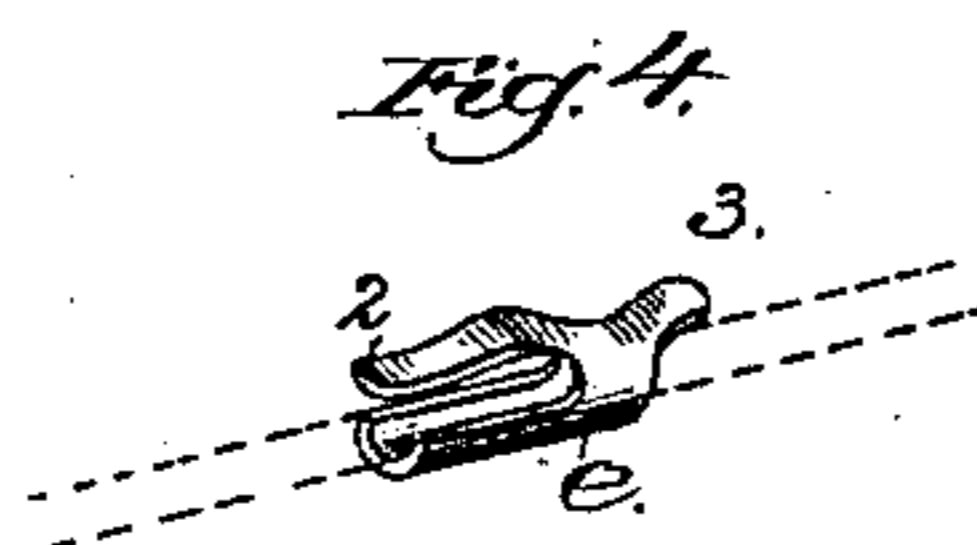


Fig. 4.

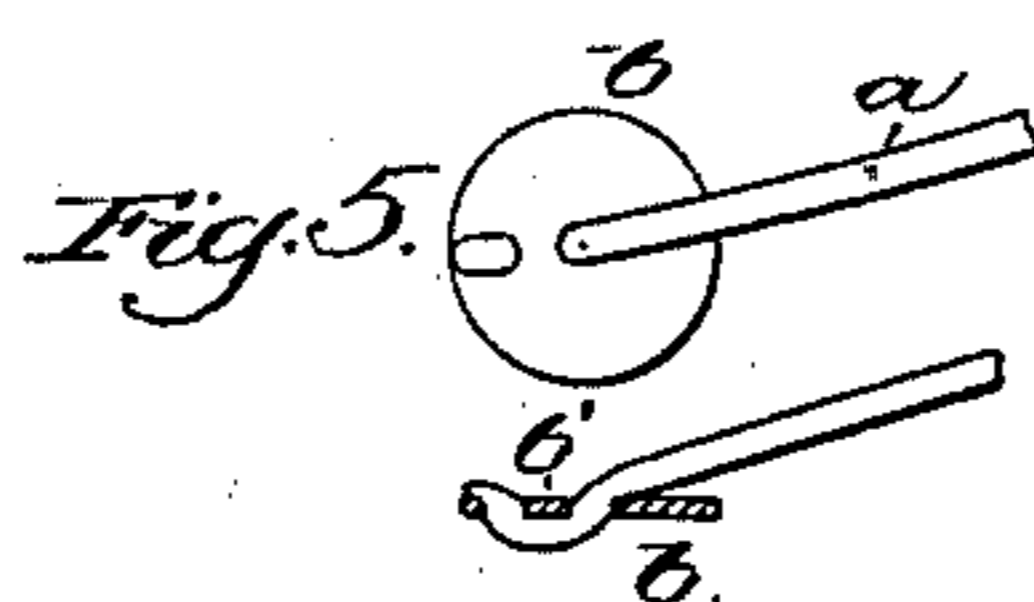


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUGH H. V. LILLEY, OF MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE-LACE FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 294,054, dated February 26, 1884.

Application filed July 9, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH H. V. LILLEY, of Milford, county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Shoe-Lace Fasteners, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object the production of a simple, durable, and efficient fastening for a shoe lacing or string, whereby the latter may be quickly fastened and held securely, the device being applicable for use with shoes having eyelets or lacing-hooks.

My invention consists, essentially, in a clamp-like fastener adapted to be applied to a shoe string or lacing, and having a spring-finger, between which and the main body of the string or lacing on which the clamp is placed another part of the string or lacing nearer its free end may be drawn. In this my invention the fastener is made movable upon the string or lacing, to place it near the point where the end of the string or lacing is to be fastened.

Figure 1 represents a shoe laced and provided with one of my improved fasteners. Fig. 2 represents a shoe having only lacing-studs at the top, the string or lacing being in such case applied somewhat differently to the fastening. Fig. 3 represents a blank from which my fastening will be made; Fig. 4, one of the fastenings enlarged, and Fig. 5 details of the holder applied to the lower end of the string or lacing.

The string or lacing *a* has a holder, *b*, attached to its lower end, the connection being made, as shown in Fig. 5, by punching two holes through the holder, a small metal plate, leaving a narrow bridge, *b'*, about which the lower end of the shoe-string is bent, the short bight so given the string serving to retain its end in the holder. The end *a*² is inserted through eyelet 12 outward, and then in through eyelet 13, and thence out, and in the remaining eyelets above them in usual manner, until the string arrives at the lacing-hooks *c*, about which it is wrapped in usual manner, and my improved fastener is applied at or near the

upper lacing-hooks or the point where the shoe-string is to be secured and held.

My fastener *e* is composed of a short cylinder or sleeve, adapted to surround and slide on the shoe-string *a*, the said fastener having a spring-finger, 2, and preferably a prong, 3, as best shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 3 shows a blank from which my fastener will be made by bending the blank into cylindrical form, the parts to form the spring-finger and the prong being marked, respectively, 2 and 3.

Fig. 1 shows my fastener applied to a shoe having eyelets above the lacing-hooks. In such a shoe the end *a*² of the string, after having been passed into the shoe through the uppermost eyelet, will be drawn under the spring-finger 2, and between it and the main body of the string *a*, which is extended through the fastener, and is then drawn under the prong 3, as passing the said string under the prong 3 aids in maintaining the bight of the string under the spring-finger, and keeps the end of the string pointed upward.

Some shoes do not have eyelets above the lacing-hooks, but are made at top as in Fig. 2. With this latter class of shoe the fastener is pushed along on the string to occupy the position shown in Fig. 2, just between the uppermost hooks, and the string wound about the last hook will be drawn under the spring-finger, and may thereafter be drawn or not under the prong 3.

The prong 3 may be omitted from the fastener; but I prefer to retain it, as its use is beneficial in most instances, and especially so when the shoe-string does not fill the tubular or central part of the fastener.

I claim—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a shoe string or lacing fastener composed of a tubular part adapted to surround the shoe string or lacing, and provided with a spring-finger, between which and the string or lacing in the said fastener a part of the said string or lacing may be drawn to effectually secure said string or lacing in position, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a shoe string or

lacing, of a fastener, *e*, applied thereto, composed of a tubular part, a spring-finger, and a prong, to operate substantially as described.

3. A shoe string or lacing provided at one
5 end with a holder, *b*, applied thereto, combined with the fastener *e*, provided with the spring-finger, and applied directly to the said string or lacing where the same is to be fastened, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HUGH H. V. LILLEY.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,

B. J. NOYES.