

(No Model.)

A. C. MATHER.

SHOE LACING.

No. 309,308.

Patented Dec. 16, 1884.

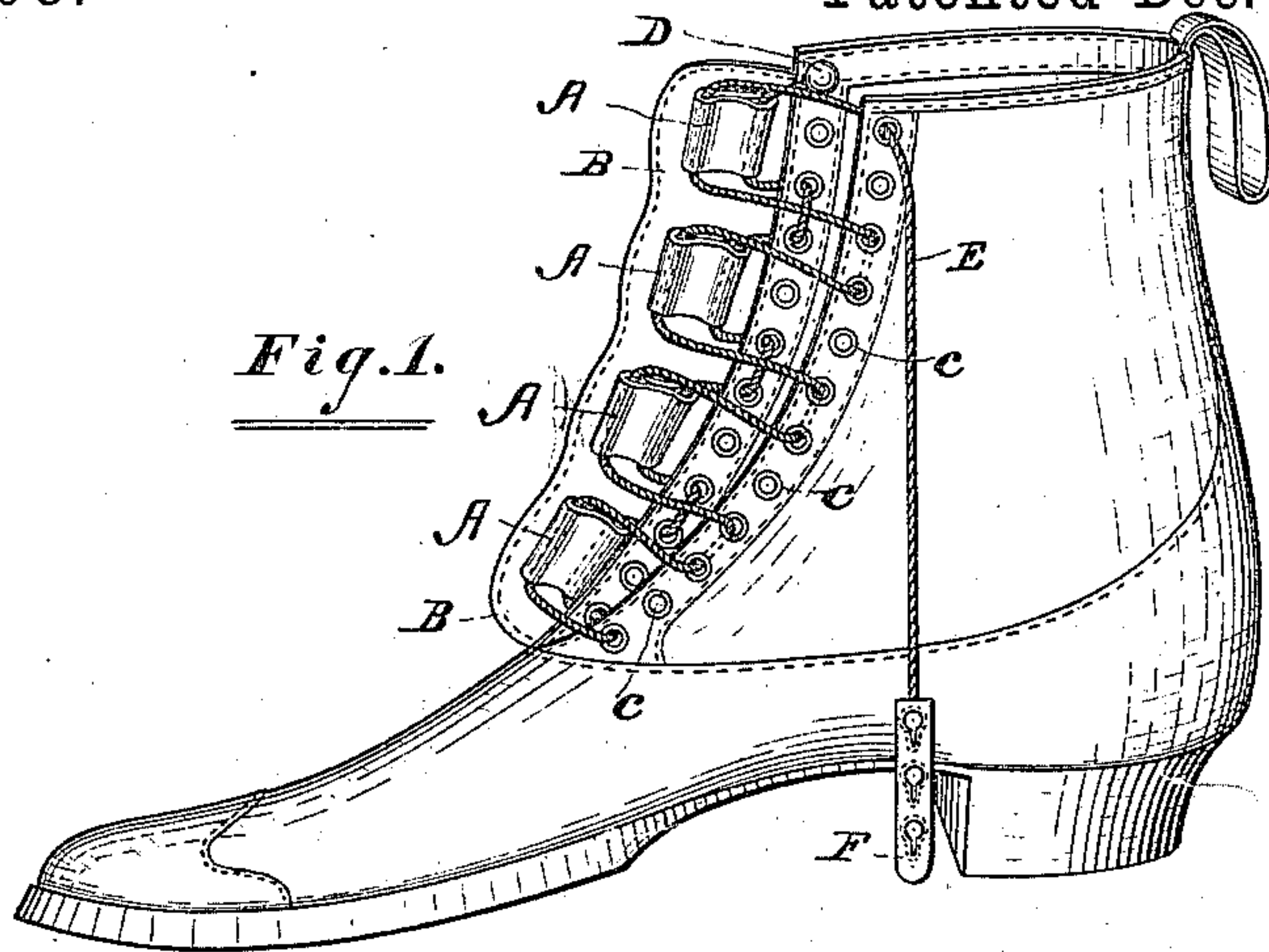


Fig. 2.

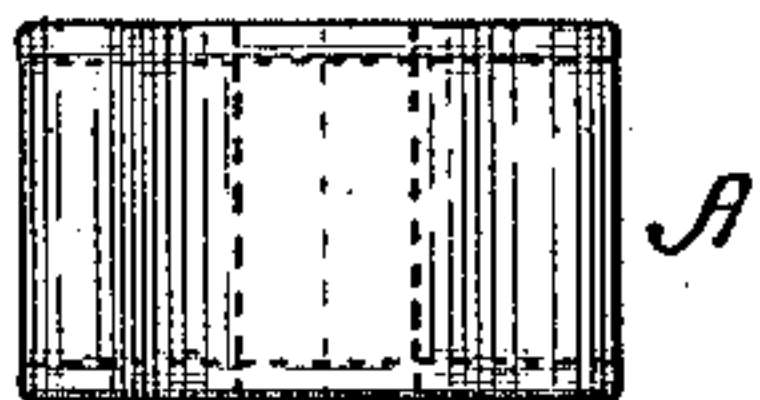


Fig. 3.

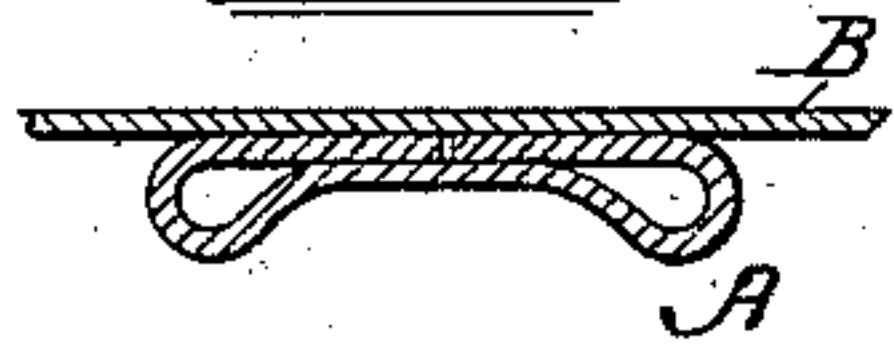
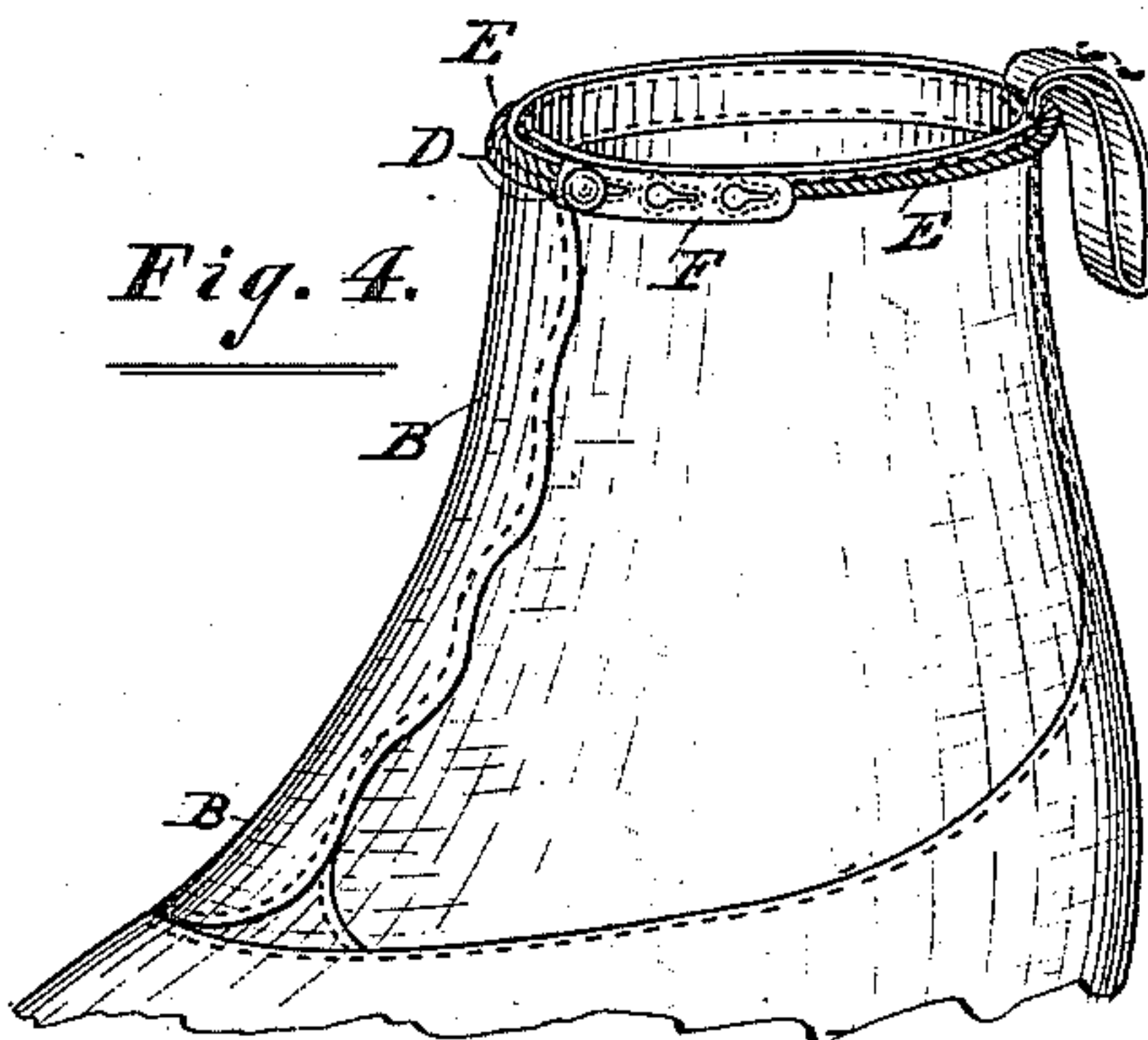


Fig. 4.



Witnesses,

Henry Frankfurter.
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Inventor,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALONZO C. MATHER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SHOE-LACING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 309,308, dated December 16, 1884.

Application filed January 18, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALONZO C. MATHER, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Shoe-Lacing, of which the following, in connection with accompanying drawings, is a specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective representation of a shoe provided with lacing
10 embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail showing the manner of constructing the lacing-loops. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the same. Fig. 4 is a side view showing the shoe when laced.

15 Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

The shoe shown is intended to represent a shoe of that class which has a lacing-slit, and B is a flap or tongue laced near one of its edges to one of the edges of the said slit, the other
20 edge of the said tongue being left free or loose, as is clearly indicated in Fig. 1.

A A are loops, each consisting of a piece of leather folded upon itself and stitched along its central portion to the under side of the
25 flap B.

C C are the ordinary eyelets, usually arranged near the edges of the lacing-slit.

D is a button applied to the shoe near the upper corner of that side of the lacing-slit to
30 which the tongue B is laced.

E is the lacing-cord, and F is a comparatively short strap applied to the end of the said cord and having in it a series of button-holes, as shown.

35 To lace the shoe I fasten one end of the lacing-cord near the button D, pass it thence through the inner opening of the upper loop, A, thence through the eyelet near the lower end of the said loop from the outside of the
40 shoe inward, thence through the next eyelet on the same side of the shoe, thence through the inner opening in the next lower loop A, and so on until the lower eyelet upon the opposite side of the lacing-slit is reached, the
45 cord being passed through that eyelet, then upwardly through the outer opening of the lowest loop A, thence across the lacing-slit

inward through an eyelet and upward and outward through the next succeeding eyelet upon that side of the lacing-slit, then across
50 the latter and upward through the outer opening in the next upper loop, A, and so on until the lacing-cord passes through the upper eyelet opposite the button D, all of which is clearly indicated in Fig. 1.

55 It will be perceived from the foregoing description, and from reference to the drawings, that by drawing up or tightening the cord E the shoe will be tightly and firmly laced with facility. After tightening the cord in this
60 manner as much as need be, I wind it around the ankle in the direction of the button D, and button the strap F to the head of the said button, as is indicated in Fig. 4.

65 It will also be perceived that the cord need not be withdrawn from the loops or eyes in unlacing or loosening the shoe.

I am aware that shoes have heretofore been provided with lacing flaps or tongues having two rows of eyelets therein, and a row of eye-
70 lets upon each side of the lacing-slit, and that separate lacing-cords have passed from one set of eyelets to the other and tied in separate knots, and I do not intend, therefore, to claim the same; but,

75 Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A shoe provided with a flap or tongue, having loops on its under side along each longi-
80 tudinal edge thereof, the instep having eyes or eyelets along both sides of its opening or lacing-slit and a single lacing-cord applied through the said loops and alternately through two of said eyes or eyelets, substantially as
85 specified, and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereunto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ALONZO C. MATHER.

Witnesses:

HENRY H. POOLE,
ELIAS R. BOWEN.