

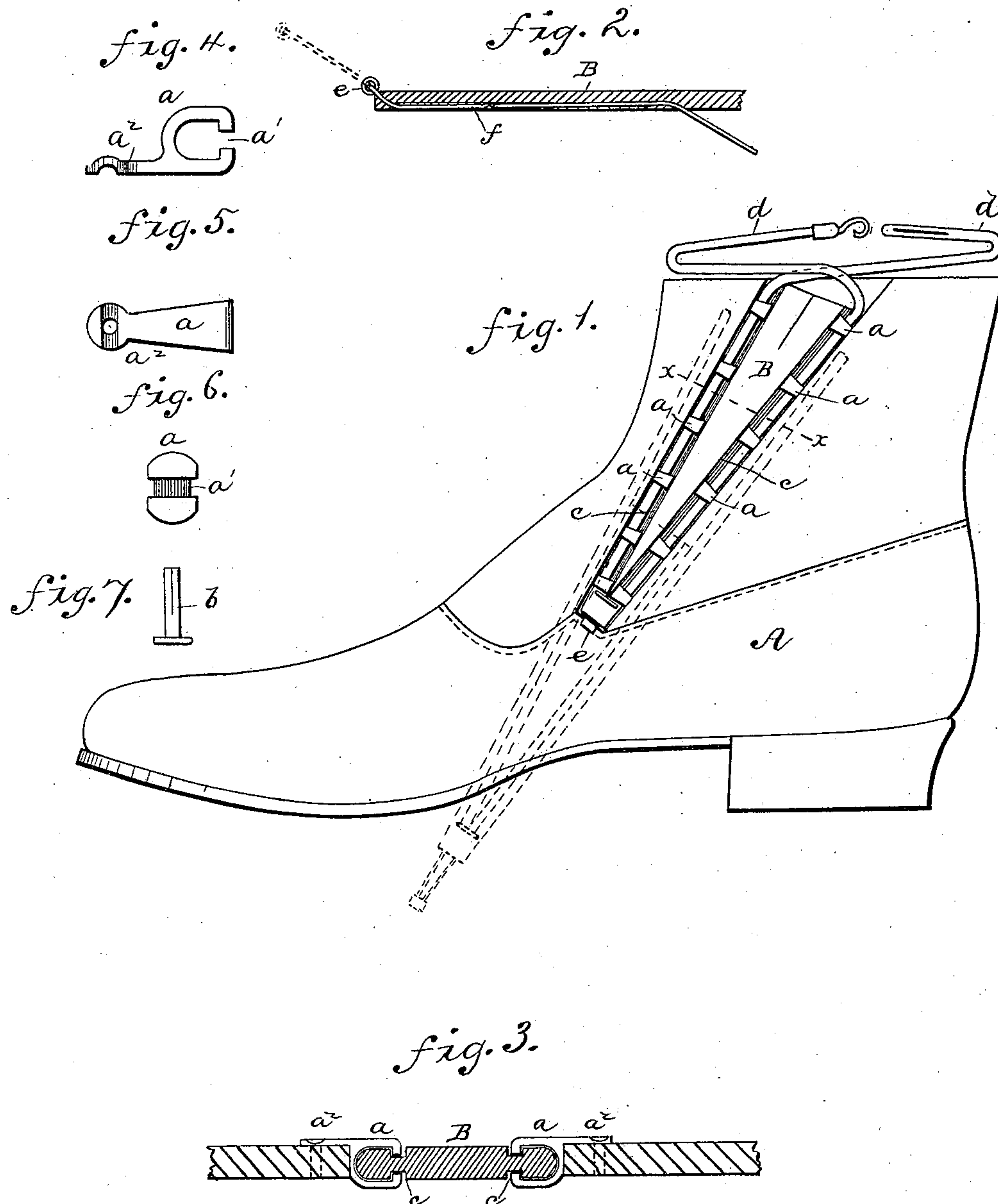
(No Model.)

H. H. RODMAN.

SHOE FASTENING.

No. 313,533.

Patented Mar. 10, 1885.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY H. RODMAN, OF WILKES-BARRÉ, PENNSYLVANIA.

SHOE-FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 313,533, dated March 10, 1885.

Application filed July 22, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY H. RODMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wilkes-Barré, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Fastenings, of which the following is a description.

Figure 1 is a side view of a shoe provided with my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the tongue. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken through the tongue and the edges of the shoe-slit. Figs. 4 to 6 are detail views of the lacing-eye, and Fig. 7 is a detail of the rivet.

The object of my invention is to provide a shoe-fastening which may be quickly opened or closed, easily adjusted, and which shall tightly close in the foot and fit comfortably thereto. These objects are accomplished in the construction which I will now proceed to describe.

In the drawings, A represents a shoe provided with my improved fastening. This shoe has its upper slitted obliquely at the side to form an opening. It may, however, be slitted vertically at the side, or directly in front or rear. On each side of the slit are secured open slotted eyes *a*, of a peculiar shape, as shown in Fig. 4. These eyes have an opening or slot, *a'*, leading into the inner periphery of the eye, and these slots are disposed parallel with the edges of the slit in the shoe. These eyes have a shank or tang, *a²*, projecting, not from the center of the eye, but from one side, so that when this tang is placed against the side of the slit the eye will be about in the plane of the leather or material of which the slitted portion is formed. For securing this eye, the tang is provided with a perforation, to receive a rivet, *b*, which is split a part of its length, and which, when inserted through the material and the tang of the eye, has its split ends bent apart, to clinch and hold the tang, which is slightly recessed on each side of the perforation to receive the clinched ends of said rivet. To co-operate with these eyes *a*, I provide a special form of sliding tongue, B, which is made of a tapering or other suitable form to fit the foot. The edges of this

tongue are made of a thickness sufficient to fill the interior of the eyes in which said edges move, while a short distance from said edges the tongue is of a reduced thickness that will pass through the slits *a'* of the hook, which latter are too narrow, however, to permit the full thickness of the edge of the tongue to come through. In constructing this tongue I form the thin portion of it by grooves *c*, cut near the edges on each side, in which case a single thick piece of leather is used, as shown at Fig. 3. At the upper edges of the tongue there are, as continuations of the edges of the tongue, cords *d d*, which, when the tongue is pulled down below the eyes, remain in the eyes and avoid the difficulty of entering the edges of the tongue into the eyes again when closing the shoe. At the lower end of the tongue there is a small button, *e*, attached to a cord, *f*, which runs up along the inside of the tongue, and which cord can be pulled out by means of the button, to form a hand-hold or tug for drawing the tongue down, or be drawn up out of sight when the tongue is drawn up.

In making use of my invention the tongue is drawn bodily and as a whole either up or down. When drawn up, it draws the slit together and closes the shoe, the cords *d d* being tied around the ankle. When drawn down, the cords *d d* pass into the eyes and the shoe is opened.

I am aware of the Patent No. 36,497, in which a tongue with cords continuing from its edges is arranged to slide integrally in retaining eyes or clips at the side of the shoe-slit, and I therefore only claim my peculiar construction, in which the tongue, made of a single piece of leather, with grooves cut in its edges, forms a cheap simple fastening, and one which throughout its entire area is of the same thickness as the upper of the shoe, as shown in Fig. 3. Another advantage is that the edges of the eyes *a* at the outlet *a'* are square and afford a positive resistance to the pull of the tongue, so that the latter cannot pull out.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the tongue A, made of a single piece of leather of

uniform thickness, and having grooves *c c* cut near its edges, with said edges continued to form extension-cords *d d*, as shown and described.

- 5 2. The tongue A, made of a single piece of leather of uniform thickness, and having grooves *c c* cut near its edges, with its edges extended to form cords *d d*, in combination with a shoe having lacing-eyes *a*, with square
10 or right-angular edges at its slot or opening *a'*, as shown and described.

3. The combination, with the sliding tongue, of the button *e* and cord *f*, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

HENRY H. RODMAN.

Witnesses:

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