

(No Model.)

C. BABCOCK.
SHOE LACE FASTENER.

No. 460,816.

Patented Oct. 6, 1891.

FIG 2

FIG 1

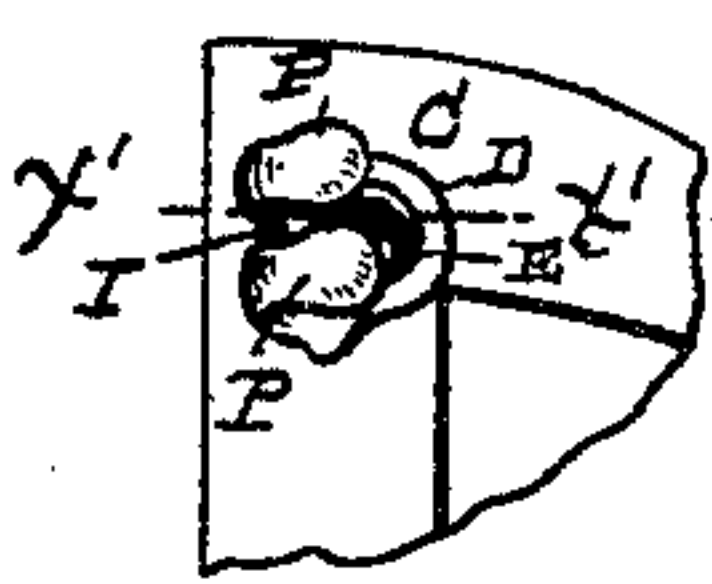
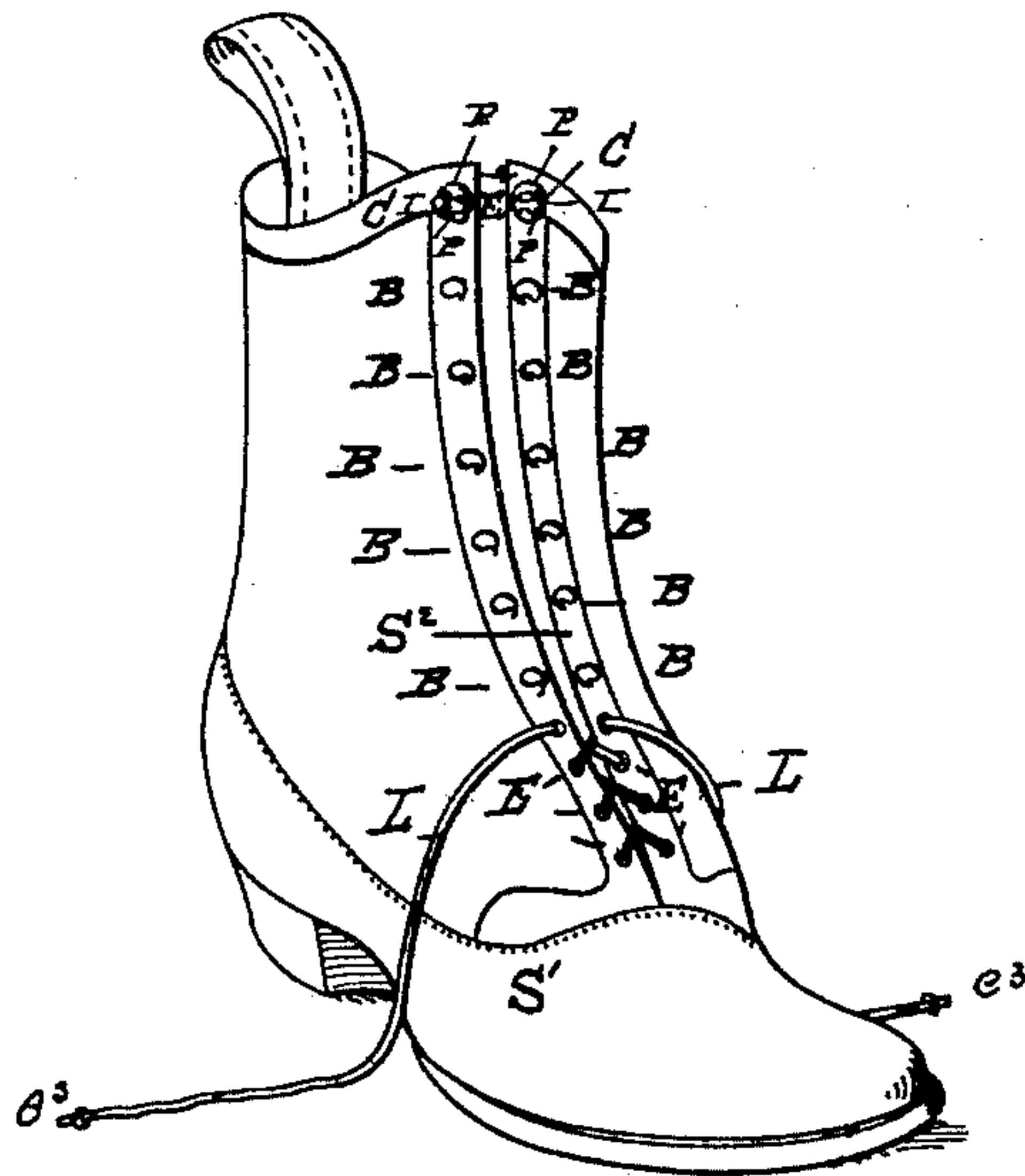
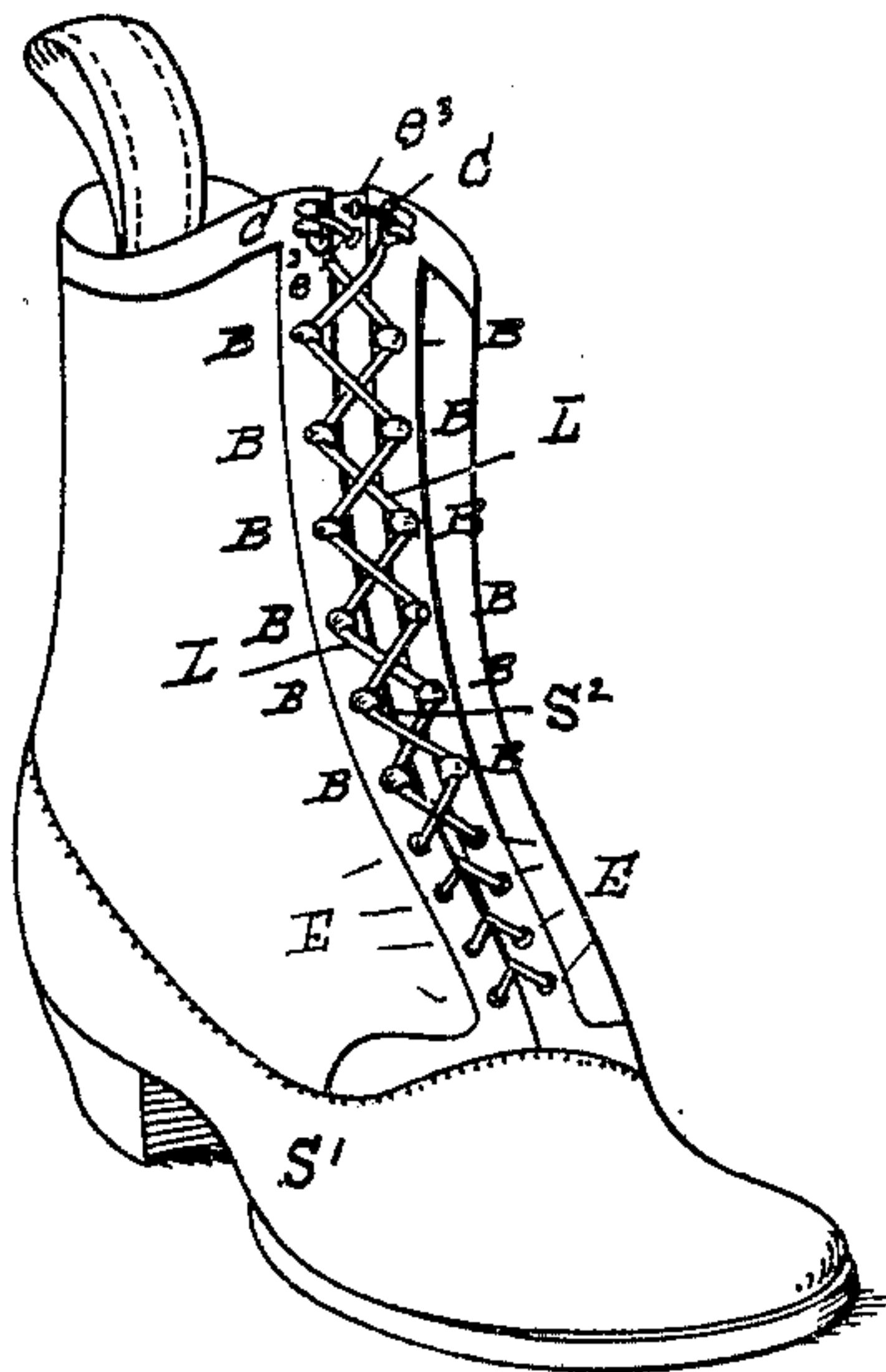


FIG 3

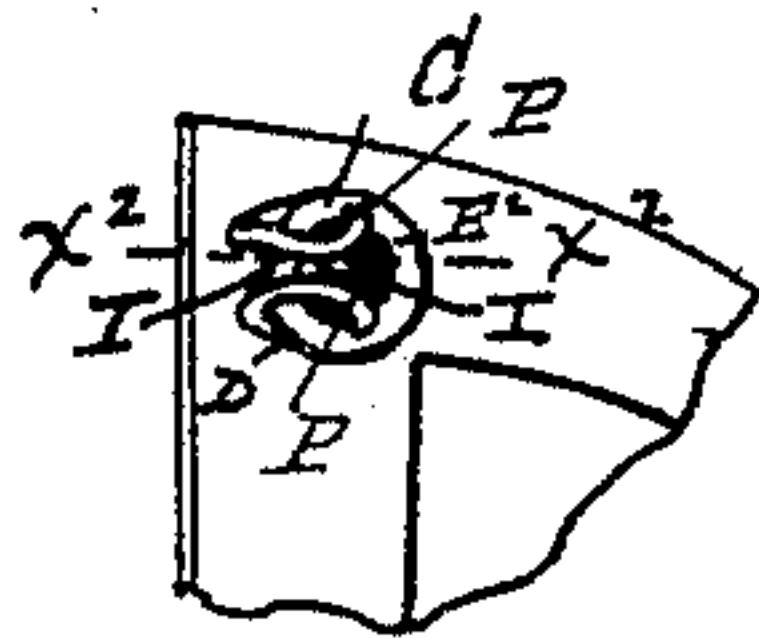


FIG 6

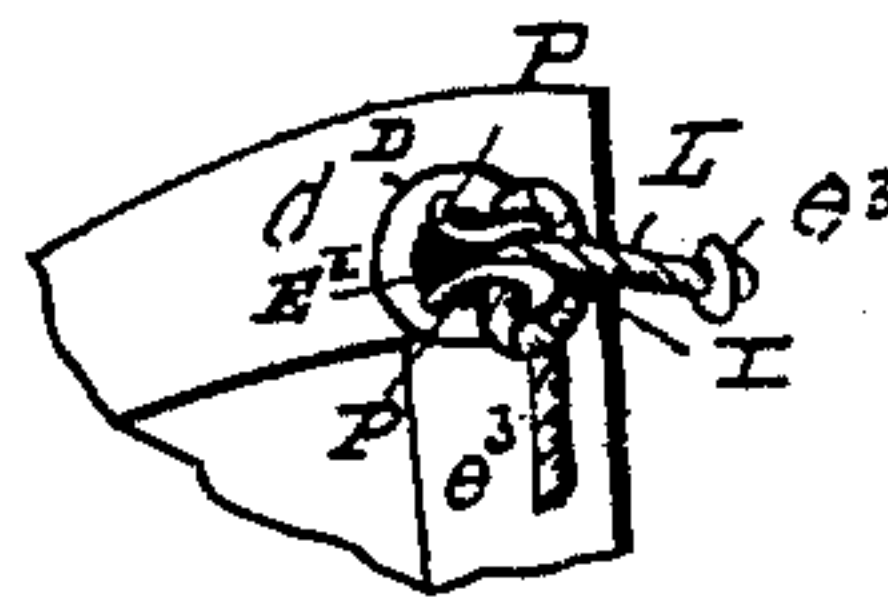


FIG 8

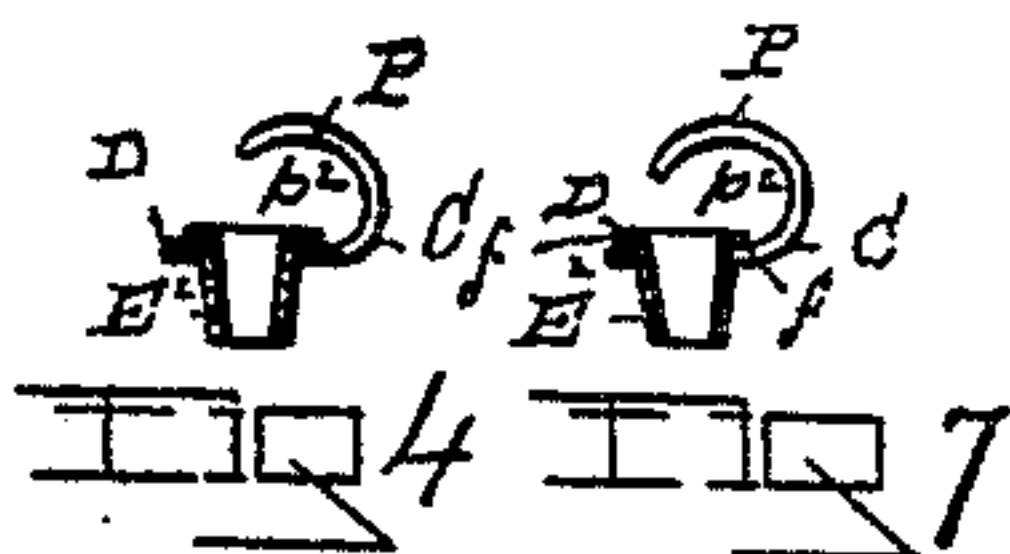


FIG 4

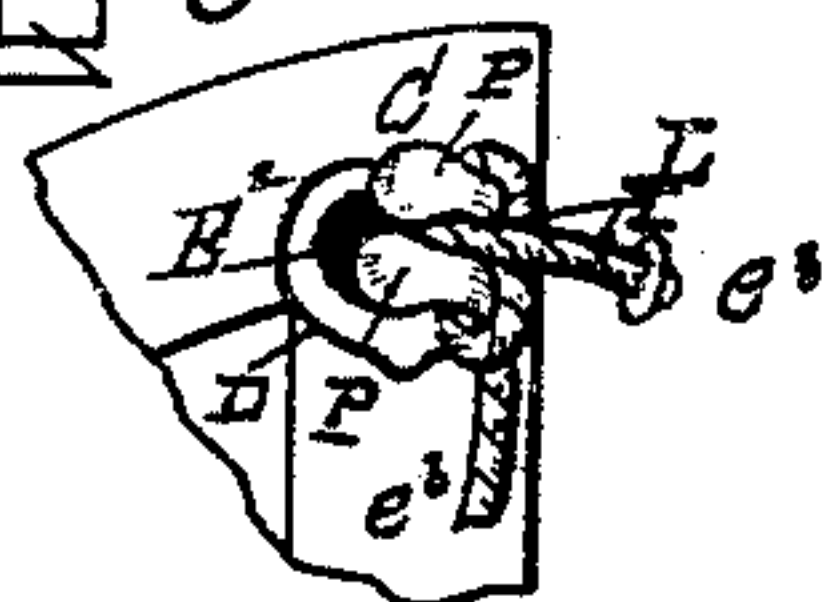


FIG 5

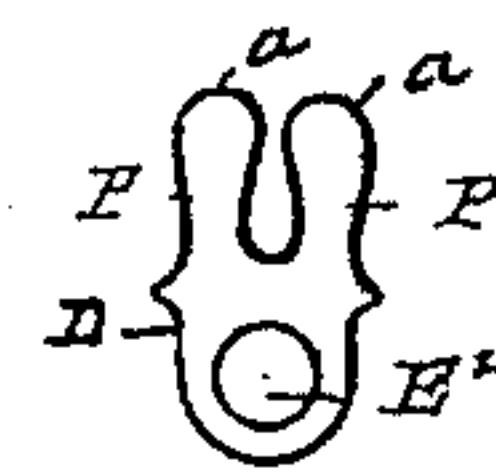


FIG 9

WITNESSES

Alfred S. Brintnall
William A. Sweet

INVENTOR

Charles Babcock
by W. E. Hagan 'atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES BABCOCK, OF TROY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO
ALLEN R. THOMPSON, OF SAME PLACE.

SHOE-LACE FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 460,816, dated October 6, 1891.

Application filed December 9, 1890. Serial No. 374,034. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES BABCOCK, of the city of Troy, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented a new and
5 useful Improvement in Shoe-String Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a clasp for securing the ends of shoe strings or lacings, which clasp is adapted to be attached to the tops of the
10 shoe-uppers at each side of the buttoning-slit made therein, through which the foot is entered, the object and purpose of my invention being to produce a device wherein and whereby the ends of the shoe strings or
15 lacings are secured after being laced, so as to avoid the necessity of producing knots in the string or lacings when the shoe is put on and the untying of knots when the shoe is being removed.

20 Accompanying this specification, to form a part of it, there is a sheet of drawings containing nine figures, illustrating my invention, with the same designation of part by letter-reference used in all of them.

25 Of these illustrations, Figure 1 is a perspective of a shoe with my improved string or lace fasteners applied thereto, with the shoe shown as partly laced up. Fig. 2 is a perspective of a shoe to which my invention is applied, with
30 the front slit laced up and with the ends of the strings secured by my improved clamp. Fig. 3 is a top view of one of my shoe-string fasteners with a part of the shoe-upper shown, to which the fastener is attached. Fig. 4 is a
35 section taken on the line $x'x'$ of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 shows the same parts that are shown at Fig. 4, with the end of the string secured by the clamp. Fig. 6 shows a modification, in which the clamping part of the device is made
40 of wire instead of sheet metal, and in which a part of the shoe-upper, to which the clamp attaches, is shown. Fig. 7 is a section taken through the clamp shown at Fig. 6 on the line x^2x^2 . Fig. 8 shows the same parts that are
45 shown at Figs. 6 and 7, with a shoe-string end secured therein. Fig. 9 shows the blank form of the sheet metal, from which the clamp shown at Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 is produced.

The several parts of the mechanism thus
50 illustrated are designated by letter-reference,

and the function of the parts is described as follows.

The letters S' designate the shoe made with the button-slit S^2 , through which the foot is entered to put on the shoe.

The letters E designate eyelets arranged in the upper on each side of the button-slit at the lower end of the latter, and the letters B designate buttons arranged at each side of the slit S^2 above the eyelets E.

The letter L designates the shoe string or lacing, and e^3e^3 its ends.

The letter C designates my improved shoe-string fastener or clamp, which consists of two C-form prongs P, that are outwardly projected from the body part so as to produce an intermediate slit I, and the letter e^2 designates an eyelet formed in the body D of the fastener, by which the latter is attached to the shoe-upper. Preferably these prongs are made from sheet metal stamped out in a blank form, as shown at Fig. 9, and are rounded upwardly, so as to be exteriorly concave, with the eyelet E^2 stamped down through the flat body part to produce the eyelet-shank and with the arms a of the blank turned up, over, and down, so as to produce the prongs P and leave the intermediate slit I and the lateral passages p^2 for the string L.

In the modification shown at Figs. 6, 7, and 8 the prongs P are formed from wire and made to loop around the eyelet E^2 , so as to be held in place when the eyelet is headed by the flange f , encircling the top of the eyelet, as shown at Fig. 7.

When attached to a shoe, as shown at Figs. 1 and 2, after the lacing has been accomplished up along the buttoning-slit, the shoe-string is passed down through the slit I, then passed around the rounded face of the prongs and then brought down again through the slit I, in which position the string ends are securely held. When it is desired to remove the shoe and to unlace the same, the string is merely drawn out of the top of the slit I and from around the rounded upward projection of the prongs, and then again from out of the slit I when in the bottom of the latter.

While I have shown my improved clamp as applied to secure the ends of shoe strings or

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laces, it may be used for corset-lacings, gloves, and other like uses where it is desired to secure the ends of strings in a like manner.

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

A shoe-string fastener consisting of a body portion D, formed with an eyelet, and two spring-prongs P P, bent upward and then laterally over the body portion and having a clamping-space I between them of sufficient

width only to allow the string to be forced between them and thus secured after being passed under said prongs, substantially as specified. 15

Signed at Troy, New York, this 2d day of December, 1890, and in the presence of the two witnesses whose names are hereto written.

CHARLES BABCOCK.

Witnesses:

W. E. HAGAN,

CHARLES S. BRINTNALL.