(No Model.)

I. H. SISSON.

SHOE LACE FASTENING.

No. 483,622. Patented Oct. 4, 1892.

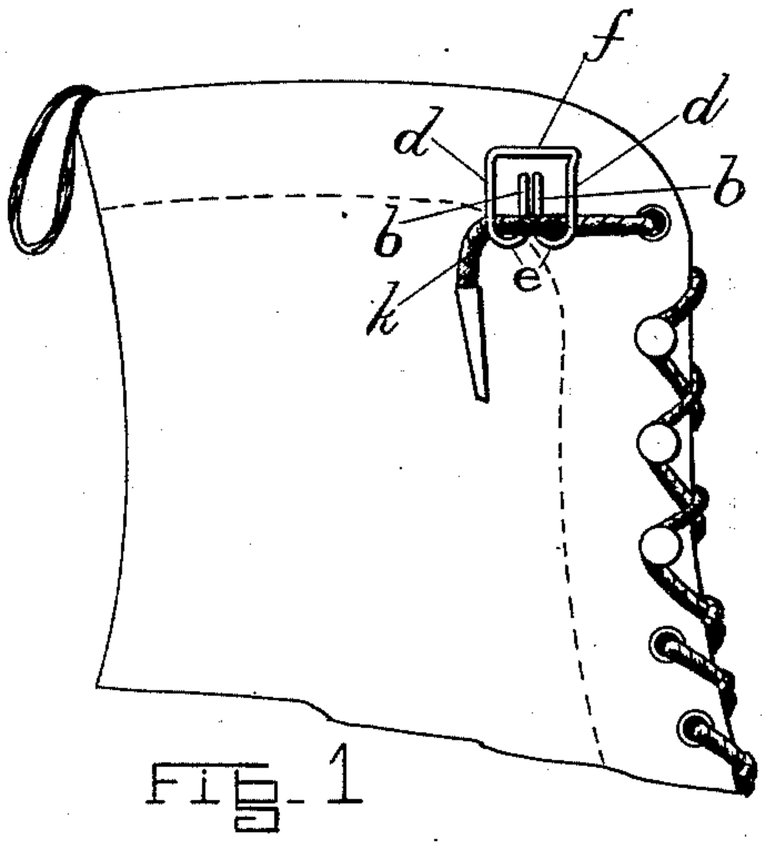

FIG. 1

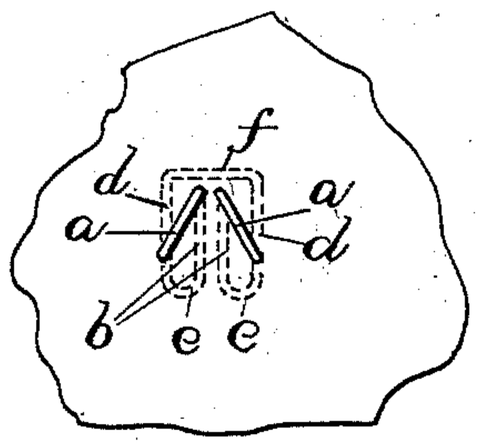

FIG. 2

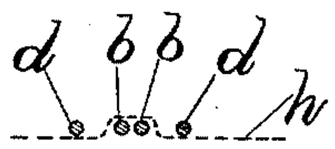

FIG. 4

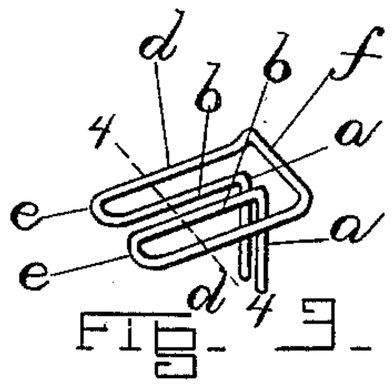

FIG. 3

WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHOE-LACE FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 483,622, dated October 4, 1892.

Application filed April 6, 1892. Serial No. 428,076. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC H. SISSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lace-Clasps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

It has been deemed desirable to provide a lace-clasp which may be secured to a shoe, glove, corset, or the like, for the purpose of fastening the ends of the lace quickly and firmly without the necessity of tying the same. Such clasps are well known, but so far as known to me those previously constructed are objectionable, in that the free ends of the lace which project beyond the clasp do not lie flat against the shoe, but owing to the way the lace is seized by the clasp they stand out at right angles to the shoe or substantially so, and do not present a neat appearance.

Lace-clasps so far as known to me are provided with securing-prongs which are separated by a considerable space, and which therefore make two holes through the shoe or other article when the clasp is set thereon. This is also objectionable for some kinds of work, besides requiring somewhat greater power in the machine which sets the clasps as well as the employment of larger setting-dies and other parts.

My invention has for its object to provide a lace-clasp which shall obviate these objections; and it consists in a clasp having the peculiarities of construction hereinafter set forth, and the novel features of which are pointed out in the claim which is appended hereto and made a part hereof.

My invention will be clear from the accompanying drawings and the following description, in which reference is made to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows the upper part of a shoe laced and with one end of the lace secured by my clasp. Fig. 2 is a view of the reverse side of a piece of leather or similar material having a clasp set thereon, showing the disposition of the prongs of the clasp on the back of the leather and indicating in dotted lines the portions of the clasp which are on the front of the leather in order to show the position of the prongs relatively to the other portions of the clasp when the clasp is set. Fig. 3 is a perspective of a clasp detached. Fig. 4 is a diagram showing the relative position on line 4 4, Fig. 3, of the portions of the clasp which seize the lace, the position of the lace when held by the clasp being indicated by dotted lines.

My improved clasp is composed, preferably, of one piece of wire, which should be tempered so as to have the quality of a spring. The piece of wire is formed into the shape shown clearly in Fig. 3—that is, its ends which form the prongs *a* are substantially parallel with each other and placed at right angles or substantially so to the other portions of the clasp. That portion of the clasp which seizes and holds the lace consists of four parallel or substantially parallel parts, the two inner parts *b* being connected with the prongs and each being connected with an outer part *d* by the curved portions *e*. The outer parts *d* are connected by means of the cross part *f*, and the ends of the parts *d* adjacent the cross part *f* are turned upwardly slightly in order that the lace may be readily slipped under the parts *d* between the part *f* and the leather or other material upon which the clasp is set. The prongs *a* are located, preferably, near the mouth or part of the clasp which receives the lace in proximity to the cross bar or part *f*, and may be close together, in which case they will make but one hole in the leather when the clasp is set, or they may be separated somewhat, if this is desired, without departing from my invention. When the prongs are inserted in the leather, they are turned down and set firmly against the back of the leather, their free ends being preferably spread, as is clearly shown, Fig. 2, in order that the prongs will lie directly behind the portions *d*, thus forming a firm backing for the portions *d* at or near the point where the lace is seized and increasing the firmness with which the lace is held. The prongs *a* should be of sufficient length to project behind or under the portions *d*, as shown, Fig. 2, although very good results may be obtained if the prongs are not made quite as

long relatively to the other parts as they are shown in said figure. When the lace *k* has been drawn taut and slipped under the cross part *f* and forced or drawn down into position, as shown, Fig. 1, it will be given two short bends, as indicated by the dotted lines *h*, Fig. 4, between the outer and inner portions or bars of the clasp, thus holding it securely and preventing it from slipping. That portion of the lace which projects beyond the clasp is held closely against the material in which the clasp is set and has no tendency to stick out or stand away from the material. The parts *d* and *b* are, as indicated in the diagram Fig. 4, on the same plane, thus permitting the parts of the clasp to lie close to or against the material in which the clasp is set. The end or cross part *f* of the clasp requires to be only slightly turned up or raised from the material to permit of the ready entrance of the lace, and since it is broad and not pointed or narrow it has very slight tendency to catch the garments of the wearer.

What I claim is—

A lace-clasp composed of a continuous piece of metal shaped to form a cross-piece *f*, and an outer holding-down portion at each end of the said cross-piece, the free ends of the material being returned together intermediate the holding-down portions to form two inner portions in close proximity to each other and over which the intermediate portion of the lace will extend, and the free ends of the said inner portions being bent to form securing-prongs of considerable length to constitute when the clasp is set a backing portion or support for those portions of the clasp which seize and hold the lace, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ISAAC H. SISSON.

Witnesses:
F. A. SMITH, Jr.,
J. B. BUCKLEY.