(No Model.)

J. H. HAMILL & P. J. JOHNSON.

SHOE FASTENER.

No. 484,313. Patented Oct. 11, 1892.

Fig. 1

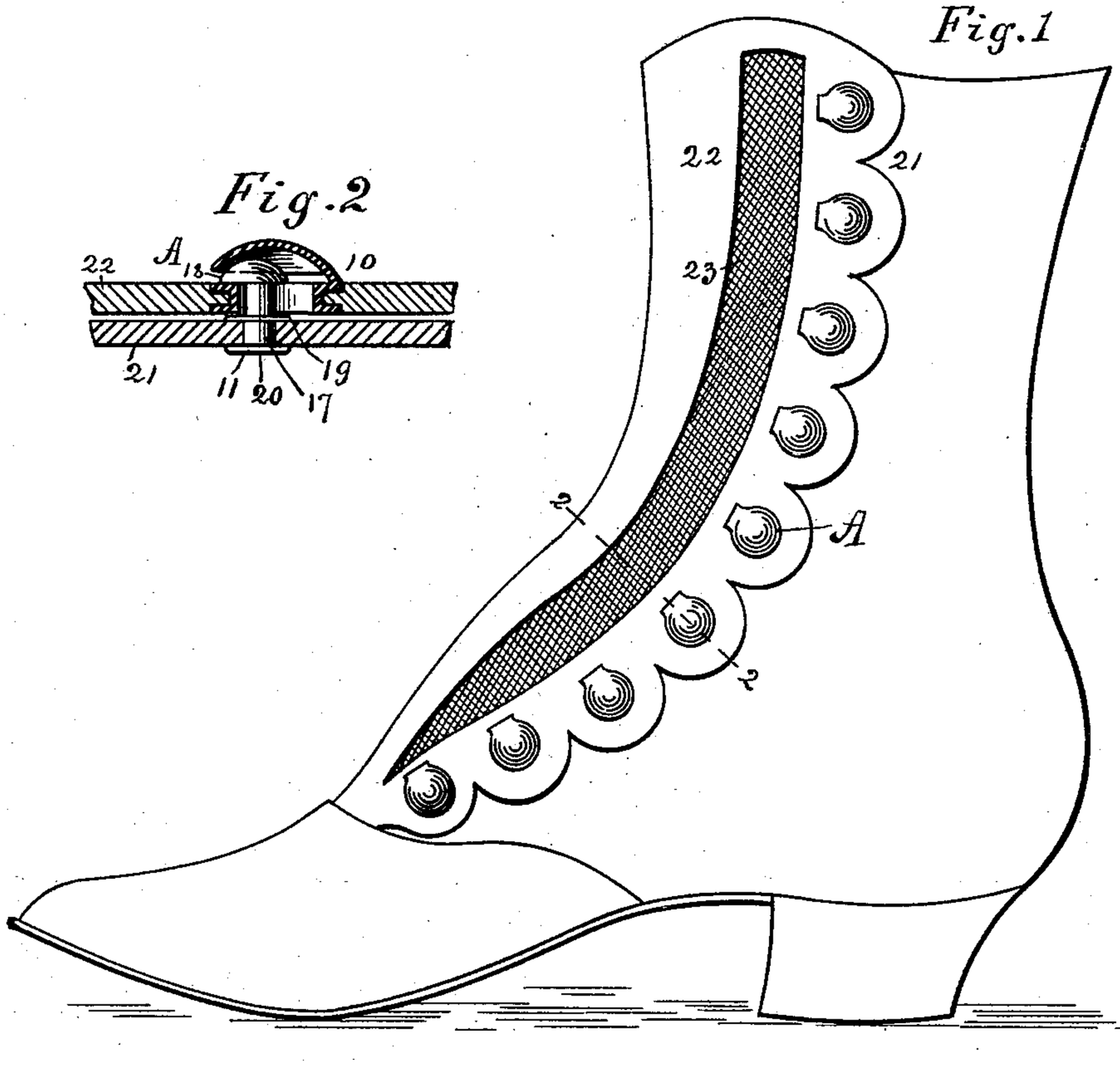


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

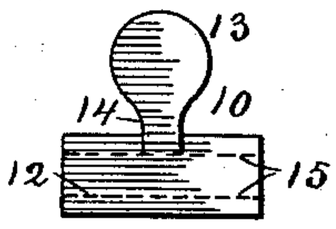


Fig 4

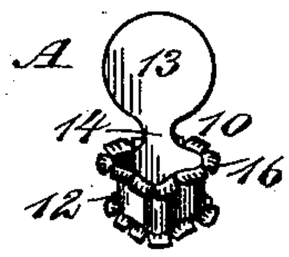


Fig. 5

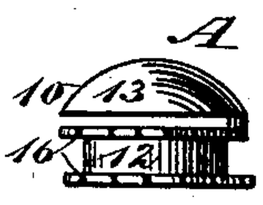


Fig. 6

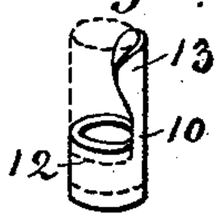
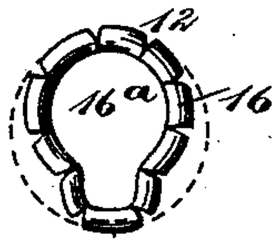


Fig. 7.



WITNESSES:

J. A. Bergstrom

C. Sedgwick

INVENTORS

J. H. Hamill

BY P. J. Johnson

Munn & Co

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. HAMILL AND PAUL J. JOHNSON, OF GLOBE, ARIZONA TERRITORY.

SHOE-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 484,313, dated October 11, 1892.

Application filed September 12, 1891. Renewed September 8, 1892. Serial No. 445,310. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH H. HAMILL and PAUL J. JOHNSON, of Globe, in the county of Gila and Territory of Arizona, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Shoe-Fasteners, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Our invention relates to an improvement in shoe-fasteners, and has for its object to provide a fastener of simple, durable, and economic construction, capable of being conveniently and expeditiously manipulated; and a further object of the invention is to so locate and shape the fasteners that a shoe having them applied thereto will when its flies are connected have the appearance of a regularly-buttoned shoe.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures and letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a shoe having the fasteners applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a section taken, practically, on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank from which the receiving member of the fastener is constructed. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the blank partly bent to shape. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a completely-formed receiving-section of the fastener. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a modified form of the blank. Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the preferred form of receiving-section.

The fastening device is practically a button and is designated in the drawings by the reference-letter A. The button is constructed in two sections—a receiving-section 10 and a locking-section 11. The receiving-section is made from a blank (illustrated in Fig. 3) consisting of a rectangular base 12 and a tongue 13, projected from one side of the base, preferably near its center. The tongue is circular in general contour and is connected with the base by a narrow shank 14. In forming the receiving-section from the blank the base is bent upon itself to a somewhat-oblong shape, (illustrated in Fig. 4,) and the top and bottom of the base are bent horizontally in opposite directions upon the score-lines 15 in Fig. 3, forming flanges 16, simulating a series of teeth. These flanges may be made after inserting the receiving-section in the shoe, or the upper flange may be made before the receiving-section is placed upon the fly and the lower flange be formed when the section is in position. Owing to the peculiar shape of the base, the opening therein is shaped as a key-hole-slot, as shown at 16ª in Fig. 7. In completing the receiving-section the tongue is bent over the top of the base-section, as shown in Fig. 5, and the tongue is so manipulated as to impart to its exterior a convex shape and to its interior a concave surface. A slight space intervenes between the base and the tongue, and when the tongue has been bent to complete the section the tongue serves in the capacity of a cap.

The locking-section 11 of the button consists of a stud 17, preferably circular in cross-section, having integral therewith or attached thereto a head 18, which head is cylindrical and extends ordinarily beyond three sides of the post or stud, but a much greater distance beyond the fourth side, as shown in Fig. 2. The stud is further provided with a flange 19 and a rivet disk or ring 20.

The shoe adapted to receive the buttons or fastening devices is shaped as an ordinary button-shoe, being provided with an under fly or flap 21 and an upper or outer fly or flap 22, the outer edge of the latter being usually scalloped, as illustrated, and the upper or outer fly or flap 22 has a longitudinal opening therein, which opening is filled with an elastic webbing 23 or its equivalent. This webbing preferably extends from a point near the top of the flap to a point at or near the lower end of the bottom thereof, and the lower end of the webbing is preferably contracted or made narrower than the intermediate portion of the upper end and tapers gradually to a point, terminating just below the lower button and above the vamp.

The elastic webbing may extend entirely through the top of the upper fly or flap if in practice it is found desirable, and the under or lower flap or fly 21 may be made of suitable width to extend under and beyond the webbing 23 when the flies are united, thus

preventing said webbing from being brought in contact with the stocking or sock. A button is preferably located within each scallop of the upper flap or fly between the edge of the scallop and the webbing 23. The under section only of the button is secured to the upper flap or fly, and where the button is to be applied an opening is made in the fly practically corresponding in shape to the shape of the base of the section. The base is then inserted in the opening and the section is clamped to place by means of any approved instrument, the clamping being effected by reducing the flanges 16.

The locking-section 11 of the button is attached to the under fly or flap 21 of the shoe in a manner enabling it, when the under flap is properly manipulated, to enter the base or receiving section. The attachment of the lower button-section to the flap or fly is preferably made by passing the stud downward through an opening in the flap or fly until its flange 19 engages with the upper face of the flap, and a rivet disk or ring 20 is then secured in any suitable or approved manner to the lower end of the post or stud, which rivet disk or ring engages with the under face of the flap, as is clearly shown in Fig. 2.

In manipulating a shoe provided with our fastening devices, the upper flap or fly is drawn over the lower one as far as may be necessary to enable the head of the post immediately beneath the upper button-section to enter the opening 16^a in the base of the latter, whereupon the post of the lower section when the upper flap or fly is released will, by reason of the tension imparted thereto by the webbing, be drawn into the narrow part of the keyhole-shaped opening of the receiving-section, and the head 18 will cover or extend beyond the wall at the reduced portion of the opening, forming a complete lock, as shown in Fig. 2.

The outer face of the convexed member of the upper button-section may be painted, enameled, or oxydized, according to the fineness of the shoe upon which it is to be used, imparting to this section of the button an ornamental character.

The strip of elastic webbing inserted in the upper fly or flap of the shoe in front of the button is for the purpose of affording play or movement to the upper sections of the buttons, so that the fastening may be quickly and easily effected, and it also serves a valuable function by causing the shoe to conform to the shape of the foot and fit feet differing in size and measurement around the instep and ankle. This strip of elastic webbing can be made of any desired length and width.

The fastening device is a successful substitute for the buttons and laces now employed upon most shoes and which are more or less troublesome, the buttons frequently coming off, the button-hooks mislaid or lost, and the laces breaking. The device is capable of being much more conveniently and expeditiously manipulated as a fastener than either laces or buttons, and the fastening when made is absolutely secure.

The insertion of the elastic webbing over the instep of the shoe need not impair the appearance of the shoe. In fact, it affords a splendid scope for ornamental designs, as the webbing may be made of silk and decorated in various ways, and, if deemed desirable, the leather edge at each side of the elastic webbing can be made to extend over the webbing, so as to practically hide it from view. In this instance the body 10 of the blank is tubular, thus affording the cylindrical portion 12 of the section, which is scored to permit of producing the flanges 16, (shown in Fig. 5,) and is provided with a tongue 13, as in the preceding figures.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A fastening of the character described, comprising the receiving-section 10, having a tubular body 12, formed with an overhanging cap 13, the opening through the body being in the form of a keyhole-slot, the contracted end of which is beneath the free end of the cap, and a locking-section formed of a post having a cylindrical head overhanging three sides of its upper end to close the narrow portion of the keyhole-slot, a flange 19 between the ends of the post, and a securing disk or flange 20 for the lower end of the stud, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a boot or shoe constructed with outer and inner flaps adapted to overlap, of fastening devices constructed in two sections, a receiving-section attached to the outer flap, comprising a cylindrical cap and a round hollow base beneath the cap having attached locking-flanges, and a locking-section adapted for attachment to the under flap, comprising a stud having a head extending at an angle beyond one of its sides, the said head being adapted to enter and pass through the hollow base of the receiving-section, substantially as shown and subscribed.

JOSEPH H. HAMILL.
PAUL J. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:
ED. ARHELGER,
MAX ARHELGER.