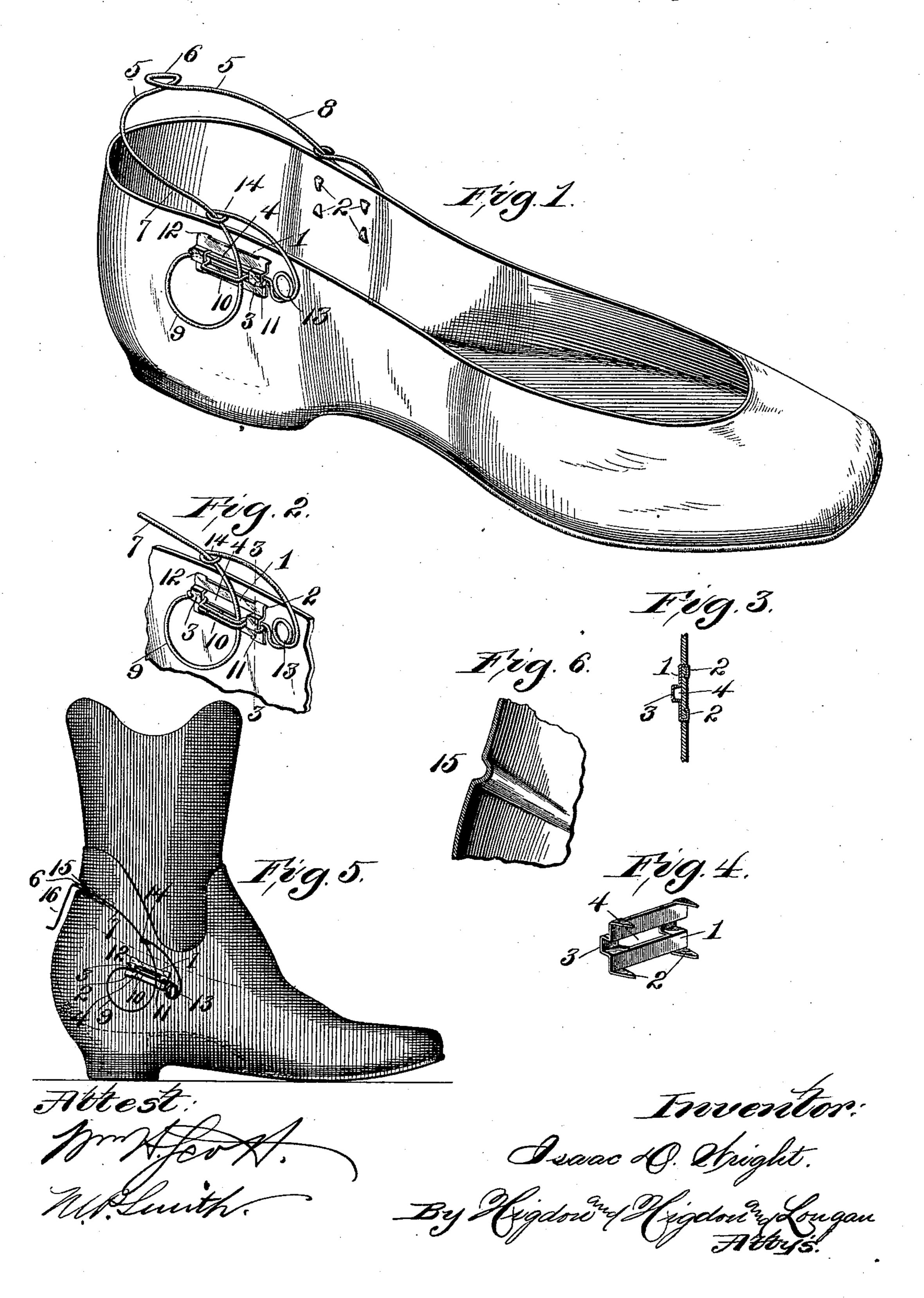
(No Model.)

## I. D. WRIGHT. SHOE FASTENER.

No. 538,473.

Patented Apr. 30, 1895.



## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC D. WRIGHT, OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF THREE-FOURTHS TO C. C. VAN WAGNER, W. H. VAN WAGNER, AND R. H. MOSES.

## SHOE-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,473, dated April 30, 1895.

Application filed December 10, 1894. Serial No. 531,406. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC D. WRIGHT, of the city of Sedalia, Pettis county, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Fasteners, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention relates to means for automatito cally adjusting and clamping the heel of a low shoe, or slipper, to the wearer, or the heel of an overshoe to the heel of a shoe or boot over which it is worn, and has for its object the provision of means adapted for attach-15 ment to, or may be a part of, the shoe and intended to prevent the vertical reciprocation of a shoe relative to the foot, or of the rubber overshoe relative to the shoe over which it is worn, which means shall be simple and 20 efficient in securing the shoe or slipper to the foot so that it will not be capable of accidental displacement during the act of walking or stooping, and which will also prevent the overshoe from being withdrawn acciden-25 tally by the adhesion of the same to the soil.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an ordinary rubber overshoe, the same having my improved fastener applied thereto as required for practical use. 30 Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of a portion of my improved fastener, there being a slight modification shown in this form from that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the indicated line 33 of Fig. 2. Fig. 35 4 is a view in perspective of a clamp of which I make use in carrying out my invention. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a high overshoe, the same having my invention applied thereto. Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view of a portion 40 of a high evershoe and showing a depression formed integral therewith, in which the rear portion of a spring-clamp locates itself when in position.

1 indicates a clamp, the same being constructed of a single piece of sheet metal in rectangular form, and with the integral attenuated prongs 2. Extending longitudinally of the body portion of the clamp 1 is an outward bend 3 that is provided with a cutaway portion or aperture 4.

5 indicates a spring-frame that is semi-circular in plan view and provided with a loop 6 in the center thereof. The portions 7 and 8 of the semi-circular frame pass downwardly to each side of the top portion of the rear of the 55 shoe, are there bent into loops 9 and the ends passed through the outwardly bent portions 3 of the clamp 1. Outwardly bent portions 10 are formed near the ends of the circular loops 9 and extend through the apertures 4 in the 60 clamps 1. These outwardly bent portions 10 serve to retain the loops 9 against the clamps 1. The ends of the wire frame after passing through the outwardly bent portions 3 are hooked around the ends of said outwardly 65 bent portions, as indicated by the numeral 11. Hooked around the other ends of the outwardly bent portions 3 of the clamps 1 are the ends of horizontally positioned springwires 12 that extend forward through the out- 70 wardly bent portions 3 of the clamps 1, are formed into coils 13, from thence extend rearwardly and are provided with loops 14 in their ends that engage the portions 7 and 8 of the main frame.

The attenuated prongs 2 are adapted to be passed through the sides of the overshoe, thus firmly securing the clamps 1 carrying the spring-frame and auxiliary springs to the overshoe.

In the modified form shown in Fig. 2, a portion of the horizontal spring-wire 12 is bent into the same plane, and to conform with the outwardly bent portion 10.

When the fastener is positioned upon a high 85 overshoe, a depression or groove 15 is formed in the rear side of said high overshoe, and in this depression or groove the semi-circular portion 5 of the resilient frame locates itself. When the fastener is constructed to be located upon a high overshoe, it is essential that the loop 6 in the center of the semi-circular portion 5 be continued a short distance downward, and terminate in a lateral bend 16. By this loop and lateral bend 16, the semi-circu-95 lar portion 5 may be disengaged from the depression or groove 15 in the high overshoe.

When the semi-circular portion 5 of the spring frame is depressed into the plane of the top edge of a low shoe, it will embrace the 100

rear portion of said shoe and be out of the plane of entrance of the foot into said shoe, as is required to permit the positioning of the shoe relative the foot.

The resilience of the circular bends 9 of the frame, together with the resilience of the coils 13 communicated to the semi-circular portion 5 through the loops 14, causes said semi-circular portion 5 to be positioned in the rear of and above the heel of the wearer, thus firmly connecting the shoe to the wearer by the engagement of said semi-circular portion with the upper and rear portion of the heel.

By forming the outward bend 10 through the aperture 4, a retainer or keeper is formed for the body of the frame as it moves forwardly and rearwardly. By turning the ends of the spring-frame and the auxiliary springs around the ends of the outwardly bent portions 3, the same are rigidly held in position when the clamp 1 is located upon the rubber or overshoe.

Thus it will be seen how I have constructed a shoe fastener that possesses superior advantages in point of simplicity, durability and general efficiency.

What I claim is—

1. A shoe fastener, comprising a resilient spring frame, sheet metal clamps having out30 wardly bent portions in the body thereof, apertures formed in said outwardly bent portions, the ends of said resilient spring-frame

•

passed through the apertures in the outwardly bent portions of the clamps to act as retainers for the horizontally moving body portions 35 of the resilient spring-frame, and auxiliary springs fixed to the clamps and engaging the spring-frame to cause said frame to more efficiently engage the heel of the wearer.

2. In a shoe fastener, the combination of a 42 resilient spring-frame bent into semi-circular form and adapted to engage the heel of the wearer, auxiliary assisting springs connected to said resilient spring-frame, and sheet metal clamps provided with longitudinally extend-45 ing outwardly bent portions in which are located the ends of the auxiliary springs and the ends of the resilient spring-frame.

3. In a shoe fastener, the combination of a resilient spring - frame, auxiliary assisting 50 springs connected to said frame, and sheet metal clamps adapted to engage the sides of the shoe, and through which one of the ends of the spring-frame and auxiliary springs are passed in order to form a guide and retainer 55 for the upwardly extending portion of the body of the spring-frame.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature

in presence of two witnesses.

ISAAC D. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:
P. Shore,
JNO. C. Higdon.