

No. 621,415.

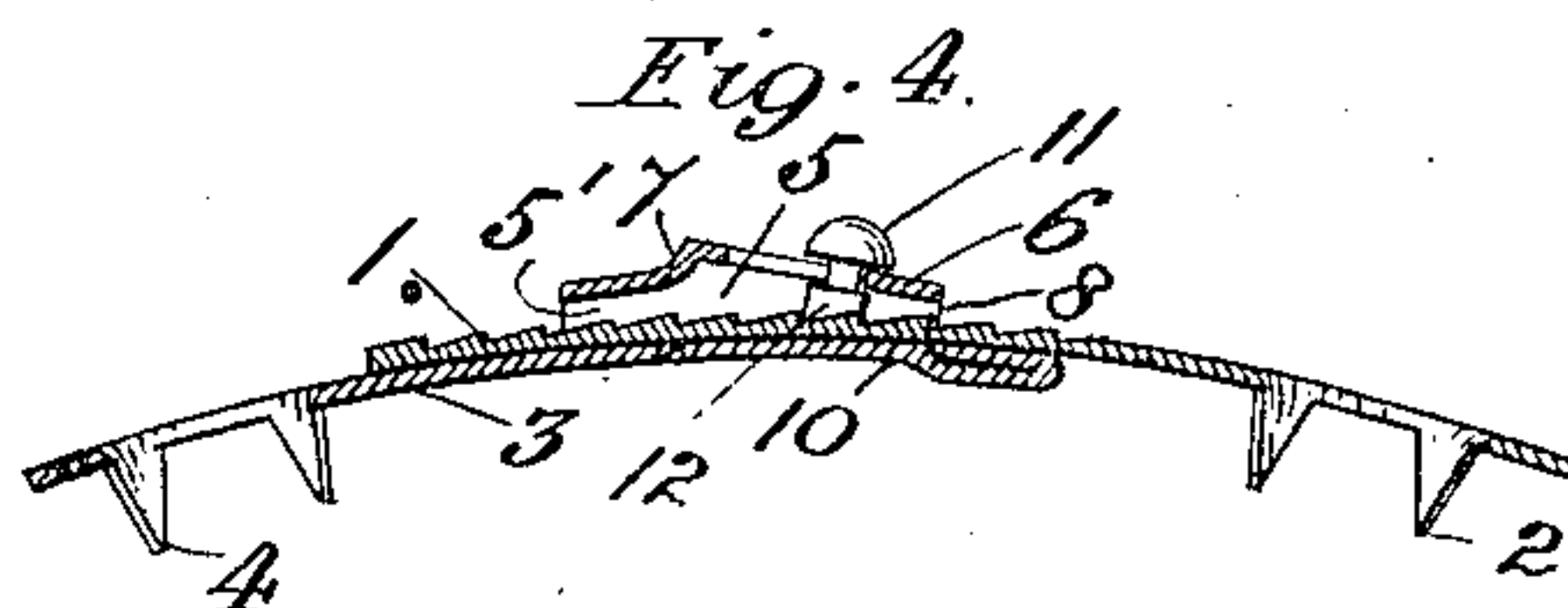
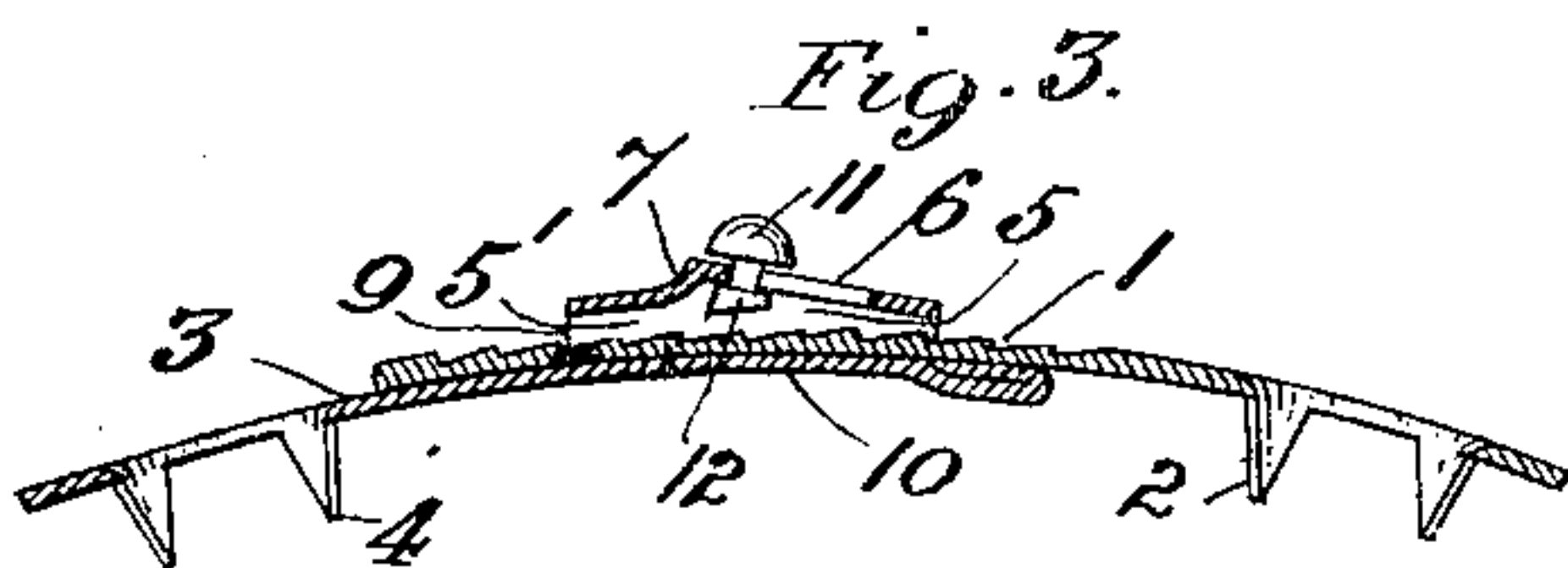
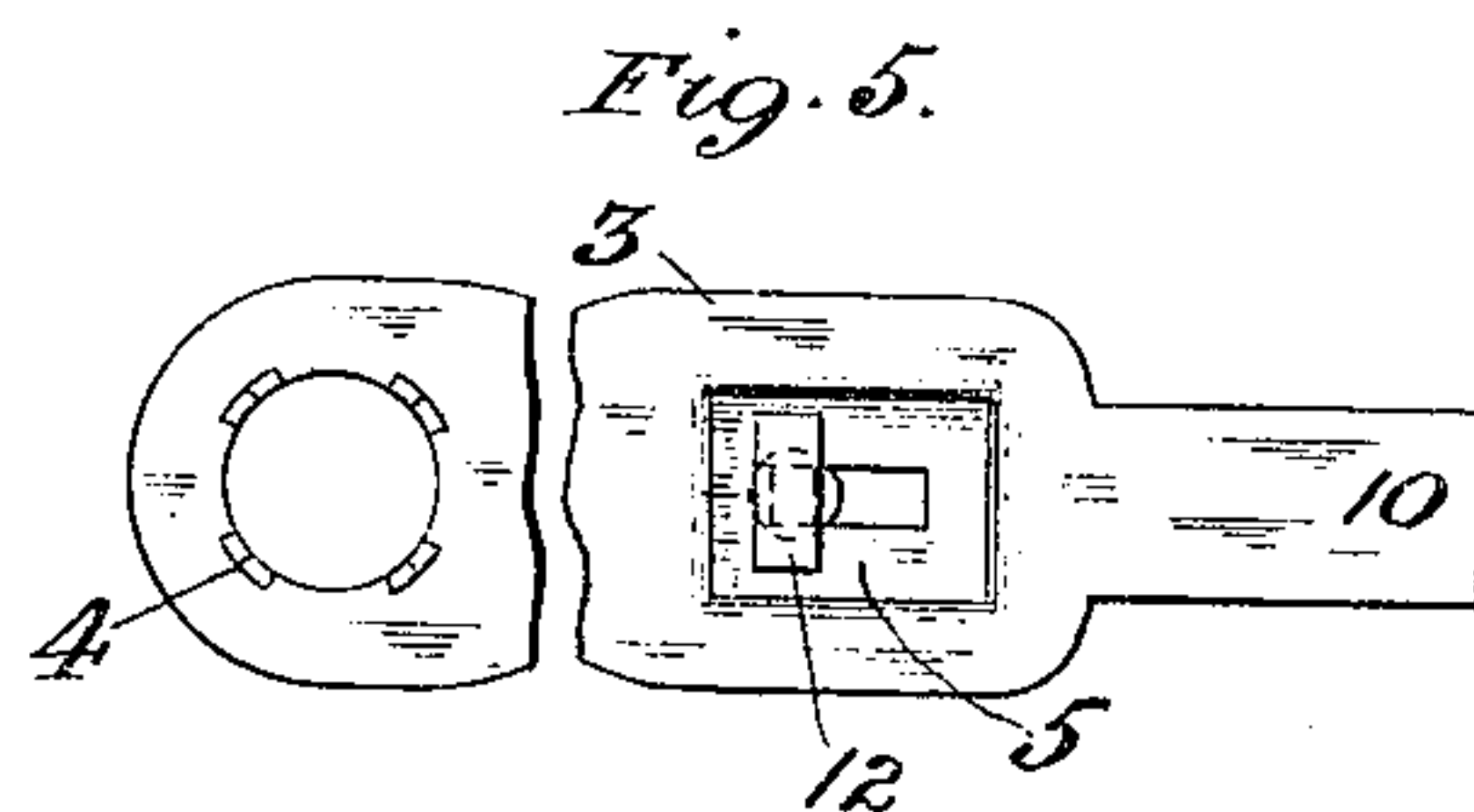
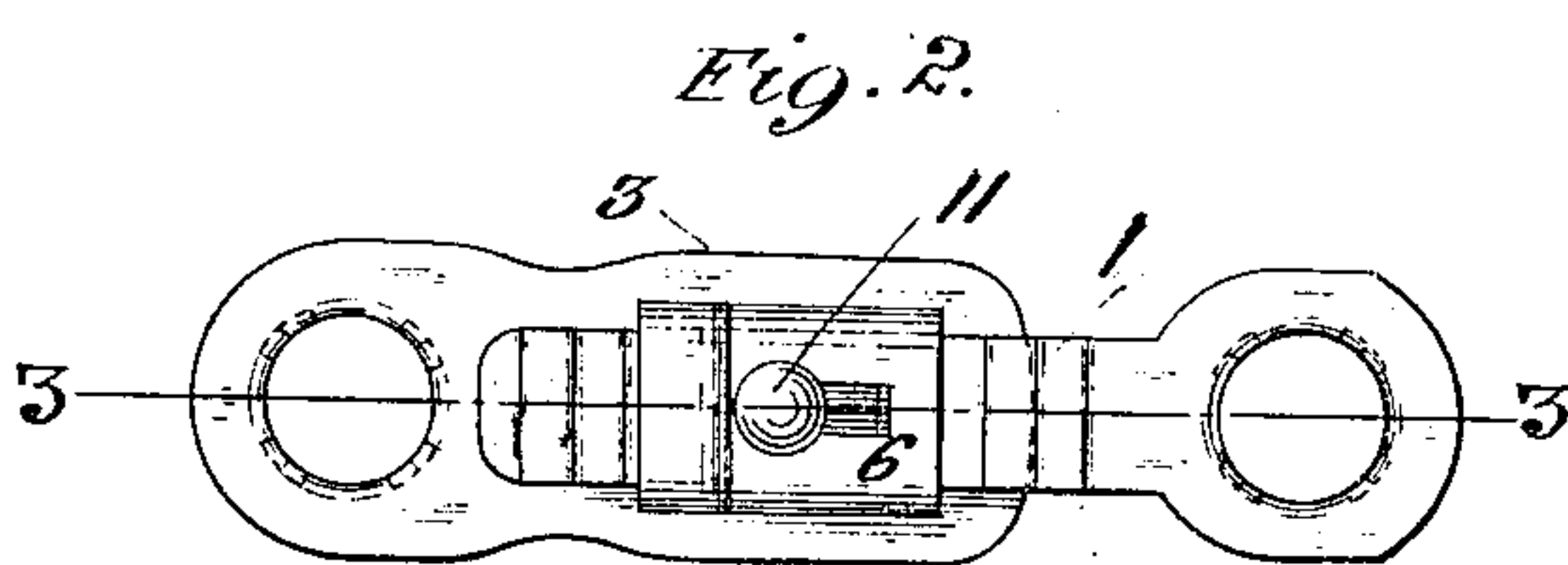
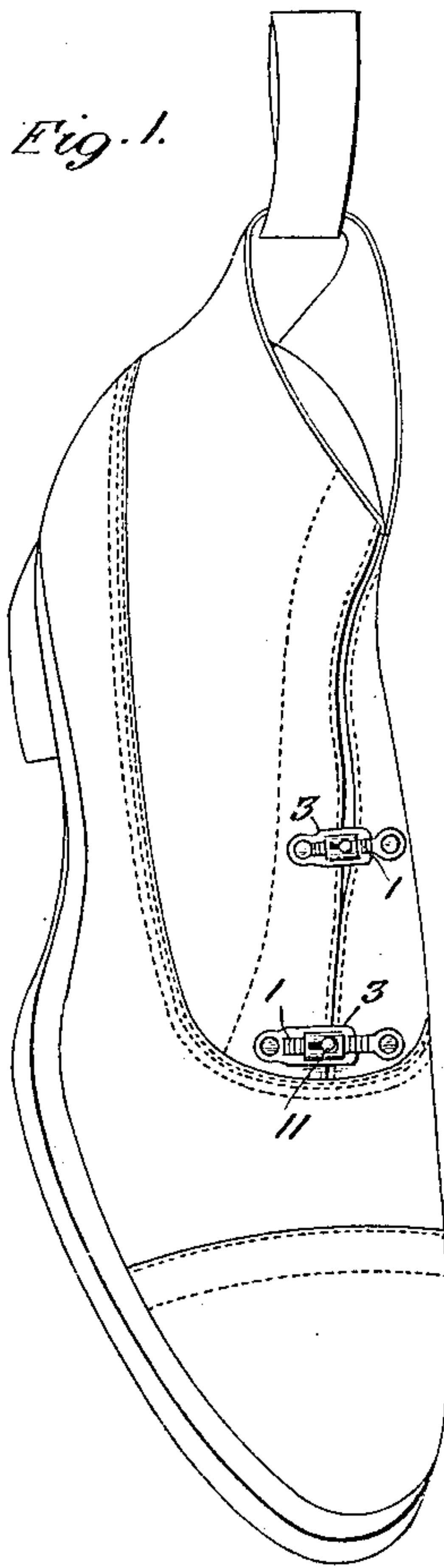
Patented Mar. 21, 1899.

J. HODGES & C. O. SOBINSKI.

SHOE CLASP.

(Application filed Nov. 14, 1898.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES
Edward W. Lurrell
James J. McDonnell

INVENTORS
Jesse Hodges and
Charles O. Sobinski
by Storer, atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JESSE HODGES AND CHARLES O. SOBINSKI, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SHOE-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 621,415, dated March 21, 1899.

Application filed November 14, 1898. Serial No. 696,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JESSE HODGES and CHARLES O. SOBINSKI, citizens of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Clasps, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

Our invention has relation to improvements in shoe-clasps; and it consists in the novel arrangement and combination of parts more fully set forth in the specification and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe, showing our invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the clasp assembled, with the locking-stud in its highest or disengaged position. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a similar section showing the stud, however, in its lowest or engaged position; and Fig. 5 is a plan of the under side of the female member of the clasp before the lip forming a part thereof is bent back against the body of the blank to close the opening of the pocket punched therefrom.

The object of our invention is to construct a clasp which will take the place of the prevailing shoe-lace, which must be renewed from time to time during the life of the shoe.

A further object is to construct a clasp which will be simple, reliable, positive in action, cheap, and durable.

In detail it may be described as follows:

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a serrated or toothed tongue adapted to be secured to the shoe by the staple-prongs 2, punched from the body of the metal at one end thereof, the said tongue constituting the male member of the clasp. The female member comprises a plate 3, secured to the opposite side of the shoe-upper by means of prongs 4. Punched from the body of the plate 3 is a pocket 5, having an upper slotted wall or roof 6, inclined to the surface of the plate, the rear of the pocket terminating in a reduced extension 5', separated from the pocket proper by an offset 7. Formed at the juncture of the lower edge of the wall 6 with the plate 3 proper is a transverse slit 8, which

aligns with a corresponding slit 9, formed at the juncture of the plate 3 and pocket extension 5', the slits 8 and 9 being designed to receive the serrated tongue 1 of the male member. The plate 3 is originally formed with an extended and reduced lip 10 of substantially the width of the opening resulting from the punching of the pocket 5, the said lip being folded back on the plate, and thus closing the open bottom of the pocket and serving to guide the tongue therethrough from the slit 8 to the slit 9. Operating in the longitudinal slot of the wall 6 is the shank of a locking-stud 11, the base of the shank being provided with a wedge-shaped block 12, overlapping the sides of the slot along the under surface of the wall 6, (see Fig. 5,) the base or back of the wedge when shifted to its lowest position along the wall 6 being adapted to be engaged by one of the serrations of the tongue 1, and the greater the tension or pull of the tongue the more firmly will the block 12 be wedged between the wall 6 and tongue 1 and the more effectively will the parts be clasped. (See Fig. 4.) Upon shifting the stud to its highest position on the wall 6, (see Fig. 3,) out of disengagement with the tongue, (which shifting may be done either by seizing the stud and shifting it up the inclined wall or by forcing the tongue inward, which would have the effect of disengaging it from the block and at the same time shoving the latter up the incline,) the latter can readily be withdrawn and the respective sections of the device unclasped.

While we have herein denominated the device as a "shoe-clasp," it is to be noted that we do not limit its application to shoes; but the same may be used as a glove-clasp, corset-clasp, and the like—that is to say, for wearing-apparel generally.

The device may be altered in details without departing from the spirit of our invention.

While only two clasps are shown in connection with the shoe in Fig. 1, it is obvious that any desired number may be used, the two shown merely illustrating the application of our device.

Having described our invention, what we claim is—

1. A clasp comprising a male and female

member, a serrated tongue forming a part of the male member, a pocket formed in the female member and having an upper inclined slotted wall, a locking-stud having a shank operating in the slot of the inclined wall, a wedge-shaped block carried at the base of the shank within the pocket and spanning the slot of the inclined wall, a reduced extension forming a part of the pocket, transverse slits formed at the base of the inclined wall and the outer edge of the extension for the free reception of the serrated tongue, the parts operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A clasp having a male and female member, the latter comprising a suitable blank or plate having a pocket punched therefrom, and a lip extended beyond the limits of the pocket and adapted to be folded back against the plate and thus close the opening left in the

plate by the formation of the pocket, substantially as set forth.

3. A clasp comprising a male and female member, a tongue forming a part of the male member, a pocket formed in the female member and having an upper inclined slotted wall, a locking-stud having a shank operating in the slot of the inclined wall, a block carried at the base of the shank within the pocket and spanning the slot of the inclined wall, slits leading to and from the pocket for the reception of the tongue, the parts operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JESSE HODGES.

CHAS. O. SOBINSKI.

Witnesses:

EMIL STAREK,

JAMES J. O'DONOHUE.