

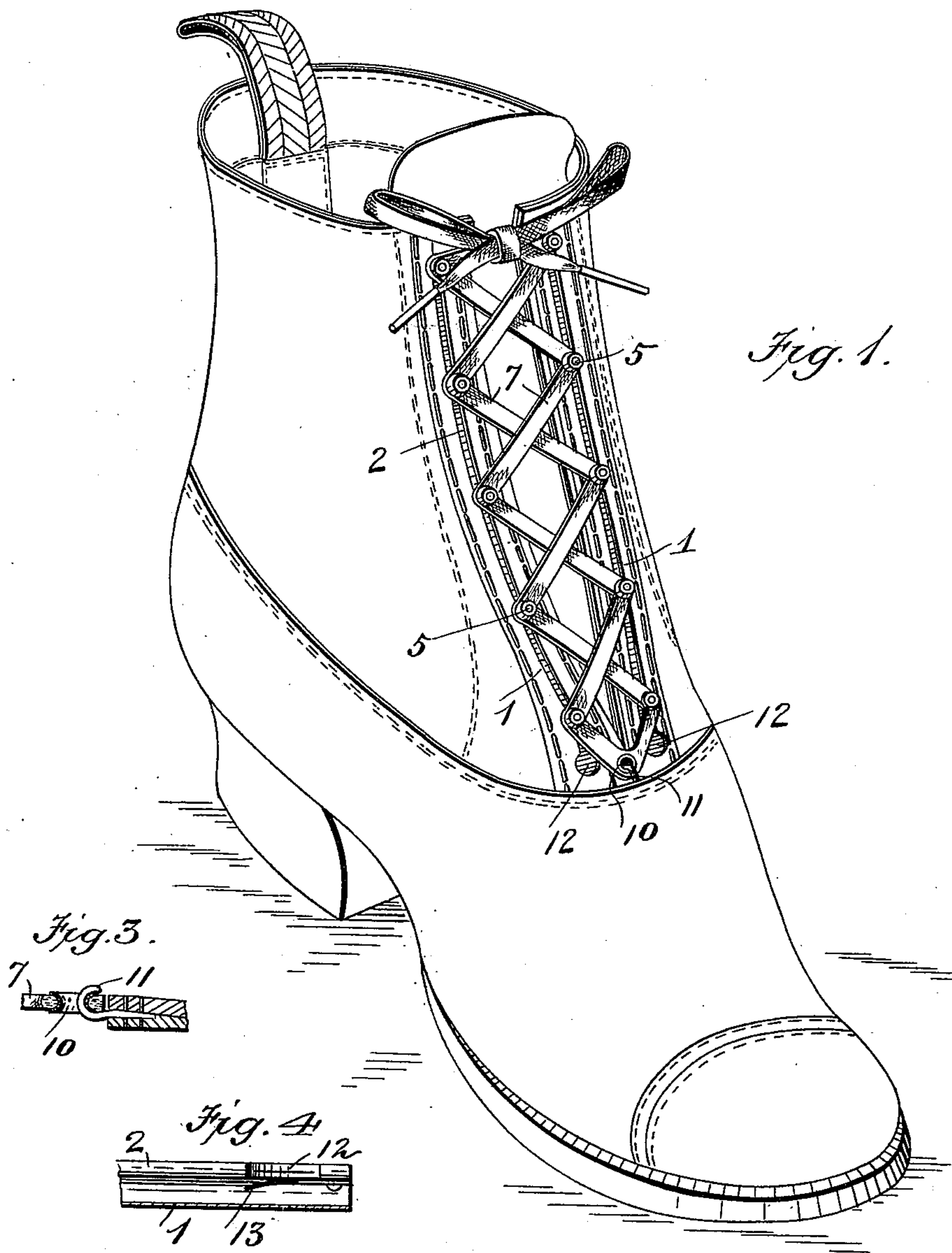
No. 635,184.

Patented Oct. 17, 1899.

H. G. PRICE.  
FASTENER FOR SHOES, &c.

(Application filed June 22, 1898.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:  
*Frank L. Curran*  
*Samuel J. Jones*

INVENTOR:  
*Harry G. Price,*  
BY  
*Samuel Bagger & Co.,*  
ATTORNEYS.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY GREGG PRICE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## FASTENER FOR SHOES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 635,184, dated October 17, 1899.

Application filed June 22, 1898. Serial No. 684,175. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY GREGG PRICE, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain  
5 Improvements in Fasteners for Shoes, Gloves, Corsets, &c., of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to so construct a fastening for shoes, gloves, corsets, &c., that  
10 the two parts can be drawn together by a simple pull upon the lacing, and this object I attain in the manner hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

15 Figure 1 is a view of a shoe with fastening constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section of said fastening; and Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views of parts of the fastening, showing features of  
20 construction not clearly indicated in the other views.

To each side or flap of the shoe-top, glove, corset, or other article of apparel which is to be fastened I attach a hollow rib 1, having a  
25 contracted mouth or throat 2, this rib being secured to the leather or other fabric by sewing or otherwise and being, if desired, provided with perforated flanges or lugs for this purpose. The ribs may be of any desired material possessing such flexibility as is demanded  
30 by the use for which they are intended, and to each hollow rib are adapted the enlarged heads 4 of a series of studs 5, which have shanks swiveled in eyelets 6 or other  
35 suitable carriers secured to the lacing 7, the latter crossing from rib to rib, as shown in Fig. 1. The studs 5 can thus turn in the eyelets of the lacing and can also slide longitudinally along the hollow ribs 1. Hence if the  
40 shoe-flaps are separated a pull upon the upper ends of the lacing, tending to straighten the latter, will cause the pulling together of the hollow ribs and with them the opposite flaps of the shoe, the studs being prevented  
45 from leaving the hollow ribs by reason of their enlarged heads, but being free to slide longitudinally along the ribs as the lacing is drawn tight. After the flaps have been thus drawn together the lacing may be secured by  
50 tying or by any suitable form of clip or retainer.

While I prefer to use a doubled lacing hav-

ing runs crossing each other diagonally, as shown, a lace having a single run carried back and forth from one rib to the other may in  
55 some cases be all that is necessary. The studs may also in some cases be secured to the lace instead of being swiveled thereto, although the latter construction is preferred. The center portion of the lace has an eyelet 10, which  
60 is engaged by a hook 11 or equivalent fastening secured to the shoe, so as to retain said central portion of the lace in its proper position, as shown in Fig. 3, and the contracted  
65 mouth of each hollow rib is enlarged at the lower end of the rib, as shown at 12, for the insertion of the enlarged heads of the studs, a spring-tongue 13 closing said enlargement and being depressed by the heads of the studs  
70 as they are inserted, but then springing back to its normal position, so as to prevent the release of the studs from the rib. (See Fig. 4.)

I am aware that fastenings for shoes, gloves, corsets, and the like have been devised in which have been combined ribs or guides on  
75 the two parts to be drawn together, these ribs or guides engaging with studs carried by a lazy-tongs structure consisting of links crossing each other and extending from part to  
80 part of the structure to be fastened, these links being pivoted together at the crossing-points. A lazy-tongs structure, however, is such that movement of any one part implies  
85 corresponding movement of all other parts. Hence a connection of this character does not provide for local irregularities in the object to be covered, such as would permit the connected parts to approach closer at one point  
90 than at another. For instance, in the case of a shoe the flaps can be drawn closely together at their lower ends, but are apt to spread more or less across the instep, and then can be drawn closer together again at the top, and it will be evident that the lazy-tongs structure will not permit of any such  
95 adjustment. In my fastening device, however, the portions of the lacing between the opposite parts of the object to be fastened are disconnected from each other, and hence  
100 are free to assume any angle which the approach or separation of the opposite sides of the object to be fastened may require. Hence the fastening device adapts itself perfectly to any irregularity which may be met.

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

1. In a fastener of the character described,  
5 the combination with the guide-ribs formed with a longitudinal groove, of the studs formed with a head at each end and with an intermediate circular flange, the eyelets swiveled to the shanks of said studs between one of  
10 said heads and the flange and the lacing secured to said eyelets or carriers, substantially as specified.

2. The combination in a fastener for shoes, gloves, corsets, &c., of a pair of hollow ribs

each having a contracted longitudinal mouth 15 or throat enlarged at one end, an elastic closure for said enlargement, studs having enlarged heads adapted to pass through the enlargement and to depress said elastic closure and a lacing carrying said studs, substantially 20 as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HARRY GREGG PRICE.

Witnesses:

FRANK E. BECHTOLD,  
JOS. H. KLEIN.