

No. 666,011.

Patented Jan. 15, 1901.

F. A. HERRICK.  
LACING HOOK.

(Application filed Dec. 12, 1899.)

(No Model.)

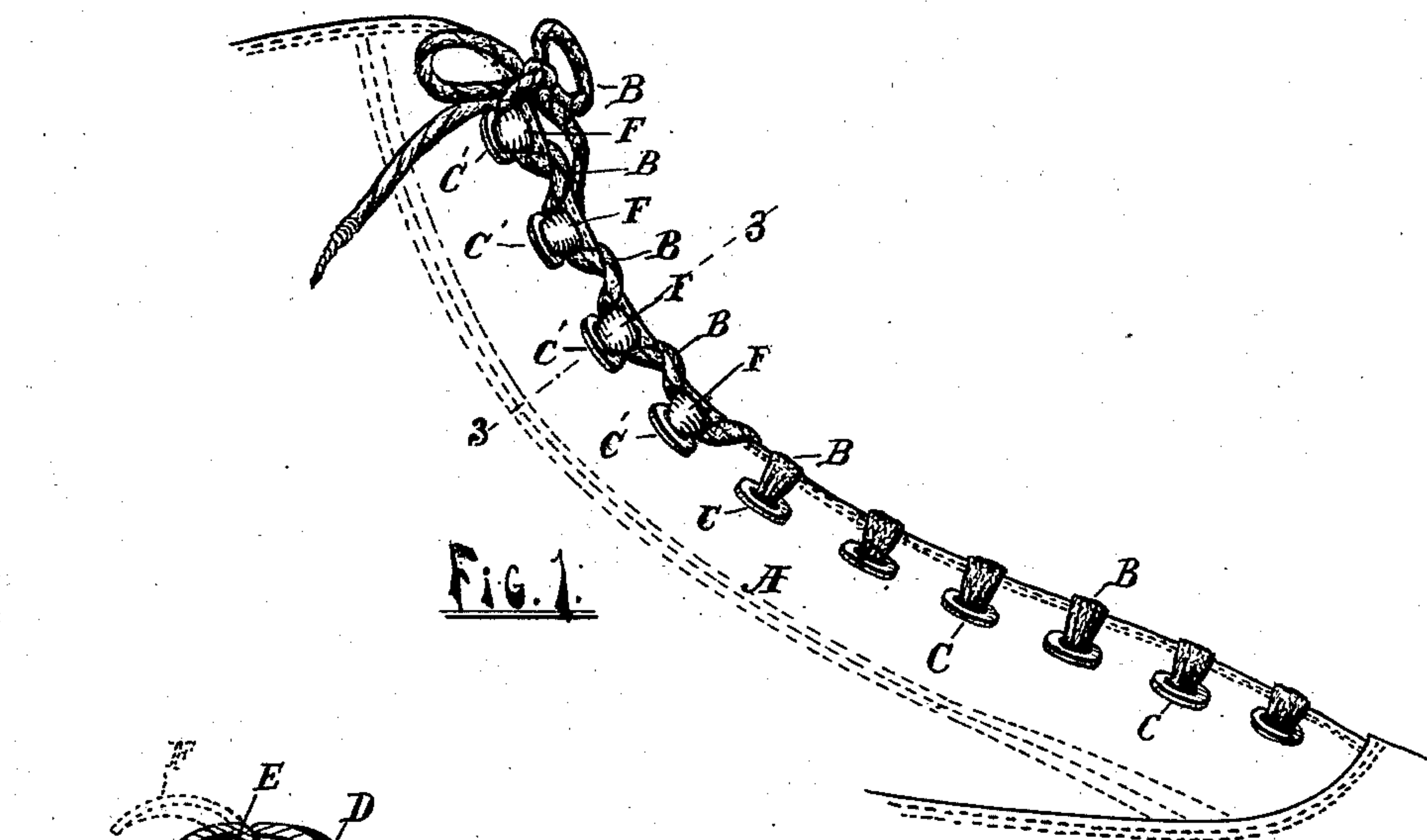


FIG. 1.

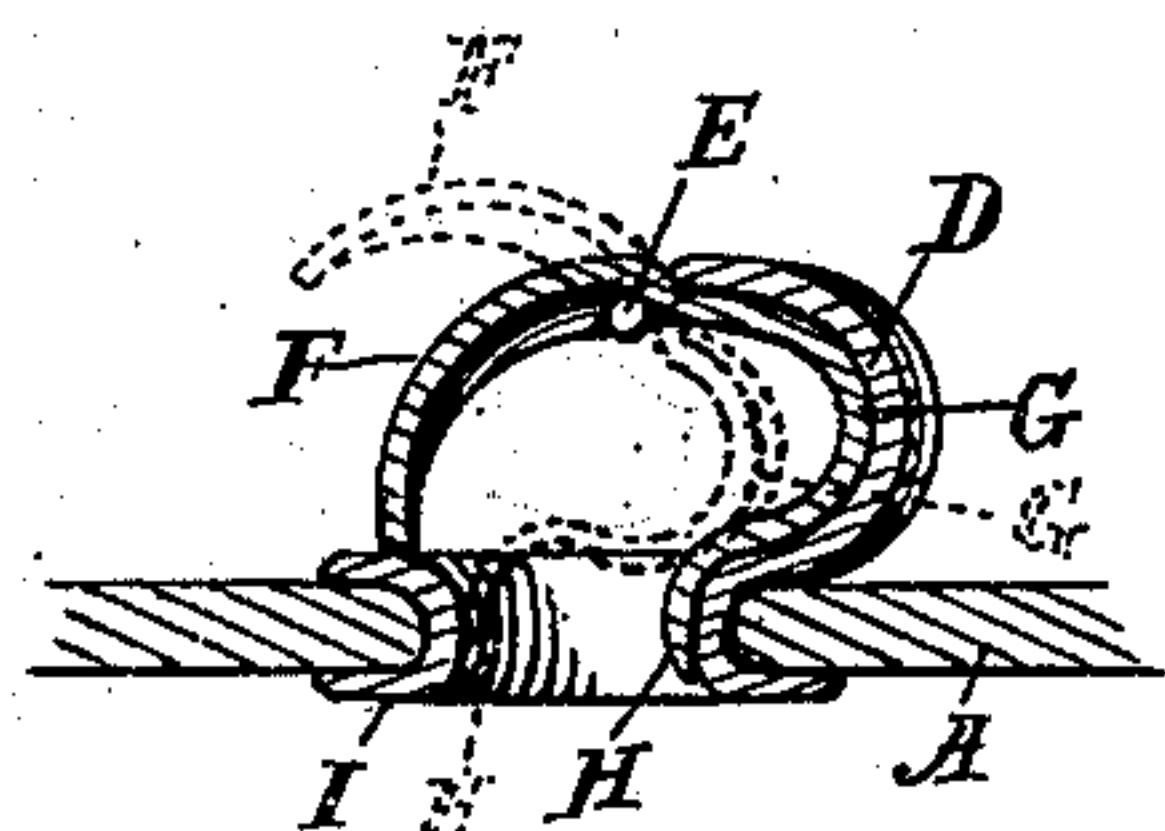


FIG. 3.

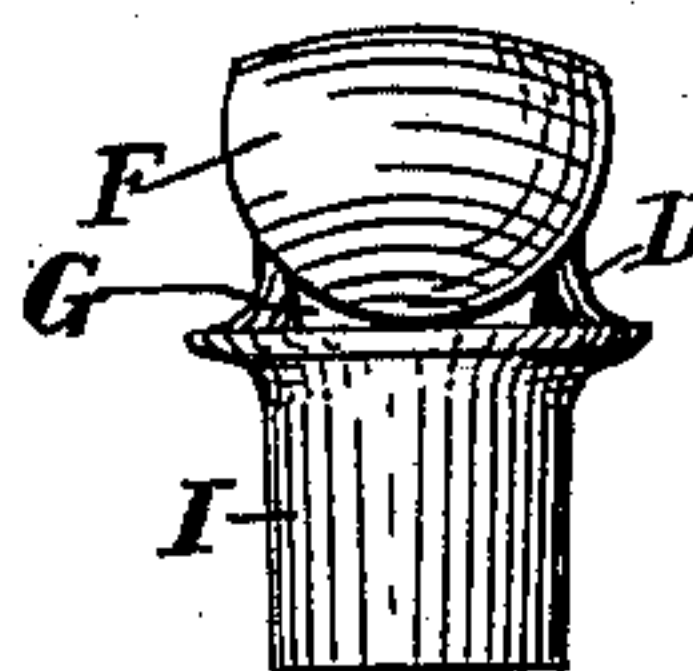


FIG. 2.

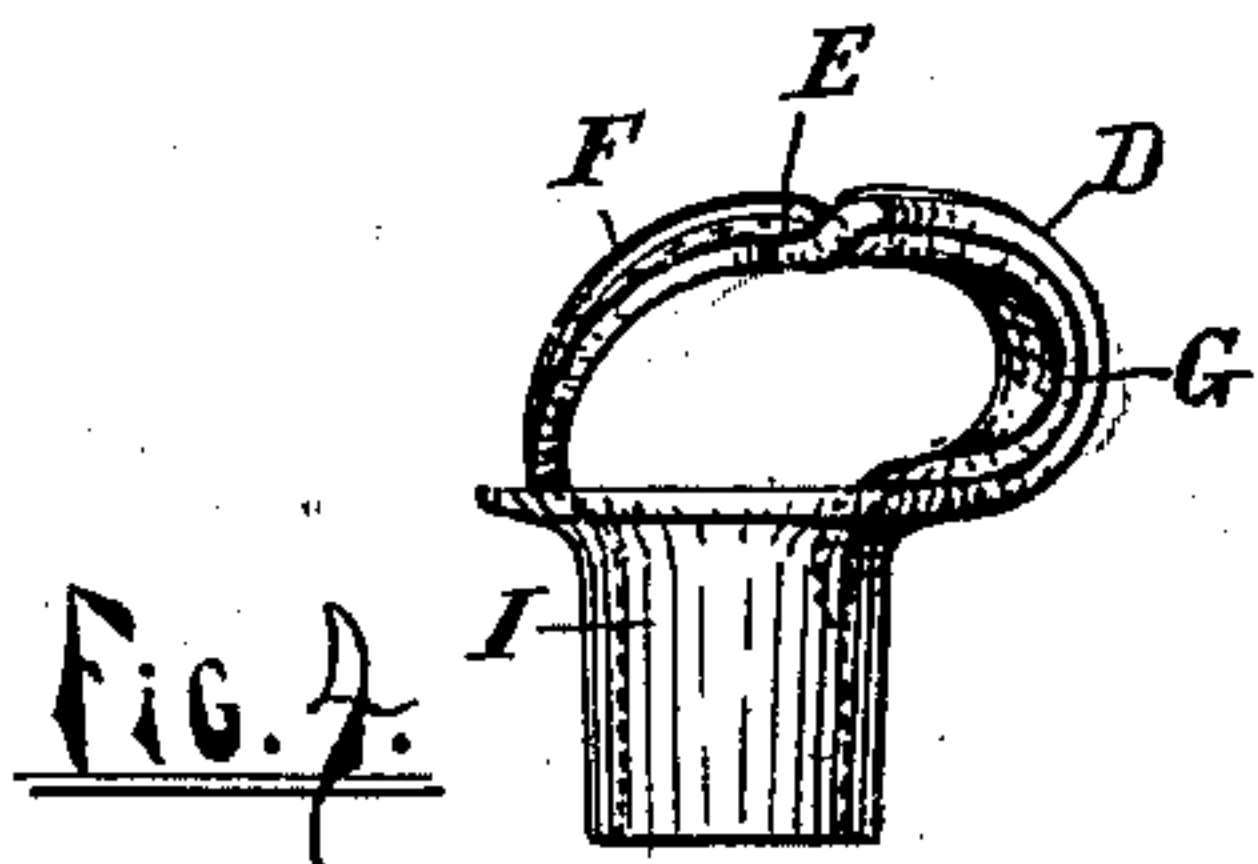


FIG. 4.

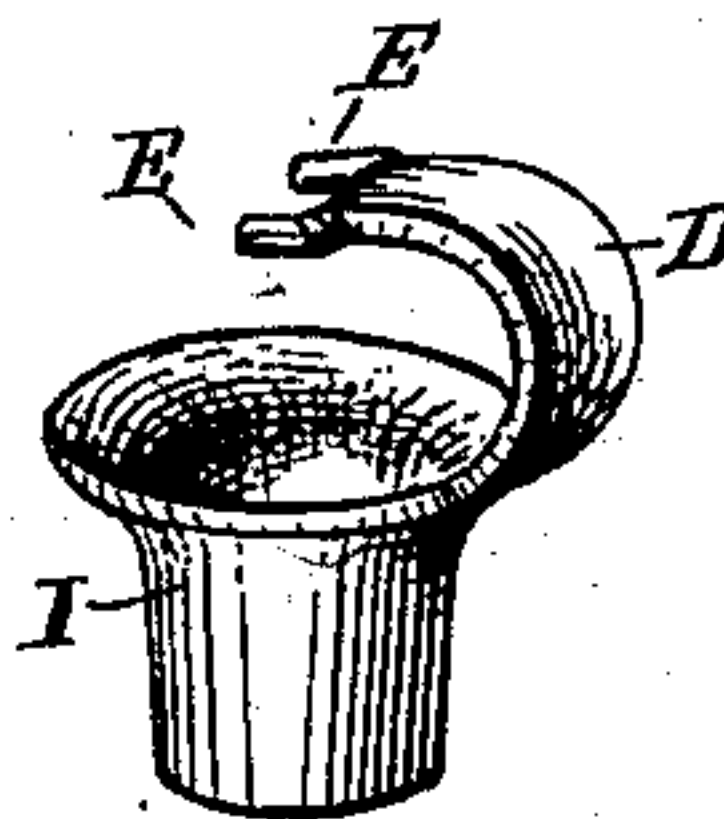


FIG. 6.

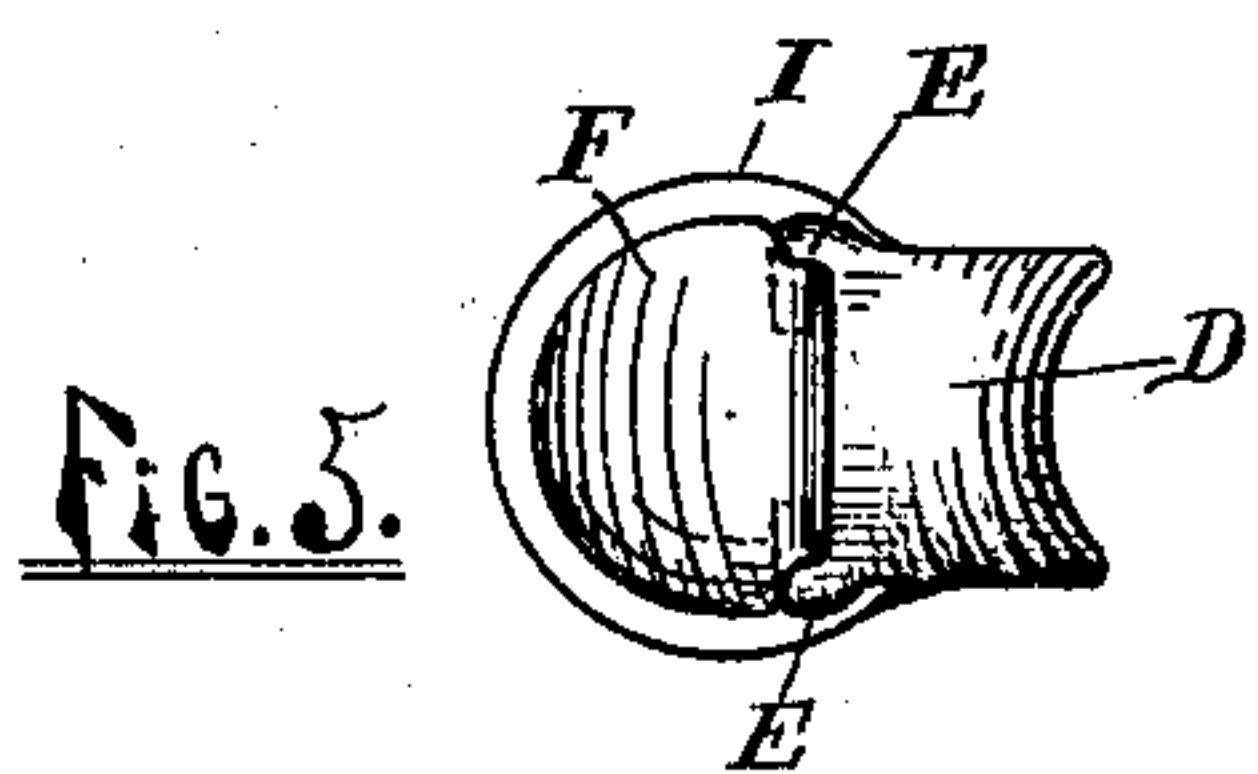


FIG. 5.

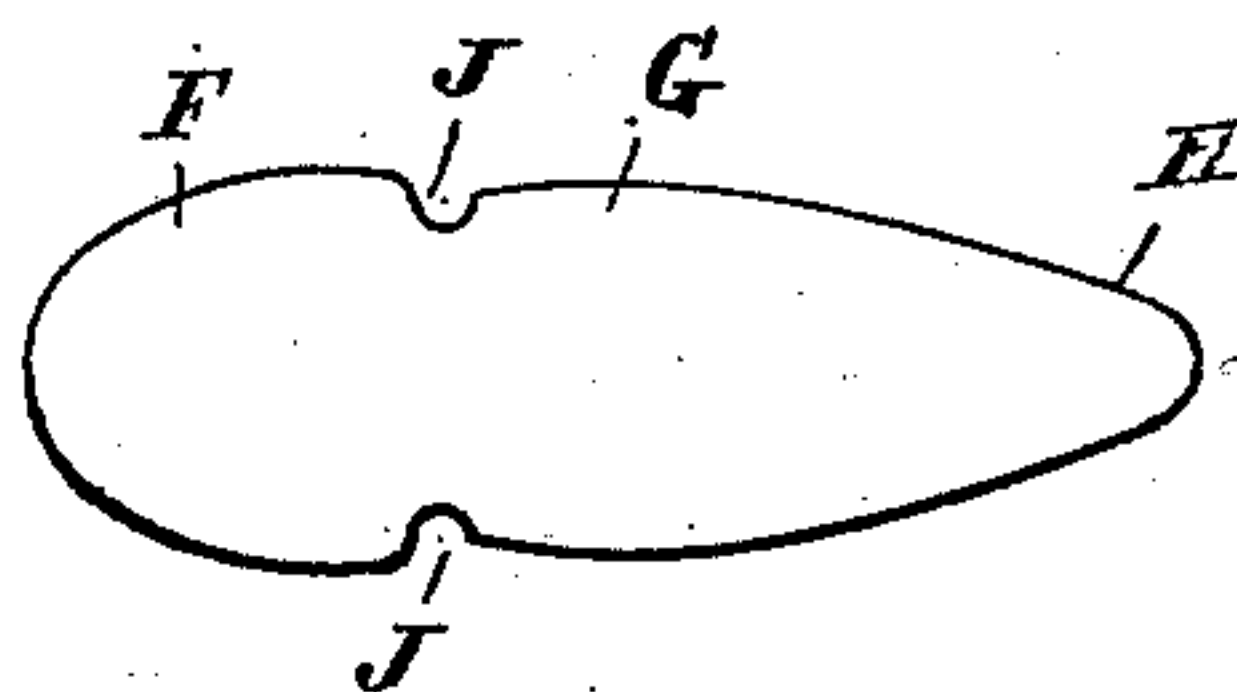


FIG. 7.

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TO THOMAS HOSKINS GAY, OF BELLE FOURCHE, SOUTH DAKOTA, AND  
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## LACING-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 666,011, dated January 15, 1901.

Application filed December 12, 1899. Serial No. 740,064. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK A. HERRICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jackson, in the county of Jackson and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lacing-Hooks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in lacing-hooks for shoes, gloves, or other wearing-apparel; and its object is to provide means for closing the open side of the hook and for strengthening and supporting the same and to provide the same with certain new and useful features hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims. Heretofore such hooks have consisted of a suitable eyelet or other fastening having an integral hook reverted above the same, with which the lacing is engaged. These lacing-hooks are objectionable in that they are liable to catch in the clothing to the damage of the same and the annoyance of the wearer and are also somewhat easily bent by any pressure brought upon the top of the hook. Devices adapted to close the open side of the hook have been made, but of different, more complicated, and expensive construction. My device is intended and adapted to remedy these defects and consists, essentially, of a lacing-hook provided with a pivoted tongue or latch adapted to close the open side of the hook and extended within the hook and eyelet, forming a stop to limit the opening movement of the device and to prevent breaking the hinge-joint and forming an arch supporting the hook, said extension being adapted to be engaged by the lacing and held firmly closed thereby, as hereinafter more fully described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a shoe-lacing, together with my improved lacing-hooks; Fig. 2, a front elevation of my improved lacing-hook; Fig. 3, a section of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a side elevation of the device as shown in Fig. 2; Fig. 5, a plan view of the same; Fig. 6, a perspective detail of

the hook with the pivoted portion detached, and Fig. 7 a plan view of the blank for making the pivoted portion.

All of the figures except Fig. 1 are considerably enlarged to better show the construction.

Like letters refer to like parts in all of the figures.

A represents a portion of the shoe, having the usual lacing B and the lacing-eyelets C.

C' represents my improved lacing-hooks, having a pivoted portion F to close the open side of the hook.

I represents the eyelet or tubular rivet before inserting the same in the shoe. Integral with this rivet is a hook D of substantially semicircular form and terminating above the rivet in a substantially transverse line and having at its respective angles projections E, which projections extend diagonally outward, downward, and forward, and thence are turned inward to embrace and pivotally connect a suitable tongue F to the end of the hook. Said tongue is convex and adapted to span the space between the upper part of the hook and the forward side of the rivet-flange and has a rounded end to rest upon the flange when closed. This tongue is provided with lateral recesses J, engaged by the projections E E, whereby the tongue is pivotally connected and securely attached to the end of the hook. The tongue is also set off diagonally and oppositely to the embracing projections between the recesses J, whereby its forward part F is raised to the level of the end of the hook and the rear part G depressed to pass beneath the same. The tongue is also extended in a curve along the inner surface of the hook D, as shown at G, and thence downward within the rivet, as shown at H in Fig. 3. The end H thus serves to limit the movement of the tongue F when raised, as illustrated by the dotted lines in Fig. 3. This prevents turning the tongue far enough to bring undue strain upon the projections E E or to turn it out of proper position.

From the foregoing description the operation of my device will be readily understood. The tongue F will by gravity be normally in closed position and the lacing when brought



in contact with the rounded side of the tongue F will readily raise the same and pass between it and the rivet and then by contact with the inner extension G of the tongue will  
5 firmly close the same to place and securely hold it in closed position, thus closing the open side of the hook and preventing anything whatever from engaging the same. The tongue F, together with its inner extension G,  
10 also forms an arch resting upon the opposite sides of the flange of the rivet I and supporting the free end of the hook, thus very materially strengthening the hook and enabling it to sustain a much greater pressure without  
15 bending.

By the construction of hinge-joint shown I am able to manufacture the device rapidly and cheaply.

I have shown the device in connection with  
20 a shoe; but it is evident that it is useful in connection with gloves, corsets, or various other garments. I do not, therefore, limit myself in this regard.

Having thus fully described my invention, 25 what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a hook adapted to be attached to a garment; and terminating in a substantially transverse line at the top,  
30 and having forwardly and inwardly turned projections at its angles, a tongue having lateral recesses engaged by said projections and extending oppositely from said recesses and curved downward at its respective ends,

adapted at one end to close the open side of 35 the hook and at the other end to engage the inner surface of the hook and be held closed by the lacing, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a hook adapted to be attached to a garment and terminating at 40 the detached end in two opposing projections, said projections being inclined forward and downward, and thence turned inward, and a tongue having lateral recesses engaged by the said projections and also having an offset 45 between the recesses, and extending within the hook at one end and prolonging the curve of the hook at the outer end, substantially as described.

3. A lacing device, comprising a body hav- 50 ing a head thereon, and a guard-tongue pivoted to the upper portion of the same, the tongue having an upper end extending outwardly and downwardly from the pivot toward the front of the body, an intermediate 55 portion located between the head and body and adapted to contact with and lie against the head at the inner surface thereof, and a forwardly-projecting lower end projected into the body, and adapted to contact by its 60 forward end with an interior wall of the body to limit the opening movement of the tongue.

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

FRANK A. HERRICK.

Witnesses:

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OLMAR ANDRES.