

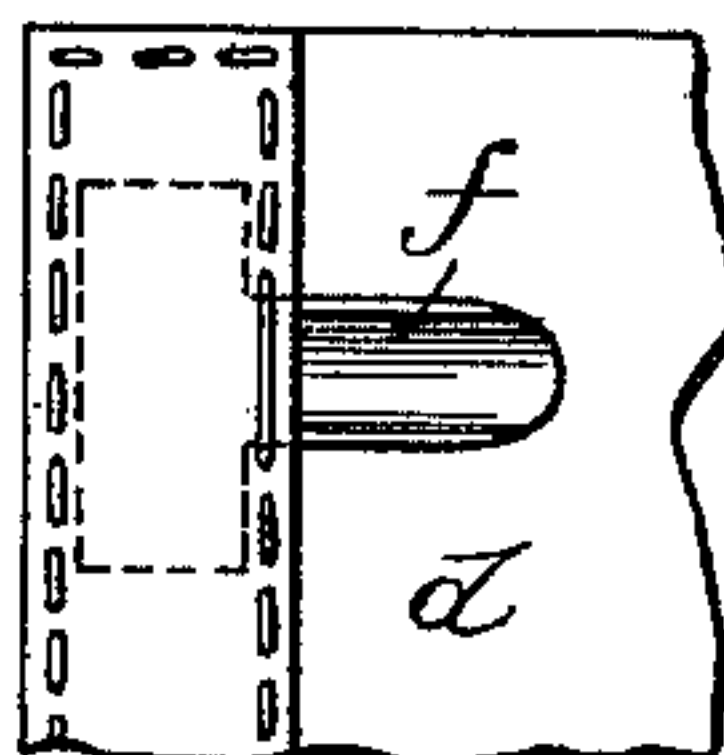
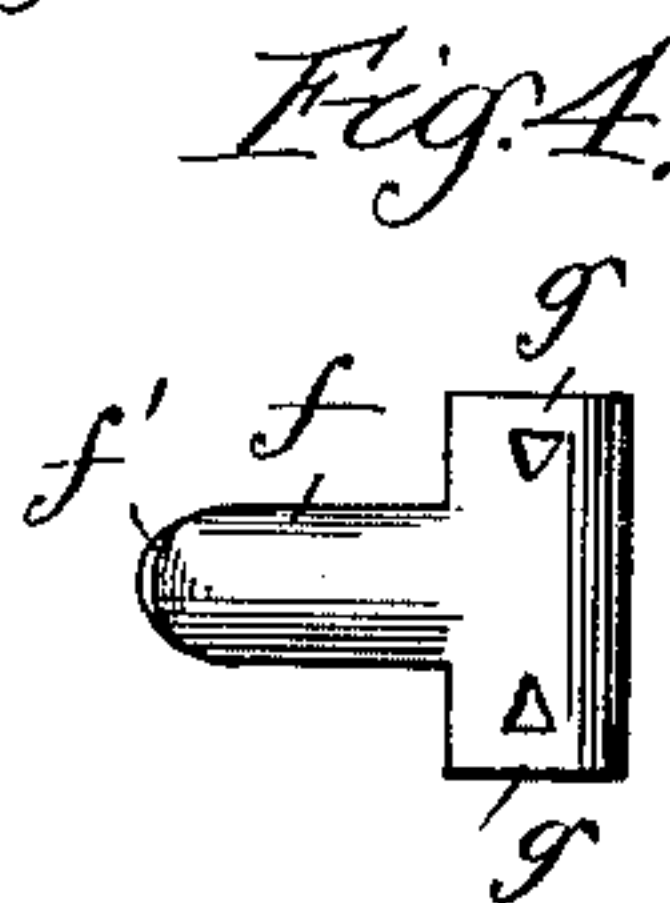
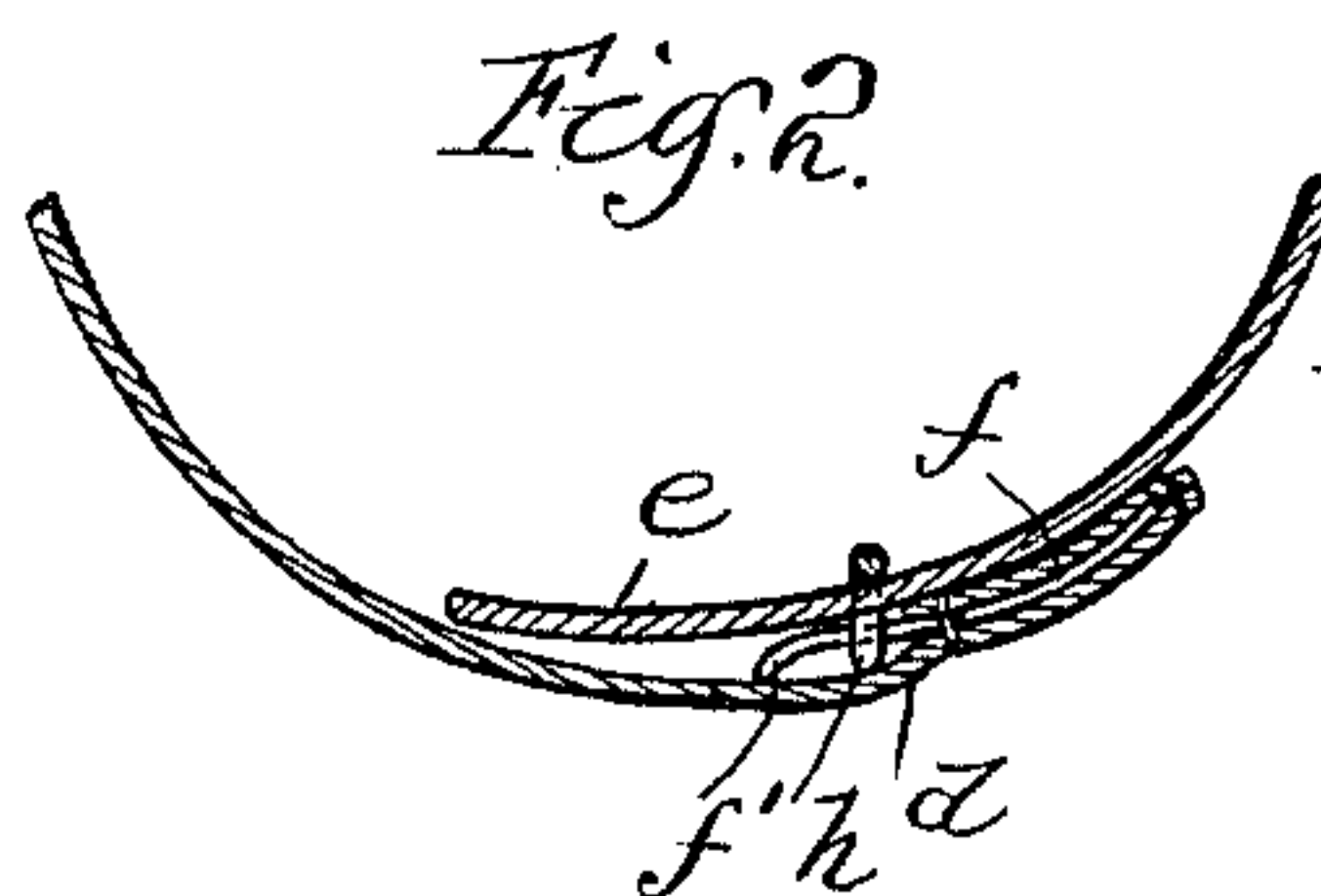
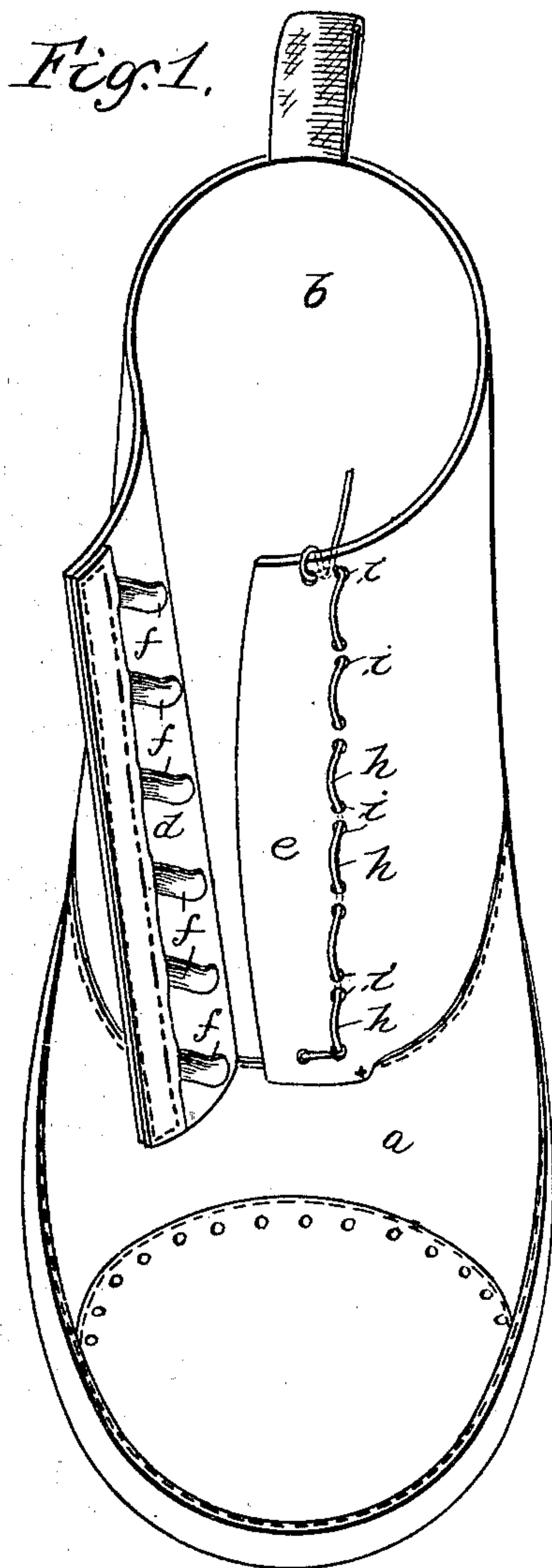
No. 672,569.

Patented Apr. 23, 1901.

**L. ROADHOUSE.
SHOE.**

(Application filed Oct. 17, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses.

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Inventor

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI ROADHOUSE, OF BELOIT, WISCONSIN.

SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 672,569, dated April 23, 1901.

Application filed October 17, 1898. Serial No. 693,753. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI ROADHOUSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Beloit, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

One object of my invention is to provide a fastener for shoes, which may be quickly undone to permit the speedy removal of the shoe in case of accident, thus making the shoe particularly suitable for the use of rolling-mill workers and others who are engaged in dangerous work and are exposed to accidents. In rolling-mill work it frequently happens that molten metal is spilled upon the feet of the workmen, rendering it necessary to remove the shoe instantly in order to avoid serious burning. Where laced or buckled shoes are used, the laces or buckles must first be undone, occasioning more or less delay, the wearer being meanwhile subjected to the action of the hot metal. Furthermore, a shoe which may be readily fastened and unfastened without consuming any considerable amount of time is desirable on general principles.

My invention further has for its object to provide a shoe in which the opening usually left in the front of the upper will be closed when the shoe is fastened, thereby protecting the foot from injury and from the water in case of rain.

A further object of my invention is to provide means for adjusting the fastening devices so that the shoe may be made to fit snugly around the ankle.

I accomplish these objects as hereinafter specified and as illustrated in the drawings.

That which I regard as new will be set forth in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the front part of the quarter, showing the shoe fastened. Fig. 3 is an edge view of one of the catches. Fig. 4 is a plan view thereof; and Fig. 5 is a view of the inside of one end of the quarter, showing the catch in place.

Referring to the drawings, *a* indicates the vamp, and *b* the quarter. As illustrated in the drawings, the quarter is secured to the

the vamp, except at its ends, which are loose, forming flaps *d e*, the flap *d* being arranged to fold over upon the flap *e*, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The flap *d* carries a series of catches *f*, which are secured to the flap near its edge and project backward or inward, as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 5. The catches *f* are curved to conform somewhat to the shape of the instep, and the free ends or bills of the catches are bent slightly toward the flap, to which they are secured, as shown at *f'* in Fig. 2, the object of this arrangement being to prevent any accidental detachment of the catches. At their opposite ends the catches are provided with wings *g*, which afford a broader base for securing them to the flap, as shown in Fig. 5. The catches *f* are secured to the flap *d* by sewing or other convenient means, so as to leave that part of the catches from the wings *g* to the point *f'* free, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5. The bills of said catches, while curved, extend in substantially the plane of the wings *g*. The catches *f* are adapted to engage suitable retaining devices carried by the flap *e*, which retaining devices consist, in the construction illustrated, of a series of loops *h*, formed by running a lace through a series of holes *i* in the flap *e*, one end of the lace being secured at the lower end of the flap and the other end at the upper end thereof, as shown. The upper end of the lace is secured so as to be readily unfastened, so that the looped portions of the lace may be made longer or shorter, thereby increasing or reducing the size of the loops and providing for the adjustment of the quarter to the foot. The effective part of the catches *f* is that part which projects from the wings *g*, and the catches are so secured to the flap *d* that when said flap is folded over upon the flap *e* the winged portion *g* or the point at which the catches *f* are secured to the flap *d* will extend slightly beyond the loops *h*, as shown in Fig. 2. By this construction the strain of the flap *d* is received by the catches *f* at the base, and such strain acts to hold the flaps more tightly together instead of to detach the catches, as would be the case if the strain were sustained by the catches near their points. At the same time the points of the bills may be moved away from the upper to permit the catch to be released.

In operation the shoe is secured by bend-

ing the flap *d*, as illustrated in Fig. 1, to throw the points or bills of the catches *f* outward. The flap *d* is then carried over the flap *e* until the points of the catches project beyond the loops *h*, when the end of the flap *d* is turned over upon the flap *e*, as shown in Fig. 2, throwing the catches into the loops. This operation may be performed very expeditiously, as the catches may all be engaged at substantially the same time. To unfasten the shoe, it is necessary only to take the flap *d* by the upper corner thereof and turn it forcibly outward, which action will move the points of the bills away from the upper and disengage all the catches from the loops and permit the shoe to be removed. When the flap *d* is turned over upon the flap *e*, as shown in Fig. 2, there is no opening for the admission of water and the foot is thoroughly protected in front.

While my improved fastening devices are particularly adapted for use on shoes, they may be used on any article which fits closely upon a form.

That which I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A shoe having an overlapping quarter, one or more catches carried on the inner surface of the overlapping portion of the quarter, said catches consisting of bills secured to the quarter near the edge of the overlapping portion thereof and projecting inward from the attaching member, and a retaining device carried by the overlapped portion of the quarter and adapted to receive said bill or bills, and to fit closely in the angle formed by the bill and the quarter, adjacent to the point at which the bill is secured to the quarter, substantially as described.

2. A shoe having an overlapping quarter, one or more catches carried on the inner surface of the overlapping portion of the quarter, said catches consisting of bills secured to the quarter near the edge of the overlapping portion thereof and projecting inward from the attaching member, said bills being

curved near their free ends to present a concave surface longitudinally of the bill next to that portion of the quarter to which they are secured, and a retaining device carried by the overlapped portion of the quarter and adapted to receive said bill or bills, and to fit closely in the angle formed by the bill and the quarter, adjacent to the point at which the bill is secured to the quarter, substantially as described.

3. A shoe having an overlapping quarter, one or more catches carried on the inner surface of the overlapping portion of the quarter, said catches consisting of bills secured to the quarter near the edge of the overlapping portion thereof and projecting inward from the attaching member, and a retaining device carried by the overlapped portion of the quarter and adapted to receive said bill or bills, and to fit closely in the angle formed by the bill and the quarter, adjacent to the point at which the bill is secured to the quarter, said retaining device consisting of one or more flexible loops, substantially as described.

4. A shoe having an overlapping quarter, one or more catches carried on the inner surface of the overlapping portion of the quarter, said catches consisting of bills secured to the quarter near the edge of the overlapping portion thereof and projecting inward from the attaching member, and a retaining device carried by the overlapped portion of the quarter and adapted to receive said bill or bills, and to fit closely in the angle formed by the bill and the quarter, adjacent to the point at which the bill is secured to the quarter, said retaining device consisting of one or more flexible loops, said retaining device being adjustable to vary the size of said loops, substantially as described.

LEVI ROADHOUSE.

Witnesses:

F. R. CHENEY,
W. S. SHARP.