No. 681,286. Patented Aug. 27, 1901.

E. T. WILLHOIT.

SHOE FASTENER.

(Application filed Apr. 1, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

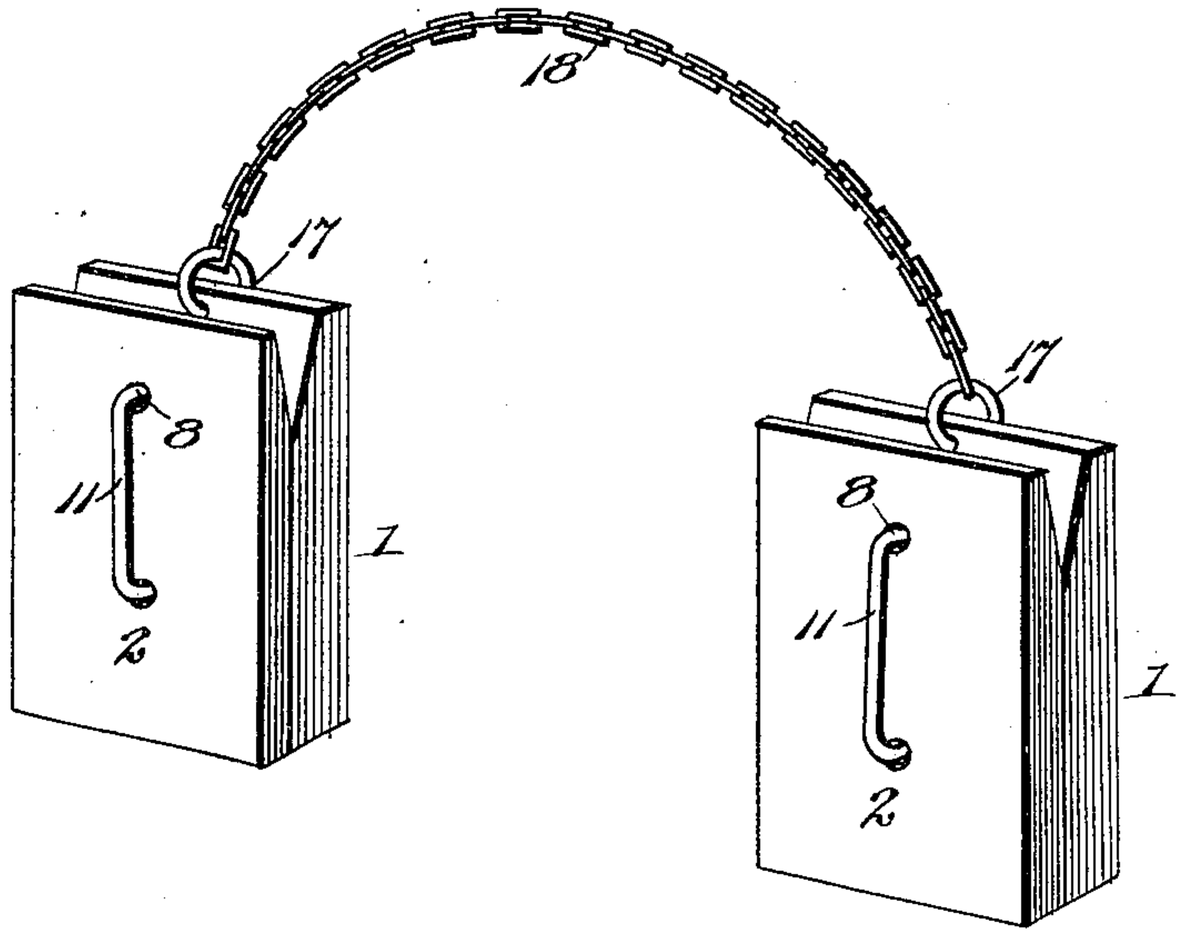


Fig. 2.

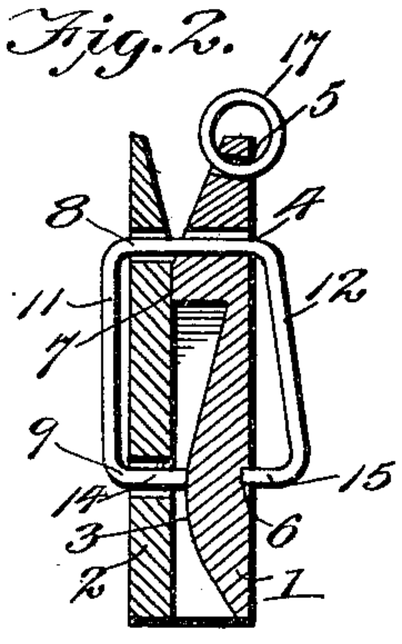


Fig. 3.

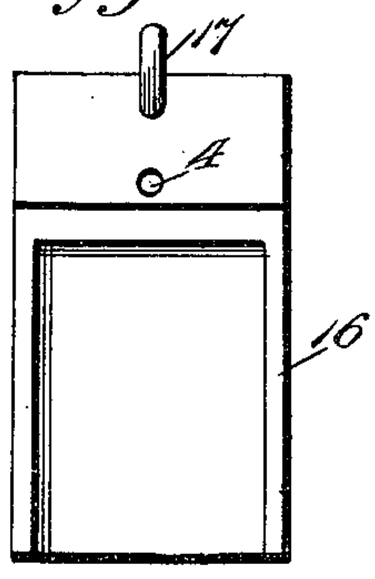
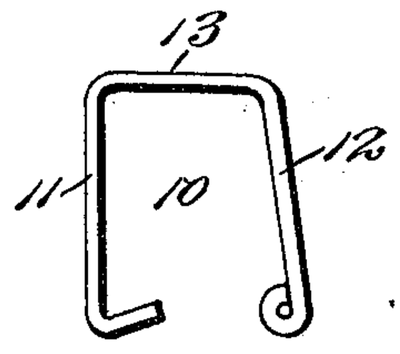


Fig. 4.



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ELMER T. WILLHOIT, OF WOODRUFF, MISSOURI.

SHOE-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 681,286, dated August 27, 1901.

Application filed April 1, 1901. Serial No. 53,952. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER T. WILLHOIT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Woodruff, in the county of Platte and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to shoe-clamps, the object being to provide a simple and inexpensive device for securing shoes together in pairs.

The invention is specially designed for attaching overshoes together when not in use, thus preventing one of a pair from becoming separated from its mate, as is likely to occur where a number of pairs of rubbers or overshoes are placed together in a hallway or in the dressing-room of a public place of entertainment.

The invention consists of a pair of clamps of novel construction, connected by a chain or equivalent connection and adapted to be readily applied to or detached from a pair of overshoes.

The construction of the improvement will be fully described hereinafter in connection with the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and its novel features will be defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the securing device complete. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through one of the clamps thereof. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the inner side of one member of one of the clamps, and Fig. 4 is a view in perspective of a modified form of the spring which secures the members of the clamps together.

As the two clamps employed are similar in all respects, a description of one will suffice for both. Each clamp consists of two plates or members, (designated by the reference-numerals 1 and 2, respectively.) The plate 1 is recessed on its inner surface to form a convex projection 3, and the upper portion of the inner surface is beveled, as shown. The plate 1 is formed with parallel openings 4 and 5, and the outer face of said plate is formed with a depression 6 for the purpose hereinafter explained. The plate 2 is beveled on the inner side of its upper end opposite the beveled portion of the plate 1, but in a direction opposite to the inclination of the bevel of said plate 1, thus adapting the upper end of plate 2 to be tilted toward the plate 1 to separate the lower ends of the plates, the projecting shoulders 7 of the plate 1 serving as a fulcrum-point for the plate 2. The plate 2 is formed with an opening 8 near its upper end, which registers with the opening 4 of the plate 1, and said plate 2 is also formed with an opening 9 opposite the depression 6.

10 designates a connecting device for the two plates, comprising a spring bent to substantially rectangular form to form clamping-arms 11 and 12, a cross-rod 13, and the inwardly-bent ends or hooks 14 and 15. The cross-rod 13 extends through the registering openings 4 and 8, the end 14 of the arm 11 extends through the opening 9 and impinges against the convex projection 3, and the bent end or hook 15 enters the depression 6 of the plate 1.

It will be obvious that the spring-arms 11 and 12 serve to firmly clamp the plates together, the flanges 16 extending around three sides of the plate 1, resting normally in contact with the flat inner face of the plate 2.

17 designates a ring passing through the opening 5 in the plate 1, and the rings of the two clamps are connected by a chain 18 or equivalent connecting means attached at its ends to said rings, as shown in Fig. 1, to permanently secure the two clamps together.

If preferred, the arm 12 of the spring-clamp may be bent upon itself to form a head adapted to project into a corresponding opening in the outer side of the plate 1.

The clamps are designed to be attached in any suitable manner, one to each shoe of a pair, preferably by engaging the heel portion of the shoe between the plates 1 and 2; but in case the shoes are provided with buckles (as is usual with the style of overshoes known as "arctics") the hook 14 of the arm 11 will pass through the buckle, and thus the spring will serve as a catch device in addition to its primary function of holding the clamp members together.

I claim—

1. A shoe-clamp comprising a plate beveled at its upper end and recessed on its inner face to form a projection, a second plate also beveled at its upper end, and a spring bent to form a cross-rod extending through register-

ing openings in said plates, clamping-arms terminating in hooks one of which engages one of said plates while the other extends through an opening in the other plate.

2. A shoe-clamp comprising a plate beveled at its upper end and recessed on its inner face to form a projection and a flange extending around three sides of the plate, a second plate also beveled at its upper end, and a spring bent to form a cross-rod extending through registering openings in the plates, and clamping-arms, terminating in hooks, one of which engages one of the plates, while the other extends through an opening in the other plate to impinge against said projection.

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

ELMER T. WILLHOIT.

Witnesses:
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