

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD LINCOLN PITTS, OF JEROME, ARIZONA TERRITORY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM MCKENZIE PARKS, OF JEROME, ARIZONA TERRITORY.

SHOE-LACE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 715,599, dated December 9, 1902.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD LINCOLN PITTS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Jerome, in the county of Yavapai and Territory of Arizona, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Laces, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in shoe-laces, having for an object to provide a novel construction of lace which will adjust itself to fit any size ankle and can be readily fastened or unfastened when desired; and the invention consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts, as will be herein-
after described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention as in use. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view illustrating the operation of fastening and unfastening the lace ends, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the lace ends fastened.

By my invention I provide a lace having its ends A of elastic material, so they can stretch and contract to facilitate the fastening and unfastening of the shoe and the proper fitting of the lace around the ankle of the wearer. These elastic ends A are shown as secured to the body or main portion B of the lace, which latter may be laced and hooked into connection with the shoe in the usual manner, as shown in Fig. 1, and the lace then wrapped once around the ankle and the fasteners A' and A² engaged, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, to secure the lace. The elastic ends A are usually two or three inches long and secured at one end to the body or main portion of the lace and provided at their free ends with the fastening-sections A' and A². These sections are provided with sleeve portions α' and α^2 , by which they are held to the elastic sections A of the lace, and the fastener A² is provided with a ball α^3 , which engages with the loop α^4 of the fastener A', such loop having its closed end α^5 turned out to form a proper bearing for engagement by the ball α^3 when the lace is fastened, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

By making the body of the lace of the ordinary lace material, as shown at B, and the ends elastic and provided with the fastenings it is obvious I provide the portion of the lace which comes in wearing contact with the eyelets and hooks of the shoe of good wearing material stout and strong enough to bear the wear upon the lace in the use thereof, the ends being elastic, so they will readily adjust themselves to properly secure the lace and at the same time permit the yielding of same with the movements of the foot and the adjustment of the lace to ankles of different sizes.

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

1. The improved shoe-lace herein described comprising the body portion B, the elastic ends A secured at one end to the ends of the body portion B and provided at their free ends respectively with the fastenings A' and A², the fastening A² having a ball α^3 , and the fastening A' having a loop α^4 with its closed end outturned for engagement by the ball α^3 , said fastenings being provided with sleeves for connection with the elastic ends of the lace substantially as set forth.

2. A shoe-lace having elastic ends A and provided at the free ends thereof with the fastening devices comprising a loop in connection with one elastic end and a head in connection with the other elastic end for engagement with said loop substantially as set forth.

3. A lace having the elastic ends and provided at the free extremities thereof with the fastening devices including a loop having its closed end outturned and a head engaging with said loop and bearing in fastened position against the outturned end thereof, substantially as set forth.

EDWARD LINCOLN PITTS.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. AVERY,
GERTIE MCALLISTER.