

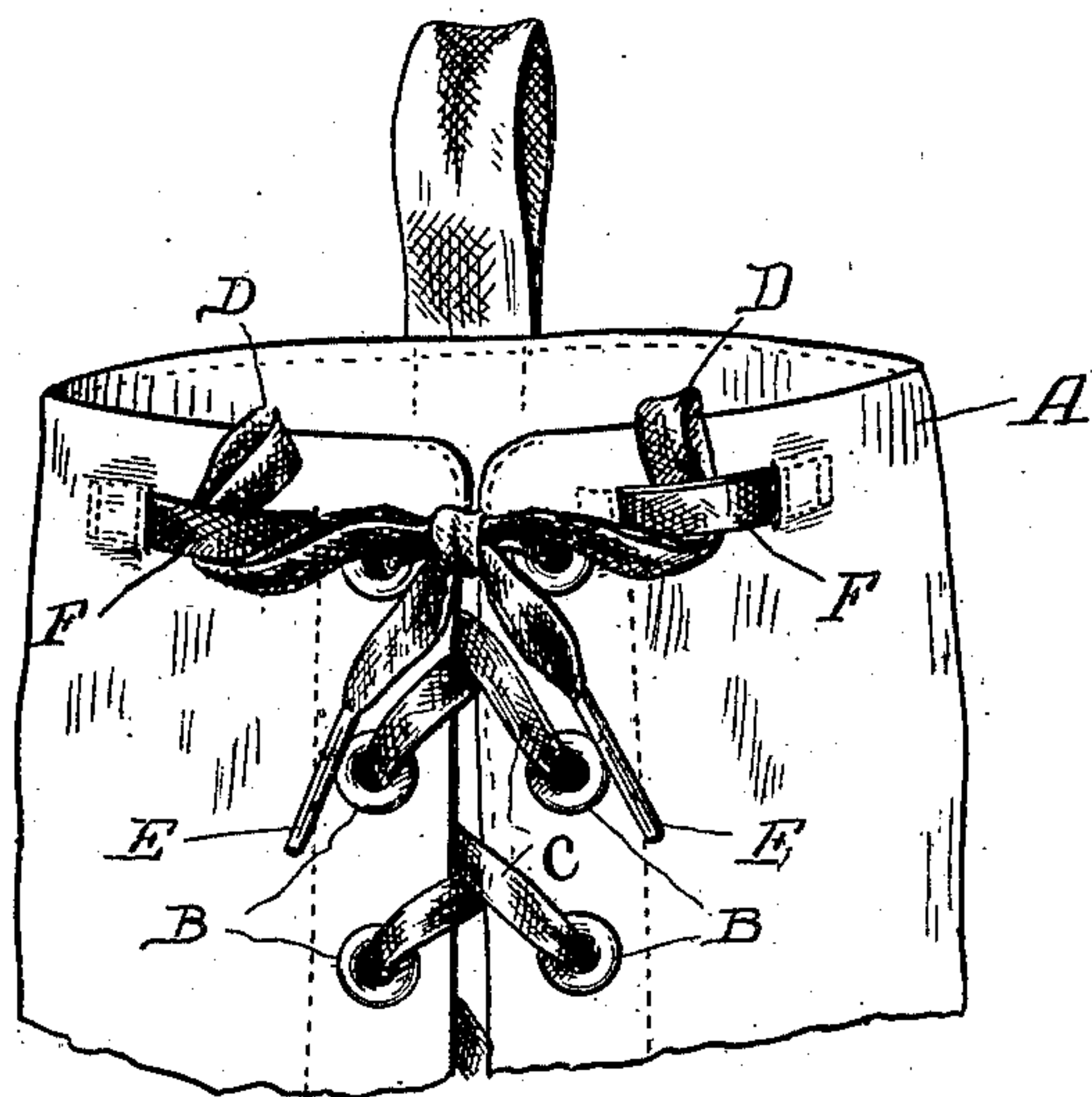
No. 741,238.

PATENTED OCT. 13, 1903.

J. W. FORCE.
SHOESTRING RETAINING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 17, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses
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No. 741,238.

Patented October 13, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. FORCE, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT.

SHOESTRING-RETAINING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 741,238, dated October 13, 1903.

Application filed July 17, 1902. Serial No. 115,943. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. FORCE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at New Britain, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoestring-Retaining Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved means of retaining the ends of shoestrings to prevent their becoming untied and also to prevent the knotting of the strings when they are purposely untied.

The drawing illustrates one method of applying my invention to a shoe.

A denotes the upper of a shoe.

B denotes the lacing-eyelets. These may well be hooks, as is very often customary.

C denotes the shoestring, having the bow ends D D and the string ends E E.

F F denote the retaining devices, which are made of any desired elastic material. They are preferably secured to each end of the shoe, leaving enough of a loop so that the strings can be readily inserted under them. The drawing shows the manner of the use of the device. Preferably the bow ends only

are inserted under these retaining-strips, so that the accidental untying of the strings is prevented, and when it is desired to untie the shoe it can be readily done by simply pulling one of the string ends. Retaining the bow ends in this manner effectually prevents the string ends from getting tangled so that the strings will become knotted when they are untied.

A further advantage of this device is that it is so arranged and adapted that it will not interfere with or wear the finest clothing.

I do not wish to limit myself to the exact embodiment of my invention herein shown and described.

I claim as my invention—

The combination in a shoe with the lacing hooks or eyelets, one or more elastic strips secured at each end to the shoe adjacent to the lacing-hooks and adapted to receive and retain the string.

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

JOHN W. FORCE.

Witnesses:

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