

No. 757,678.

PATENTED APR. 19, 1904.

G. W. PRENTICE.

LACING LOOP.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 23, 1903.

NO MODEL.

FIG. 1.

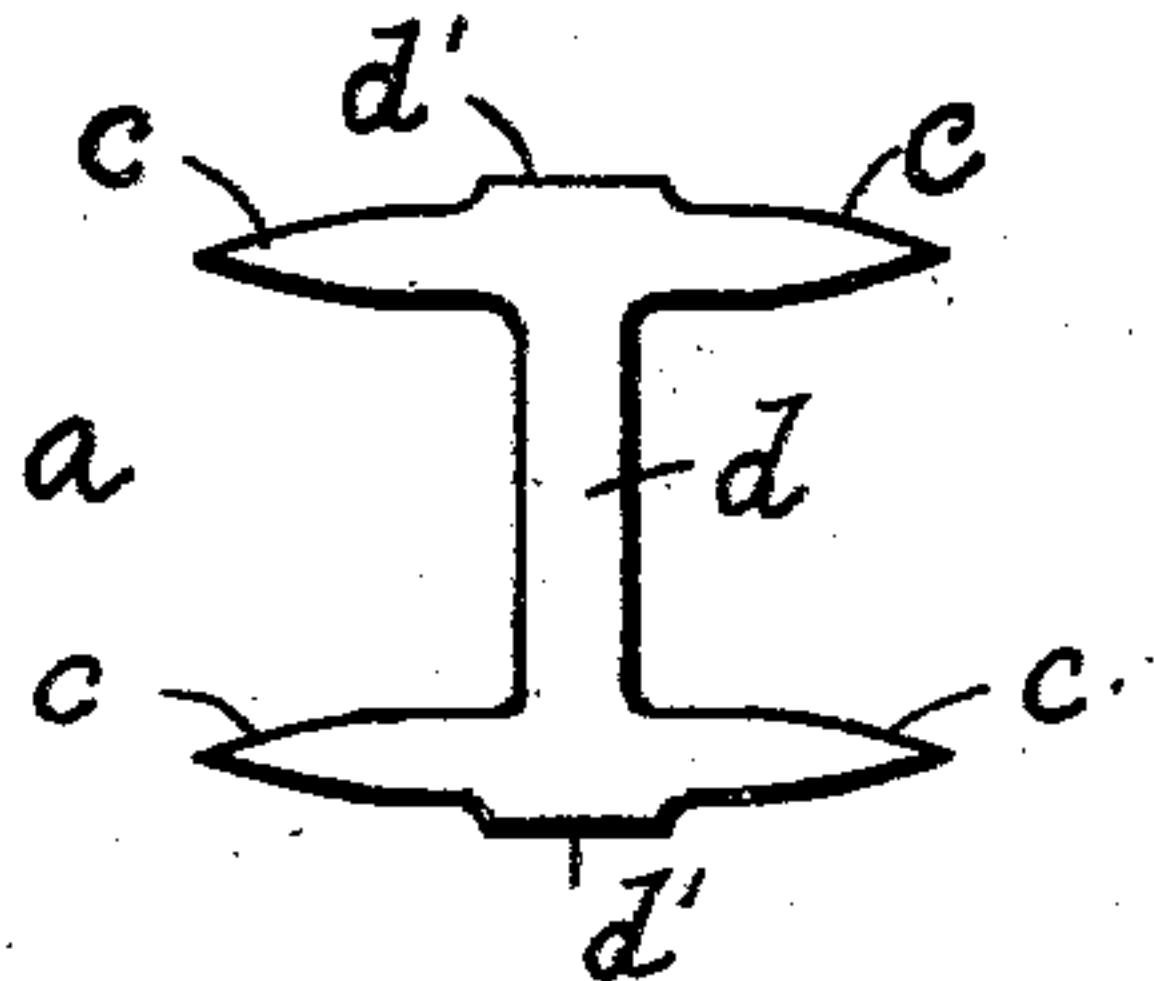


FIG. 2.

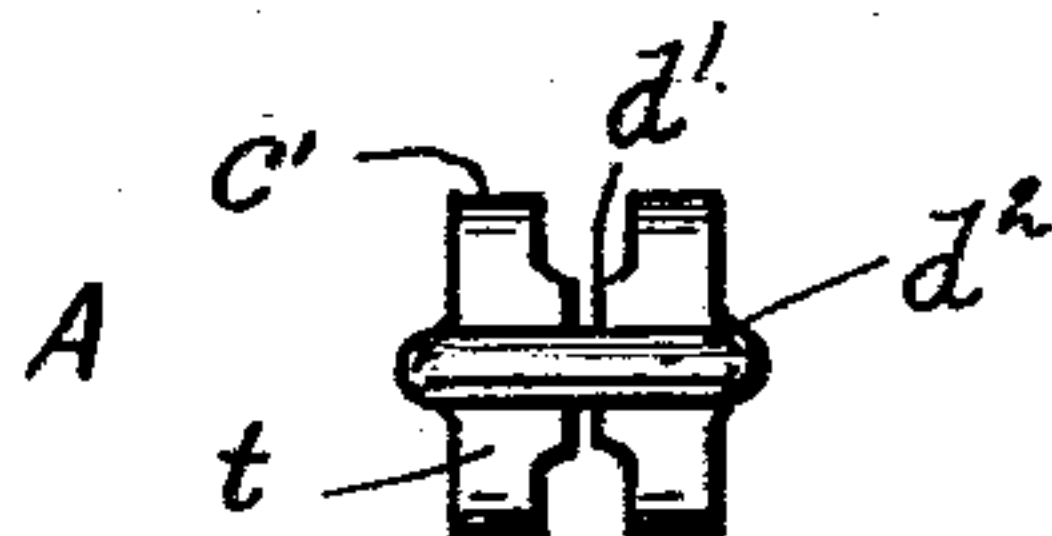


FIG. 3.

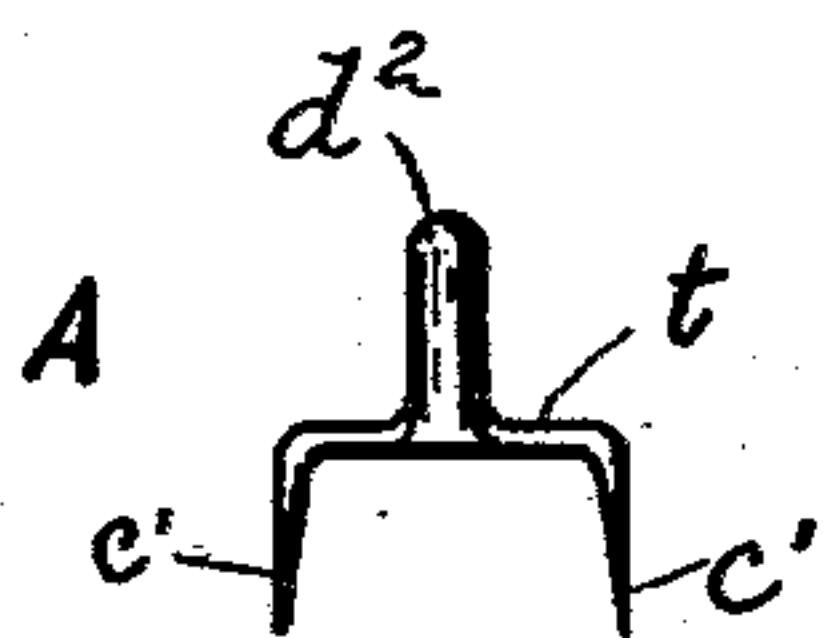


FIG. 4.

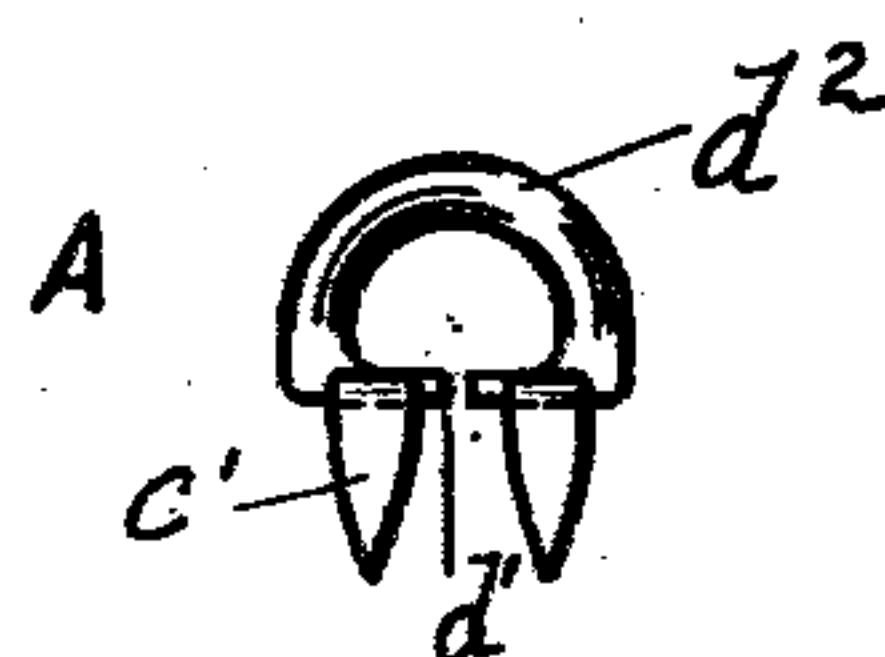


FIG. 5.

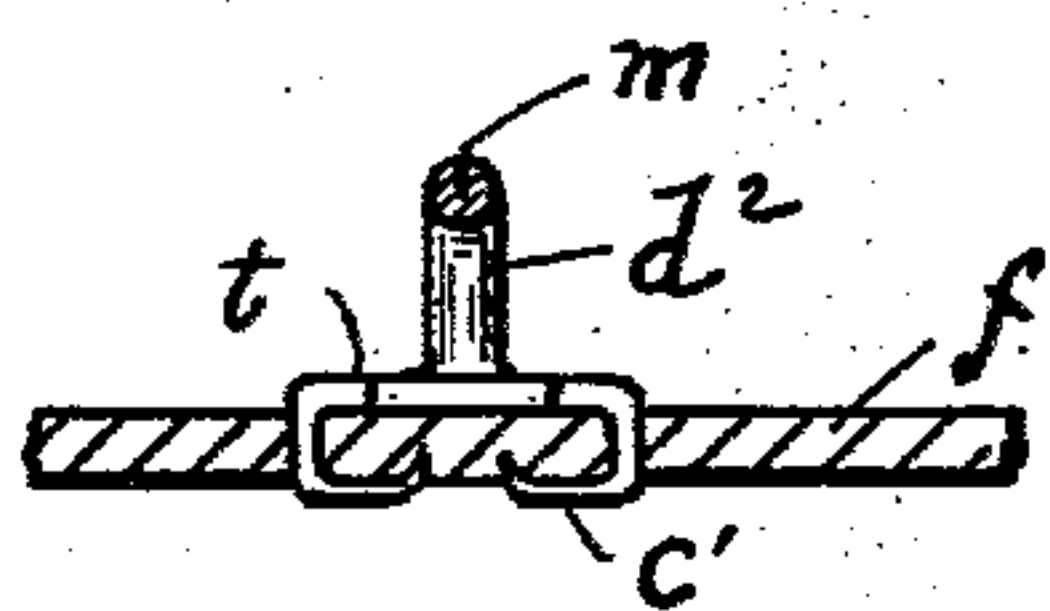


FIG. 6.

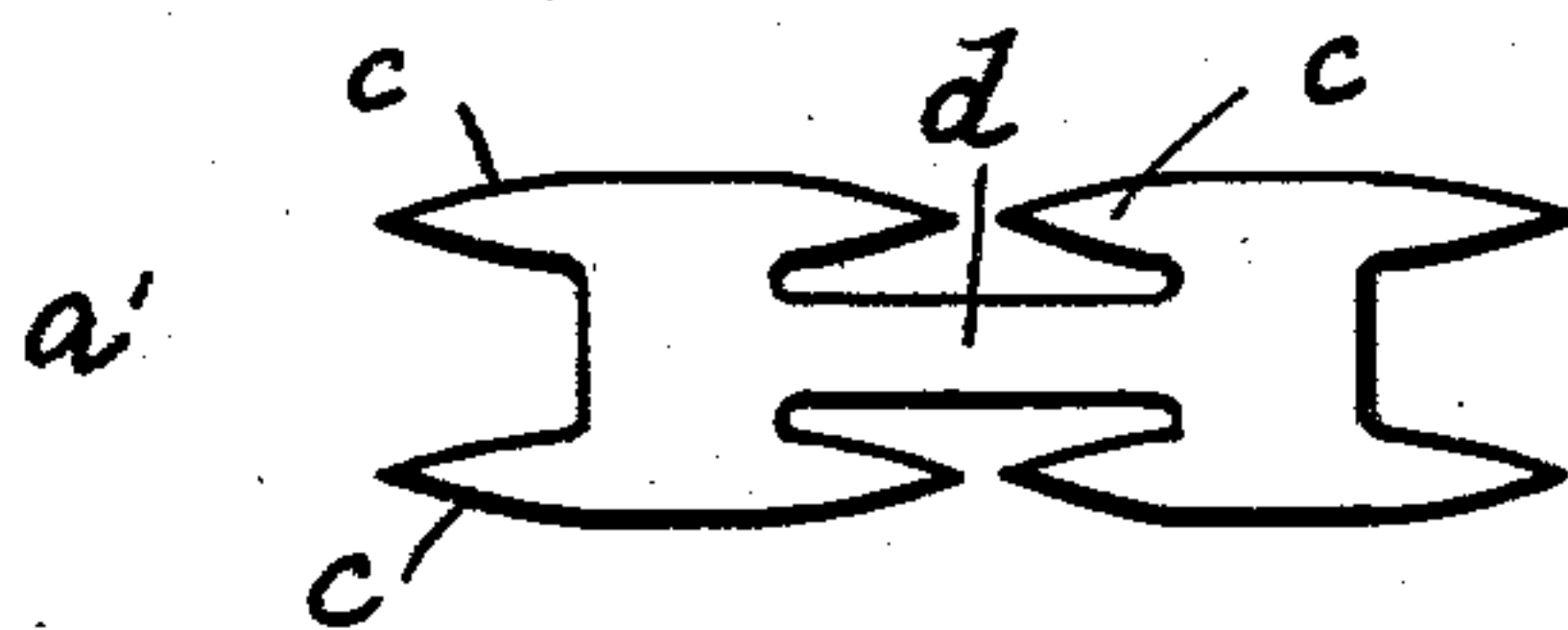


FIG. 7.

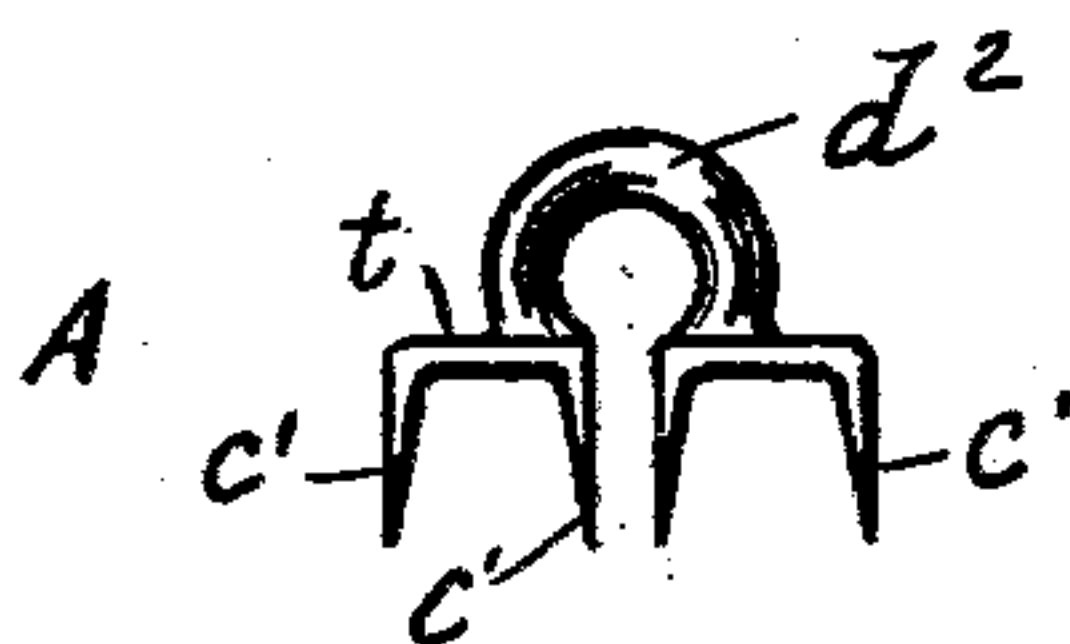
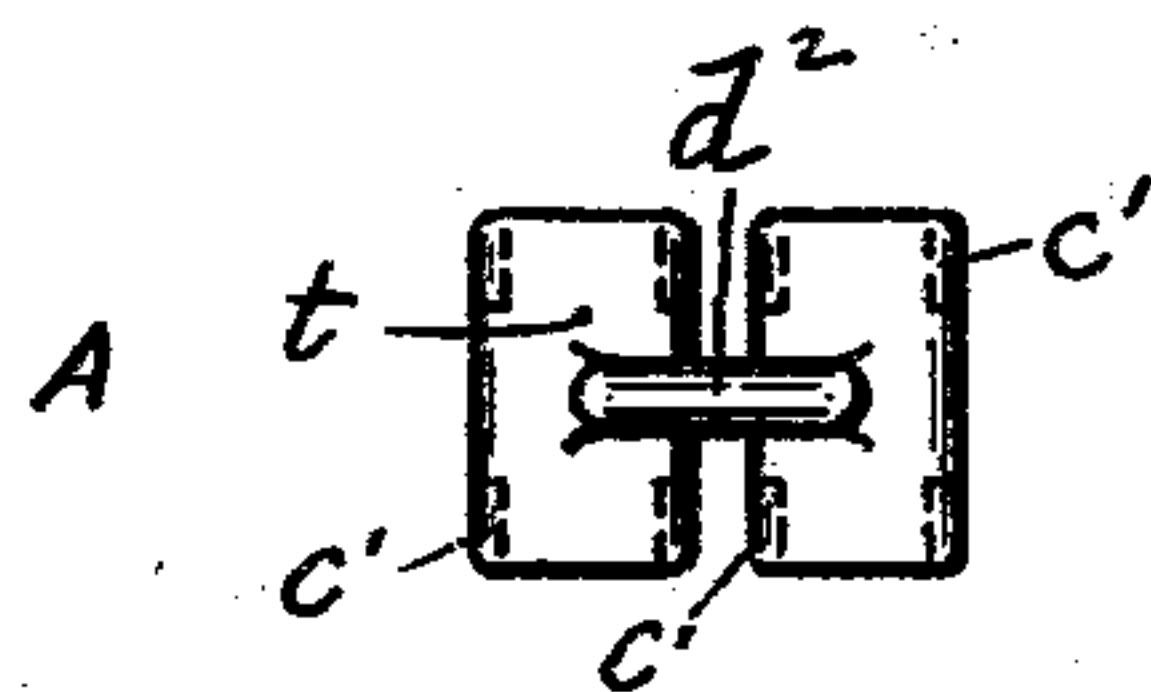


FIG. 8.



WITNESSES:

Chas. P. Day,
James B. Cannon

INVENTOR:

George W. Prentice.

BY

Geo. A. Remington.

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. PRENTICE, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

LACING-LOOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 757,678, dated April 19, 1904.

Application filed July 23, 1903. Serial No. 166,707. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. PRENTICE, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lacing-Loops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in shoe-lacing devices; and it consists, essentially, of a lacing-loop formed from a sheet-metal blank having a plurality of oppositely-disposed depending attaching-prongs integral with the table member and having the adjacent or inner edges of the table united by a bent tie, forming an arch or loop for the reception of a shoe-lace, all as hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

Certain forms or types of shoe-lacing devices heretofore produced have been provided with eyeleted or pronged bases and open hooks, in which latter the lacing-cord is held. In producing such former lacing-hooks the cost of manufacture is materially increased from the fact that they are made from specially-prepared stock and blanks which cannot be transformed into the finished product except by a comparatively slow process. A serious disadvantage or objection to open lacing-hooks is that the hook portion thereof when in use frequently abrades the contiguous part of the dress or hem of the skirt of the wearer.

In my improved lacing-loop the shoe-lace cannot become accidentally detached therefrom while being worn. It will not wear or cut the garment of the wearer. It has a broad attaching table or base by means of which the device is less liable to be forcibly withdrawn from the shoe. It is lighter than the usual lacing-hook and may be produced much more rapidly and cheaply. Another advantage is that the lacing-loops may be readily affixed to the shoe by means of machines or hand implements substantially like those employed for securing pronged button-fasteners to shoes.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, Fig-

ure 1 is a plan view, in enlarged scale, of the blank from which my improved lacing-loop is formed. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the completely-formed loop. Fig. 3 is a corresponding side view. Fig. 4 is a front view of the same. Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view showing the loop attached to a piece of fabric or leather. Figs. 6, 7, and 8 represent a modification of the lacing-loop, the views corresponding with Figs. 1, 4, and 2, respectively.

The thin flat blank *a*, Fig. 1, from which my improved lacing-loop is formed is cut or punched from suitable sheet-metal stock. The blank has two oppositely-disposed parallel wings the ends *c* of which are adapted when bent to form attaching or clenching prongs. The said wings are connected by an integral transverse central tie *d*, capable of being bent to form an arch or loop *d*². The center portion of the outer ends or edges of the blank extend laterally beyond the wings, as at *d'*, thereby increasing the area of table or base surface. The said blank *a* is transformed by suitable mechanism into the complete lacing-loop *A*—that is to say, each wing is bent downwardly and inwardly toward the center one hundred and eighty degrees, the extensions *d'* then being contiguous to each other and centrally of the base or table *t*. The ends *c* of the wings are bent downwardly and at the same time swaged, thereby forming the four sharpened attaching-prongs *c'*. The tie member *d* is bent in a direction opposite to the prongs, thus transforming it into the semi-circular loop *d*², all as clearly represented in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. While the said member *d* is being shaped longitudinally it is also bent in the opposite direction or transversely, thus making the tie substantially round cross-sectionally, the edges then meeting on the upper side at *m*, Fig. 5. The thus-formed eye or loop presents no angular edges or rough surfaces. Therefore the lacing used will be less liable to excessive wear.

The manner of attaching the improved lacing-loop to shoes, &c., is substantially the same as that employed in affixing or securing other pronged fasteners. Fig. 5 represents

the loop thus secured to a flexible material f , as leather, the prongs c' having been forced therethrough and clenched thereunder. The relative arrangement of the prongs is such
5 that a table or base t having a comparatively large area is produced.

In the modification represented in Figs. 6, 7, and 8 the blank a' has two pairs of wings adapted to be converted into eight prongs.
10 The connecting-tie d is in this case intermediate of and parallel with said wings. As thus constructed, the eye or loop d^2 of the lacing-loop forms a practically complete circle. (See Fig. 7.)

I claim as my invention and desire to secure 15
by United States Letters Patent—

The sheet-metal pronged lacing-loop here-
inbefore described having a divided table mem-
ber and a tie member bent to form a loop or
arch, the latter being integral with and unit- 20
ing the two parts of said table, substantially
as described.

Signed at Providence, Rhode Island, this
22d day of July, 1903.

GEORGE W. PRENTICE.

Witnesses:

JAMES B. ARNOLD;

GEO. H. REMINGTON