

No. 830,753.

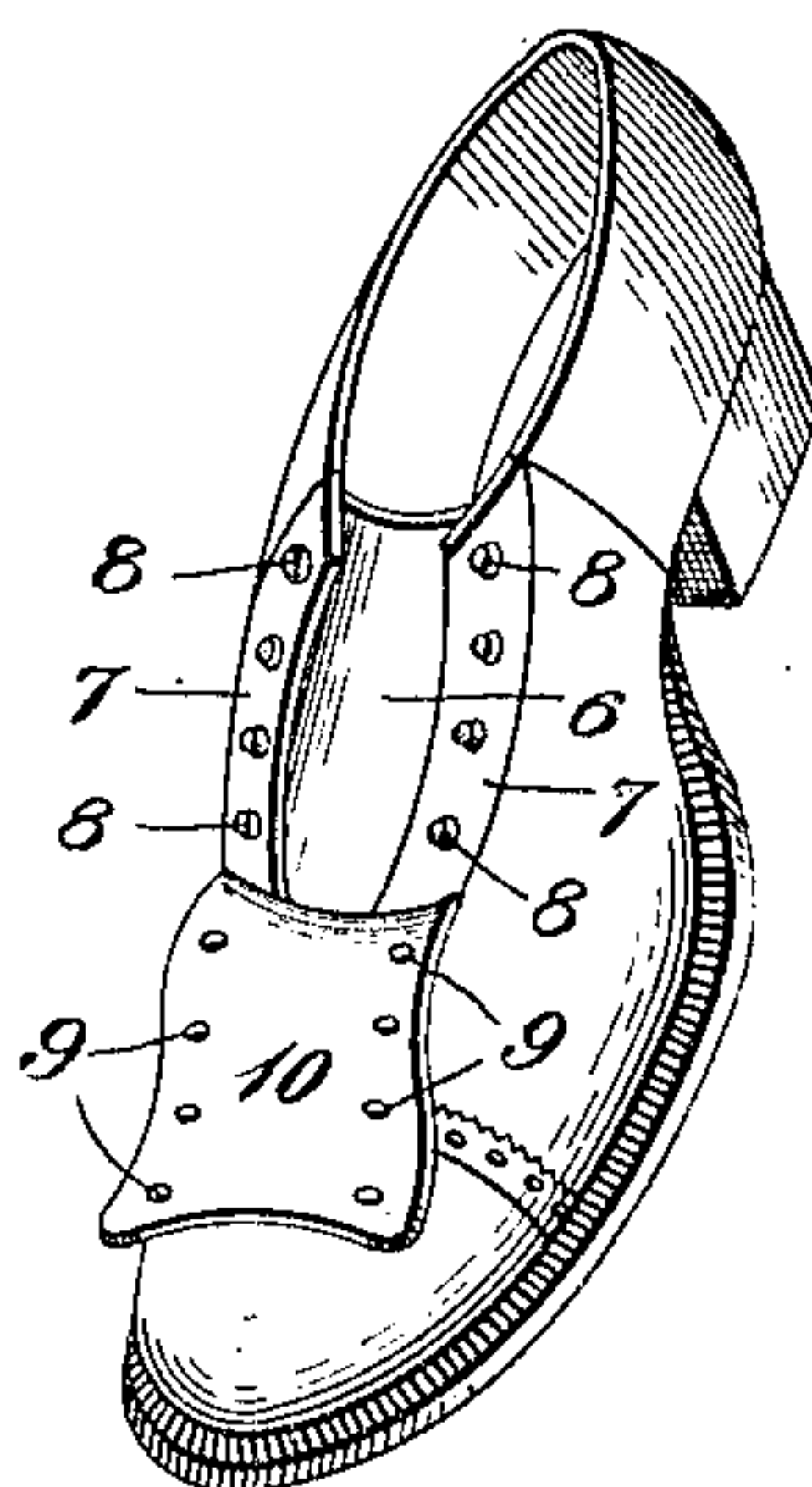
PATENTED SEPT. 11, 1906.

L. H. VOSS.

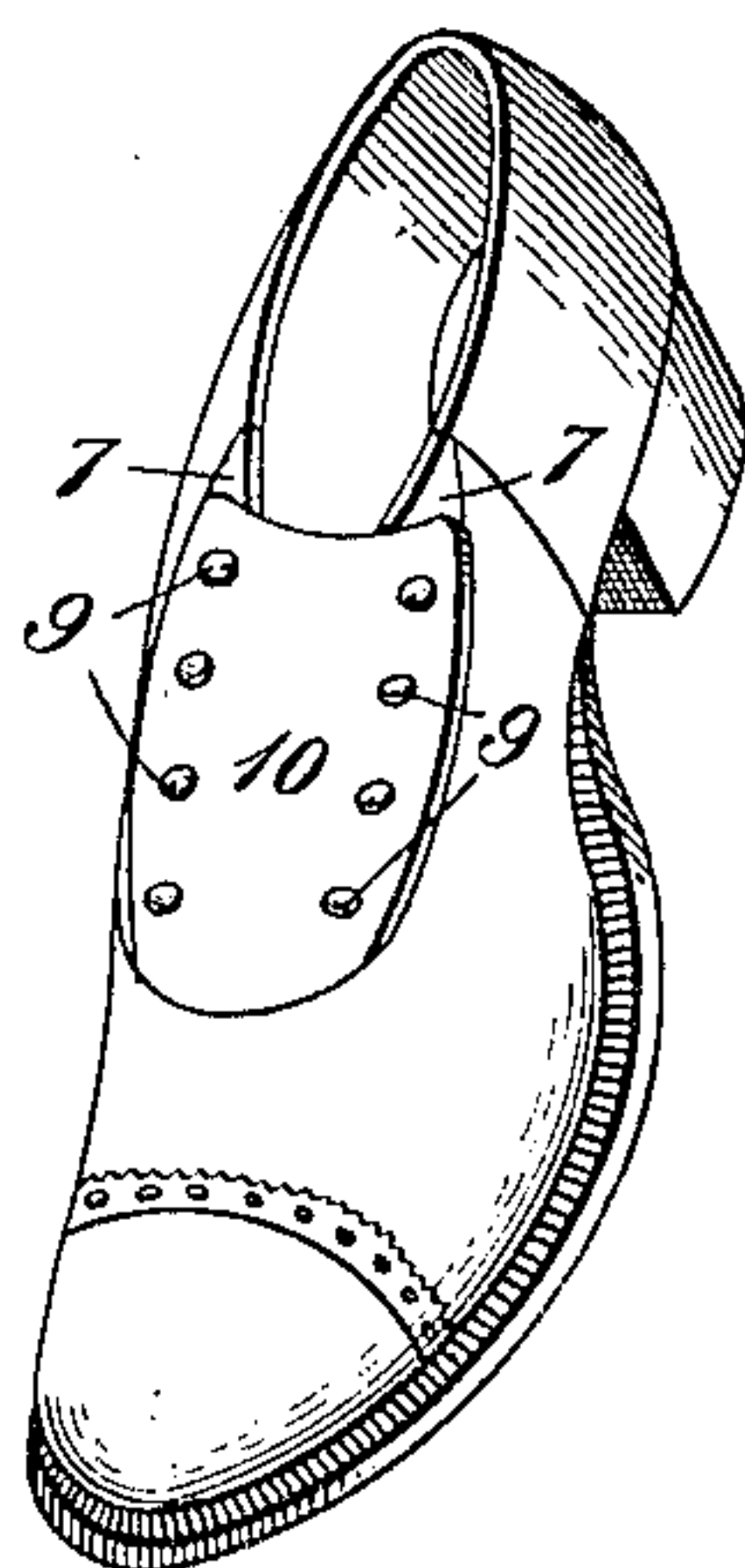
SHOE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 12, 1905.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS H. VOSS, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

## SHOE.

No. 830,753.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 11, 1906.

Application filed December 12, 1905. Serial No. 291,420.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS H. VOSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to closures for shoes, and has for its object to provide a closure which is neat in appearance and substantial in construction and also one which can be readily or quickly secured upon the foot of the wearer and which will also allow a certain amount of freedom or elasticity at the instep, thereby making it an easy-fitting shoe and one which will always fit perfectly.

The invention is of decided advantage in low-cut shoes, which ordinarily become loose-fitting after being worn awhile; but the elastic feature of the present invention will make the shoe always fit according to the shape of the foot and the instep.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe with the closure open. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the same closed.

Referring specifically to the drawings, 6 indicates an ordinary blind strap or tongue which is applied under the slit at the front of the shoe. The edges of the slit are wider or farther apart than is usual, and each consists of a strip of flexible material, (indicated at 7,) which is secured at its edge to the edge of the leather forming the upper. This strip may be of the material ordinarily used for gores or some similar material having elastic qualities. To these strips are fixed the lower members or

heads 8 of known head-and-socket fastenings, the upper or socket members 9 of which are carried by an outer tongue or flap 10, the sockets being fastened at opposite edges of the flap, which is of proper width to cover the slit or opening of the shoe, so that the closure may be effected by pressing the fasteners together in the well-known manner. The flap 10 is preferably made of leather to suit the shoe-upper, although it may be of any other material which will answer the purpose. The drawings show a low-cut shoe; but obviously the same invention may be applied to a high-cut shoe, and, furthermore, the inner tongue 6 may be omitted, if desired, since the flap 10 completely covers the opening and also covers the elastic 7. Said elastic material is free to yield according to the foot of the wearer and insures a neat fit and smooth appearance. The snap-fasteners employed enable the flap to be quickly and easily released or secured to open or close the shoe.

I claim—

A closure for shoes comprising strips of elastic material fastened to the edges of the shoe-upper at the slit in front, said strips having fastener members thereon, and a flap on the outside, which covers said slit and the said strips and conceals the same and has fastener members at each edge engageable with the aforesaid members.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS H. VOSS.

Witnesses:

ELIZABETH J. PRICE,  
LILLIAN A. SPARKLIN.