

W. F. SHULTS.
 DEVICE FOR HOLDING SHOE LACES.
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913,063.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.

Fig 1.

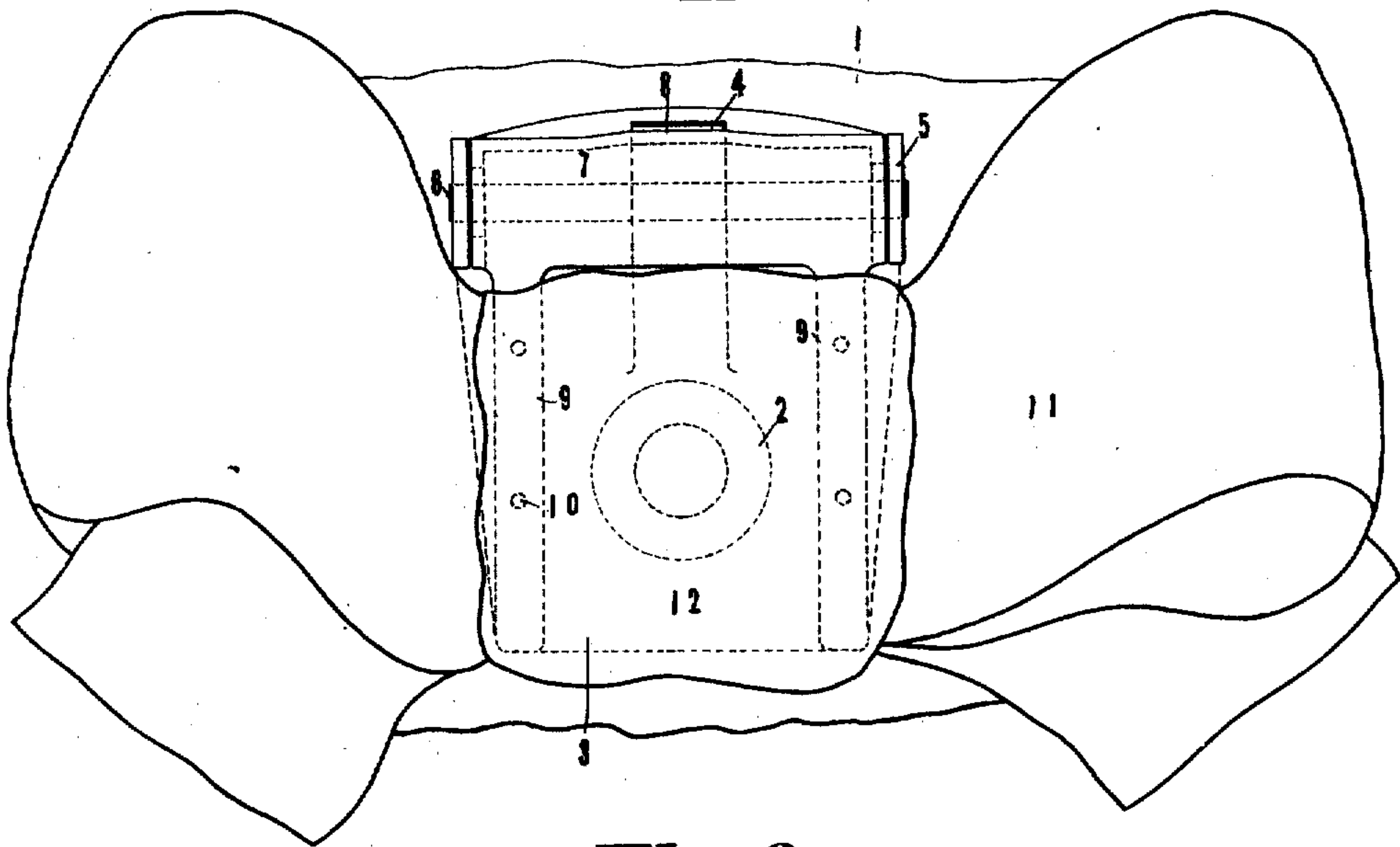
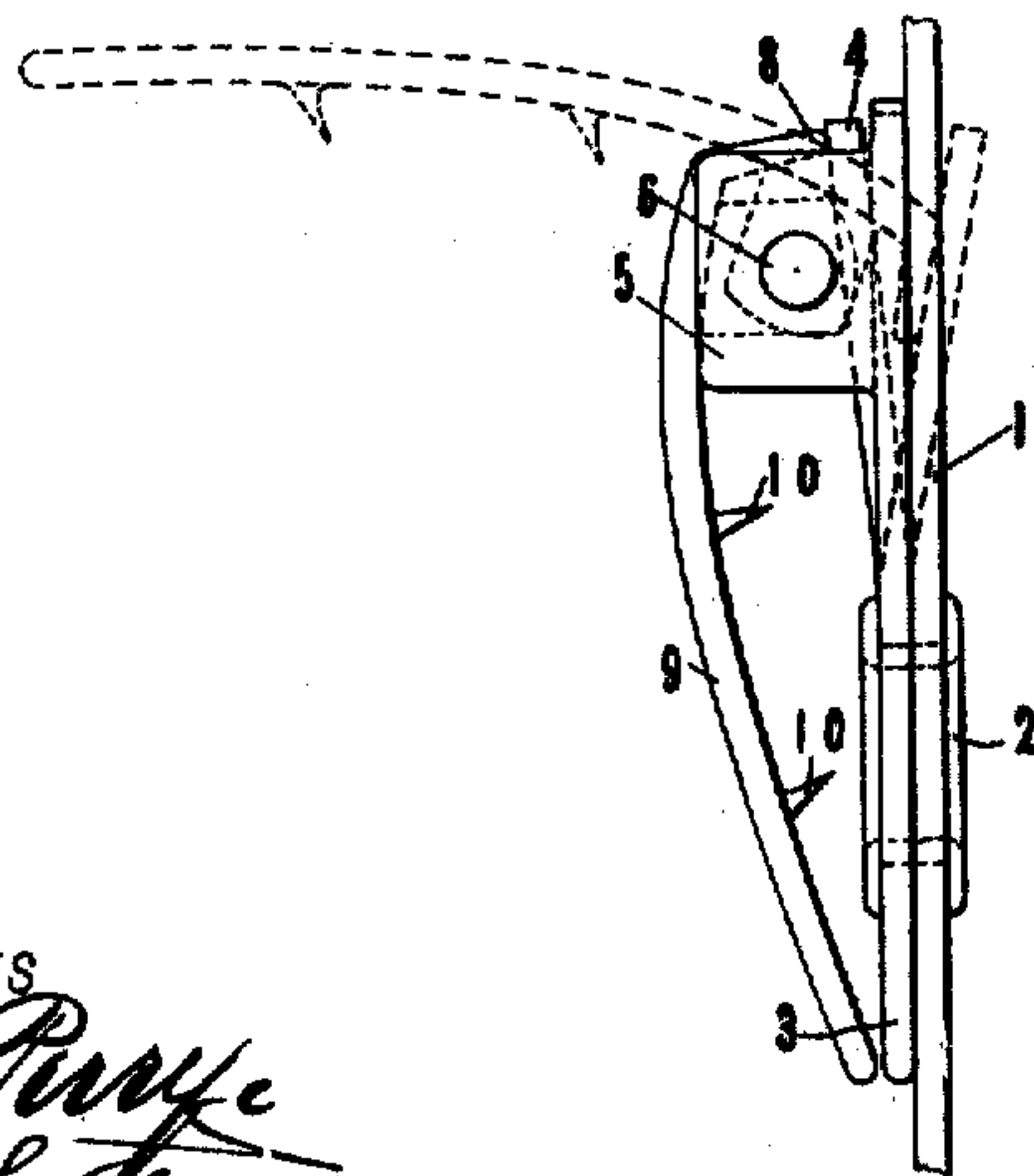


Fig 2.



WITNESSES
Howard Perry
Samuel L. Alpert.

INVENTOR
Walter F. Shultz
 BY
Duall Warfield Duall
 ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER F. SHULTS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DEVICE FOR HOLDING SHOE-LACES.

No. 913,063.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.

Application filed August 17, 1907. Serial No. 388,956.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER F. SHULTS, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Holding Shoe-Laces, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to
10 make and use the same.

This invention relates to holding devices.

One of the objects thereof is to provide a simple and efficient device for securely holding the bow of a shoe-lace in position.

15 Other objects are to provide devices of the above nature inconspicuous in appearance, cheap in construction and convenient in use.

Other objects will be in part obvious and
20 in part pointed out hereinafter.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements and arrangements of parts, which will be exemplified in the embodiment thereof
25 of hereinafter described and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the following claim.

In the accompanying drawings wherein is shown one of the various possible embodiments of this invention, Figure 1 is a front view thereof. Fig. 2 is a side view showing the device in raised or inoperative position in dotted lines.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout both views of the
35 drawings.

In order that certain features of this invention may be the more readily and thoroughly understood, it may here be noted
40 that broad heavy shoe-laces are now in somewhat extensive use, especially in connection with low shoes. In this use it is considered highly desirable to maintain the form and position of the bow of the laces
45 but difficulties are found in achieving this result largely on account of the size and weight of the laces, and the bows often have a loose and deranged appearance on this account. The above and other objectionable features are done away with by the
50 use of devices formed and mounted in a manner similar to that hereinafter described.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings, there is shown at 1 the tongue of a shoe upon which is secured as by the eyelet 2 a

base plate 3. Plate 3 is provided with a spring portion 4 preferably formed integral therewith and there are formed at each side of the plate lugs or ears 5. Pivotal
60 mounted upon ears 5, as by the pin 6 is a clasp member 7 having a tail piece 8 co-acting with the spring 4. Member 7 is so formed as to provide a pair of arms 9 spaced one from another and lying in substantially
65 parallel planes, as clearly shown in the drawings. These arms are preferably of the curved conformation indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. These arms are provided upon their under side with prongs 10 for a
70 purpose hereinafter described.

In order to avoid the chance of ambiguity in the interpretation of certain terms used throughout this description and in the following claim, it may here be noted that they
75 are intended to be interpreted with the following significance. By "clasp" is meant any device adapted to engage an article and hold the same in position. By "arm" is meant any projecting portion irrespective of
80 its conformation. By "prong" is meant any pointed member.

The method of use of the above described embodiment of my invention is substantially as follows: The clasp member 7 is first raised
85 to the position indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2 of the drawings, and by reason of its relation to spring 4 it is held in this raised position by the latter part. The bow 11 is then tied in the desired position and form
90 and the clasp 7 then clamped downwardly over the central portion of the bow and is held in closed position by the spring. Prongs 10 are thus thrust through several thicknesses of the bow and the arms 9 by their
95 curved conformation fit closely over the same. The central portion 12 of the bow may then be spread out to cover the arms and the entire knot is thus held in the desired position. To release the bow as should be obvious it is
100 necessary merely to raise the clasp 7 whereupon it may be untied.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of my invention are achieved and in which the
105 above mentioned advantages are among others present. The entire device is preferably enameled to correspond in color with the shoe and laces and may otherwise as by a proper conformation of parts be rendered
110 so inconspicuous as to be unnoticeable. The construction is simple and inexpensive and

may be readily and cheaply applied and the action of the device is reliable, efficient, and permits of a quick manipulation. The parts moreover are of such a durable nature as to
5 be well adapted to meet the demands of hard practical use.

As various possible embodiments of this invention could be made and as that above described might be changed in many particulars without departing from the scope
10 of the invention it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be taken as illustrative and not in a sense to limit the
15 invention to a narrower scope than that of the appended claim.

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

A device of the class described, comprising a clasp secured to the tongue of a shoe, said clasp being provided with a pair of curved arms extending in substantially parallel planes and formed and adapted to extend over the bow and engage the same at
20 each side of the central portion of the knot and rest beneath the outer portion thereof, and means comprising a spring adapted to hold said arms in either raised or closed position, the under surfaces of said arms being
25 provided with prongs adapted to pass into portions of the bow.

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

WALTER F. SHULTS.

Witnesses:

FRANCES M. KELLER,
SAMUEL L. ALPERT.