

F. DUQUETTE.  
SHOE LACING.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 19, 1909.

963,696.

Patented July 5, 1910.

Fig. 1.

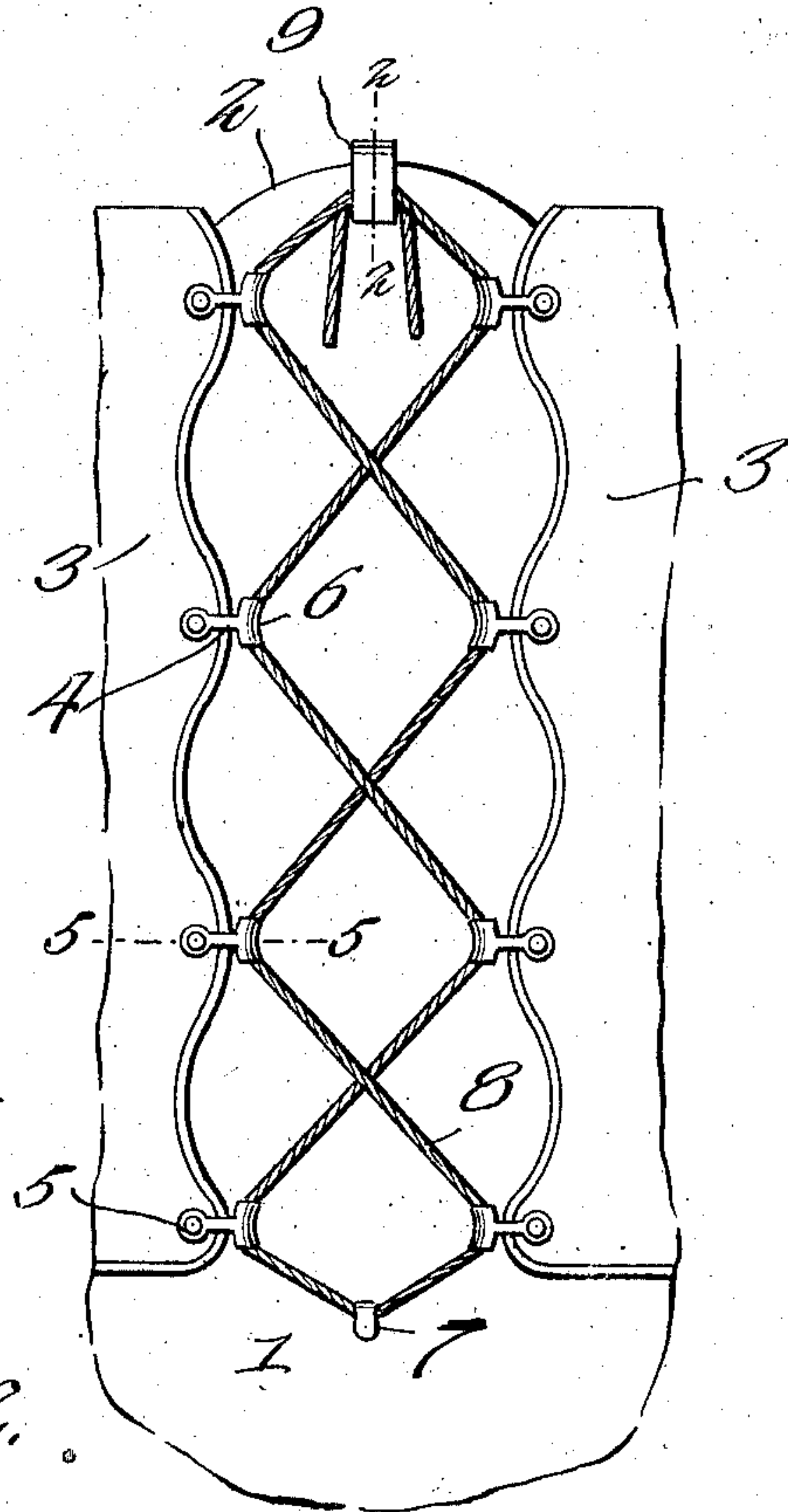


Fig. 5.

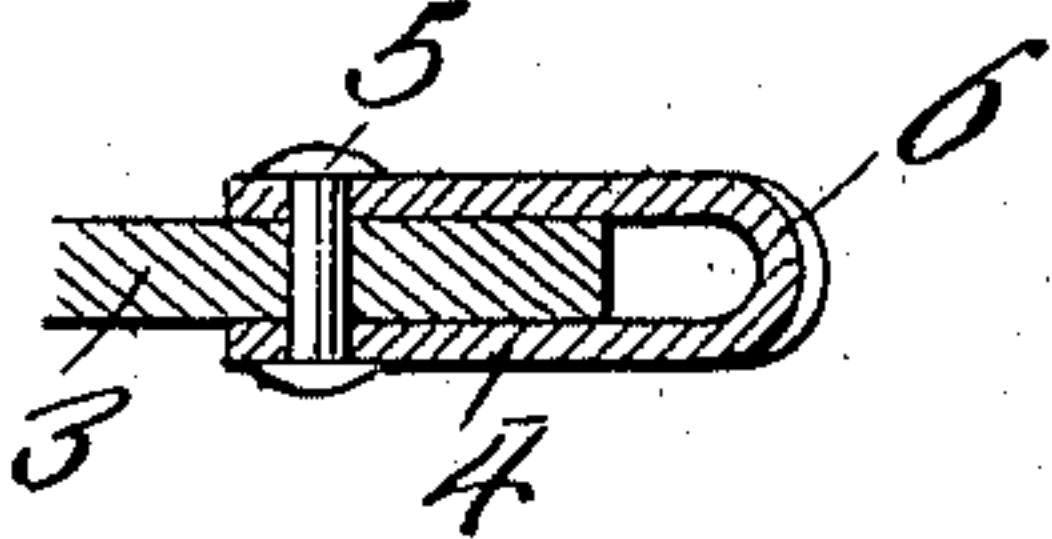


Fig. 2.

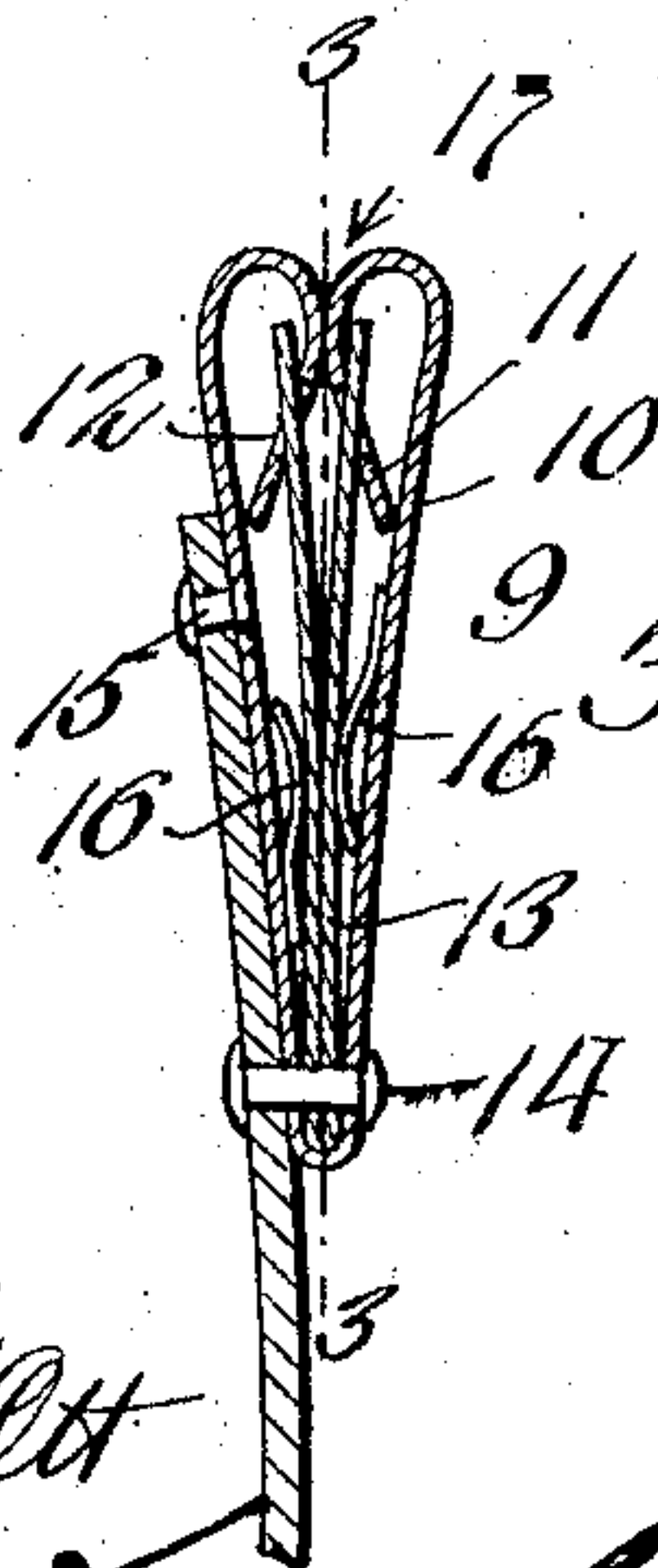


Fig. 3.

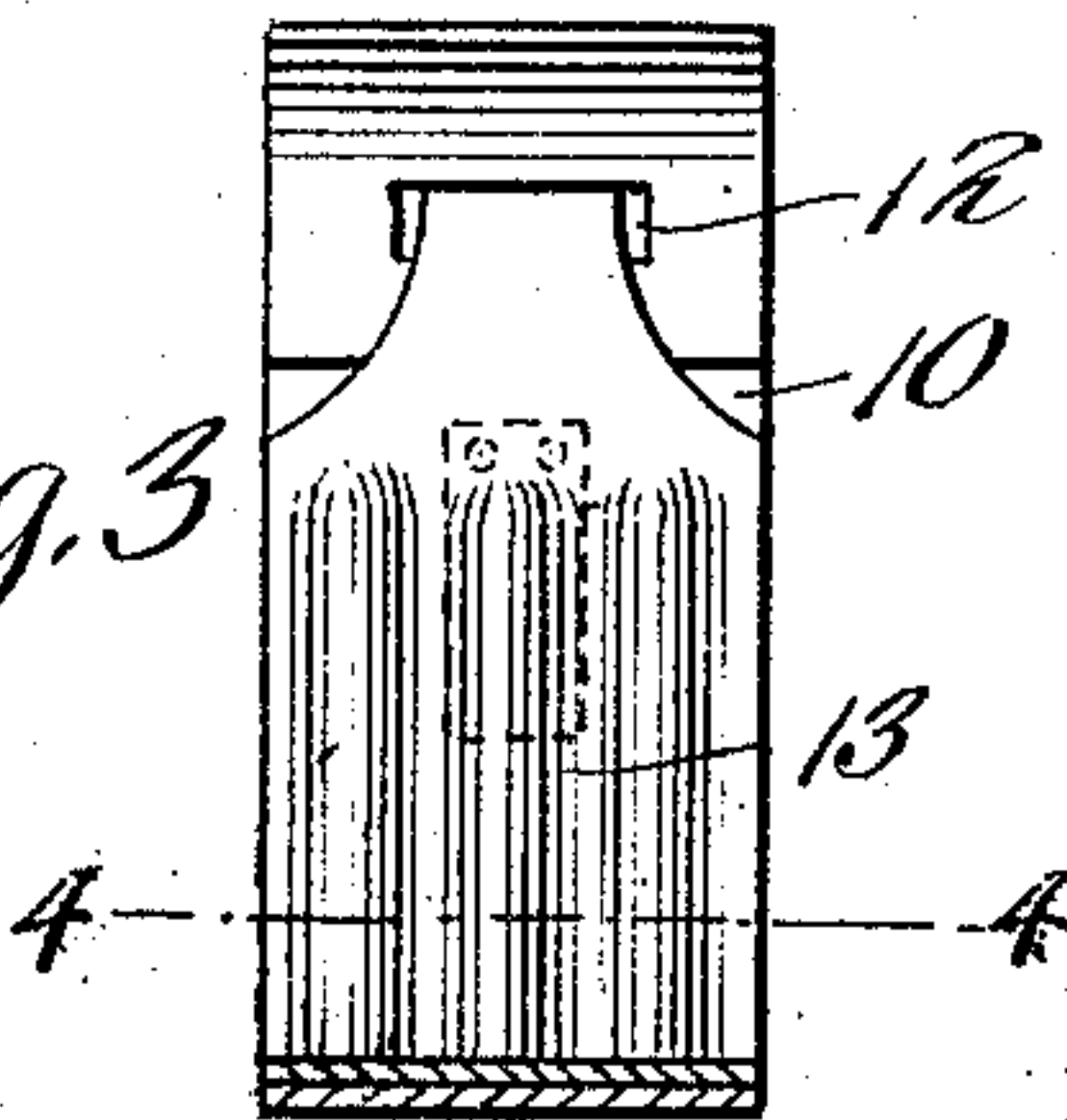
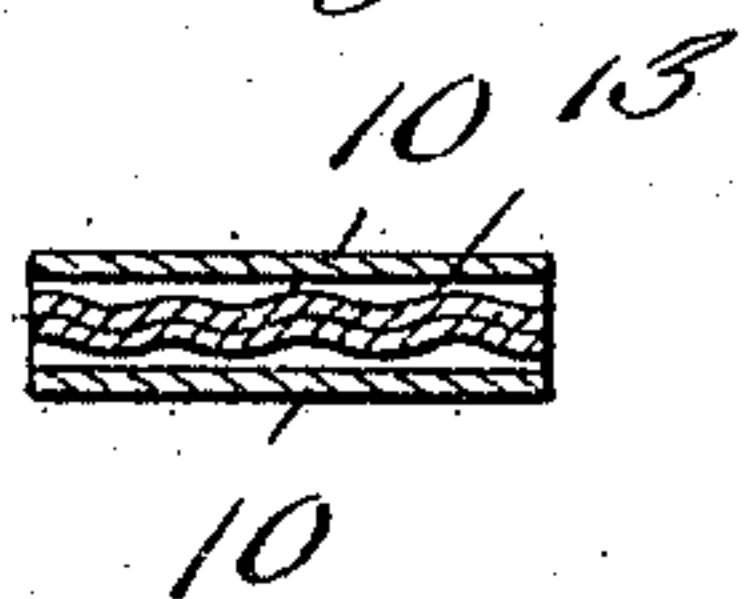


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDRICK DUQUETTE, OF NASHWAUK, MINNESOTA.

## SHOE-LACING.

963,696.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 5, 1910.

Application filed November 19, 1909. Serial No. 528,928.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FREDRICK DUQUETTE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Nashwauk, in the county of Itasca and State of Minnesota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Lacings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in lacing devices primarily adapted for use in connection with shoes, but which may be applied to other devices with equal efficiency, and the object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which is simple in construction, easily applied to the tongue and foxing of an ordinary shoe and whereby the ends of the lace may be securely retained without the necessity of tying the same.

With the above, and other objects in-view, which will appear as the description progresses, the invention resides in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing there has been illustrated a simple and preferred embodiment of the improvement, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a partial front elevation of an ordinary shoe illustrating the improvement in applied position thereon. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view upon the line 2—2 Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view upon the line 3—3 Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view upon the line 4—4 Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a sectional view upon the line 5—5 Fig. 1.

In the accompanying drawing the numeral 1 designates the vamp of an ordinary shoe. This vamp is provided with the usual tongue 2, which may be integrally formed or otherwise connected with the vamp.

The numerals 3 designate the sides or foxing of the shoe, and the edges of this foxing are preferably scalloped as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawing. Secured to the foxing 3 at spaced intervals and in direct alinement with each other are a plurality of eye members 4, a cross section of which appears in Fig. 5 of the drawing. By reference to this figure it will be noted that the eyes are constructed of a single strip of suitable material bent upon itself and having the extremity of their arms provided with openings adapted for the reception of suitable attaching members 5 whereby the said members are securely connected with the foxings 3. The curved or body

portion of the eyes 4 is enlarged and curved as designated by the numeral 6, whereby the lacing may be easily drawn without being interfered with by the said portion 6.

Secured to the vamp 1 directly below the foxings 3, and central of the tongue 2 is a hook member 7 over which the central portion of the lacing 8 is adapted to be positioned, and from thence fed in opposite directions through the eyes 5, and the terminals of the lace are adapted to be received within a clamping member 9. This clamping member 9 is of a peculiar formation and comprises an outer section or member 10 which is constructed of a single strand of suitable resilient material bent upon itself to form a substantially V-shaped structure, the ends of which are bent inwardly as at 11 and are adapted to contact the side portions of the said member. These inwardly bent portions are each provided with a suitable slot or opening 12 and the said openings are adapted for the forwardly extending arms of a second V-shaped resilient member 13 which is positioned within the outer member 10 and is secured thereto through the medium of a retaining element 14 which also connects the members with the tongue 2. The upper portion of one of the arms provided by the member 10 has a suitable opening and this opening is adapted for the reception of a suitable securing element 15 which also engages the tongue 2 and whereby the clamp is effectively retained in position upon the said tongue 2. By reference to Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawing it will be noted that the arms of the V-shaped member 13 are corrugated or otherwise provided with depressions, the bulging part of one of the arms being received within the recessed portion of the opposite arm, and positioned between these arms and the arms provided by the member 10 are flattened resilient members 16 which effectively aid in forcing the said arms together.

It will be noted that by bending the arms of the member 10 upon themselves a substantial mouth 17 is provided at the top of the clamp, and when the lace 8 is in proper position within the eyes 5 and upon the hook 7, it will be noted that the ends of the said clamp when positioned between the arms of the V-shaped member 13 will be effectively retained and the necessity of tying the ends of the lace is entirely obviated.

From the above description, taken in con-



nection with the accompanying drawing, it will be noted that I have provided a simple, cheap and thoroughly effective device for the purpose intended, and it is to be understood that while I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of the improvement, as it now appears to me, minor details within the scope of the following claim, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is:—

A clamp for the ends of a lace comprising an outer V-shaped member constructed of resilient material, the arms of said member being bent inwardly upon themselves to pro-

vide a mouth, the inwardly extending portions of the arms having openings, a second V-shaped member also constructed of resilient material and having its doubled over end secured within the doubled over end of the outer member and its arms corrugated and their extremities positioned within the openings of the bent portions of the first member, and resilient elements between the arms of the inner member and those of the outer member.

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

FREDRICK DUQUETTE.

Witnesses:

EDWARD THOMPSON,  
MICKEL RANO.