(No Model.)

W. WEGNER.

SHOE FASTENING.

No. 260,144. Patented June 27, 1882.

Fig. 1.

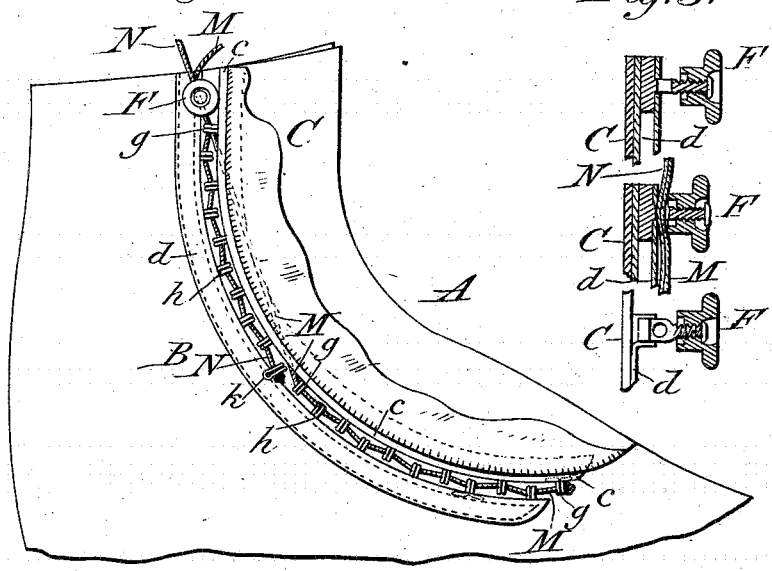


Fig. 3.

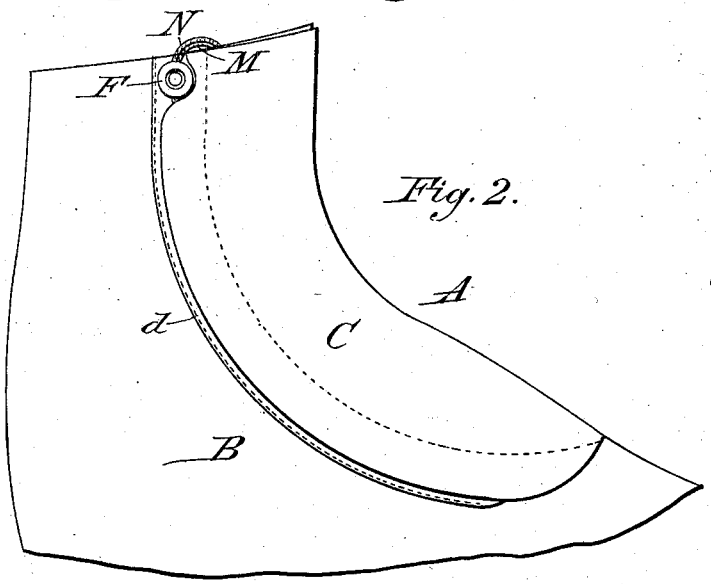
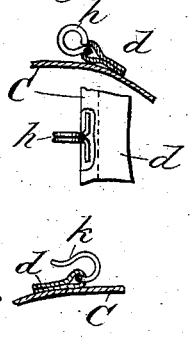


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WEGNER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SHOE-FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 260,144, dated June 27, 1882.

Application filed March 27, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WEGNER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Fastenings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in shoe-fastenings; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a gaiter, showing the several attachments of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side view of a gaiter with fastening attachments concealed. Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the screw attachment. Fig. 4 is a detail showing the method of fastening the hooks and eyes to the shoe.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents a gaiter-shoe composed of the quarters B and C, the quarter C being so cut as to overlap B, as shown in the drawings, having its top corner cut away so that the screw-fastening F will not be covered. On the under side of the overlapping part of C, I sew a piece of stiff leather, *c*, running from the lower to the top end of C. To this piece *c*, I secure eyes *g* at intervals from end to end. On the top of the quarter B, on such part as to be covered by C when it is overlapped, I sew a piece of stiff leather, *d*, to which I secure eyes *h* at points along the same intermediate between the eyes *g*. To the piece *d*, about or nearly half-way, I secure the hook *k*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4. At the top of the shoe, on the end of *d*, I secure or fasten the screw-fastening F, which is made in the manner as shown in Fig. 3, so constructed that it will allow the pull-strings to pass through freely, and yet will hold them tight and secure when the screw is turned. F may be made in any shape and ornamented, as desired.

M is what I call the "main string." It is knotted at its lower end, sufficiently large so as not to pass through the eye *g* on the lower end, *c*, this eye being made a little smaller than the others. The string M is passed up through the eyes *g* and *h* as far as the hook *k*, and then it is carried up independent of the eyes *g* and *h* and up through the screw F out at the top of the shoe.

N is a second string, which, at its lower end, I secure to the hook *k*, and then pass it up through the eyes *g* and *h* above the hook *k*, in which the string M does not pass, and thence through the screw-fastening F out at the top alongside of M.

In order to fasten the shoe tight, I simply pull on both the strings M and N, when the quarters B and C will be brought together, C overlapping B and concealing the fastening attachments. I then turn the screw F, which will hold the strings M and N, preventing them from slipping and the shoe from becoming unfastened. The ends of the strings I drop out of sight between B and C.

If it is desired to have the shoe tight at the instep and loose around the ankle, I only pull on the string M, which will tighten the shoe as far as the hook *k*. I then wind the body of the string M around the hook *k*, which will prevent it from slipping below the hook and keep the instep tight. The top end of the string will be loose. The string N, not having been pulled, will be loose, and the shoe around the ankle will not be tight; and the parts B and C may be spread as far as desired without spreading the lower parts below the hook.

Sometimes a shoe pinches at the instep and it is desired to have it loose, and yet tight at the ankle. I accomplish this by simply pulling on the string N, which will draw the parts together above the hook and leave them loose below. It is evident that the parts can be spread apart as desired.

The provision of the pieces of leather *c* and *d* and attaching the eyes thereto prevent the eyes from hurting the foot.

The provision of the two strings independent of each other allows the fastening of the shoe to be regulated as may be desired. The pull-strings can be round cord or of any kind of strings, as may be desired.

The string M being simply knotted at the end, it can, in case of breaking, be reknotted and used without a new string being required until it becomes too short. The string N, being simply tied to the hook, in case it breaks, can at once be retied. This arrangement avoids any expensive fastenings and makes my device simple and cheap.

My fastening attachments can be used with or applied to all kinds of shoes and boots, and

the attachments can be concealed or exposed, as may be preferred. When exposed they can be made ornamental to present an attractive appearance.

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

The shoe-fastening consisting of two independent laces, one of which is secured at the bottom of the lace-opening and the other near the center thereof, and adapted to be passed through the eyes *h g* on the quarters of the shoe and secured at their free ends by the screw-clamp F, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM WEGNER.

Witnesses:
HERMANN G. CONRAD,
FRANK JOHNSON.