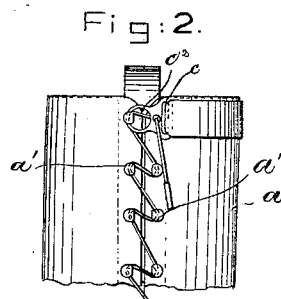
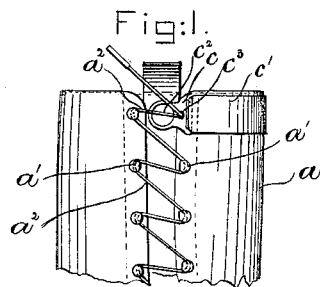


(No Model.)

C. A. PRESTON.
LACING CORD FASTENER.

No. 386,496.

Patented July 24, 1888.



Witnesses:
Fred. S. Greenleaf.
Frederick L. Emery.

Inventor.
Charles A. Preston.
by Leroy Gregory.
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. PRESTON, OF CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASSACHUSETTS.

LACING-CORD FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 386,496, dated July 24, 1888.

Application filed April 30, 1888. Serial No. 272,395. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. PRESTON, of Cambridgeport, county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Lacing-Cord Fastenings, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

10 This invention has for its object to construct a fastening for the lacing-cord of boots or shoes.

My improved fastening is applicable to shoes having any usual hooked studs or lace-hooks, 15 my fastening being employed at the top of the upper and being connected thereto, preferably by an elastic band or strap, as will be described.

The clasp or fastening is herein shown as a plate having a loop or eye, which is adapted 20 to engage with one of the lace-hooks outside of or upon the lacing-cord in said hook to thereby bind the cord firmly therein. The clasp or plate also has a hole or passage through it for the lacing-cord, so that by pulling upon the 25 cord the clasp may be made to engage the upper lacing-hook at the opposite side of the front opening.

A single cord may be employed with the herein described fastening and no knot need be 30 tied.

Figure 1 shows in front elevation a lacing-cord fastening embodying this invention; Fig. 2, a similar view, the fastening being in position to engage the lacing-hook and bind or hold the 35 cord firmly.

The upper *a* of any usual laced boot or shoe is provided with the usual lacing-hooks, *a'*, and one lacing cord, *a''*, said cord being attached to the shoe in usual manner and having one strand 40 or end only extended upwardly.

My improved fastening (herein shown as a metallic plate, *c*) is attached to a band, *c'*, or strap, which is in turn attached to the shoe, said band or strap preferably being elastic. 45 The metallic plate *c* has a loop or eye, *c''*, of sufficient size to receive the lacing-hook *a'*. The metallic plate *c* also has a hole through it,

as at *c'*, to receive the lacing-cord. The lacing-cord having been passed around the lacing hooks in any usual or suitable manner to 50 close the front opening of the shoe, and having been passed around the top lacing-hook, *a'*, is then passed through the hole *c'* of the plate *c*. The lacing-cord is then by its free end drawn taut, and the plate *c* will be drawn forward 55 sufficiently to pass over the hook *a'*, thereby engaging the said hook, and the cord being in said hook the material of the loop or eye *c''* bears down firmly upon said cord and prevents it from slipping. 60

Instead of having the opening *c'* for the lacing-cord, and by said cord drawing the plate *c* over upon the hook *a'*, the said opening may be omitted and the plate be drawn toward the hook 65 *a'* in any other manner, as by the fingers.

By this form of fastening it will be seen that the shoe may be quickly laced and the lacing-cord held firmly and the entire operation done with one hand.

It is obvious that the fastening herein described may be employed for other purposes— 70 such, for instance, as corsets and the like.

I claim—

1. The herein described fastening for lacing-cords, consisting of the plate *c*, having the loop 75 or eye *c''*, the elastic strap to which the said plate is attached, and a lacing-cord, the said loop or eye being adapted to engage a lacing-hook, as described, and to hold thereon the said lacing-cord passed around it, substantially as described. 80

2. The herein-described fastening for lacing-cords, it consisting of the plate *c*, having the opening *c'* for the lacing cord, and the loop or eye *c''* for the lacing hook, around which the 85 lacing-cord passes, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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

CHARLES A. PRESTON.

Witnesses:

BERNICE J. NOYES,
F. L. EMERY.