E. BURKET.

SHOE LACE HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 30, 1911.

1,137,381. Patented Apr. 27, 1915.

Fig. 2.

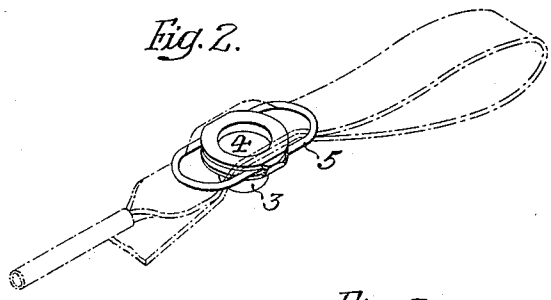


Fig. 3.

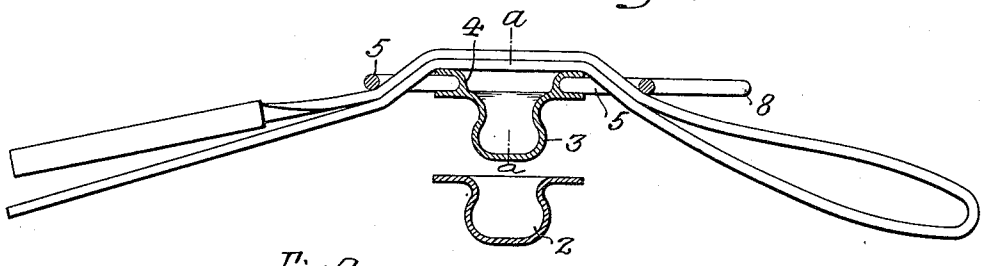


Fig. 4.

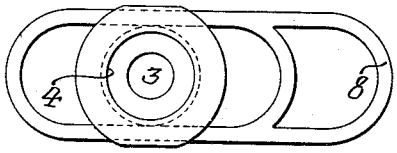


Fig. 5.

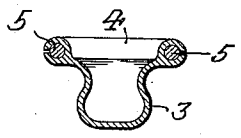


Fig. 1.

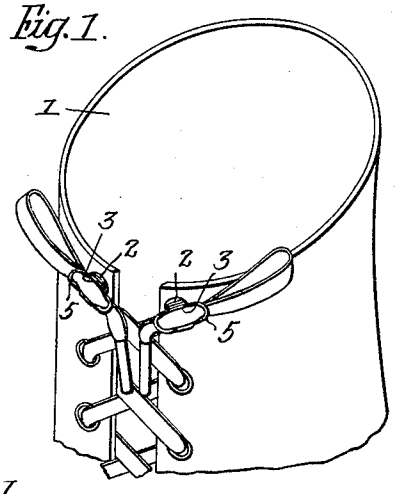
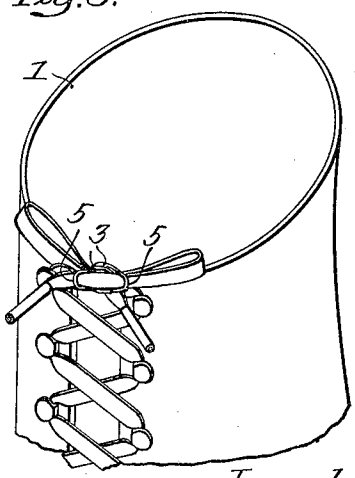


Fig. 6.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHOE-LACE HOLDER.

1,137,381. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 27, 1915.

Application filed June 30, 1911. Serial No. 636,214.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER BURKET, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Wayne, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Shoe-Lace Holders, of which the following is a specification.

One object of my invention is to provide a relatively simple, inexpensive and conveniently used device particularly designed for holding the ends of shoe laces in a looped position or bow shape, and at the same time providing means whereby they may be quickly and conveniently applied to or detached from the top portion of the upper or other device which they may be applied.

It is further desired to provide a device of the above noted general class which may be quickly and easily adjusted to suit various lengths of laces, which shall hold the latter so that they present a neat appearance, and which shall so retain the laces that they cannot slip.

These objects and other advantageous ends I secure as hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which;—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of one form of my invention, illustrating the position and arrangement of the ends of a shoe lace relative thereto when applied to the upper of a shoe according to my invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view on an enlarged scale showing in detail the relative disposition of one of the lace ends and its holder; Fig. 3, is an enlarged vertical section further illustrating the construction of the invention; Fig. 4, is a plan of the holding device similar to that shown in Fig. 1, this figure and Fig. 3 also showing an auxiliary holding loop which may sometimes be used though the device may be used without it; Fig. 5, is a vertical section of the holder shown in Fig. 3 and taken on the line *a*—*a* thereof, and Fig. 6, is a perspective view of the upper of a shoe showing a slightly modified form of the invention as applied thereto.

In the above drawings, 1 represents the upper of a shoe, at each side of the top of which, preferably in line with the rows of the ordinary and well known lace holding eyelets or hooks, are mounted socket pieces 2 for the reception of hollow projecting members 3, each fixed to and preferably forming part of a circular double flanged piece 4. This latter is mounted to be free to slide longitudinally of an elongated endless wire loop 5, which, if desired, may be practically elliptical in form, and which passes between the flanges of the part 4, so as to be permanently, though movably held thereto. Opposite portions of one or both of the flanges are preferably turned at right angles to aid in retaining and guiding the loop 5 thereon. The parts 2 and 3 of the device so formed are similar in construction to the well known form of glove fastener, being capable of detachable engagement one with the other.

Under conditions of use the end of each shoe lace is doubled on itself for a suitable distance, and such doubled portion is afterward passed upwardly through one end of the loop 5, over the top of the circular flange piece 4 and down through the opposite end of said loop. The projecting part 3 of the holder may then be entered into the spring socket 2, and if the lace has been properly adjusted as to its length, there is formed at the top of each side of the shoe a bow-like mass of each shoe lace, while the said parts 2 and 3 maintain the lower portions of the lace in the desired tight condition, which maintains the shoe in its laced condition.

When it is desired to unlace the shoe, the part 3 of each holder is removed from its socket by merely grasping the bow portion 6 of the lace and pulling the same outwardly, whereupon the lace may be removed from or loosened in the eyelets or hooks at the top of the shoe in the well known manner, although if eyelets without hooks be employed, as on some forms of shoes, there is usually a sufficient length of lace between each holder and the first eyelet to allow of the lower portions of said lace being slacked off sufficiently to permit of the shoe being removed from the foot of the wearer.

It is to be noted that by mounting the loop 5 so that the part 4 may slide longitudinally thereof, it is possible to very conveniently adjust the length of the lace and retain it in any given position so that the shoe may be laced with any degree of tightness, since the top portion 7 of the lace may be pulled upwardly, to draw tight the body thereof and thereafter the looped end may be pulled down to take up the slack so formed. Thereafter as tension is exerted upon the body portion of the lace, the end of the loop 5 adjacent thereto is pulled toward said

body, thereby causing the opposite end of said loop to pinch or compress the opposite double end of the lace between itself and the edges of the flanged piece 4 effectually preventing the lace from slipping through the holder.

In some instances I may replace the projection and socket members 3 and 2 for holding the device to the shoe, by some form of auxiliary loop or catch such as that indicated in Fig. 4, at 8, or in some instances I may employ this on a lace holder which also has a projecting member 3, in order that it may be used either with a shoe equipped with socket members 2 or may be employed on a shoe merely having lace hooks of the ordinary form.

It is obvious that my particular form of holder is not necessarily limited in its use to maintaining shoe laces under tension, since it may be employed merely to detachably hold an ornamental bow or bows to the upper portion of a shoe or to any other desired object. It may also, in some instances, be employed as a necktie holder merely by increasing its size to the required degree and arranging the ribbon of the tie in any of the ways well known in the art.

In Fig. 6 I have shown an arrangement of shoe laces and holder in which two members like 3 are designed to fit together, their construction preferably being identical except that one of the members is made of suitable size to properly enter and hold in the other. One lace end is then mounted in one of the members as shown in Fig. 3, while the other is passed down through the loop 5, over the outer face of the part 3 which now serves as a receiving socket, and up through the loop 5. The two holding members or parts 3 may now be snapped together thus holding the laces as shown in Fig. 6.

I claim:—

1. A holder for shoe laces and the like consisting of an elongated wire loop; a snap fastener having its top surface substantially parallel with the plane of the loop; with two parallel integral flanges on one member of said fastener extending on opposite sides of the loop and slidably guided thereon so as to be free to move toward and from the ends thereof.

2. A holder for shoe laces and the like consisting of an elongated wire loop; a snap fastener having its top surface substantially parallel with the plane of the loop; with two parallel integral flanges on one member of said fastener extending on opposite sides of the loop and slidably guided thereon so as to be free to move toward and from the ends thereof, opposite portions of the flange edges being bent toward each other to embrace the edges of the loop.

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

ELMER BURKET.

Witnesses:
WILLIAM E. BRADLEY,
WM. A. BARR.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."