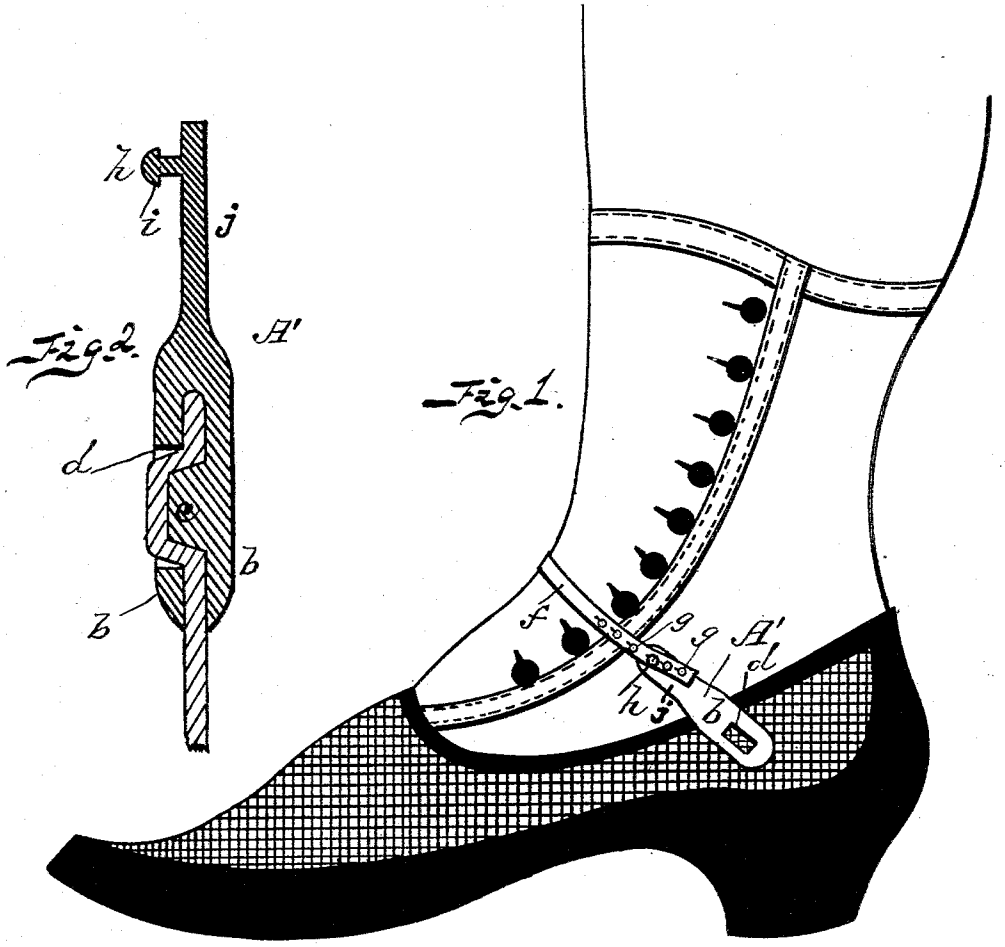
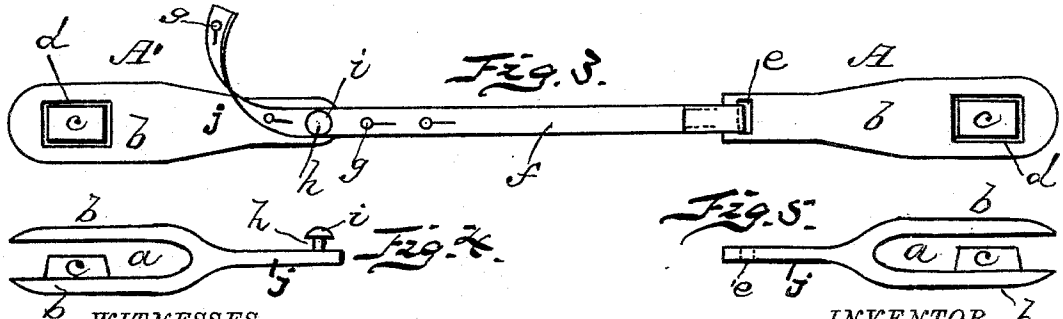
(No Model.)

J. N. OPEL.

SHOE CLASP.

No. 388,909. Patented Sept. 4, 1888.





WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN N. OPEL, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SHOE-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,909, dated September 4, 1888.

Application filed June 16, 1888. Serial No. 277,314. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN N. OPEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for securing a shoe to the wearer's foot; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of the same, all as will be hereinafter set forth.

The annexed drawings, to which reference is made, fully illustrate my invention, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view of a shoe, showing my device applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view of one of the holders, showing part of a shoe secured to it. Fig. 3 is a plan view of my device, and Figs. 4 and 5 are edge views of the same.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, A A′ designate twin clasps for attachment to a shoe—either a low-cut shoe or a rubber shoe—and the same are constructed with bifurcated portions *a*, forming limbs *b b*, a neck portion, *j*, and on the inner face of one of the limbs *b* is an enlargement or lug, *c*, said neck *j* and lug *c* being formed integral with said limb, and the opposite limb thereto is provided with an opening, *d*, somewhat larger than the size of the lug aforesaid.

The upper end of one of the clasps or holders has a slot, *e*, in which is fastened one end of a strap, *f*, the free end of which has a series of perforations, *g*, adapted to engage a pin, *h*, on the upper end of the clasp A′.

It will be seen that these are twin clasps or holders, with the exception of the upper ends of both, one having a slot and the other a pin having a head, *i*, for holding the strap thereto.

A pair of these clasps are designed to be used with a single shoe, being four applied to each pair of shoes, whereby the latter are securely held to a person's feet.

My device is intended to be used with rubber or over shoes and shoes of low cut, and I prefer to make them of malleable iron; but any suitable metal may be employed.

In attaching my clasps to the shoe the sides or upper is placed between the two limbs of each clasp, and the limbs are then forced together, thus forcing the lug through the opening in the opposite limb and carrying with it the shoe-upper, thereby binding the clasps tightly to the shoe.

In securing the shoe to the foot the strap is passed over the instep of the foot and the strap is fastened to the headed pin by any one of the perforations aforesaid.

This clasp or holder, it will be observed, can be applied to other shoes simply by prying the limbs apart, removing it from the shoe, and applying it to the other, as hereinbefore set forth; and it is simple in operation, inexpensive, durable, and at the same time ornamental.

What I claim is—

The within-described shoe-holder, consisting of the strap *b*, provided at each end with the clasp A′, constructed of malleable iron, consisting of the bifurcated end forming limbs *b b*, one of which having the opening *d* and the opposite limb the lug *c*, and the single stem or neck *j*, having the headed pin *h*, the whole formed integral, said limbs adapted to be forced together for gripping the shoe, as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

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

JOHN N. OPEL.

Witnesses:

JOSHUA GRIGG,

J. H. WULFEMEIER.